ABSTRACT
WA-I-178 Early 19th Century
Large Log House, Mt. Aetna Rd.
Hagerstown Vicinity
private

This log house, five bays in length and four in width is unusual as one of the largest dwellings of log construction to be found in Washington County. It is noteworthy for its broad end walls and steeply pitched roof. It would appear to date from the first quarter of the 19th century.

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WA-I-178
District 10
Map 50
Parcel 5

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Large Log House, Mt. Aetna Road

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Mt. Aetna Road

CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown Vicinity

STATE: Maryland | COUNTY: Washington

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☒ Building ☐ Site ☐ Structure ☐ Object	☐ Public ☒ Private ☐ Both	Public Acquisition: ☐ In Process ☐ Being Considered	☒ Occupied ☐ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress	Yes: ☐ Restricted ☐ Unrestricted ☒ No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☒ Agricultural	☐ Government	☐ Park	☐ Transportation	☐ Comments
☐ Commercial	☐ Industrial	☒ Private Residence	☐ Other (Specify)	
☐ Educational	☐ Military	☐ Religious		
☐ Entertainment	☐ Museum	☐ Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Lewis M. Miller

STREET AND NUMBER: Mt. Aetna Road, Route # 1, Box 39

CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown | STATE: Maryland | 21740

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Washington County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER: West Washington Street

CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown | STATE: Maryland | 21740

Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): 376/694

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Maryland Historical Trust Survey # 3055

DATE OF SURVEY: Summer 1967 ☐ Federal ☒ State ☐ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Maryland Historical Trust

STREET AND NUMBER: 21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis | STATE: Maryland | 21401

WA-I-178

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One) ☒ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated ☐ Ruins ☐ Unexposed	
	(Check One) ☒ Altered < 50% ☐ Unaltered	(Check One) ☐ Moved ☒ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (*If known*) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This house is located south of Mt. Aetna Road just east of its junction with Edgewood Drive in Washington County, Maryland. It is situated on level ground and faces east.

The structure is a large log dwelling, five bays in length and four in width resting on low fieldstone foundations. When this house was visited in May of 1974, old sheathing was being removed so that aluminum siding could be applied, affording an opportunity to view the original wall surfaces. The logs are chinked with soft mud mortar and display "V" notched corner joining. Attached to the logs are vertical strips of lathing to which was applied various layers of sheathing. Beneath the uppermost covering of composition brick siding was earlier wooden weatherboarding with a decorative bead at the lower edge of each board. At various points in all of the walls are joints in the logs where interior log walls run at right angles to the four exterior walls. While these massive interior walls would be needed to support a structure of this size, it is also possible that their presence suggests that the house may have been built in sections. Also revealed when the old siding was stripped was the steep gable of a one story structure which joined the west or rear wall of the dwelling. A more recent one story frame leanto is now attached to the north elevation.

Windows appear to be spaced evenly in the front elevation. At all elevations, moderately wide frames hold nine over six pane double hung sashes at the second story level and more recent six over six light sashes at the first story level. One six over six light window is present at the stair landing level in the north elevation. Pairs of six over six windows with wide frames light the attic.

The main entrance is located in the center bay of the front elevation. It is quite simple in its treatment and appears to have included a transom over the door. Other entrances are located in the two center bays of the north gable elevation. The more easterly of these doors was installed by the father of the present owner.

The roof appears to be pitched more steeply than is usually the case in Washington County. It is covered with sheet metal and termiantes at the eaves with plain boxing. Evidence of an old tapered barge board could be seen at the north gable end. The rafters are hewn and joined with pegs. Large brick chimneys with corbels at their tops are located inside each gable end. A small modern brick flue is located at the interior of the house.

A frame out building is located south of the house. North of the dwelling at the side of Mt. Aetna Road is a large stone end bank barn. It carries a partially readable inscription and date which appeared to be 1850. Other agricultural buildings are located nearby. The farm contains 124.26 acres. The buildings are in excellent condition.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

- ☐ Pre-Columbian
- ☐ 15th Century
- ☐ 16th Century
- ☐ 17th Century
- ☐ 18th Century
- ☒ 19th Century (early)
- ☐ 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) *(If Applicable and Known)*

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

- Aboriginal
  - ☐ Prehistoric
  - ☐ Historic
- ☐ Agriculture
- ☒ Architecture
- ☐ Art
- ☐ Commerce
- ☐ Communications
- ☐ Conservation
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Engineering
- ☐ Industry
- ☐ Invention
- ☐ Landscape Architecture
- ☐ Literature
- ☐ Military
- ☐ Music
- ☐ Political
- ☐ Religion/Philosophy
- ☐ Science
- ☐ Sculpture
- ☐ Social/Humanitarian
- ☐ Theater
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Urban Planning
- ☐ Other *(Specify)*

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house is primarily significnat for its architecture. It is one of only a few very large log houses of two or more bays in depth to be found in Washington County. Most of these large log dwellings appear to be associated with the late 18th or early 19th centuries. This house is particularly unusual with its broad end walls and steeply pitched roof.

