

ABSTRACT

WA-II-281

18th Century

Middlekauff-Poffenberger Farm

Sharpsburg Vicinity

private

The complex of buildings on this farm which includes a stone farm house, a brick and stone secondary dwelling, a stone spring house, a frame barn and numerous outbuildings, is significant for its architecture as a rural group representing the 18th and 19th centuries. The brick structure is not of a type generally associated with Washington County building traditions and so is significant as an unusual form. The complex is additionally important for its proximity to and association with the Civil War Battle of Antietam which occurred on September 17, 1862.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

2203735235

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

included in Antietam Battle field NR listing

AND/OR COMMON

Middlekauff-Poffenberger Farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

East of Md. Route 65, north of Sharpsburg

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF Sharpsburg

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Washington

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Cecil Poffenberger

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Route # 1

CITY, TOWN

Sharpsburg

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21782

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Washington County Court House

Liber #: 577

Folio #: 846

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

WA II-281

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 <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 at the end of a private lane east of Maryland Route 65 about 2 miles north of Sharpsburg in Washington County, Maryland. The buildings are situated on sloping ground. The complex consists of two dwellings, a frame bank barn, a spring house and numerous early outbuildings.

The main dwelling is a two story, four bay stone structure which faces west. It is built of coursed local limestone on ground which slopes to the east. Extending along the entire front elevation is a double porch included under the main roof span.

Where original window and door frames remain they are moderately wide and appear to have held six over six pane double hung sashes at the second story level and nine over six pane sashes at the main story.

The roof is covered with sheet metal and terminates with barge boards set directly against the end walls. Small brick chimneys which appear to have replaced the originals are located inside each gable end.

Just northwest of this house is a stone and brick secondary dwelling which faces south. The brick section is quite unusual among Washington County's early dwellings and appears to be the older part of the house.

One story in height the brick structure is three bays wide. It displays Flemish bonding at the west and south elevations while English bond is present at the rear or north wall. A water table of molded quarter round brick is present four courses above the foundations at the south and west elevations. An exterior brick chimney is located at the west gable end. The chimney has a pair of indented tablets near its top which were coated with plaster. At regular intervals in the west elevation header bricks are missing from the wall. The holes left by the absent bricks are clean and show no evidence of having had mortar in them.

Most windows in the brick structure have been reframed and some have been relocated. A projecting semi-hexagonal projecting bay has been added to the front elevation. Small gable roofed dormers are located in the north and south slopes of the roof.

The entrance appears to retain its original framing which is quite massive with mitered corners. The door which is not original is hung below a four light transom.

According to the owner, interior doors in the brick structure are hung with HL hinges. A fireplace is said to be located in its basement.

Attached to the east end of the brick dwelling is a two bay, one story stone addition. A massive stone chimney with a stone corbel is located inside the east end wall. The exterior woodwork associated with this portion of the structure has been replaced or sheathed.

Northeast of this brick and stone dwelling is a series of small outbuildings. One is built of log, one of coursed stone and the third is of frame construction.

Some distance south of the dwellings is a relatively large stone spring house. Constructed of native rock it has a large exterior stone chimney at its west gable end. The center portions of the front and rear walls of the spring house have been replaced with horizontal

8 SIGNIFICANCE

WA II-281

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 checked="" 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

The complex of buildings on this farm which includes a stone farm house, a brick and stone secondary dwelling, a stone spring house, a frame barn and numerous outbuildings, is significant for its architecture as a rural group representing the 18th and 19th centuries. The brick structure is not of a type generally associated with Washington County building traditions and so is significant as an unusual form. The complex is additionally important for its proximity to and association with the Civil War Battle of Antietam which occurred on September 17, 1862. For many years the spring house was believed to have been that which was used by Clara Barton as a hospital. More recent research has suggested, however, that she used a spring house on a nearby farm. It should also be noted that this farm has been owned by only two families since 1788.

The stone and log buildings on the property and the large frame bank barn are of a type prominently associated with Washington County, Western Maryland and southern Pennsylvania. The five bay farm house with an off center front door such as this one is often linked with Pennsylvania German building traditions. Also associated with Pennsylvania is the tendency to build with native stone. Limestone construction is prevalent in Washington County where this type of stone is abundant. The small brick structure, unlike the others in the group shows characteristics which tend to be more typical of dwellings found in eastern Maryland.

On August 4, 1783, Samuel Beall of Williamsburg, Virginia, a merchant, sold John Clagett of Washington County 206 acres of "Kelly's Purchase" for £5. (C/416). The deed for the property describes it as that which remained unsold at the time of Thomas Kelly's death and which was later conveyed to Samuel Beall by a certain Samuel Kelly. Research on the Clagett family by Brice M. Clagett indicates that the Clagett and Beall families were related, thus a possible explanation for the low £5 price for the 206 acres. On February 8, 1788, John Clagett sold to John Micalcoff (Middlekauff), "Kelly's Purchase" containing the 206 acres and "Hopewell" containing 30 acres for £1416. (E/738). The large jump in price could suggest that improvements were made to the property during the five years of Clagett ownership. The Clagett family had come to Washington County from a part of Maryland which was not so strongly influenced by Pennsylvania Germans as was Washington County. It is possible, therefore, that the brick structure was built by John Clagett prior to the purchase by the Pennsylvania German Middlekauff family.

After 1788 the farm was owned by the Middlekauff family until 1886 when it was purchased by Christian M. Poffenberger. (N/151, 88/592). In 1800 John Middlekauff had sold the farm to Christain Middlekauff for £2880, another increase in value which suggests that improvements were made. During the Middlekauff ownership this farm was at the northern edge of the Battle of Antietam. A hospital located here was shelled during the Battle and later reestablished.

