

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes no

Property Name: Shilling/Spessard Farm Inventory Number: WA-I-051
 Address: 20905 Twin Springs Drive (MD 804) Historic district: yes no
 City: Chewsville Zip Code: 21721 County: Washington
 USGS Quadrangle(s): Hagerstown
 Property Owner: Barry and Penny Sprecher Tax Account ID Number: 018713
 Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 109 Tax Map Number: 38
 Project: Chewsville Streetscape Improvements Agency: Maryland State Highway Administration
 Agency Prepared By: A.D. Marble & Company
 Preparer's Name: Emma Young Date Prepared: 3/26/2007
 Documentation is presented in: Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties form, WA-I-051, on file at the Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, Maryland.
 Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended
 Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G
Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:
 Name of the District/Property: _____
 Inventory Number: _____ Eligible: yes no Listed: yes no
 Site visit by MHT Staff yes no Name: _____ Date: _____

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

Architectural Description:

The property identified as the "Shilling/Spessard Farm" was previously surveyed in 1975 using a Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP) form (WA-I-051, on file at the Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, Maryland. The property was not evaluated for eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as part of the 1975 survey.) This form is to serve as an update and expansion of the 1975 MIHP form.

The Shilling/Spessard Farm, located at 20905 Twin Springs Drive (MD 804) Chewsville, Washington County, Maryland, is an early to mid-nineteenth-century farm complex situated on a 77.5-acre tract in a valley that lies between Twin Springs Drive (MD 804) to the north and Jefferson Boulevard (MD 64) to the south. The tract includes land along both sides of Trovingers Mill Road, which lies to the northwest of the building cluster. Little Antietam Road (MD 62) runs north-south through the property.

A long gravel lane leads south from Twin Springs Drive (MD 804) to the domestic and agricultural outbuildings that comprise the farm. The property remains in active agricultural use and retains the feeling of an early to mid-nineteenth-century farm complex

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<u>Jim Paulino</u> Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	<u>1/3/08</u> Date
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with pastureland and orchards surrounding the building cluster. The early nineteenth-century Spessard Family cemetery, purchased by the Bethel United Brethren Church (present Bethel United Methodist Church, WA-I-883) in 1867 is located across Twin Springs Drive (MD 804) to the north of the building cluster.

The Shilling/Spessard Farm retains a nineteenth-century house (circa 1800/1862) and several domestic and agricultural outbuildings, including a large, stone bank barn, corn crib, granary, wash house, hay barn, smokehouse, poultry houses, and a circa-1790 secondary dwelling that served multiple purposes throughout its history. Additionally, the farm retains features reflective of one local trend in agriculture: crop farming (bank barn, granary, hay barn, and corn crib).

Main Dwelling

The main dwelling, oriented on an east-west axis, is a two-and-a-half-story, circa-1800/1862, square, stone dwelling clad in stucco. The dwelling purportedly contains an early nineteenth-century core, but was largely reconstructed in 1862. The dwelling is partially banked into a hill that slopes downward from north to south. As a result, the south and east elevations measure three-and-a-half-stories in height, and a spring reportedly runs through the basement level of the dwelling (Maryland Cracker Barrel 2005: 18).

The dwelling faces west towards Little Antietam Road (MD 62). The shallow-pitched, side-gabled roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles. A brick, interior, end chimney protrudes from both the north and south gables. A one-story, shed-roof porch sits upon a stone foundation, clad in stucco, and wraps around the north and west elevations. The porch features turned-spindle posts and a wooden balustrade.

The west (front) elevation of the dwelling consists of three bays. A wide pediment in the porch roof accentuates the main entry into the dwelling, which occupies the center bay in the west (front) elevation. The entry consists of a single-leaf, wooden, replacement door, complete with a one-light, aluminum storm door. A 40-light, replacement picture window occupies the bay to the south of the door. The four remaining openings consist of six-over-six light, double-hung sash, aluminum, replacement windows. Each opening retains operable, louvered, wooden shutters.

The north elevation consists of three, unevenly spaced bays. The north elevation contains a secondary entrance located in the easternmost bay in the first story. A wide, single-leaf, pane-over-panel door, complete with a one-light, aluminum storm door, provides access into the interior. A narrow, one-light transom caps the doorway. Two six-over-six light, double-hung sash, wooden windows are located to the west of the entry. The second floor of the north elevation contains two six-over-six light, double-hung sash, wooden windows. A set of operable, louvered, wooden shutters flanks each window opening in the first story and the easternmost bay in the second story. The westernmost bay in the second story is missing one shutter. Two six-light, wooden windows are located in the gable. A date stone located in the peak of the gable reads "Rebuilt by John Spessard, 1862."

The east elevation contains three evenly spaced bays. The first and second stories each consist of three six-over-six light, double-hung sash, wooden windows. A set of operable, wooden, louvered windows flanks each window opening. A single-leaf, wooden door, located in the northernmost bay in the ground level provides entry into the basement level. A small, six-light, wooden window is situated to the south of the entry. In addition, a single-leaf, wooden door, located in the ground-level of the porch story, provides additional access into the basement level.

The south elevation contains two evenly spaced bays. The first and second story each contain two six-over-six light, double-hung sash, wooden windows. A set of operable, wooden, louvered shutters flanks each window opening. Two six-light, wooden windows occupy the gable, as well as the basement level.

