

DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY - C&O CANAL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

PARK NAME, STATE: Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park, Maryland

STRUCTURE NAME(S): John Blackford Property, Root Cellar

Other Names: (Roderick A. Barr Property, Root Cellar)

LOCATION Street Address: Canal Road, mile 72.77 **Town/City:** Sharpsburg
County: Washington

CATEGORY: District___ Building(s) X Structure___ Site___ Object___

DATE CONSTRUCTED: early 19th century **IDLCS:** 17216 and 47511

INVENTORY #: WA-II-384

SIGNIFICANCE

National X State & Regional ___ Local ___

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA: A X B ___ C ___ D ___

This property is also known as the "Barr House" (C&O Canal, National Register). This property was part of a large estate purchased by John Blackford from Henry Thomas Van Swearingen. This portion of the property was the Maryland side of a ferry crossing over the Potomac River. Van Swearingen had begun operating the ferry in 1765. When John Blackford died in 1839 he bequeathed the ferry operations and some of the surrounding property to his son Franklin. The property was then transferred to Henry Van Swearingen Blackford, John Blackford's son, after Franklin Blackford mortgaged the property. Henry Van Swearingen Blackford sold the property to the Virginia and Maryland Bridge Company on July 2, 1849 for \$15,000. The company maintained ownership until 1868 when the property was sold to Zephaniah Bane. Bane sold the property less than a year later to Urias Knode. Knode owned the property until 1891 when he sold it to George M. Beltzhoover, et al. Beltzhoover was one of ten owners who owned and operated the bridge over the Potomac River. The property was later sold to Ortho Kretzer, then to Edward W. and Fay D. Johnson and later to Roderick A. Barr from Ward L. and Mary E. LaRue for \$10.00 in 1968. The structures on this property were related to the ferry and bridge that provided transportation between Maryland and Virginia. Although it was not canal related, the property is an example of the types of businesses that were adjacent to the canal.

Continuation Sheet? N

DESCRIPTION

The house is currently listed as contributing to the C&O Canal on the National Register. The root cellar was not listed at that time, although it is also a contributing structure. The house was described in a 1978 survey form by Paula Stoner as follows:

This small stone house is a one and a half story three bay structures with a double porch along the front elevation. The surface of the building has been whitewashed. At the main story level under the double porch, the front wall is whitewashed then struck with even vertical and horizontal lines to resemble masonry joints. Nine over six windows are used at the main story level while six over six sashes are present at the ground story. The front door has six low relief panels. A partially exterior chimney of stone is located at the gable end wall.

The root cellar is built into a bank on the west side of the house. It is a small rectangular structure measuring 10'6" by 12'6" with a shed roof. The walls are constructed of the same stone as the house.

Continuation Sheet? N

Form Prepared by: Ann Deines/Historian; National Park Service/National Capital Region
1100 Ohio Drive SW; Washington, DC; 20242 (202) 205-8490

Date: 15 June 1994

National Park Service, NCR, Recommendation:

Individually Eligible___ Contributes to C&O Canal National Historic District X

Contributes to Antietam Iron Furnace Historic District___ Ineligible___

State Historic Preservation Officer:

Concur X Do Not Concur___

(See "Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, Conococheague District, List of Eligible Structures" for concurrence signature.)

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

WA-II-384
District 1
Map 79
Parcel 32
MAGI # 2209471404

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Stone House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Canal Road

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF Sharpsburg

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6

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

U.S. National Park Service

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Dept. of the Interior

CITY, TOWN

Washington

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

D. C.

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Washington County Court House

Liber #: 593

Folio #: 425

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-384

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 type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED < 50% | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This small stone house is a one and a half story three bay structure with a double porch along the front elevation. The surface of the building has been whitewashed. At the main story level under the double porch, the front wall is whitewashed then struck with even vertical and horizontal lines to resemble masonry joints. Nine over six windows are used at the main story level while six over six sashes are present at the ground story. The front door has six low relief panels. A partially exterior chimney of stone is located at the gable end wall.

