

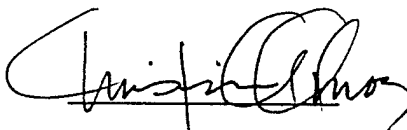
PHASE I, ARCHITECTURAL RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEY
OF HISTORIC RESOURCES ALONG THE TUG FORK RIVER
MARTIN COUNTY, KENTUCKY

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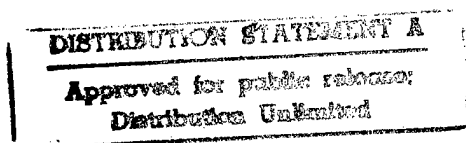
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July 19, 1995

Lead Agency: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District



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REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE			Form Approved OMB No. 0704-0188	
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1. AGENCY USE ONLY (Leave blank)		2. REPORT DATE 12-1-1995	3. REPORT TYPE AND DATES COVERED Final	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE Phase I, Architectural Reconnaissance & Survey of Historic Resources Along the Tug Fork River Martin County, Kentucky			5. FUNDING NUMBERS DACW69-94-D-0008, Delivery Order #0018	
6. AUTHOR(S) Christine A. Amos				
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) Burry & Amos 926 Main Street Shelbyville, Kentucky 40065			8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER	
9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) US Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District 502 8th Street Huntington, WV 25701-2070			10. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY REPORT NUMBER	
11. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES Available from National Technical Information Service 5285*Port Royal Road Springfield, VA 22161				
12a. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.			12b. DISTRIBUTION CODE	
13. ABSTRACT (Maximum 200 words) The project is the Phase I Architectural Reconnaissance and Survey of Historic Resources Located Along the Tug Fork River in Martin County, Kentucky. The US Army Corps of Engineers proposes a plan for flood control in the areas affected by the April 1977 Flood on the Tug Fork. The recommended plan consists of a voluntary program of floodproofing and floodplain evacuation at eligible structures. This portion of the Tug Fork Basin contains a diversity of historic resources that illustrate the themes of architecture, agriculture and industry, from an historic period of approximately 100 years from circa 1865 through 1940. The oldest of these resources represent the theme of domestic architecture. Resources dating after the turn of the twentieth century reflect changes introduced by the commercial coal industry and lumbering. Inventory forms were submitted for 54 resources and 10 of these were recommended for further evaluation. These resources consist of 6 residential structures (1 associated with agriculture, 2 associated with the lumbering industry and 4 associated with the coal industry), 1 frame church, 1 sandstone high school and its gymnasium, and 1 barn.				
14. SUBJECT TERMS Historic, Architecture, Tug Fork, Coal History, Martin County			15. NUMBER OF PAGES 30	
			16. PRICE CODE	
17. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF REPORT Unclassified	18. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF THIS PAGE Unclassified	19. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF ABSTRACT Unclassified	20. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT UL	

19961030 088

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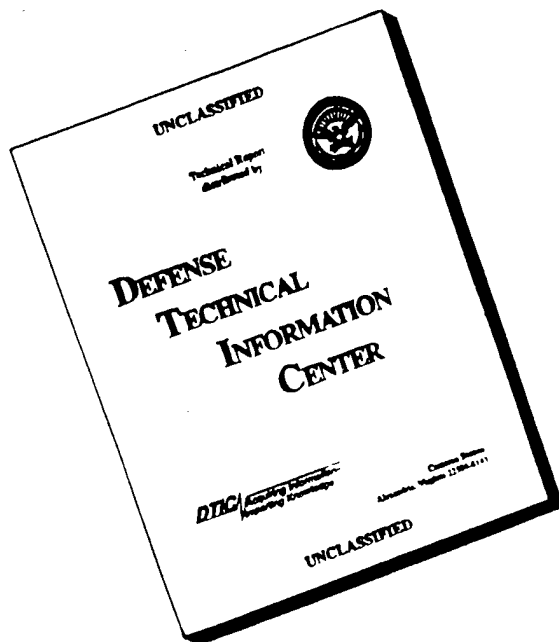
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ABSTRACT

The project is the Phase I, Architectural Reconnaissance and Survey of historic resources located along the Tug Fork River in Martin County, Kentucky, for the Huntington District U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington, West Virginia. The Corps proposes a plan for flood control in the areas affected by the April 1977 flood on the Tug Fork of the Big Sandy River. The recommended plan consists of a voluntary program of floodproofing eligible structures where possible and acquiring structures where it is not.

This project area consists of about 30 miles of the main stem of the Tug Fork, 6.6 miles of Wolf Creek, 1.5 miles of Buck Creek and 1.3 miles of Turkey Creek. (see Figure 1, Project Area Map). The downstream limit of the study area begins at the Martin and Lawrence County border and extends upstream to the Martin and Pike County border.

The C.O.E. estimated the project area to contain approximately 640 structures. Actual building counts totaled 904 structures. In the Project Scope, it was estimated that less than 5% were over 50 years old and predicted that between 20 and 30 would require National Register evaluation. Field reconnaissance revealed that of the approximately 900 structures, 208 are mobile homes and 426 are post World War II residences or commercial structures, or are residences over 50 years old that have been so altered that their original configuration is no longer recognizable. The remaining 185 structures, approximately 20% of the total number of buildings within the project area, have an approximate age of at least 50 years and include residential, commercial, public, and other building types. Of these resources, 54 were surveyed on Kentucky State Inventory Forms. The remainder have lost the majority of their physical integrity and were not inventoried.

The Project Scope of Work includes the following:

- * reconnaissance (literature and records search, inventory of potential historic structures in the area;
- * a cultural history of the Tug Fork basin including an architectural history of the project area and specific histories of Warfield and Lovely;
- * Kentucky Historic Structure Inventory Forms for all structures recommended for further evaluation;
- * DRAFT report, and;
- * FINAL report.

This portion of the Tug Fork Basin contains a limited diversity of historic resources. The majority of resources illustrate the themes of architecture within the historic contexts of industry, specifically coal

mining. Additional, limited themes represented through material culture include education, religion, commerce, and agriculture. Identified resources date from an historic period of approximately 75 years from perhaps circa 1865 through 1940. The oldest of these resources represent the theme of domestic architecture. Resources dating after the turn of the twentieth century, more commonly reflect changes introduced by the commercial coal industry.

From this reconnaissance, ten (10) properties appear to either be eligible or deserve further documentation to determine eligibility to the National Register. Those recommended properties are listed by KHC inventory numbers (MT-) and Army Corps of Engineer (COE-) numbers in the RECOMMENDATIONS section of this report.