Overall, the dwelling stands in good condition.

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Secondary Dwelling

Immediately to the east of the main dwelling sits a one-and-a-half-story, three-bay, circa-1790, fieldstone, secondary dwelling that predates the main dwelling and most likely served as the original dwelling to the farm complex. The building, purportedly used first as a residence, then a distillery, and later a creamery, contains a two-story, frame addition off of the east elevation (Spessard 1930: 15). The building sits upon a bed of fieldstone, and a side-gabled roof, clad in standing-seam metal, caps the building. An interior, brick chimney, clad in stucco, protrudes from the north end of the roof. The main entry into the building occupies the center bay in the west (front) elevation and features a wide, one-light, single-leaf, wooden door. A six-over-six light, double-hung sash, wooden window is located to the north of the entry, and a window-opening, partially covered in plywood, is located to the south. A one-story, shed-roof porch, supported by four, square, wooden posts, extends across the length of the west (front) elevation.

The south elevation contains one bay consisting of a six-over-six light, double-hung sash, wooden window in the first and upper stories. The frame addition contains a one-over-one light, double-hung sash, aluminum, replacement window in the first and second stories.

The east elevation of the building is concealed by the frame addition. A long lean-to roof extends eastward from the east elevation of the addition.

The north elevation of the building contains no openings. A small, one-story, one-bay, shed-roof addition extends off of the north elevation of the frame addition. A centrally located, single-leaf, wooden door occupies the north elevation of the small addition.

The building, currently used for storage, appears to be in good condition.

Wash House

A one-story, one-bay, square, timber-frame wash house constructed circa 1860 is situated immediately to the north of the secondary dwelling. A steeply pitched, gable roof clad in standing-seam metal caps the building, which sits upon a fieldstone foundation. The building faces east and contains one single-leaf, wooden door. The north, south, and west elevations are devoid of openings.

The building, currently used for storage, stands in fair condition.

Smokehouse

A small, one-story, one-bay, frame smokehouse, constructed circa 1860, sits to the north of the wash house. A steeply pitched, front-gabled roof, clad in corrugated metal, caps the building, which sits upon a fieldstone foundation. The eaves are vented. A single-leaf, wooden door, attached with metal strap hinges, is centrally located in the south elevation and serves as the only opening into the building.

The present use of the building is unknown. The building stands in good condition.

Poultry Houses

A one-story, three-bay, frame, rectangular poultry house, constructed circa 1930, is located to the northeast of the smokehouse. A shed roof, clad in corrugated metal, caps the building. The building rests upon a fieldstone foundation. Two two-over-two light, double-hung sash windows occupy the westernmost bays of the south (front) elevation. A single-leaf, wooden screen door occupies the easternmost bay of the south (front) elevation. The north, east, and west elevations contain no openings.

A small, one-story, one-bay, frame, square poultry house constructed circa 1920 sits immediately to the east of the aforementioned,

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circa-1930 poultry house. A shed-roof, clad in corrugated metal, caps the building. Wire mesh covers the openings in the south elevation. A small, square, ground-floor opening occupies the center bay of the south (front) elevation. A single-leaf, wooden door, attached with metal-strap hinges, occupies the easternmost bay of the south (front) elevation. The north, east, and west elevations are devoid of openings.

Each poultry house, currently vacant, stands in fair condition.

Corncrib

A wide, one-and-a-half-story, one-bay, drive-through, frame corncrib, constructed circa 1860, is located to the northwest of the main dwelling. A medium-pitched, front-gabled roof sheathed in tin, caps the building, which rests upon fieldstone piers. A single-leaf, wooden door, attached with metal strap hinges, occupies each of the north and south elevations of both the east and west corn cribs. A single, square opening is located in the gable.

The building, currently used as a garage, stands in good condition.

Granary

Immediately to the northwest of the corncrib sits a one-and-a-half-story, circa-1850 granary. The building is banked into a hill that slopes downward from north to south. A steeply pitched, front-gabled roof sheathed in tin, caps the building. The building rests upon a fieldstone foundation. Corrugated metal covers each elevation of the building. A set of wide, double-leaf, swinging doors occupies the north (front) elevation. A single-leaf, wooden door occupies the ground level of the south elevation.

The building, the present use of which is unknown, stands in good condition.

Bank Barn

A large, circa-1786, fieldstone, German-style bank barn is located to the west of the granary. A steeply pitched, side-gabled roof sheathed in sheets of tin, caps the building. A wide, one-story block extends off of the northeast corner of the barn giving the impression of a saltbox-style roof on the east elevation. The barn sits in a hill that slopes downward from north to south.

The north elevation contains a large wagon bay in the center. Sliding doors, comprised of corrugated metal, cover the opening.

The west elevation contains narrow-slit ventilators. A small, square, window-like opening, covered with wood boards, provides the only opening in the ground story.

The south elevation contains the stable entries protected under an open forebay. The elevation consists of twelve evenly spaced openings. Five door-like openings occupy the western end of the elevation. A single, square, window-like opening and a single door-like opening occupy the center bay. A combination of small, window-like, square openings and long, rectangular, door-like openings complete the eastern end of the south elevation. The forebay is clad in corrugated metal. Three single-leaf, corrugated metal doors are centrally located in the forebay.

