

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

WA-II-266  
 District 19  
 Map 76  
 Parcel 216  
 MAGI # 2208375235

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC  
**Russell Farm**  
 AND/OR COMMON  
**Crystal Springs, Locust Grove**

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER  
**Geeting Road**  
 CITY, TOWN \_\_\_\_\_ CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, \_\_\_\_\_  
 VICINITY OF **Keedysville** **6**  
 STATE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_  
**Maryland** **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 type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME  
**William H. Reams** Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 STREET & NUMBER  
**Route # 1, Box 81**  
 CITY, TOWN \_\_\_\_\_ STATE, zip code \_\_\_\_\_  
**Keedysville** \_\_\_\_\_ VICINITY OF \_\_\_\_\_ **Maryland 21756**

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

Liber #: **548**  
 Folio #: **843**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.  
**Washington County Court House**  
 STREET & NUMBER  
**West Washington Street**  
 CITY, TOWN \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_  
**Hagerstown** **Maryland 21740**

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, TOWN \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

**7 DESCRIPTION**

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 $\leq$ 50%	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

---

 DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE
 

---

The Russell Farmhouse located on Geeting Road is a two and one half story, nine bay structure built in three parts. It stands on sloping ground on the west side of Geeting Road and faces east. Near the house is a spring which has been partially enclosed with a stone wall.

The central section of the house appears to be the oldest part probably dating from the late 18th century. It is a two and one half story, three bay log structure sheathed with old weatherboarding. At the rear or west elevation, the stone foundations are exposed to a full story in height. This section is built directly over a spring of water which emerges in a stone lined channel from the rear of the house. Nine over six pane windows are present at the main story level while six over six windows are used above. At the front, a two story porch at one time was added and later enclosed with siding at the upper level. Small six light windows were installed. The enclosure of the porch would appear to have occurred at the time of the second addition. This part of the house has two front doors separated only by the distance of approximately a foot. A large exterior stone chimney with a replaced cap of brick is located against the north end wall.

Attached to the south end of the original part of the house is a two story four bay addition which appears to be of frame construction. It also retains old siding which, characteristically is of fairly uniform width at the front elevation but of more random widths on the side and rear walls.

Windows in this section have six over six pane sashes of fairly uniform size from story to story. Two front entrances, are located in the center bays, each having a transom with diamond shaped panes. This part of the house would appear to date from the mid 19th century.

Also probably dating from the mid 19th century, and, perhaps predating the south addition, is a one and a half story, two bay frame extension to the north. It has nine over six light sashes at its first story level possibly recessed from the original house. Its second story is contiguous with the enclosed second story porch.

Behind the house is a rectangular stone retaining wall part of which forms foundations for an unknown and long gone building. An old Ca. 1900 photograph pictured in Drums Along the Antietam by John Schildt shows that within the area of the retaining wall stood another house with an exterior chimney. The foundations in the corner of the wall held a small outbuilding.

The property also includes a frame bank barn which appears more recent than the house.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

WA-II-266

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" 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 farmstead is important for its architecture, for its association with a family prominent in religious history and for its proximity to the Civil War Battle of Antietam which occurred on September 17, 1862. Prior to the Battle, the farm was a place of encampment for the Union Army's Ninth Corps, and afterward it was a hospital site.

Architecturally, the house is significant as illustrating both 18th and 19th century building traditions with some Germanic influence in evidence.

This farm was the property during the late 18th and much of the 19th century of the Russell family. John Russell who resided on the farm during the mid 19th century was a minister in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ. In 1845 he was elected Bishop of the Church. At Christal Springs Farm he is said to have established a small theological seminary and the north wing of the house was reputedly added to house the students.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Shildt, John W. Drums Along the Antietam. Parsons, W. Va: McClains Printing Co., 197

Washington County Land Records.

Washington County Probate Records.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 106.09 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, Architectural Historian**

ORGANIZATION

**Preservation Associates**

STREET & NUMBER

**109 West Main Street, Box 202**

CITY OR TOWN

**Sharpsburg**

DATE

**July 1978**

TELEPHONE

**301-432-5466**

STATE

**Maryland 21782**

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





WA-II-266

N.E.

Feb. 1976

Russell Farm  
Crystal Springs, Locust Grove

Geeting Road  
Keedysville Vicinity

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-II-266

S. W.

Feb. 1916

**Russell Farm  
Crystal Springs, Locust Grove**

**Geeting Road  
Keedysville Vicinity**

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-II-266

ruins w. view.

Feb. 1916

Russell Farm  
Crystal Springs, Locust Grove

Geeting Road  
Keedysville Vicinity

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-II-266

Spring. E view.

Feb. 1976

Russell Farm  
Crystal Springs, Locust Grove

Geeting Road  
Keedysville Vicinity

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY