

ABSTRACT

WA-I -292

Mid 19th Century

Neiswander-Tovornik House

Cearfoss Vicinity

private

This bi-level brick farm house and its accompanying barn provide an example of a 19th century Cumberland Valley small farm complex. The house would appear to have been built during the mid 19th century. The barn in which a 1904 date was found is a frame structure built into a bank and is typical of many 19th and early 20th century barns in the area.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MA-I -292
District 13
Map 9
Parcel 90

MAI # 220-59535
596

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Neiswander-Tovornik House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Coseytown Road

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF **Cearfoss**

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"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Edward J. and Gloria Tovornik

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER
Route # 6, Box 79

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 #: 517
Folio #: 288

STREET & NUMBER
West Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown

STATE
Maryland 21740

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

WA-I-292

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input 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 on the north side of Coseytown Road, about one mile west of Maryland route 63, just south of the Maryland-Pennsylvania border near Cearfoss in Washington County. The buildings are set on high ground with the house facing south and the barn east.

The house is a seven bay bi-level brick dwelling resting on fieldstone foundations. The five western bays are part of a one and a half story structure which is indented or recessed so that its two westernmost bays are beneath a now enclosed porch. A pair of gable roofed dormers extend from the south slope of the roof. The eastern section of the house is two bays wide and two stories high. The portion of its west end wall which extends above the one and a half story section has been sheathed with aluminum siding. The front elevation of the house displays Flemish bond brickwork while American or common bond is used in the other walls.

Windows have narrow frames which hold six over six pane double hung sashes. Small four light windows are present in the gable of the lower section. Entrances are located in the second, fifth and sixth bays of the front elevation. A modern shed roofed porch shelters the two more eastern doors.

Small brick chimneys are located inside both end walls of the two story section and inside the west gable wall of the lower portion.

The interior of the house has fireplaces in the east and west end walls. Woodwork is consistent throughout the entire structure suggesting that both sections were built at the same time. The name Neiswander was inscribed in wood forming a partition in the east section of the house.

Just southwest of the house is a frame bank barn in which the date May 24, 1904 was found.

The buildings appear to be in excellent condition and stand on a tract containing 2.503 acres which was once part of a larger farm.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> 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 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 Mid	<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 bi-level brick farm house and its accompanying barn provide and example of a 19th century Cumberland Valley small farm complex. The house would appear to have been built during the mid 19th century. The barn in which a 1904 date was found is a frame structure built into a bank and is typical of many 19th and early 20th century barns in the area.

The owner of the property has indicated that the name Neiswander was found on a partition within the house. Washington County Land Records show that this farm was owned by Daniel Neiswander during the mid 19th century. On December 5, 1849, Peter Miller sold Daniel Neiswander 62 1/4 acres of land for \$1245. It was part of a grant called "Weeks Ingenuity." (IN5/337). In 1866 Neiswander sold 60 acres of "Mullens Delight," "Needwood Forest" and "Weeks Ingenuity" to Christian Horst for \$3300. (LBN2/1). In a later transaction dated April 25, 1876, D. M. Neiswander sold 46 3/4 acres of Weeks Ingenuity to Christian Horst for \$1075.25. (113/192). After Christian Horst, the farm was owned by various members of the Shank family until 1954 (160/108,109, 266/297, 282/329).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

WA-I-292

Washington County Land Records.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2,503 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	COUNTY
<u>Pennsylvania</u>	<u>Franklin</u>
STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE	
<u>Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant</u>	
ORGANIZATION	DATE
<u>Washington County Historical Sites Survey</u>	<u>June 1977</u>
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
<u>County Office Building, 33 West Washington Street</u>	<u>791-3065</u>
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
<u>Hagerstown</u>	<u>Maryland 21740</u>

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



Handwritten notes:
 Mason-Dixon
 quadrangle

Handwritten note:
 WA I-292



NEISWANDER - TOWERMAN HOUSE

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-1-292

Neiswander - Tovornik House

From south

Neiswander Tower + House

WA - 1 - 292

17042 Castle Hill Road

S. Goodrich

7.23.93

South