The east elevation contains two, small, square openings in the gable and two, small, square openings in the ground story.

A fenced-in barnyard stretches southward from the south elevation of the bank barn. The barn appears to be used for storage and stands in good condition.

Hay Barn

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A small, one-and-a-half-story, circa-1850 hay barn is situated adjacent to the southwest corner of the bank barn. The hay barn, clad in corrugated metal, rests upon a fieldstone foundation. A steeply pitched, side-gabled roof, clad in sheets of tin and containing vented eaves, caps the building. A large, single-leaf, corrugated-metal door provides the only opening in the west elevation. The east elevation contains a small, single-leaf, corrugated-metal door in the northern end. The north and south elevations are devoid of openings.

The present use of the outbuilding is unknown, and the building stands in good condition.

Landscape Features

Two springs jutting off from the Antietam Creek run through the property. One borders the main dwelling to the south, and the other purportedly runs north through the basement level of the dwelling (Maryland Cracker Barrel 2005: 18). Grape arbors are located to the north of the wash house, and a vegetable garden borders the east side of the building cluster.

Post-1957 Resources

There appear to be no post-1957 buildings located on the property. The continued agricultural use of the property necessitated minor alterations to the existing, pre-1900 buildings on the property.

Historical Narrative:

Property History

On January 25, 1739, Jacob Rohrer received a patent for a large tract of land where the Shilling/Spessard Farm is located today. Jacob Rohrer died in 1758 and bequeathed his lands to his son, Jacob Rohrer, Jr., who built the bank barn and the building referred to herein as the secondary dwelling on the Shilling/Spessard Farm (WA-I-051) in circa 1786 and 1790 respectively. These may be the earliest buildings located within the Chewsville village (Spessard 1976: 4-5). Between 1805 and 1836, the congregation of what would become the Bethel United Methodist Church met in the Spessard farmhouse. Larger services were held in the large, stone, bank barn (Spessard 1930:15).

In 1818, Joseph Graff, acting as the trustee of Rohrer's estate, sold a 239-acre lot to Michael Spessard for \$9,800. The lot in question was noted as being part of several lots called "Rohrer's Lot," "Rohrer's Addition," "Stoney Corner;" and "The Resurvey on George's Mistake," "George's (Ad)Venture" and "The Barrens," all lying contiguous to one another. Michael Spessard died in 1825 and was buried in the family cemetery located to the north of the building cluster.

In 1860, John Spessard, son of Michael Spessard, sold the 239 acre-lot to Daniel Spessard for \$19,161. Although the date stone on the north elevation of the main dwelling postdates John Spessard's ownership by two years, the large increase in the selling price of the property in 1860 assumes that many improvements were made to the property during John Spessard's ownership. These improvements include additions and improvements to the circa-1800, main dwelling house, as well as the construction of the granary, hay barn, corn crib, smokehouse, and wash house, and the frame addition to the secondary dwelling.

In 1867, the Bethel United Brethren Church (currently Bethel United Methodist Church, WA-I-884) purchased the one-acre, Spessard-family, cemetery plot to use as the cemetery for their congregation. (This lot was located to the east of what was then the small, stone, church building (currently 20920 Twin Springs Drive/MD 804. The cemetery is in use today, in 2007.

Upon Daniel Spessard's death, a case ensued to determine the fate of his estate. In 1885, the Circuit Court of Washington County appointed David and Melvin Spessard trustees of the estate. David and Melvin Spessard sold 120 acres of the lot to John Shilling for \$75 per acre. It was noted that the sale excluded a small graveyard, and that the property was known as the house farm of the

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late Daniel D. Spessard. Melvin Spessard had resided on the farm for at least three years prior to this sale, and he purchased the farm from Shilling only six days later for \$5,044.14.

In 1911, after almost 100 years of Spessard-family ownership, the farm left the Spessard family when Melvin and Georgeania Spessard sold a 151.25 acre lot to Newton J. Warrenfeltz for \$11,496.41. This lot consisted of land from both the 120- and the 115-acre lots owned by Melvin Spessard.

Newton Warrenfeltz and his wife Carrie conveyed the property to Charles and Cora Warrenfeltz in 1916. Charles and Cora Warrenfeltz paid \$2,000 and mortgaged an additional \$10,000 for the 151.25 acre lot in Chewsville.

Charles later remarried a woman named Lula and sold a portion of the property that contained the farm buildings and some land to Walter W. Shilling and Cora Shilling in 1928. This sale consisted of 87.5 acres of land, for which the Shillings paid \$9,000. Over the years they conveyed several small lots for right of way and to adjoining lots, which are still listed in the present deed. The Shillings erected the poultry houses on the property.

Cora Shilling died in 1954, and Walter died soon thereafter. In 1956 Paul U. Shilling, Lester D. Shilling and William V. Shilling, executors of the will of William Walter Shilling (Walter W.), sold the farm to Katherine Elizabeth Shilling (wife of Paul) for \$25,300, as the highest bidder at auction.

The Shillings remained owners of the farm until 1983, when they sold it for \$80,000 to Herbert E. and June Sprecher. After Herbert's death, June conveyed the property to the current owners, Barry and Penny Sue Sprecher, in 2005.