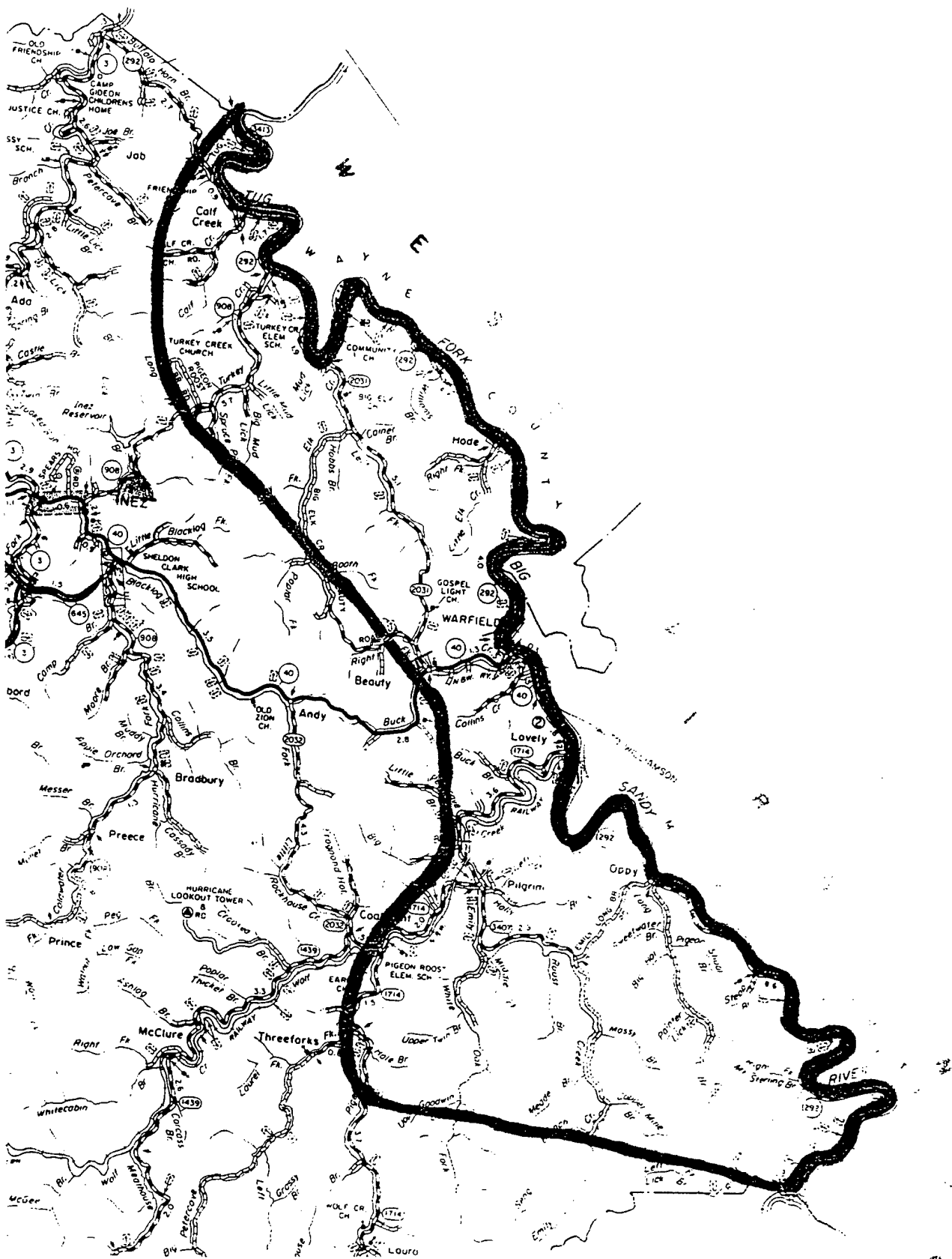


FIGURE 1. Project Area Map.

METHODOLOGY

Reconnaissance

The literature and records search of potentially significant historic and architectural resources within the project area required search of state inventory records at the Kentucky Heritage Council (KHC), Frankfort. Literature search focused on primary and secondary sources including first issue U.S.G.S. topographic maps, circa 1916-1928, Kentucky Geological Survey Bulletins, Annual Reports of the State Inspector of Mines, records of the Martin County Clerk and Records Office, general and local histories, published and unpublished manuscripts and other written documents located at the Kentucky Historical Society, the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives and the Martin County Public Library in Inez. The data in these sources provided the base information for developing the historic context and architectural overview as well as identified for field surveyors, the potential locations of historic sites, communities and features.

Survey

Prior to entering the field, color photograph copies of the approximately 900 structures located in the project area and provided by the Huntington COE were reviewed. From this review, approximately 185 structures were identified as appearing to be at least 50 years old. A limited number of resources displayed good physical integrity and appeared potentially significant and requiring survey. The conditions of several were difficult to determine from the available photograph and required field review to verify integrity. Historic resources that maintained good to fair physical integrity were marked on base Exhibit maps provided by the Corps of Engineers (COE) prior to field survey.

Christine Amos, historian, and Robert Burry, architect, performed the project field survey the week of May 1-5, 1995. Using the Exhibit maps (1" = 200" scale), the project area was driven. All historic properties identified for identification prior to entering the field (and still in existence) were observed and decisions were made to perform individual survey. Those selected for survey were recorded on KHC Individual Inventory forms. Black and white photographs were made and, when possible, property owners or local informants were interviewed concerning the resource. Color reproduction copies of all structures in the project area, provided by the COE and keyed to Exhibit maps are included as Appendix A in a separate spiral binding with this report. The COE Exhibit maps, coded to the photographs are also submitted to the SHPO with this report. The consultant applied KHC Martin County state inventory numbers to the corresponding COE numbered properties on the Exhibit maps. Topographic base maps also submitted to the KHC accompany the state inventory forms. Those inventory forms

identify resources by both KHC and COE numbers. Because the color photograph copies provided by the COE are several years old, several of the structures no longer exist while others have been significantly altered during the past few years. A list with this information concerning recent changes that effect integrity is included in Appendix A.

The majority of resources surveyed and given KHC inventory numbers have been recommended as not eligible to the National Register through this survey and documentation. Prior to this undertaking, only 4 properties in Martin County were identified by the Kentucky Heritage Council. One property, the Martin Himler House in Beauty (formerly Himlerville), is the sole resource in the county listed on the National Register. The majority of historic resources within the project area display an extensive loss of physical integrity.

Standards of Integrity

The establishment of standards of integrity for historic resources was critical to making consistent judgments prior to and during field survey. The physical and associative qualities of integrity for many of the area's historic resources has been affected to greater or lesser degrees through alteration, loss of historic fabric, neglect, abandonment and compromising of the historic setting. Another factor that appears to have influenced the disposition of historic resources within the area is the phenomena of building relocation. Through a series of brief interviews with locals and property owners, it was discovered that when many the mines shut down in the 1930s, coal town houses built by the companies often were sold to individuals and moved to other locations in the vicinity. Several individuals agreed that moving the one-story, gable roofed bungalows was a fairly frequent practice. Documenting the relocation of historic structures was not pursued during this phase of work.

The Tug Fork and its tributaries follows the often narrow confines of the basin, with limited level land outside of the flood plain. Many structures are built well within the flood plain and illustrate the effects of repeated repair and alteration after flooding. Because of the limited level land, older buildings are often razed to make room for new structures. In addition, a fluctuating population due to economic cycles of boom and bust (with renovations and alterations following course), and federal housing programs have also contributed to a loss of physical integrity in historic resources.

For a historic property to be considered to be either eligible to the National Register, potentially eligible, or warranting further documentation, a majority of physical and associative qualities of integrity are required. Buildings fifty years old or older that had alteration or loss of more than two major character defining physical features were not considered to be potentially significant. Character defining

features include (but are not necessarily limited to): siding, windows, doors and fenestration patterns, roof lines, porches and porch details, and location.

The threshold of integrity that warranted form documentation often resulted in the recording of properties with replacement siding and altered porch posts, for example. Or, altered siding and replacement windows. Or, replacement porch posts and an attached side wing. Because historic properties with excellent physical integrity are found so infrequently in this area of Martin County, the decision was made to include such altered properties in the survey data base. Figures 2 and 3 are examples of properties that would not be inventoried because of loss of physical integrity.

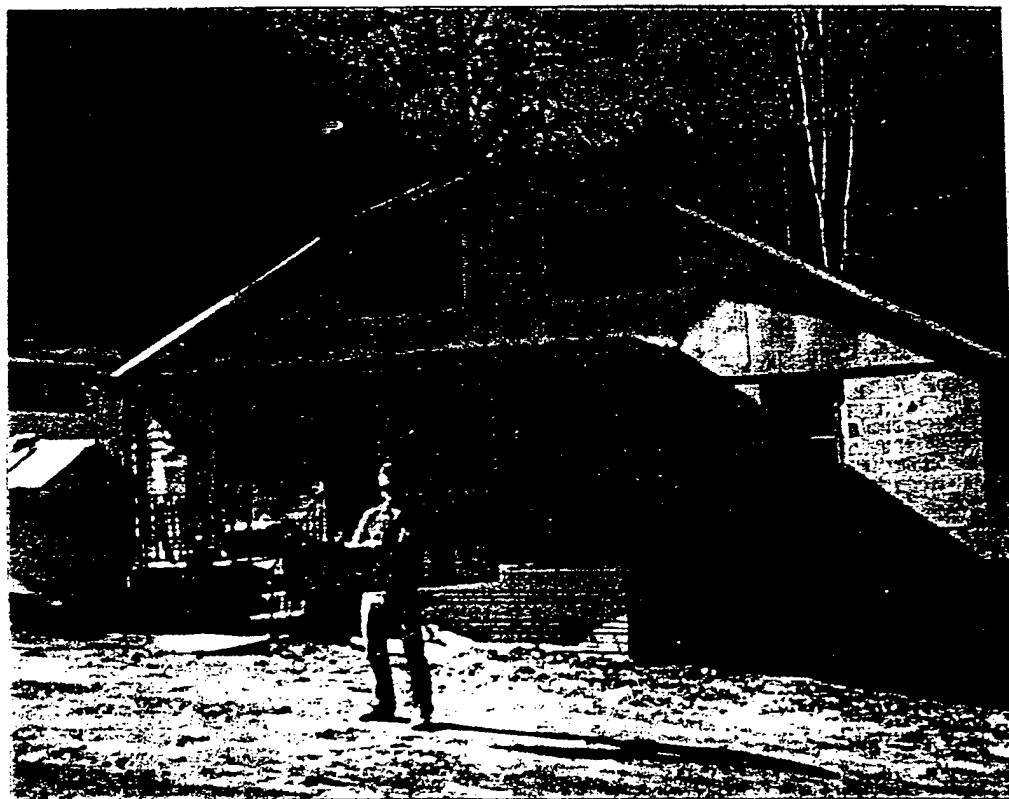


Figure 2. COE # M415, an historic residence that was not inventoried due to a large, concrete block addition to the side, altered fenestration, and front porch supports.

