

ABSTRACT

WA-I-215

Eshelman-Martin Farm

Hagerstown Vicinity

private

19th Century

This 19th century stone and brick farmhouse sheathed with stucco exemplifies Washington County's rural building traditions. Like many houses in the County and the larger Cumberland Valley, it was built in several sections over a period of years, expanding as family needs required. Most of the structure was presumably built by Peter Eshleman, a Bishop of the Mennonite Church. The farm is also important as being part of "Sprigg's Paradise" a very large early plantation in Washington County owned by members of the prominent Spriggs family.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

WA-I-215
District 27
Map 11
Parcel 39
2202045304

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Eshelman-Martin Farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Marsh Pike and Reid Road

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF Hagerstown

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Washington

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Grnat B. Martin

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Route # 8, Box 161

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21740

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Washington County Court House

Liber #: 365

Folio #: 632

STREET & NUMBER

West Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown

STATE

Maryland 21740

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Maryland Historical Trust Survey #3043

DATE

Summer 1967

___ FEDERAL STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

7 DESCRIPTION

WA-I 215

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED < 50%	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

 DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This farm complex is located west of the Marsh Pike and north of Reid Road at Reid in Washington County, Maryland. It is situated on an area of fairly level ground and faces east.

The dwelling, obviously built in several sections, is a two story, six bay stone structure coated with rough cast or stucco which has been incised to make the surface appear to have been constructed of uniform blocks. Forming a T is a two story, one bay wing also rough cast which extends to the west several feet north of the south gable end of the house. A two story, two bay brick extension has been added to the south gable end. According to the present owner the brick addition was made Ca. 1900.

Windows are not placed symmetrically in the walls. At the front elevation of the main section, a gap is prevalent between the second and third bays from its north end. The first story windows of the four bays set toward the south end of the front elevation have wide frames with pegged joining. They hold nine over six pane double hung sashes. The second floor level windows and those at both stories at the north end of the front elevation, the wing and the brick addition all have narrow mitered frames, most of which hold six over six pane double hung sashes. Many windows have shutters. Those at the first story are paneled while shutters used at the second floor level are louvered.

At the front elevation doors are located in the second and fifth bays from its north end. The doors have transoms and paneled jambs. A four bay, one story porch is centered at the front elevation.

The roof is sheathed with sheet metal and terminates with barge boards set directly against the end walls. Plain boxing finishes the eaves. Small brick chimneys are located inside each gable end.

Information provided by the present owner who found evidence of a series of joists projecting through the walls of the southern four bays of the main section suggests that the structure may have been one story high and later enlarged to its present two stories.

The building appears to be in good condition and is located on a farm containing 115.65 acres, part of "Spriggs Paradise." Several outbuildings and modern barns are located west of the house.

Although this house is oriented toward Marsh Pike, it should be noted that the road apparently did not always follow its present course. At one time it is said that Marsh Pike turned to the east at Reid, looped east of a low marshy area and rejoined the present alignment north of this house. An 1859 map of Washington County shows the road in its present location.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This 19th century stone and brick farmhouse sheathed with stucco exemplifies Washington County's rural building traditions. Like many houses in the County and the larger Cumberland Valley, it was built in several sections over a period of years, expanding as family needs required. Most of the structure was presumably built by Peter Eshleman, a Bishop of the Mennonite Church. The farm is also important as being part of "Sprigg's Paradise" a very large early plantation in Washington County owned by members of the prominent Spriggs family.

The exact building date for this house has not been discovered. Construction materials and techniques displayed in what is apparently its oldest part, the first story at the south end of the front elevation, is of a type associated with the late 18th or early 19th century in Washington County. Other portions of the house more closely resemble work of the second quarter or middle years of the 19th century.

This farm is generally known as Peter Eshleman's homestead. Peter Eshleman and John Horst purchased this property, then containing 237 acres in April of 1831 from the President and Directors of the Hagerstown Bank for \$7,121.25. Eshleman and Horst were described in the deed as late of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania (MM/309).

Peter Eshleman was ordained a Minister in the Mennonite Church in 1832. In 1838 he became a Bishop of the Church and served an area which included Washington County, Maryland, Franklin and part of Adams Counties in Pennsylvania. Apparently it was he who built most of the house standing on this farm. In 1869, Peter Eshleman Sr. sold the farm to Peter R. Eshelman, his son (WMcKK1/526). In 1917 Peter Eshelman's executor sold the farm to Amos M. Martin (152/498). It has descended through the Martin family to the present (267/2,4). T.J.C. Williams History of Washington County states that the barn on this farm was destroyed by fire and rebuilt in 1900.

"Spriggs Paradise," a plantation containing 1,754 acres belonged to Joseph Sprigg of Prince George's County. He had purchased the land, the "Long Meadows" tract from Col. Frederick Haldimand in 1773. "Spriggs Paradise" was a resurvey on part of this land which was eventually acquired by Thomas Sprigg. He built a large brick mansion since destroyed by fire along Marsh Pike south of this property during the late 18th century and resided there until his death in 1809. Thomas Sprigg was a Brigadier General in the State Militia and a Member of the Washington County Committee of Observation in 1777. Sprigg also served as the first register of wills for Washington County from 1776-1780. He is generally believed to have been one of the wealthiest residents of the County with an estate valued at his death at \$85,758. Thomas Spriggs' estate was divided among his three children, William O., Otho H. and Mariah. Mariah, who later married Dr. John Reynolds, received 512 acres, the

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Baer, Amos C., Unpublished information on "Long Meadows."
 Bell, Herbert C., History of Leitersburg District. Leitersburg, Md: the author, 1908
 Washington County Lnad Records.
 Washington County Probate Records.
 Williams, T.J.C., History of Washington County. Hagerstown, Md: Mail Publishing
 Company, 1908.
 CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 115.65 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Washington County Historical Sites Survey

DATE

September 1976

STREET & NUMBER

County Office Building, 33 West Washington Street

TELEPHONE

791-3065

CITY OR TOWN

Hagerstown

STATE

Maryland 21740

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 267-1438

northernmost portion of Spriggs Paradise. She and Reynolds mortgaged this land in 1828 (KK/167) and a portion of it is that which Peter Eshleman purchased in 1831. No evidence has been found to suggest that Mariah and John Reynolds ever lived on this farm, although it is possible that a portion of this farmhouse might have been built during or prior to their ownership.



10/20/2015
12/2
1/1/2016

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CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



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174-1-20

174-1-20

June 1978

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



10/10/2017 - ~~Estim~~ Eshelman - MARLIN FARM

PAULA STONER DICREY
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WB-2-215
5-9-68

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