Agriculture in Washington County

From the initial interests of fur trading and subsistence farming, more substantial farms developed as settlers established permanent farms throughout Washington County in the late eighteenth century. Grain farming was prominent, and as a result many grist and flour mills were established. The mills took advantage of the ample water power to convert grain into more easily marketable meal and flour. The fast-moving Antietam Creek, which drains the eastern half of the lower Cumberland Valley, which includes the Hagerstown Valley, was particularly suited to driving mill wheels. Milling was so prevalent that on the portion of the Antietam Creek which passes through Washington County, 15 grist mills operated by the last decade of the eighteenth century (Maryland Cracker Barrel 2005: 10-12).

The prominence of milling reflects the influence of Pennsylvania and the lower Cumberland Valley in the region. The Hagerstown Valley developed a general agricultural economy with emphasis on wheat and other small grains, rather than the staple economy focusing on tobacco which developed in Eastern Maryland. The long-term dominance of wheat production in the valley is illustrated by records which show that in the 1790s, Frederick, Washington, and Carroll Counties were the largest wheat growing areas in the United States. Less than a century later, by 1870, Washington County boasted the highest yield of wheat in bushels per acre in Maryland (Michael 1993: 94).

Prior to Chewsville's designation as an election district in 1872, many of the farmers who lived in the area had to travel to Hagerstown to transact their business and buy their supplies. A nearby mill, known as Trovinger's Mill, collected most of the nearby grain surplus (Kendall 1955: 4). However, by the mid-nineteenth century, the center of agriculture for the nation had moved west where the role of the nation's "bread basket" shifted to the large grain farms developed in the Midwest. By the early 1900s, many of Washington County's flour mills ceased operation or converted to production of animal feeds and custom work for local farmers (Ibid.).

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Another important industry in the eighteenth century that developed from the emphasis on growing grain was whiskey distilling, a method of transferring bulky grain into an easily marketable product. The early appearance of mills and distilleries indicates that the Hagerstown Valley had developed its economic potential beyond subsistence agriculture and to a level of economic specialization with external trade systems by the mid- to late-eighteenth century. The Shilling/Spessard Farm (WA-I-051) purportedly housed a distillery (Spessard 1930: 25; Dorsey 1963).

By 1807, geographer Joseph Scott stated that Washington County:

Is a rich fertile county, forty-nine miles long and twenty-seven broad...[and]...contains 317,126 acres. Washington County lies principally between the North and South Mountains, and includes the fertile and well-cultivated valley extending on each side of the Conococheague Creek...The water of the Anti-Etam turns fourteen mills. It is the largest and most constant stream in the county, and where the largest quantities of flour are manufactured (as quoted in Scharf 1882:974-986).

Writing about the Hagerstown Valley in the early 1880s, historian J. Thomas Scharf noted, "The Valley of the Antietam, or Hagerstown Valley, as it is sometimes called, is remarkable for its fertility, and the wheat grown here is the finest quality, and is manufactured into superior brands of flour" (Ibid.). According to area residents, the Shilling/Spessard Farm buzzed with activity during threshing season (Maryland Cracker Barrel 2005: 18). The Spessards would sell their raw wheat directly to Betts' feed and grain operation in exchange for barrels of flour (Ibid.). In turn, area residents traveled to the Shilling/Spessard Farm to buy milk, butter, and other dairy products that were not sold in the village's general store (Ibid.).

Significance Evaluation:

The Shilling/Spessard Farm, located 20905 Twin Springs Drive (MD 804), Chewsville, Washington County, Maryland, is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A as a local example of an early- to mid-nineteenth century farm complex. The retention of many historic features, such as the farm lane and stream, as well as many domestic and agricultural structures, result in a higher degree of integrity than most other farm complexes still present in the surrounding area.

According to the National Register of Historic Places guidelines established by the National Park Service, the quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, site, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history;
- B. that are associated with lives of significant persons in our past;
- C. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction; or
- D. that have yielded or may be likely to yield information important in history or prehistory (National Park Service 1997).

The Shilling/Spessard Farm, located at 20905 Twin Springs Drive (MD 804), Chewsville, Washington County, Maryland, is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A. The property reflects Washington County's significance as a thriving asset to crop farming production in Maryland. The retention of many historic features, such as the farm lane and springs, as well as the bank barn, hay barn, corn crib, and granary, reflects the importance of the property as a lucrative farm complex centered on crop production. The property is also significant under Criterion A in the area of community development as the farm served as a gathering place for area residents. Fro 1805-1836, the property served as a church building for

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the Bethel United Methodist Church; and area residents traveled to the farm to buy eggs and dairy products.

The Shilling/Spessard Farm is not eligible under Criterion B because it has no known association with the lives of individuals of historical importance. Although the individuals who owned and inhabited the property were of families that contributed to the development of the area, the persons who lived in the house were not directly involved in any significant events or trends.

The stone barn on the Shilling/Spessard Farm is eligible under Criterion C. The barn is an exceptional example of a stone, German-style bank barn and retains sufficient integrity from the period of construction (circa 1786) necessary to deem it eligible for listing under Criterion C in the area of architecture. The dwelling and remaining outbuildings on the Shilling/Spessard Farm are not exceptional or representative examples of their types or forms. None of the buildings on the property represent the work of a master, nor do they possess high artistic values.