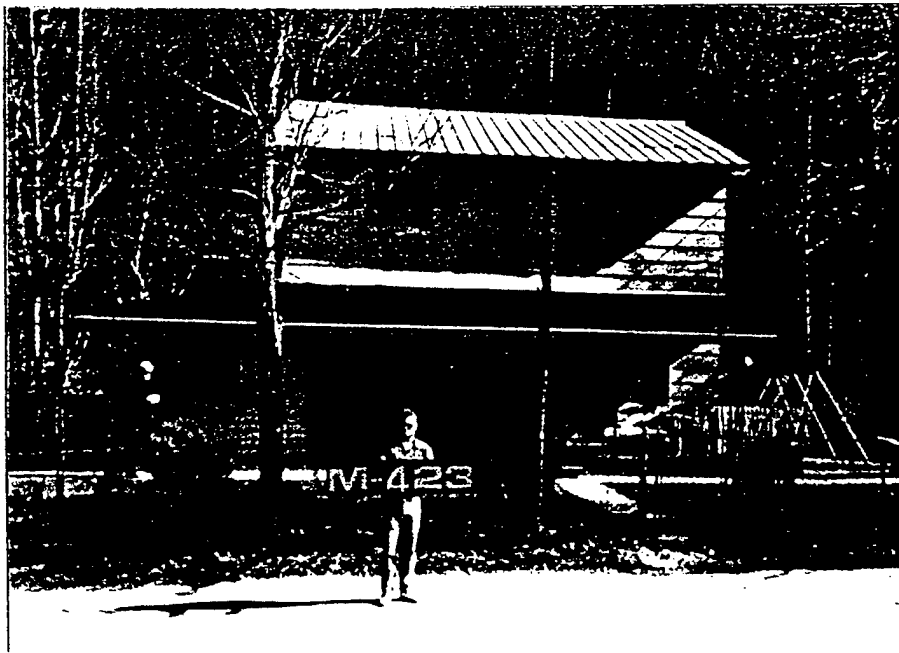


Figure 3. COE # M-423, an historic residence that was not inventoried due to the application of non-historic siding, altered porch posts, altered fenestration patterns and side addition.

The great majority of historic dwellings located in the project area are vernacular examples of early 20th century domestic architecture. The majority display a modest size, originally under 1000 square feet of living space and display a limited number of plans with similar construction materials. The most numerous of historic residential types in the project area is the front-gable, single story, frame dwelling: a "worker's cottage" with 3-4 bays and front porch. Figure 4 is a typical example.

In other counties of Kentucky's Appalachian Cultural Region, the significance of this and other types of residential buildings is most often as members of a greater resource such as a coal town or mining community or agricultural complex. Within this project area of Martin County, however, the survival of coal company towns and agricultural complexes is minimal. In other, similar reconnaissance surveys of the region for the Huntington District Army Corps of Engineers, historic resources existed beyond the immediate limits of the project area and those adjacent resources were identified through survey. In this area of Martin County, however, this situation does not exist.



Figure 4. COE # L-378, a front-gable worker's cottage, not inventoried due to altered siding, replacement windows and altered porch details.

HISTORIC CONTEXT

Geography

Martin County is one of the eastern-most counties in Kentucky, bordered by the four counties from which it was formed: Lawrence to the north, Floyd and Johnson to the west and Pike to the south. West Virginia borders Martin to the east with the Tug Fork of the Big Sandy River separating the two states. The county is part of the Appalachian Highlands, a dissected plateau with alternations of steep and narrow ridges and equally narrow, stream-made valleys (Rennick 1992, 721).

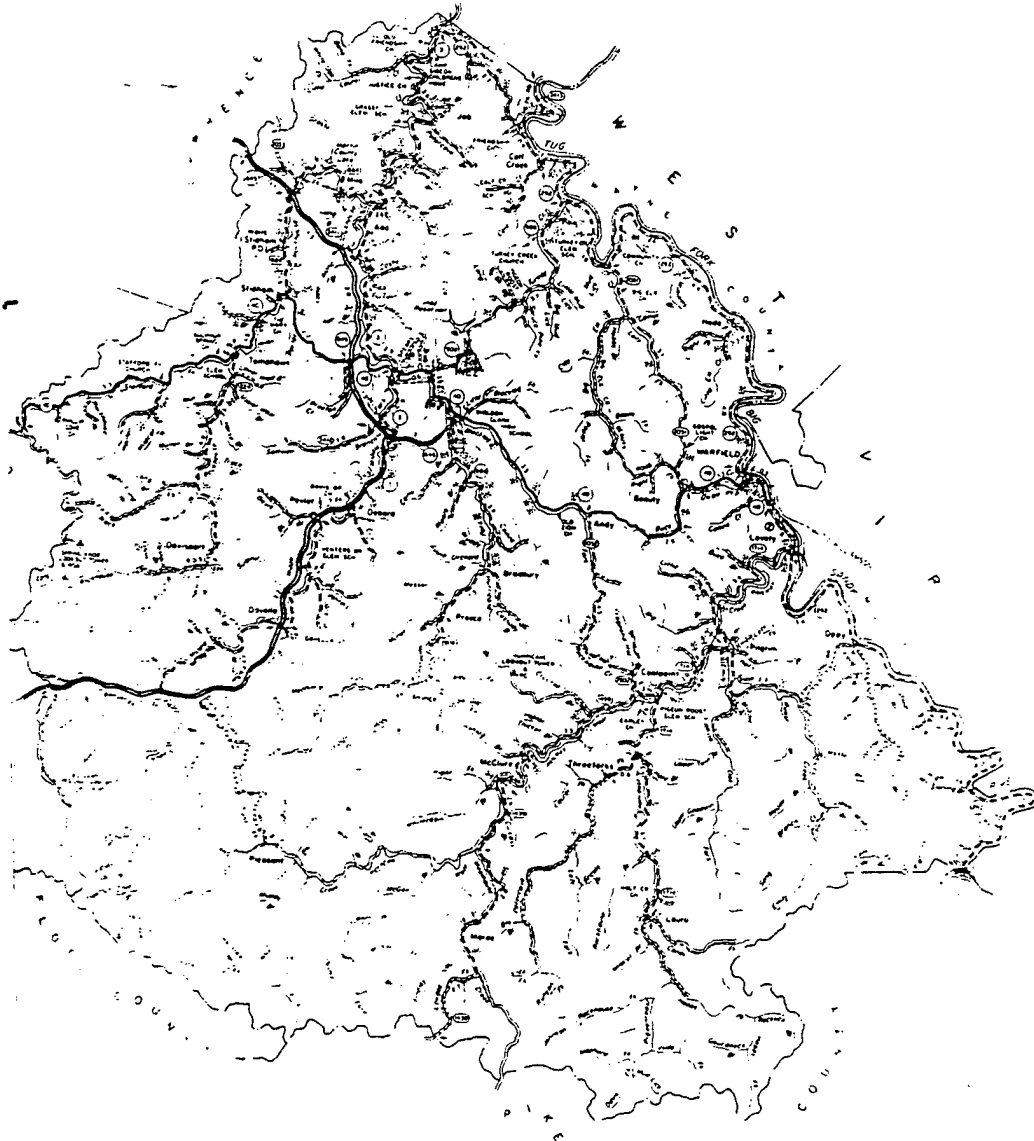


Figure 5. Martin County.

Exploration and Settlement

The earliest documentation of white explorers to the Tug Fork drainage occurred in 1756, with the ill-fated, Big Sandy Expedition. In 1755, following the defeat of British and colonial forces at the Battle of Fort Duquesne, Shawnee, Delaware and Seneca tribes sided with the French and began to attack anglo settlers on the western frontier. The attacks prompted Virginia Governor, Robert Dinwiddie to send out the Big Sandy River Expedition, commanded by Major Andrew Lewis and comprised of over 400 frontiersmen, Cherokees, and Chickasaws. The expedition planned to march down the Big Sandy to the Ohio River and destroy Shawnee villages along the way. After entering the Tug Fork valley in March, hunger, fatigue and continual wet, cold weather continued to weaken the forces. Near the mouth of Rockcastle Creek, on the Tug Fork in present northern Martin County, the men refused to go further and began a disorganized return. In the difficult retreat through the mountains of Virginia, many men starved, some froze to death and even more were killed by Indians. It is said that in the upstream retreat, the men stopped at the Burning Spring, near present Warfield, and broiled buffalo strips. The strips or "thugs" they ate gave the Tug River its name (Jillson 1923:60-63; Crowe-Carraco 1979:12).

A decade later, in 1766, General George Washington surveyed up the Tug Fork and, on the West Virginia shore opposite the present Warfield, discovered "a burning spring bubbling up out of the water." (Ely 1887:28). Surveys and explorations like these also identified a number of salt springs in the area, the existence of which were noted by the first entrepreneurs to enter the valley. Through the eighteenth-century much of the Appalachian region remained the preserve of Indians who discouraged settlers, but tolerated trappers entering the area in search of game. By the 1770s hunters were intimately familiar with the bends and curves of the Tug and Levisa Forks and the Big Sandy River, main tributaries, overland trails, and where the best land for agriculture lay.

Following the Revolution, Virginia rewarded soldiers with land grants in the new west, and despite Indian raids, pioneers ventured to establish small settlements. Most early settlements in Martin County were established along the Tug Fork and, interestingly, in the far southwest area of the county, presently one of the most remote areas (Ely 1887). Jillson's map of 1923 illustrates early routes into the Big Sandy valley. Although he notes "present county seats", Inez, the seat of Martin County is not identified. The "Burning Spring" located on the Tug Fork is the location of Warfield (Figure 6).

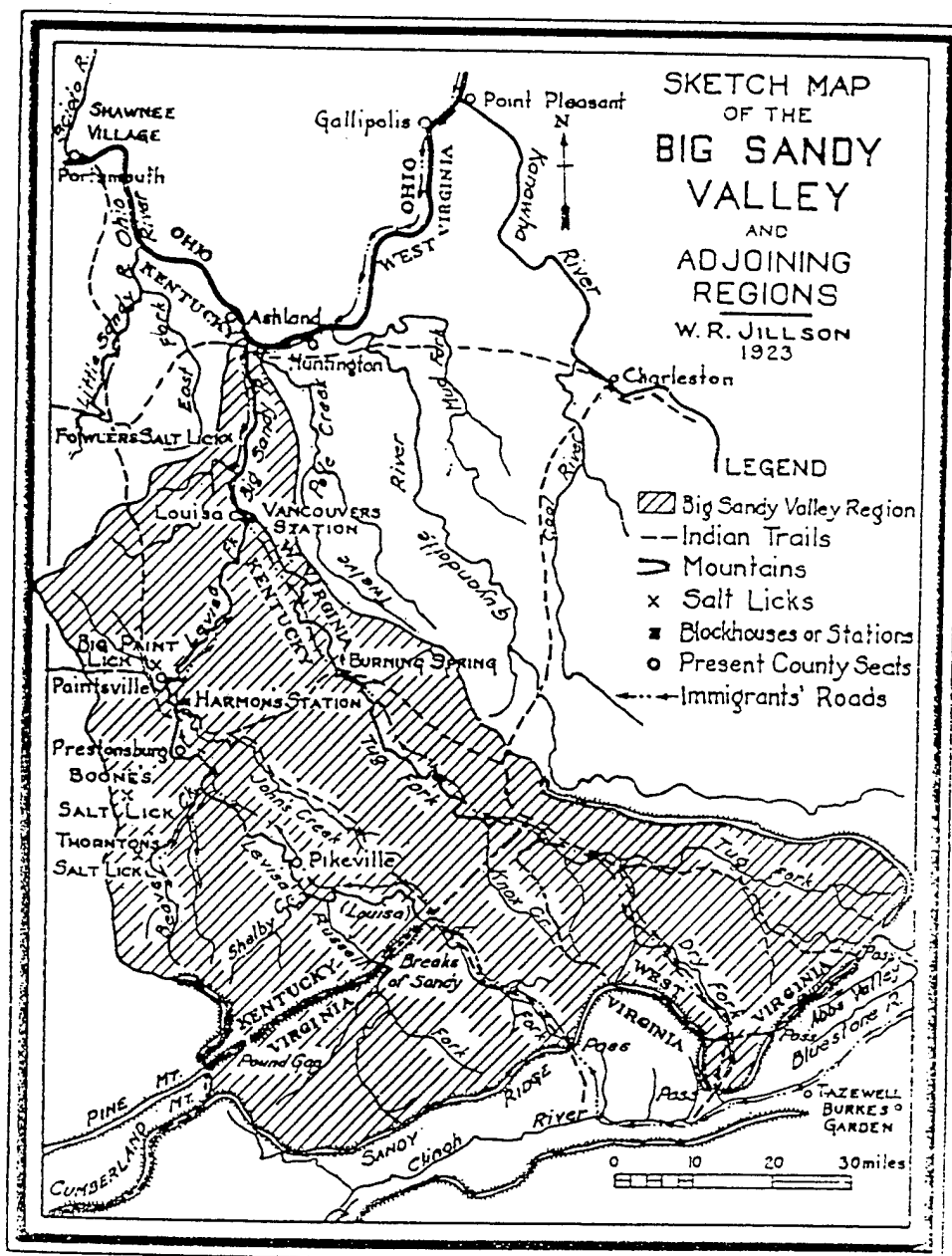


Figure 6. Jillson's "Sketch Map of the Big Sandy Valley" (1923).

Martin County Agriculture: Subsistence and Diversity

Agriculture was the lifeblood for the majority of Martin Countians from settlement in the early 19th century until the development of the commercial coal fields in the early 20th century. For the majority of inhabitants, however, agriculture yielded little more than a subsistence income. Most families augmented their wealth by trapping, trading, and logging activities. Unlike neighboring counties Pike, Lawrence and Floyd, large scale coal extraction did not become a prime economic force in Martin County until after World War II and thus, the county did not benefit from coal-earned wages and did not experience the medical, social and housing benefits that might be brought in by large coal company operations.

By way of its economic condition, Martin County gained dubious distinction as the location where President Lyndon Johnson announced his War on Poverty to the world in 1964. Martin was then the poorest, all-white county in the United States, claimed the state's highest jobless rate of almost 70%, had a per capita income of \$314.00 (one-third of which was federal welfare money), reported the highest incidence of tuberculosis and the most dilapidated housing in the state (Pearce 1981). With these facts in mind, it is not surprising that only limited historic buildings and structures with good integrity were encountered along the Tug Fork during reconnaissance.

Martin County comprises approximately 147,000 acres. In 1970, approximately 90% of it was classified as timber land. Agricultural statistics for county soil types suggest the limits of successful agriculture under the best conditions. Soil classes range from one to seven, with one being very good land, easy to work, with deep and productive soils and seven being the poorest land for agriculture, not cultivated safely, with poor soils and excessive slopes. The extent of Martin County's soil types follow:

Class 1	448 acres
Class 2	2744 acres
Class 3	3687 acres
Class 4	319 acres
Class 5	0 acres
Class 6	1065 acres
Class 7	139,412 acres

With almost 95% of soils classed as essentially unproductive, it is not surprising to find limited historic resources that illustrate the theme of agriculture. Also, those limited acres identified as

agriculturally productive are not grouped in large acreage tracts, but rather, exist in narrow bottom land strips along the Tug and its tributaries.