A house is depicted at the approximate location of this structure on Charles Varlé's 1808 map of Frederick and Washington Counties. Beside the designation for the house is written the surname Hogmire. In his will probated July 28, 1798, Conrad Hogmire left the land and the plantation "where I now live" to his wife, Magdelena, for the term of her widowhood and then to his son, Samuel (will Liber A, Folio 390). In 1812 the property was deeded from Samuel Hogmire to his daughter, Catherine Hogmire Alter (Y/323). The farm was passed through the Alter family until 1938 when it was purchased by Henry E. and Ruth S. Miller, parents of the present owner. (207/534).

It is possible that this house or at least part of it was that which was depicted on the 1808 map. The appearance of the woodwork at the interior of this house would suggest that if the structure were standing at that time, it would have been quite new.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

WR-I-178

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Varlé, Charles, A Map Of Frederick and Washington Counties, 1808.

Washington County Land Records.

Washington County Probate Records.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY							OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES					
CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE				LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"		°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"							
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"							
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"							

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 124.26 acres.

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant

ORGANIZATION
Washington County Historical Sites Survey

DATE
December 1975

STREET AND NUMBER:
Court House Annex

CITY OR TOWN:
Hagerstown

STATE
Maryland

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

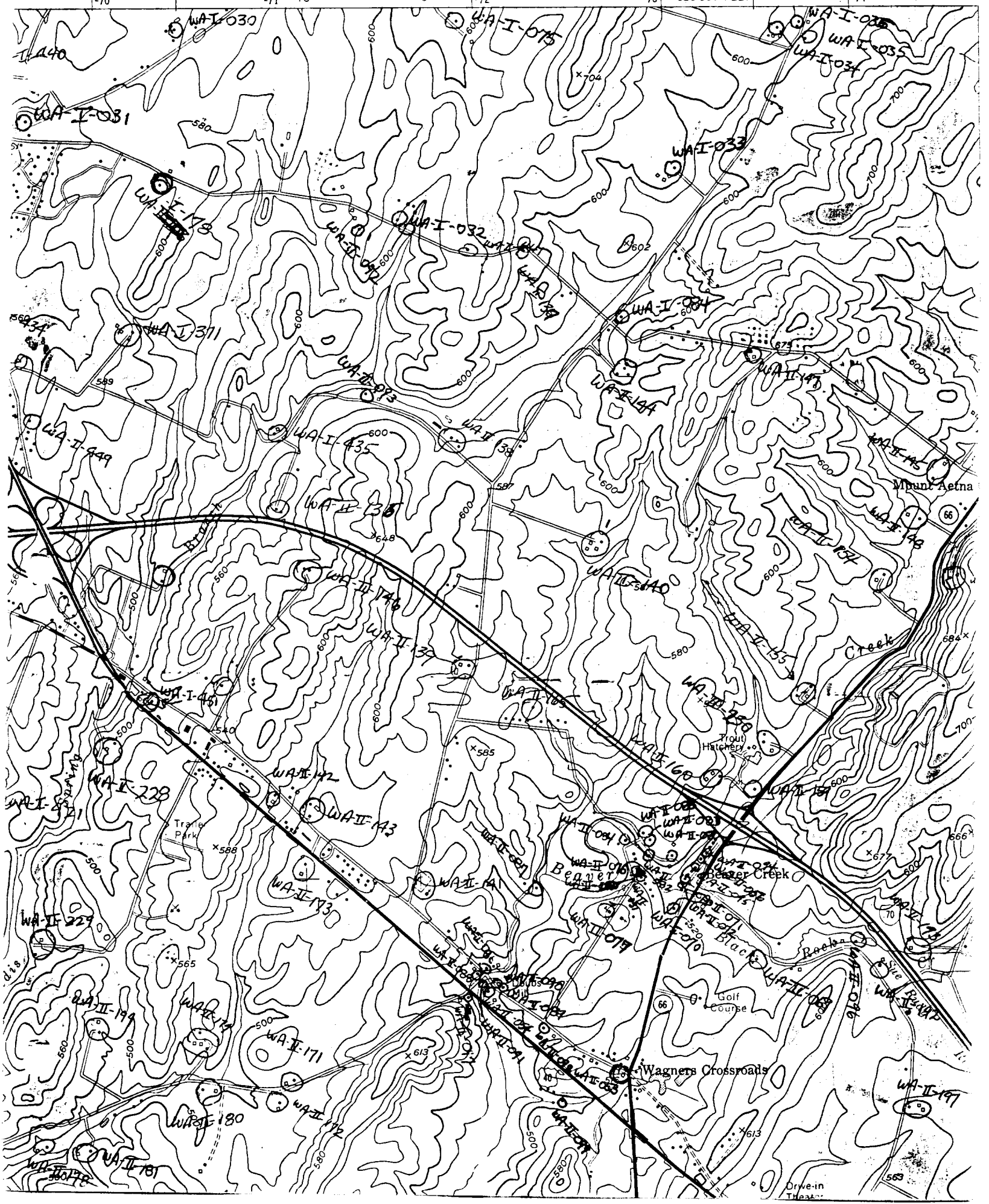
National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature

ES
E ARMY
EERS

Funkstown Quadrangle WA-I-178

7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
SW/4 HAGERSTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE



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