The property was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of the architectural survey and evaluation.

The property retains the feeling of a late-eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century farm complex due to the retention of historic landscape elements and domestic and agricultural buildings. The Shilling/Spessard Farm retains features reflective of one local trend in agriculture: crop farming (hay barn, corn crib, and granary).

The setting in which the farm is located continues under agricultural use and cultivation. The association of the farm complex to agriculture is exhibited through the continued use of many of the outbuildings for agricultural purposes, the retention of the farm lane, and the adjacent agricultural fields still in productive use, all features which contribute to integrity of location, setting, and association. The vegetable garden, grape arbor, springs, and mature deciduous and evergreen trees are small-scale features that also contribute to the property's integrity of setting and association. The architectural appearance of the property, with few exceptions, is decidedly that of a late-eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century farm complex. The materials of the main dwelling, as well as the historic domestic and agricultural outbuildings, remain largely unaltered; therefore, the buildings retain integrity of materials. The outbuildings stand in relatively good or fair condition. Thus, integrity of workmanship, materials, and design exists. Likewise, integrity of setting, location, association, materials, workmanship, and design all combine to support the property's integrity of feeling as a late-eighteenth and early nineteenth-century farm complex.

The bank barn on the Shilling/Spessard Farm retains sufficient integrity from the period of construction (circa 1786) necessary to deem it eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. Despite the presence of corrugated metal siding on the forebay and sections of the north elevation, the building contains enough historical fabric (stone, footprint, and barnyard) to retain integrity of location, setting, design, materials, and workmanship, therefore culminating in integrity of association and feeling.

Proposed Boundary:

The proposed boundary for the property includes the entire 77.5-acre tax parcel, which includes the historic dwelling, outbuildings, and associated land that historically comprised the farm.

References

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2005 Chewsville Edition. April/May

Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation, Washington County

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Washington County Office of Land Records, Hagerstown, Maryland.

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- 1818 Land Record Liber KK, Folio 885
- 1860 Land Record Liber IN 14, Folio 430
- 1885 Land Record Liber 88, Folio 287
- 1886 Land Record Liber 89, Folio 632
- 1894 Land Record Liber 101, Folio 665
- 1911 Land Record Liber 135, Folio 44
- 1916 Land Record Liber 148, Folio 353
- 1928 Land Record Liber 180, Folio 26
- 1954 Land Record Liber 290, Folio 574
- 1956 Land Record Liber 315, Folio 640
- 1956 Land Record Liber 316, Folio 371
- 1983 Land Record Liber 755, Folio 381
- 2005 Land Record Liber 2611, Folio 382

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____ Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

MHT Comments:

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

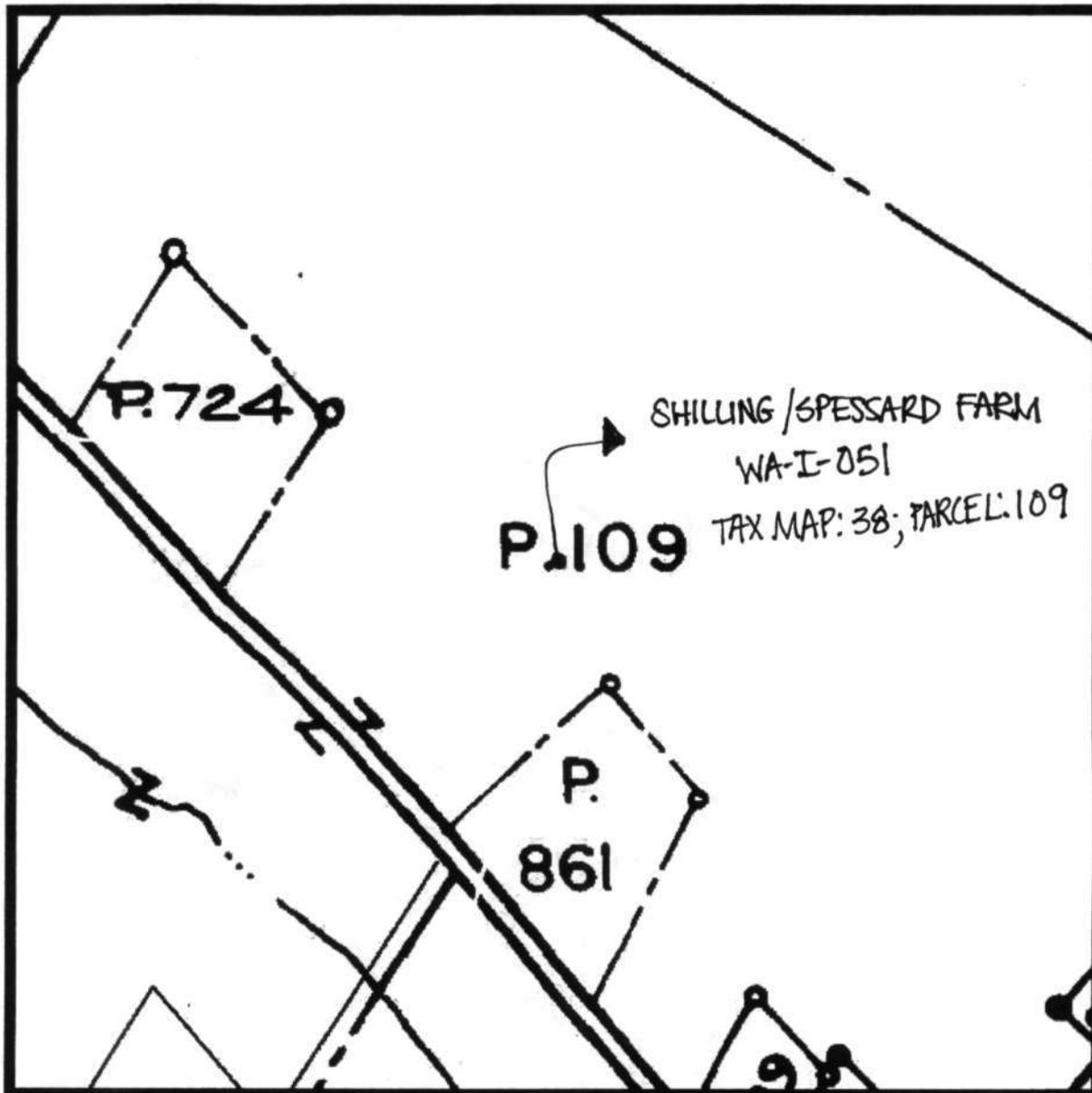
Reviewer, National Register Program

Date

WA-I-051

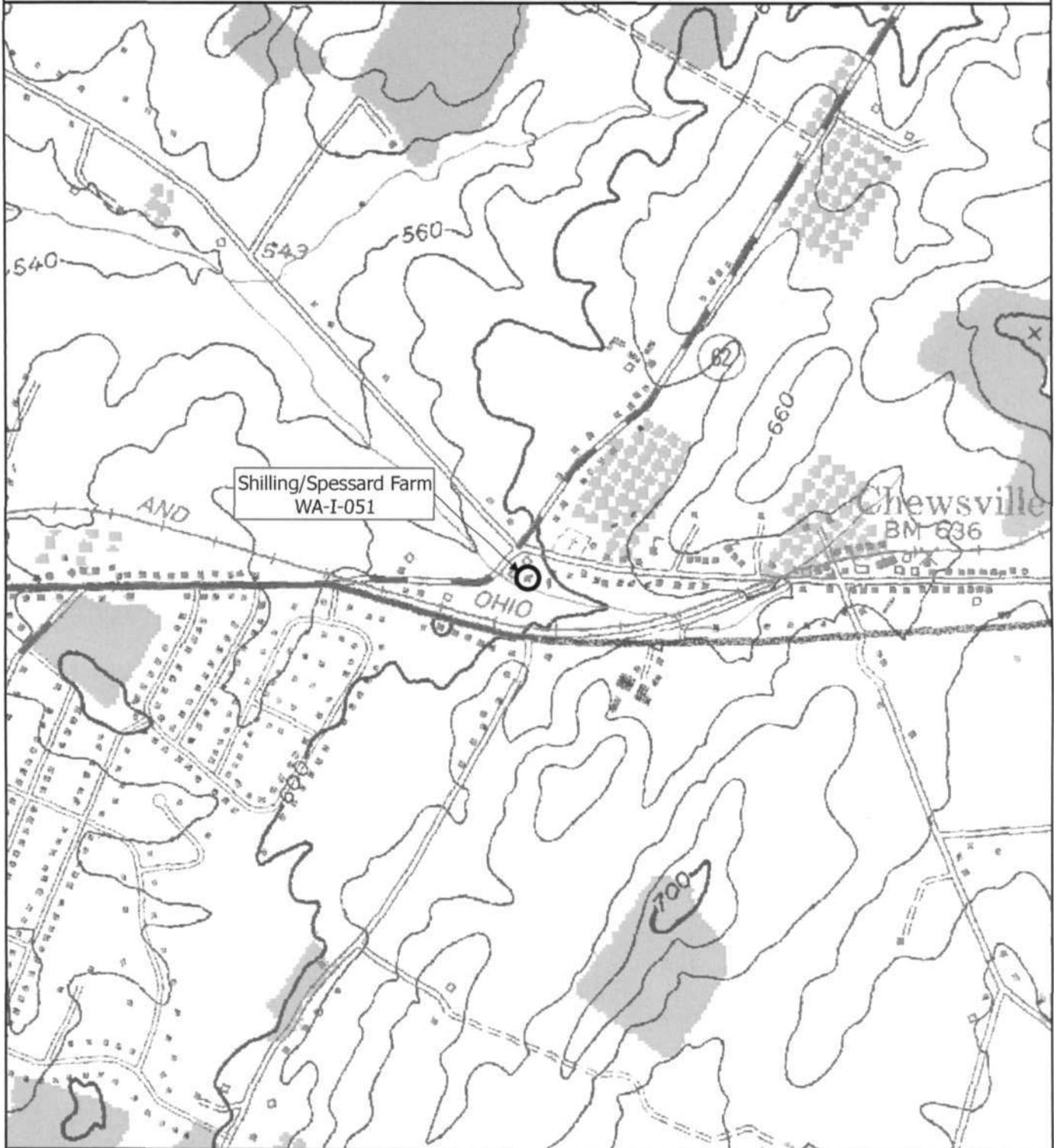


District - 18 Account Number - 018713



**Shilling/Spessard Farm
WA-I-051**

20905 Twin Springs Drive (MD 804)
Chewsville, Washington County



Map Document: C:\Projects\777\Maping\ShillingSpessard\Farm.mxd
1/22/2007 8:37:00 AM



 Resource

Map Source:
USGS 7.5' DRG: Hagerstown, MD.