Pioneers first claimed areas with fertile bottomlands that yielded grains and grasses. Corn and fruit trees grew on cleared hillsides, and mountains supported hunting and trapping activities. In the later decades of the nineteenth century, the area was known for an abundance of valuable "sang" or ginseng root. Bee honey and wax, animal pelts and timber rounded out the commodities that came from the mountains (Ely 1887:18).

The few farms with fertile bottom land first produced agricultural surpluses with cash value while farms established on marginal ground in the rugged, mountainous areas yielded significantly less surpluses. Both types of farms relied on livestock for income and let hogs, sheep and cattle to forage on the wooded terrain. Drovers led the fattened livestock to markets both east and west along the extremely poor county roads which were really not more than paths.

Nineteenth Century Industry

Warfield: Salt Works, Natural Gas and Early Politics

Appalachian historian Henry P. Scalf writes that by 1840, lumbering and coal industries emerged together in the Big Sandy area (Scalf 1966:213). But along the Tug Fork of Martin County, salt works pre-date these industries by decades. As early as 1813, salt was made along the Tug at present Warfield (Ely 1887:28). The largest salt works in the area that would become Martin County, was established as the Warfield Coal and Salt Company by Virginia Governor John B. Floyd and his brothers of Tazewell County following the War of 1812. In 1854, the business was incorporated and later sold to Colonel W.W. Barrett who built what was and remains the largest and probably oldest residence in Warfield (MT-11, COE # M093). At the mouth of Collins Creek, about 1/2 mile east of the main intersection of Warfield, salt was produced and prepared by packing the mineral in barrels to be shipped on steamboats down river to Cattletsbury, Ky. (Martin County 1976:36; Ely 1887:22; McCoy 1976:5).

Natural gas was also exported from Warfield. In the early 19th century, near the location of the town, locals ignited the gas that floated on the river, making the area visible at night for miles around. On the Saltwell Branch of Middle Fork Creek near Inez (out of the project area), one entrepreneur, hoping to find salt, drilled a 900 foot well in the late 1850's. To his surprise, natural gas forced "...the salt water a distance of 100 feet into the air which continued for a year or two but finally caught on fire and burned the derrick and destroyed the machinery." (Mc Coy 1976:7). Gas wells were drilled

deliberately in Martin County as early as 1897, and the area eventually became a great producer, included as part of the "Triple State Field" of West Virginia (Hall 1972:100). By the 1930s, the Martin County field, also called the Inez Field contained more than 150 gas wells producing over 100 million feet of gas per day, or about \$27 million dollars worth per year. The great majority of rights to this gas were leased to out of state interests (ibid).

In 1870, Warfield was the only established town within the new created Martin County and thus, became the first county seat. As one of the last counties formed in Kentucky, on September 1, 1870, Martin County was named in honor of Colonel Joseph W. Martin. Eight years later, an additional section of land was cut from Lawrence County to increase the size of Martin.

The limits of internal improvements and modest population of the new county are evidenced through the debate over selection of the permanent county seat. Only one route that could be legitimately called a road existed at the time, and extended up Wolf Creek to the mouth of Pigeon Roost Fork. One wagon trail went up Coldwater Creek and another went up Little Rockcastle Creek. The three potential locations for the county seat were no more than open bottom lands with sparse development. The County Commissioners chose Eden in 1873, probably as the most centrally located of the three options and for its connection to a road. Eden's name was later changed to Inez as another Post Office had claimed the name first (Haws:3).

Lumbering

By the 1880s, Cattlettsburg, at the confluence of the Big Sandy and the Ohio River, claimed the largest hardwood market in the world. Sometime in the 1930s, the last raft of logs floated downstream along the Tug to the Big Sandy to Cattlettsburg. Within the 90 interim years, one of the most extensive reserves of virgin hardwood forests was cut, felled, floated and marketed out of the Commonwealth. It has been said that the area contained the greatest yellow poplar tree stand in America (Scalf 1966:215).

Like other counties of the region, Martin exported much of her virgin hardwoods from the valleys of Wolf Creek and Rockcastle Creeks and tributaries. As water remained the most effective form of transportation in the late 19th century, loggers built splash dams across the creeks to hold back the water. Oxen hauled thousands of fallen timbers to the dam sites during fall and winter and, in the spring, the water and cargo were "splashed" or "floated" out the creeks to the Tug River and Cattlettsburg. If late winter and spring rains were not ample to send the logs downstream, "sap rot" damaged the wood and lumbermen lost their fortunes (Haws:12-13).

Twentieth Century Industry

Lovely: Sawmills at Smoky Bottom

Large, commercial sawmills came into the county generally in the early 20th century. One at the mouth of Wolf Creek at the present Lovely, Kentucky was operated by the D.E. Hewitt Lumber Company in the years prior to World War I. Hewitt operated a "band mill" and sawed lumber from the wood of Wolf Creek and tributaries. The extensive operation "...lasted over a decade and millions of dollars worth of lumber was trucked over Tug River on a bridge at the Mouth of Wolf Creek and shipped by rail to all parts of the country" (Haws:13). Today, the residential and remaining commercial buildings of Lovely suggest that some kind of industry supported the area. A large, two story barn-like building (MT-26, COE # L276), located near the railroad trestle that leads across the river, was probably originally associated with the D.E. Hewitt Lumber Company. One can almost imagine the large, open bottom land filled with logs, timbers and lumber in the 1920s. The area's commercial and residential buildings and churches suggest a once thriving community.

Rennick, in Kentucky Place Names, mentions nothing of the sawmill at Lovely, but, claims the community at the junction of KY 292 and 1714 was a "...rough place where area men would gather to drink and shoot their guns and make the air right smoky": thus the moniker, "Smoky Bottom". The community was named for merchant S.L. Lovely and the town was platted in 1921. It gained a United States Post Office in 1931 (Rennick 1992:180).

Coal: Mines, Railroads and Communities

With the industrial revolution in the northern states, an ever-expanding national market demanded coal for fuel. The Norfolk and Western Railroad extended a line into the isolated Big Sandy and Tug Fork drainage in 1892 as far as Williamson, W.Va., opening the area to development with a direct tie to the national economy. The N&W's link to the Ohio River allowed coal operators in the region to sell to a wider market, prompting large scale development in the area (French 1992:5-7). Almost immediately after completion of the rails, the shipping of coal from Mingo and Logan counties in West Virginia and eastern Pike County in Kentucky began.

Where these other counties along the Tug River began to experience an economic coal boom by the turn of the century, Martin County seemed to participate on a limited basis. In 1905, the Kentucky Geological Survey published Bulletin No. 4, The Coals of the Big Sandy Valley (Crandall 1905). This volume, in written analysis, plates and maps, described not all, but the most significant coal beds within the counties of Pike, Floyd, Lawrence, Johnson, and Martin. Only two fields in Martin, the Broas Coal

region in the far southwest corner of the county and the Head of Wolf Creek coals were described in detail. (Neither of these fields are in the project area.) A map of the region included in the 1905 report indicated some mining activity in Pike along the Levisa and the Tug, but identified no significant coal operations in Martin County (Figure 7).