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 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 | <input checked="" 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 small stone house would appear to date from the early part of the second quarter of the 19th century. Apparently it was associated either with the C & O Canal or with the River Ferry which operated nearby.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .96 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

June 1978

TELEPHONE

301-432-5466

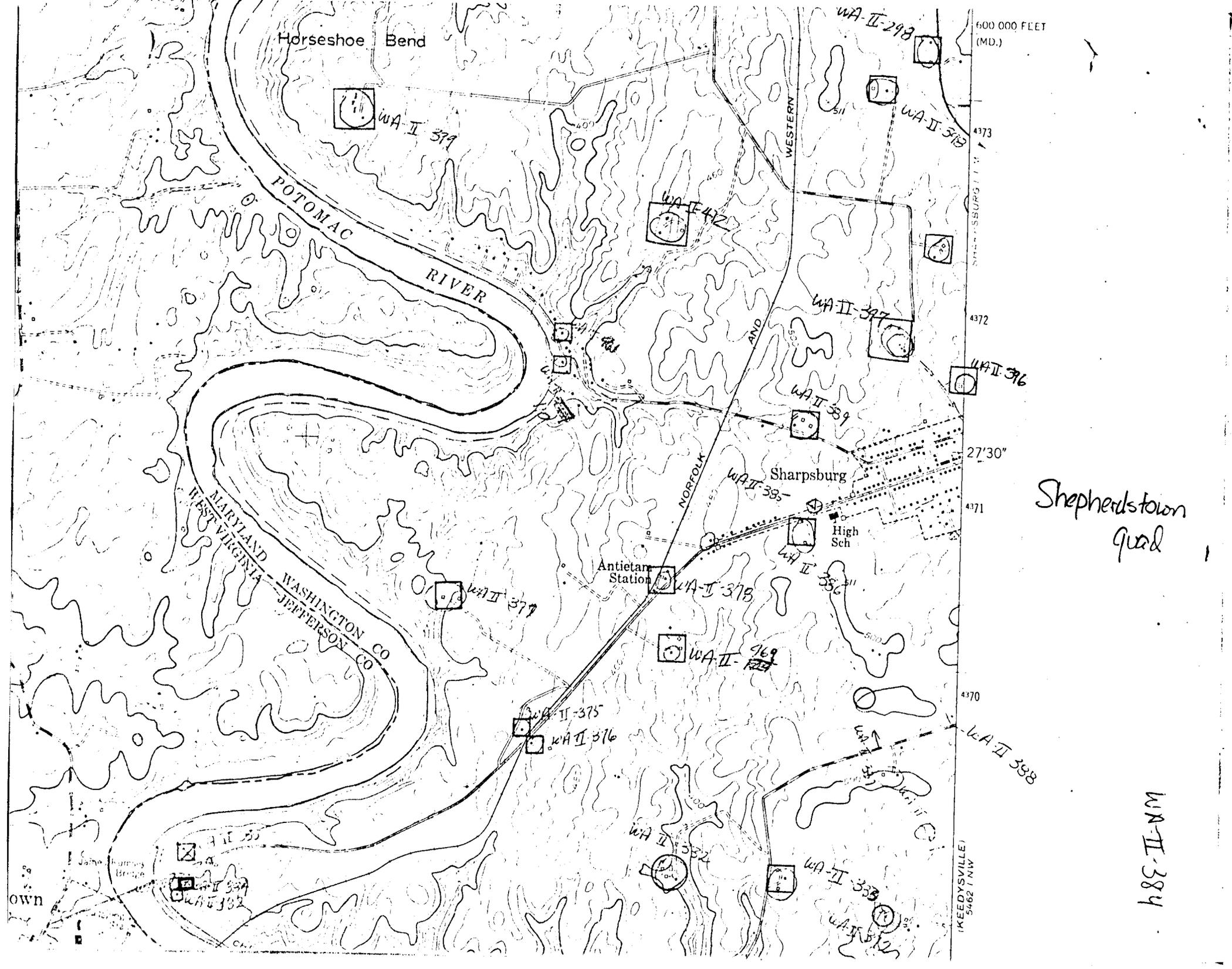
STATE

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



Shepherdstown
quad

WA-II-384



WA-II-384

S.E.

April, 1976

Stone House

Canal Road
Sharpsburg Vicinity

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-II-384

S.W.

April, 1976

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