The farm has remained in the Poffenberger family until the present time.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Clagett, Brice M., Notes on the Clagett Family, 1973.

Schildt, John W., Drums Along the Antietam. Parsons, W. Va: McClain Printing Company, 1972.

Washington County Land Records.

Washington County Probate Records.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 130.24 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

weatherboarding as a result of a tree having fallen on the structure. This building does not have a finished interior.

A large frame bank barn set on fieldstone foundations is located west of the main house. Facing south it has a pair of projecting dormers above its forebay.

The buildings are in good condition and stand on a tract containing 130.24 acres.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

HAGERSTOWN 11 MI

590 000 FEET (MD.)

265 000 m E.

266

267

42'30"

39°30'
WA II-303

*Keadyville
Quadrangle*

WA II-288

WA II-298

600 000 FEET
(MD.)

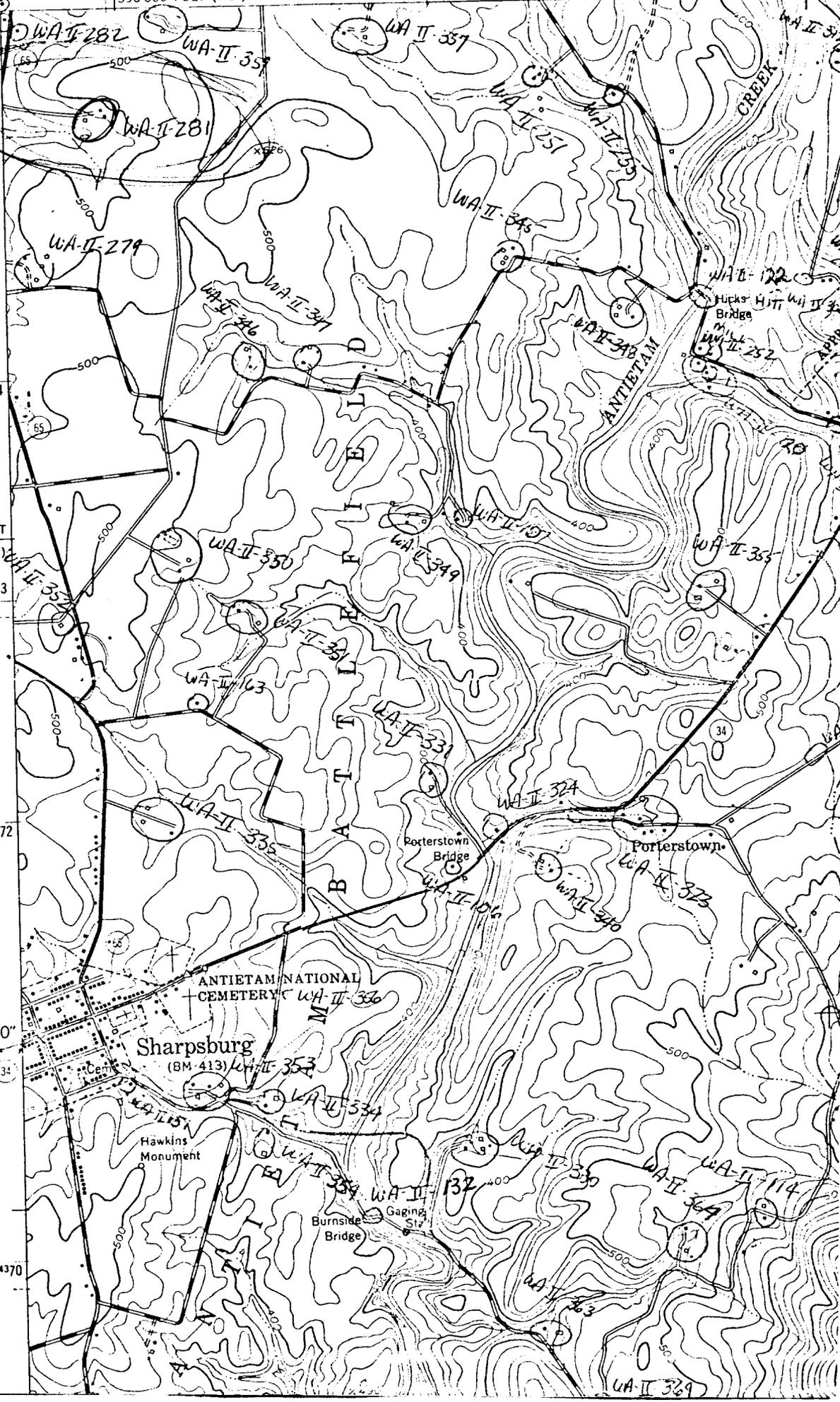
4373

4372

27'30"

MARTINSBURG 12 MI.
SHEPHERDSTOWN 3.8 MI

But Run





WA-II-281

Main dwelling W.

March, 1976

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-II-281

Springhouse N. W.

March, 1976

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-II-281

Secondary dwelling S.

March, 1976

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-II-281

Barn S.E.

March, 1976

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-II-281

Secondary dwelling
detail w. wall

March, 1976

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-II-281

Spring house, Interior

March, 1976

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-II-281

Secondary dwelling N.

March, 1976

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-TI-281

main dwelling S.W.

March, 1976

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-II-281

outbuildings S.

March, 1976

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-TT-281

Secondary Dwelling, S.W.

March, 1976

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-II-281

Damaged Springhouse n.w.
old photo