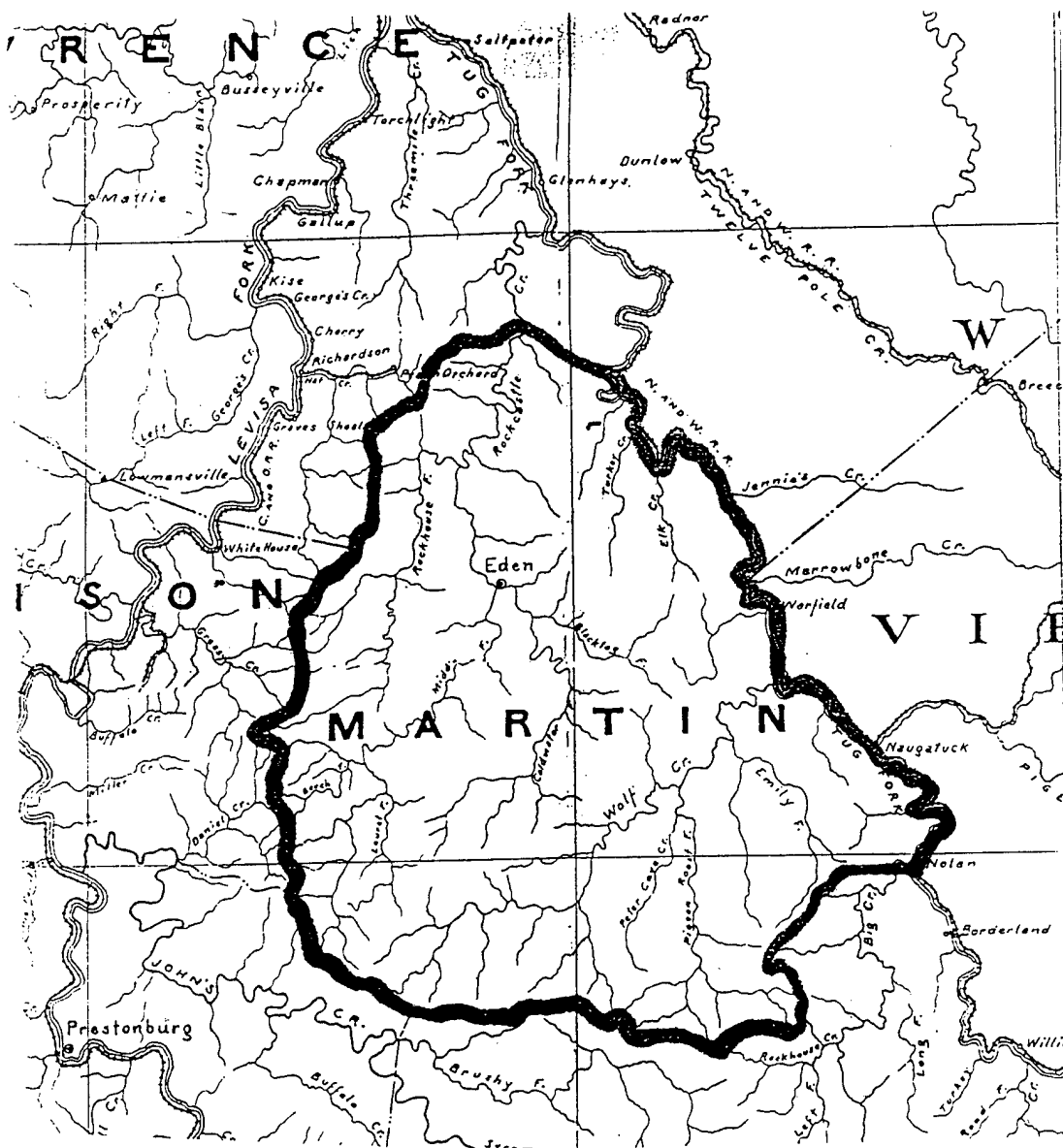


Figure 7. From the 1905 Ky. Geological Survey Bulletin, this portion of the "Map of the Big Sandy Valley" shows no mining developments in Martin at the time.

The Pilgrim Coal Company was incorporated in Martin County in November of 1902. The company was established to buy land and mineral rights, build tipples, scales, develop coal mines, shops, sheds, warehouses, associated "train ways", and buy and sell merchandise. The initial subscribers claimed Eckman, West Virginia as their home address. Concurrently, the same individuals incorporated the Wolf Creek Railway Company, also to be located at Pilgrim. The railway was enabled to operate for 50 years, haul freight and persons, and would extend ten miles up the creek from the mouth of the Tug Fork (Martin County, Articles of Incorporation 1, 11).

The Pilgrim Coal Company apparently sought the coals at the head of Wolf Creek and determined to mine and transport the distance to the N&W line in W.Va. privately. The extent of Pilgrim Coal's success is not clear, as the 1928 Naugatuck W.Va.-Ky. U.S.G.S. map (reprinted 1941) does not indicate a railroad along Wolf Creek, and the buildings located in the vicinity of Pilgrim do not appear numerous enough for a coal town community of much size (Figure 8). However, one notable building identified as MT-27, (COE #L220) was probably associated with Pilgrim Coal or other area coal developments.

The building of coal towns began in the 1880s and peaked in the 1920s. It has been estimated that by 1925, as much as 80 percent of Appalachia's coal miners lived in company towns (Dobson, et al. 1991). The towns usually began with temporary housing, tents or boarding houses. Usually within a year, the town grew to include a company store, which housed administrative offices, a commissary, and often a place to engage in leisure activities. Later, schools and churches were built to complete the coal town. An interest in the needs of the miner and family was embodied by the inclusion of beauty parlors, recreation centers, libraries and other facilities in town plans (Schifflett 1991).



Figure 8. From the 1928 Naugatuck, W.Va.-Ky. U.S.G.S. topographic map. The area includes Wolf Creek, Warfield, Pond Creek vicinities east of the Tug Fork River.

Probably the most unusual and significant historic coal town to exist in Martin County was Himlerville. Now known as Beauty, and located within the project area, Himlerville was the briefly realized utopian dream of Hungarian, Martin Himler. On Buck Creek, (west of Warfield), Himler obtained a lease from the Buck Creek Coal Company to mine the "Buck Creek Black" (Haws 13). Beginning about 1919, Himler attracted Hungarian miners to the area through information in his newspaper, the Hungarian Miner's Journal. During its heyday, Himlerville probably rivaled any coal town of the region in amenities and quality of life for the miners and families. The Himler Coal Company transported its coal along a private railroad spur to Warfield and across the Tug Fork to Kermit, W.Va. on a spur and bridge costing over \$300,000.00. A similar amount was spent in building a power house which generated electric power for the mine and the community. Over 200 homes were built for miners and families and a water reservoir above the town provided piped water. Himler incorporated the Himler State Bank, opened a company store and town hall, and provided a staff doctor to miners and families. Himlerville also supported a school, churches, bakery, bowling alley, newspaper printed in English and Hungarian, boarding house, barber shop, band, baseball team, soccer team and boxing club. Social events included operas performed in Hungarian, plays, musicals and religious and holiday festivals. In 1928, however, the Himler Coal Company claimed bankruptcy, as did many coal companies as demand and prices for coal plummeted in the late 1920s (Martin County Fair Board 1976: Zsoldos). Himlerville's name changed to Beauty and gradually many residences were moved from the area, abandoned, and destroyed. Today, the stone Himler State Bank, the commissary store, Martin Himler's residence, and a few of the original historic residences of Himlerville remain. The Martin Himler residence (MT-1) is the only property listed on the National Register in Martin County (Martin 1994).

Martin County Since World War II

Large scale coal mining brought the first significant industry-associated boom to the county in the 1950s. During the decade, the county population peaked at 11,677, but mechanization and gradual layoffs brought recession in the 1960s. Again in the 1970s, the "energy crisis" prompted the development of new deep and strip mines and a resulting economic strengthening. During the last 25 years, a cycle of boom and bust, tied to fluctuations in the coal industry has characterized the Martin County economy.

ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES

Agricultural Related Resources

The Tug Fork and greater Big Sandy region in south east Kentucky was settled late in comparison to other areas of the Commonwealth. By 1820, the central Bluegrass region had emerged from settlement and was flourishing with a prosperous, agricultural economy reaching national markets. At the same time, settlers to the Tug Fork valley were making the first inroads and establishing homesteads on limited bottom land. Noteworthy growth did not occur until the 1840s (Martin n.d.:17-18).

In the early-to-mid-19th century, settlers plowed the bottom land while leaving the steep and narrow reaches of upper tributaries in native habitat. Between 1900 and 1910, however, county populations grew significantly and as families expanded and stayed on, the tradition of dividing parental lands among children perpetuated clannish patterns of growth and subdivided the subsistence farms into increasingly smaller units (ibid:19).

The earliest dwellings built to shelter farmers and their families followed the morphology of mountain cabin types as developed by Henry Glassie (Martin:22). The first impermanent homes were of round pole log construction, followed by permanent dwellings of square hewn single pens with sandstone foundations and half-dovetail notching. Charles Martin's county-wide work in Floyd County, Kentucky (north of Martin County), identified characteristics that aid in dating these early homes and is a valid model for early domestic material culture from settlement through the early 20th century in the region. The earliest single pen cabins were about 16 by 20 feet with stone chimney in the gable end and axis wall doors opposite each other. Yellow poplar was often used for walls of hewn logs that measured approximately 20 by 6 inches. Earliest cabin logs have all four log sides hewn, while later versions leave top and bottoms rounded with bark still on (Martin:24-26). Martin found that the early single pens that have survived in the county "were either located at the heads of hollows or were taken care of by historical-minded descendants" (Martin:127). The single pen log dwelling was probably one of the most common house types throughout the region in the 19th century. Few houses built in the 1800s were of any material but log, and log persisted into the 20th century as a commonly-used building material. Rural residences on farmsteads were probably not built of sawn wood frame until the late 1890s at the earliest, when coal camp architecture began to influence local building practices.

Sawmills were common throughout the Tug Fork valley before the First World War, making balloon and box frame houses more possible. Martin notes, however, that although builders chose to use the sawn lumber, the traditional single and double cell, side-by-side configurations of log building were

adhered to. Although locals adopted the coal camp building material, they did not borrow the front-to-back linear plan of coal camp housing that made use of narrow coal camp building lots. Montell and Morse agree with the transformation of the side-by-side pattern utilizing logs, to a similar configuration in frame construction. They define the residential type found in all areas of the Commonwealth from the later 19th through the early 20th century as the tenant house. Generally a story-and-one-half, (although all examples identified in the project area are one-story), of frame with weatherboarding, featuring two front doors; one into each of two front rooms, with a full front porch, and one central chimney that serves to vent stoves in both front rooms (Montell and Morse 1976,26). Montell and Morse maintain that the form has spatial associations with the saddlebag house, although the double pen and hall-parlor plan seem as similar to this tenant house type.

Limited material evidence of early agricultural activity can be found in domestic architectural resources within the project area. In fact, no properties appear by form, materials, or evident plan, to suggest log construction or suggest, through their design and material characteristics, 19th century dates of construction. The earliest resources in the project area are located in Warfield and are associated with early industries, not with early agricultural activities. Thus, the only resource that may have agricultural associations that appears potentially eligible is MT-42, a sandstone house in the vicinity of Hode. The agricultural associations are probably marginal and the construction is well into the 20th century.

Although not an agricultural building, MT-35 (COE-M289) a small, frame church located along the Tug in the narrow rural valley between Turkey Creek and Hode (see Webb U.S.G.S. Quad) is recommended for eligibility of the National Register. With its simple, rectangular plan, central entry, gable front and white-painted clapboards, the "Community Church" is significant for its excellent architectural integrity.

Urban Resources: Commercial and Residential

The small, urban communities of Warfield and Lovely resulted from industrial activities in nearby areas. During the 19th century, salt, coal and gas developments at Warfield resulted in the growth of the small town on the west bank of the Tug River. No material resources remain that represent these activities. Today, few of the historic commercial and residential buildings of Warfield display good physical integrity. The majority have been altered with non-historic materials or through design changes and additions. Together, the buildings do not adequately convey a sense of Warfield's history. Three individual resources in Warfield; the W.W. Barrett residence (MT-11, COE-M093) and Warfield High

School and Gymnasium (MT-12, 12A, COE-M103) appear to be potentially eligible to the National Register or deserve additional documentation to determine their eligibility.

The Barrett house (Figure 9) is significant for its associations with W.W. Barrett, an early resident of Warfield who owned the Warfield Coal and Salt Company, one of the early manufacturing industries in the area. The building is the largest historic residence in the town, and displays a majority of its architectural integrity.



Figure 9. The W.W. Barrett House in Warfield, MT-11 (COE # M093). A large, two-story, frame, late 19th century vernacular residence with a center hall plan.

Warfield High School appears eligible and further documentation of the integrity of the Gymnasium is recommended for a determination of eligibility of that resource (Figures 10 and 11). The sandstone school and attached gymnasium were built in 1938 by the Civilian Conservation Corps. The buildings are not only significant architecturally as good examples of C.C.C. construction in the area, but also are historically important within the history of education in Martin County as representing the consolidation

of schools in the mid-20th century, in effort to better the quality of education for all Martin County children.

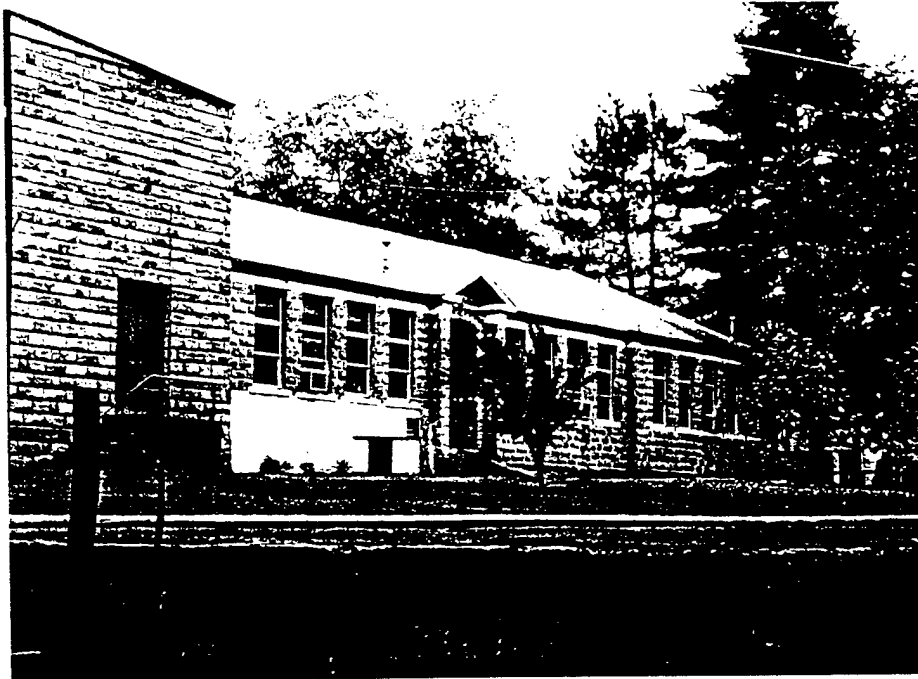


Figure 10. Warfield High School, built in 1938 by the C.C.C. (MT-12, COE #M103)

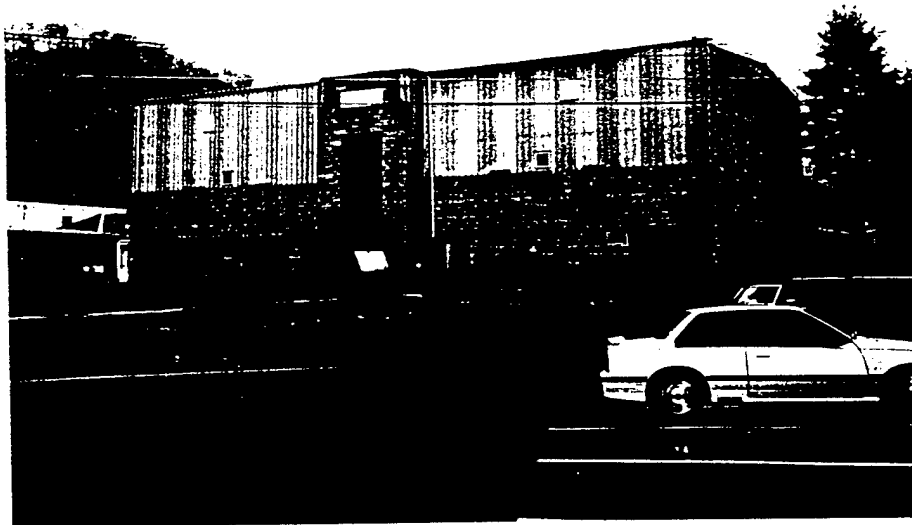


Figure 11. The Warfield High School Gymnasium. Original windows have been replaced or covered with corrugated fiberglass panels, which may be removable or only applied to the original fenestration pattern of the second floor.

At Lovely, Kentucky, a similar, extensive loss of historic design and materials of individual resources, the loss of historic resources, and the introduction of modern structures has compromised the historic integrity of both individual resources and the community as a whole. However, limited resources that warrant additional documentation to determine eligibility do exist within the area and include: MT-18 (COE-L79), MT-19 (COE-L78), and MT-26 (COE-L276). Figure 12, residences MT-18 and MT-19, are similar, frame bungalows that feature pyramidal hip roofs topped by square cupolas, an unusual design detail for the area. Each maintains good physical integrity and are perhaps associated with lumbering or other activities at Lovely during the early 20th century.



Figure 12. MT-19, with barn to the rear and MT-18 in the distance. These unusual hip-roofed bungalows are isolated from other buildings in Lovely and may be associated with lumbering or other commercial activities in the area.

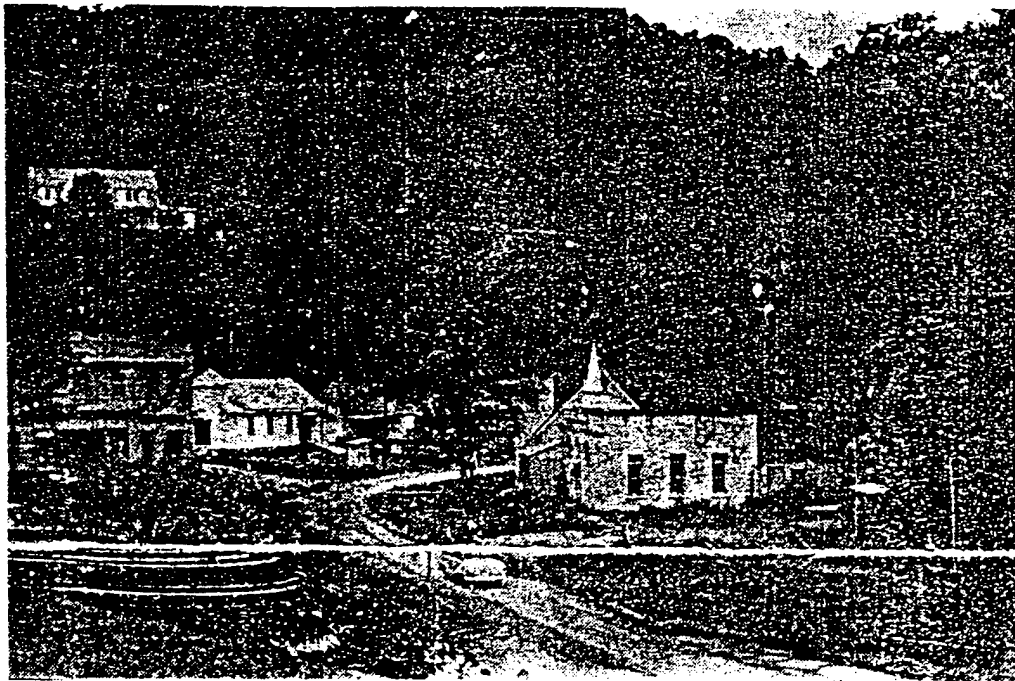
Coal Related Resources

Between 1880 and 1930, rural west Virginia and southeast Kentucky underwent significant change with the development of the region's vast coal reserves. To sustain the work force that labored in the new mines, coal companies established literally hundreds of towns throughout the region equipped with schools, churches, stores, homes, etc. (Dobson et al:1991,1,15). It is estimated that as many as eighty percent of the area mining population lived in company-owned communities (ibid,6). By the 1920s, alternative fuel supplies such as gas and oil were gaining in widespread use and, by the 1930s, effectively curtailed the demand for coal to such an extent that the industry suffered significant losses with many smaller firms, such as the Himler Coal Company, filing for bankruptcy. Following these failures, many coal town residences were sold and converted to rental property and others remained vacant, with repairs and improvements kept to a minimum. Local informants in Martin County reported that several residences in Beauty - originally Himlerville - were purchased and moved to other locations in the area after the company took bankruptcy. This situation is not unusual as often the land on which buildings and structures were placed was only leased, and not owned by the company. If a company went bankrupt, the lease was voided. In this way, many coal towns have literally vanished or lost such a significant percentage of their original architectural fabric to make them no longer potentially significant resources.

Studies of coal towns indicate that the communities were most often "planned developments", with streets laid out in grid or other geometric pattern as regular as site topography allowed. Upon this grid were located the miner's homes; rectangular or square houses with gable or hip roofs, with a reiteration of plan, design and scale throughout the community. The residences adopted popular bungalow-inspired characteristics such as asymmetrical interior plans (in contrast to the regular, traditional plans of domestic folk architecture of the region); and dimensional stud frame construction with clapboard siding or sometimes, brick veneer (in contrast to log and box frame vernacular materials and craftsmanship). These residences tended to face the street with limited setbacks and yard area. Often, the lots were very urban in appearance, being long and narrow. Frame houses were often built on wood corner post foundations. The mine supervisor's residence was generally larger than the worker's houses, perhaps had additional design details, and was usually set slightly away from the other housing, often near the office. In location, scale and design, the residence physically articulated the supervisor's important position at the mine. Depending upon the financial ability and social philosophy of the coal company, additional structures within the coal town could include schools, a company store, commercial buildings that housed barber and beauty shops, bowling alleys and other recreation halls, etc.

Resources at Beauty/Himlerville and near Pilgrim display several of these coal associated characteristics and several, including the Himler State Bank (MT-), the Himlerville Store (MT-) and numerous residences have been surveyed. However, most of these resources have lost the majority of

physical integrity, and the communities as a whole, do not continue to reflect their historic appearance. **Figure 13** is a poor copy of an historic photograph of Himlerville. By the appearance of the automobile, the un-dated view was probably taken sometime circa the Second World War or later. By this time, the coal company would have long abandoned the community. Today, Beauty (Himlerville) displays even less integrity. However, the sole National Register listed property in the county is the MARTIN Himler house, visible in **Figure 13** as the house on the hill above town. One other resource in the community, MT-7 (COE-174) has been identified as being potentially eligible simply for its excellent integrity and as the probable sole remaining worker's cottage of Himlerville that retains such architectural excellence (**Figure 14**).



Beauty, Ky. — A town with an interesting history,
formerly known as Himlerville, Ky.

Figure 13. An un-dated photograph of Himlerville (Beauty). Not the Himler State Bank to the right, the two-story commercial store to the left, and the Martin Himler house above the town on the hill to the left.



Figure 14. The worker's cottage dating to the Himlerville era, now Beauty.

The other remaining resource that maintains good integrity that may be eligible as a coal industry associated property is MT-27 (COE-L220). This unusual, two-story, frame bungalow residence located at the confluence of Peterclaw Branch at Wolf Creek, may be associated with the Pilgrim Coal Company or other early 20th century mining venture in the area (Figure 15). By its size and design details, the building appears to have been perhaps a superintendent's home and office or other administrative building.



Figure 15. MT-27 (COE-L220), a coal-associated resource in the Wolf Creek drainage.

RECOMMENDATIONS

This portion of the Tug Fork Basin contains a diversity of historic resources that illustrate the themes of architecture, agriculture and industry, from an historic period of approximately 100 years from perhaps circa 1865 through 1940. The oldest of these resources represent the theme of domestic architecture. Resources dating after the turn of the twentieth century, more commonly reflect changes introduced by the commercial coal industry and lumbering. The extent of coal company town development was fairly limited in Martin County, unlike surrounding counties such as Pike, Johnson and Floyd, where coal towns were fairly numerous. Since the expiration of corporate ownership of structures in the coal towns, there has been a major loss of material culture at these locations.

Of the 54 resources surveyed and given KHC inventory numbers (MT-5 through MT-58), 44 do not appear to meet standards for National Register eligibility. However, because of the extensive loss of physical integrity of the limited historic resources remaining in the area, the consultants believed it better to identify several of those resources that do exist, despite physical compromises. On the basis of the historic themes important to the development of Martin County, and the retention of physical integrity, this report recommends that the following resources appear to be either potentially eligible to the National Register, or warrant further documentation to determine eligibility:

MT-7 (M174) Himlerville worker's cottage (now Beauty)

MT-11 (M093) W.W. Barrett House

MT-12 (M103) Warfield High School

MT-12A (M103) Warfield High School Gymnasium

MT-18 (L79) House at Lovely

MT-19 (L78) House at Lovely

MT-26 (L276) Barn at Lovely

MT-27 (L220) Coal Company house, Wolf Creek

MT-35 (M287) Community Church

MT-42 (M229) Stone house at Hode

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