WA-I-051

Skilling / Spessard Farm
Washington County, Maryland
E. YOUNG

03.2007

MD SHPO

overview of farm complex; view to north

Photo # 1 of 10

03/20/07 09:00:42



WA-I-051

Shilling / Spessard Farm
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

E. YOUNG

03, 2007

MD SHPO

overview of farm complex, view to southeast

Photo # 2 of 10



WA-I-051

Shilling / Spessard Farm

WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

E. YOUNG

03.2007

MD SHPO

South & east elevations of bank barn & hay barn; view
to northwest

Photo # 3 of 10



WA-I-051

Shilling / SPESSARD FARM
Washington County, Maryland

E. YOUNG

03.2007

MD SHPO

west elevation of main dwelling, view to east

Photo # 4 of 10



WA-I-051

Shilling / SPRSSARD FARM

WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

e. YDUNG

03. 2007

MD SHPO

north & west elevations of secondary dwelling & wash house;
view to southeast

Photo # 5 of 10

NO. 2. RETOUCHES



WA-I-051

Shilling / Spessard FARM
Washington county, Maryland

E. YOUNG

03. 2007

MD SHPO

South & west elevations of smokehouse; view to north east

Photo # 6 of 10



WA-I-051

Shilling / Spessard Farm
Washington county, Maryland
E. YOUNG

03.2007

MD SHPO

South & east elevations of corn crib & bank barn,
view to northwest

Photo # 7 of 10



WA-I-DS1

Shilling / Spessard Farm
Washington County, Maryland

E. YOUNG

03. 2007

MD SHPO

South east elevations of bank barn; view to
northwest

Photo # 8 of 10



WA-I-051

Shilling / Spessard Farm
Washington County, Maryland

R. YOUNG

03, 2007

MD SHPO

north east elevations of bank barn; view to southwest
Photo # 9 of 10



WA-I-051

Shiloh / Spessard Farm
Washington County, Maryland

e. YOUNG

03, 2007

MD SHPO

north & west elevations of bank barn's hay barn; view
to southeast

Photo # 10 of 10

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

1. NAME				
COMMON:				
Shilling Farm				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
Spessard Farm				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
Trovinger Mill Road and Leitersburg Road (Md. Rte. 62)				
CITY OR TOWN:				
Chewsville				
STATE		COUNTY:		
Maryland		Washington		
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME:				
Katherine E. Shilling and Paul Shilling				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:		
Chewsville		Maryland		21721
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:				
Washington County Court House				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
West Washington Street				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE		
Hagerstown		Maryland		
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): 316/371, 315/640				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY:				
DATE OF SURVEY:				
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:		

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This house is located near the intersection of Trovinger Mill Road and Leitersburg Road (Md. 62) in Washington County, Maryland. It is situated in a low area over a spring and faces north.

The structure is a two-and-a-half story, three-bay stone dwelling covered with a coating of stucco or "rough cast." There is no decorative work associated with the exterior of the house. It is constructed with its cellar above ground at all but the front or north wall.

Windows do not appear to have been placed in the walls with any great concern for uniformity or symmetry. The openings are generally small in relation to the wall area. The windows at the main stories contain six-over-six pane double-hung sashes held within narrow frames. Six-light openings are present in the attic and cellar levels. Most first story openings are flanked by paneled shutters while others have louvered shutters.

The main entrance is located in the east bay of the north gable end. The door is placed adjacent to a window and is framed very simply. A narrow transom is located over the door. Other doors located in the east wall at the cellar level have massive wooden frames.

The roof is covered with grey asphalt shingles terminating with a plain barge board set against the end walls. The eaves are finished with simple boxing. Large brick chimneys rise from inside each gable end.

A date stone set in the north gable end carries the inscription "Feb 21 1862" by John Spessard, 1862."

Just east of the house is a one-story, three-bay stone structure which has been enlarged with a frame addition at its east wall. Earlier in this century, the building was used as a dairy. Built of rubble field-stone, the structure has wide wooden window and door frames and an inside end chimney of brick.

North of the house is a large stone end bank barn. A date stone in the peak of the east gable is said to be inscribed with the date 1786 and the initials J.R.

The house is in excellent condition with the other buildings in fair to good condition. The property contains 85.03 acres.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian
- 15th Century
- 16th Century
- 17th Century
- 18th Century
- 19th Century
- 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) Rebuilt 1862 (date stone) Barn: 1786 J.R.

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The area of significance of this house is its architecture. Since the house was rebuilt in 1862, its original architectural value has been somewhat diminished. However, much earlier work may remain within the structure. Constructed of stone, the dwelling is an example of Washington County's early vernacular architecture. The barn and stone out buildings are outstanding examples of early stone structures.

According to local historians, the property was originally owned by Jacob Rohrer. In 1822, the farm was purchased by John S. and Michael F. Spessard.

For additional historical information pertaining to this and other properties in the Chewsville election district, contact Howard L. Spessard, 911 View Street, Hagerstown, Maryland.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

WA-I-051

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

[Empty space for major bibliographical references]

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: 85.03 acres

Acreage Justification:

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

STATE:	COUNTY:

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant

ORGANIZATION: Washington County Historical Sites Survey DATE:

STREET AND NUMBER:
Court House Annex

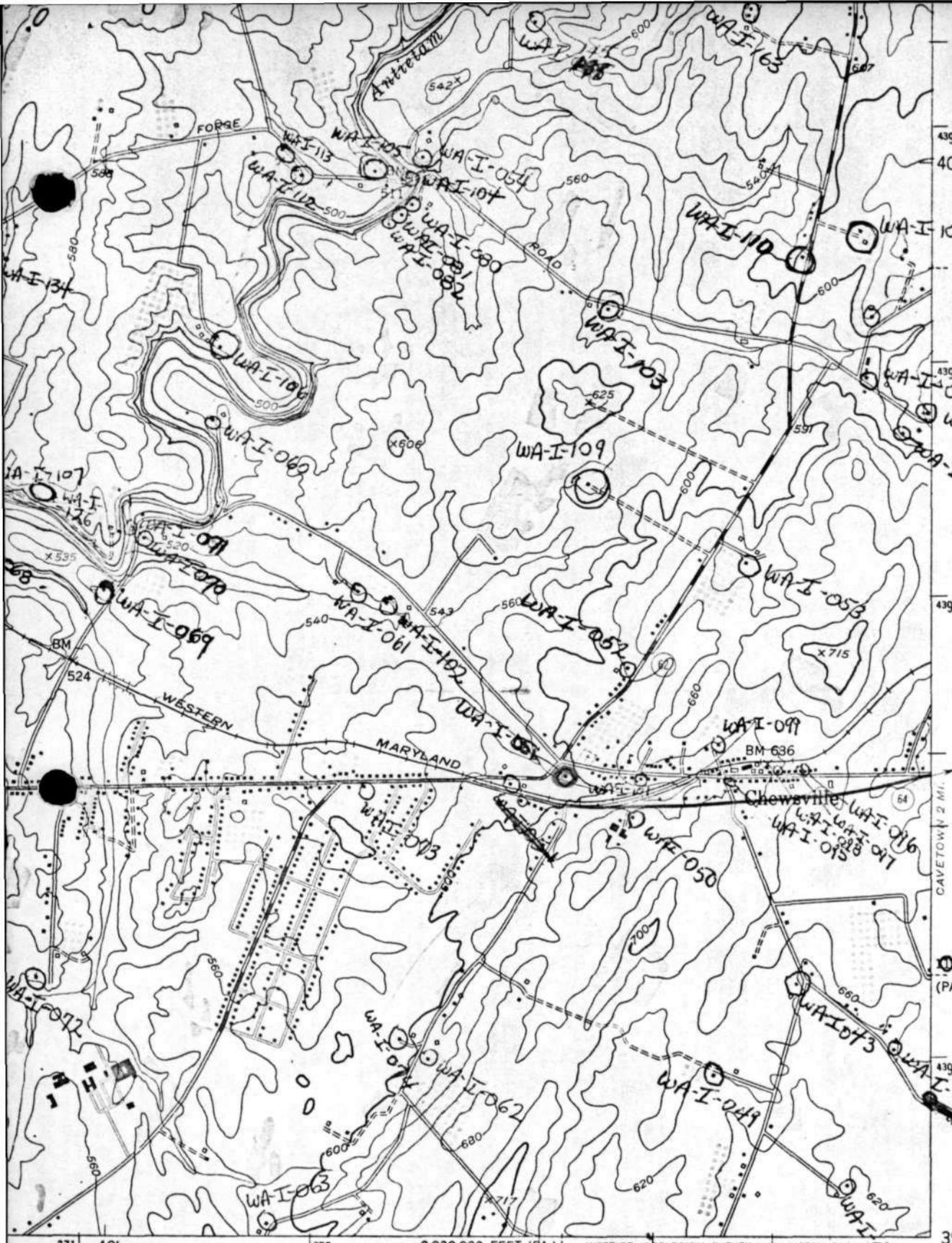
CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown STATE: Maryland

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

Significance of this property is:
 National State Local

Signature _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



4394
40'
4393
4392
CAVETOWN 2 MI.
000 FEET (PA.)
4390000m N.
39°37'30"
77°37'30"
274000m E.
INVERSVILLE 5463 II SE

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty 4 LANE 16 LANE Light-duty
 Medium-duty 4 LANE 16 LANE Unimproved dirt

U. S. Route State Route
 Interstate Route



HAGERSTOWN, MD.-PA.
 NW/4 HAGERSTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE
 N3937.5-W7737.5/7.5

Revisions shown in purple compiled by Geological Survey from aerial photographs, taken 1971. This information not field checked.



WA-I-051

N.E.

October 1973

**PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY**



WA-E-051
OUTBUILDING

October 1973

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-I-051

BARN

E.

October, 1973

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY