

Survey # F-2-97

Approximate date September 14, 1862

G. Wipp Farm

Street Address: 6319 Mountain Church Road

Town, State Burkittsville, MD

private X, public

This property is included in the survey of resources associated with the Civil War Battle of South Mountain, which occurred on September 14, 1862. The George Wipp Farm is located at the base of South Mountain at Crampton's Gap, fronting Mountain Church Road. The historic farmstead consists of two original dwellings and a 19th century barn amid a large complex of modern farm buildings, and a modern house, associated with Char-Mar Farm. The buildings are situated on a farm of nearly 200 acres and are oriented to face southeast. The smaller two story stone house may date from the late 18th or early 19th century, and the larger and more formal two story, five bay white painted brick dwelling could date from the early to mid 19th century. The Wipp Farm was in the direct line of advance of General Henry Slocum's Division of the Union Army VI Corps during the Battle of South Mountain at Crampton's Gap. The right wing of the Union line was positioned across this farm, in the vicinity of the buildings and from this point charged a thin line of Confederates defending the gap from behind stone walls along Mountain Church Road at the west edge of this property. The farmstead is also secondarily significant for its architecture, representing 19th century regional vernacular construction of a prosperous farm family.

Photo Reference: Photo #

Form Prepared By: Paula S. Reed, PhD and Edith B. Wallace
Woodward-Clyde
200 Orchard Ridge Drive
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Date: February, 1998

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. F-2-97

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic G. Wipp (Whip) Farm

and/or common Char-Mar Farm

2. Location

street & number 6319 Mt. Church Road

not for publication

city, town Burkittsville

vicinity of

congressional district 6

state Maryland

county Frederick

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 type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input checked="" 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Charles J. and Mary M. Brandenburg

street & number 6319 Mountain Church Road

telephone no.: 301-371-4258

city, town Burkittsville

state and zip code MD

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse

Liber

street & number 100 W. Patrick Street

Folio

city, town Frederick

state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. F-2-97

Condition

excellent deteriorated
 good ruins
 fair unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The G. Wipp Farm is located at the base of South Mountain at Crampton's Gap, fronting Mountain Church Road. The historic farmstead consists of two original dwellings and a 19th century barn amid a large complex of modern farm buildings, and a modern house, associated with Char-Mar Farm. The buildings are situated on a farm of nearly 200 acres and are oriented to face southeast. The smaller two story stone house may date from the late 18th or early 19th century, and the larger and more formal two story, five bay white painted brick dwelling could date from the early to mid 19th century. The Wipp Farm was in the direct line of advance of General Henry Slocum's Division of the Union Army VI Corps during the Sept. 14, 1862 Battle of South Mountain at Crampton's Gap.

The main house is constructed of brick painted white with dark trim, two stories with inside end chimneys. The five bay south elevation has been altered with an enclosed three bay front porch with hipped roof which obscures the front door. Windows have six over six sash with exterior shutters, the roof is metal. A smaller two story, two bay extension attached to the east end of the building has a single inside end chimney, metal roof, and a south-facing double porch which is screened at the lower level.

The two story limestone dwelling is two bays wide with a single stone inside end chimney, metal roof, windows unidentified. There is a smaller two bay, one story stone extension at the west end of the building. A small wooden shed is attached to the one story section on the south elevation.

The barn is of timber frame construction with a limestone foundation. The upper hay storage area is cantilevered over the animal stalls, creating an extended forebay. The roof is metal.

In addition to these older buildings, are a number of agricultural buildings of more recent construction and a one story ranch-type dwelling. Most obvious are a series of metal clad pole barns to the southeast of the main grouping of buildings. The surrounding fields are used for pasture and cropland.

8. Significance

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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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other(specify)

Specific dates September 14, 1862 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
 and/or
 Applicable Exceptions: A B C D E F G
 Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The George Wipp farm is significant for its association with the Civil War Battle of South Mountain, the Crampton's Gap phase, which occurred on September 14, 1862. The right wing of the Union line was positioned across this farm, in the vicinity of the buildings and from this point charged a thin line of Confederates defending the gap from behind stone walls along Mountain Church Road at the west edge of this property. The farmstead is also secondarily significant for its architecture, representing 19th century regional vernacular construction of a prosperous farm family.

The flat open fields of the Wipp and adjoining Miller farms located at the base of the eastern slope of South Mountain at Crampton's Gap, served as the staging area for General Henry Slocum's Division of the VI Corps, Commanded by General William B. Franklin. Colonel Joseph J. Bartlett's Brigade, straddling the Wipp Farm formed the right flank of the Federal line, Newton's Brigade formed the center covering the Miller Farm fields, and Torbert's Brigades on the left bordering the Burkittsville Road.¹ Facing the Confederate defensive line behind the stone walls of Mountain Church Road, the Union forces would use the open fields to build up for a direct assault.²

The fields of the Wipp and Miller Farms, just to the north of the town of Burkittsville and bordered on the west by Mt. Church Road, provided ample space for the massing of Slocum's Division. Colonel Joseph J. Bartlett wrote: "It being decided that the attack should be made on the right and flank of the road leading over the mountains [Gapland Rd.], I was ordered to lead the column...to a large field near its base, where the column of attack was to be formed..."³

After a three hour delay, a result of General Franklin's indecision, Slocum sent his men on their charge.⁴ Colonel Bartlett stated, "A moment's consultation with Colonel Torbert decided us to make the charge immediately at

¹Official Military Atlas, plate 27

²James V. Murfin, **The Glean of Bayonets**, New York: Thomas Yoseloff, 1965, p.182.

³Jay Luvaas and Harold W. Nelson, eds. **The US Army War College Guide**, Washington: Harper Collins, 1987, p.79, from O.R., Vol.XIX, Part I, p. 388.

⁴Stephen W. Sears, **Landscape Turned Red**, New York: Ticknor and Fields, 1983, p.147.

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with cheers, rushing over the intervening space to the stone wall and routing the enemy."⁵ Within hours Crampton's Gap belonged to the Federals.

The sweep across the fields below the gap had been successful, but Franklin's orders were not entirely fulfilled. Commanding General George B. McClellan's objective of freeing Harper's Ferry from the grip of Confederates under Lafayette McLaws was postponed by Franklin at the crest of the gap, sealing the fate of the Union garrison at Harpers Ferry.⁶

The discovery on September 13, 1862 of General Robert E. Lee's Special Order #191, the Lost Order, in a field near Frederick where the Confederates had camped precipitated the march of the Army of the Potomac toward South Mountain along the Old National Pike. The turnpike crossed the mountain running west toward the center of Lee's divided army. Had Union commander, George B. McClellan approached the mountain with speed, as he had indicated he would to President Lincoln, the Battle of South Mountain might have ended differently.⁷

The Special Order #191 detailed General Lee's deployment of the Army of Northern Virginia in September 1862. In addition to the siege of Harper's Ferry by three divisions under Stonewall Jackson from the west and two divisions under Lafayette McLaws from the northeast, the orders described the location of Robert E. Lee and James Longstreet with two divisions at Hagerstown and D.H.Hill's division, alone at Boonsboro, just below Turner's Gap. With the knowledge of the divided nature of Lee's army on the west side of South Mountain, and the small defensive line at the passes, McClellan felt confident in his army's ability to catch Lee's forces in this vulnerable position. However, McClellan's infamous cautiousness and over-estimation of the size of his opponent, delayed the movement of the Army of the Potomac for half a day. The result of his slow approach to the pass at South Mountain was to give the Confederate defenders time to reinforce their tenuous position and begin pulling their divided army together again at Sharpsburg.

The George Whipp farm has secondary significance for the architecture of its farmstead. The five bay brick house with a central entrance is a formalized dwelling reflecting the prosperity of the farm family responsible for its construction. The farm was acquired by George T. Whipp in a series of transactions from 1846 through 1849, and the Whipps may have been the builders of the brick house. At the time this survey form was completed the owners could not be reached for permission to gain access to the property, thus observations have been made from Mountain Church Road, some distance from the buildings. The attached wing on the east side of the brick house with its two story work porches are associated with mid 19th century construction in central and western Maryland and also with Pennsylvania German building traditions. The smaller stone house may be older, possibly dating from the late 18th or early 19th century. The property which contains parts of "The Forest," "Cost Content," and "Willard's Lot," remained in the Whipp family until 1923 (Frederick County Deed Liber CM 6, Folio 586).

⁵War College Guide, pp.79-80, from O.R., Vol. XIX, Part I, pp.388-89.

⁶Stephen W. Sears, "Fire on the Mountain," Blue and Gray December-January, 1986-87, p.21.

⁷Stephen W. Sears, "Fire on the Mountain," Blue and Gray, December-January, 1986-86, p. 11

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HISTORICAL CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Agricultural-Industrial Transition, A.D. 1815-1870

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Military

Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Community Planning

Resource Type:

Category: Buildings

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

Private Residence

Agriculture

Known Design Source: None

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. F-2-97

Books

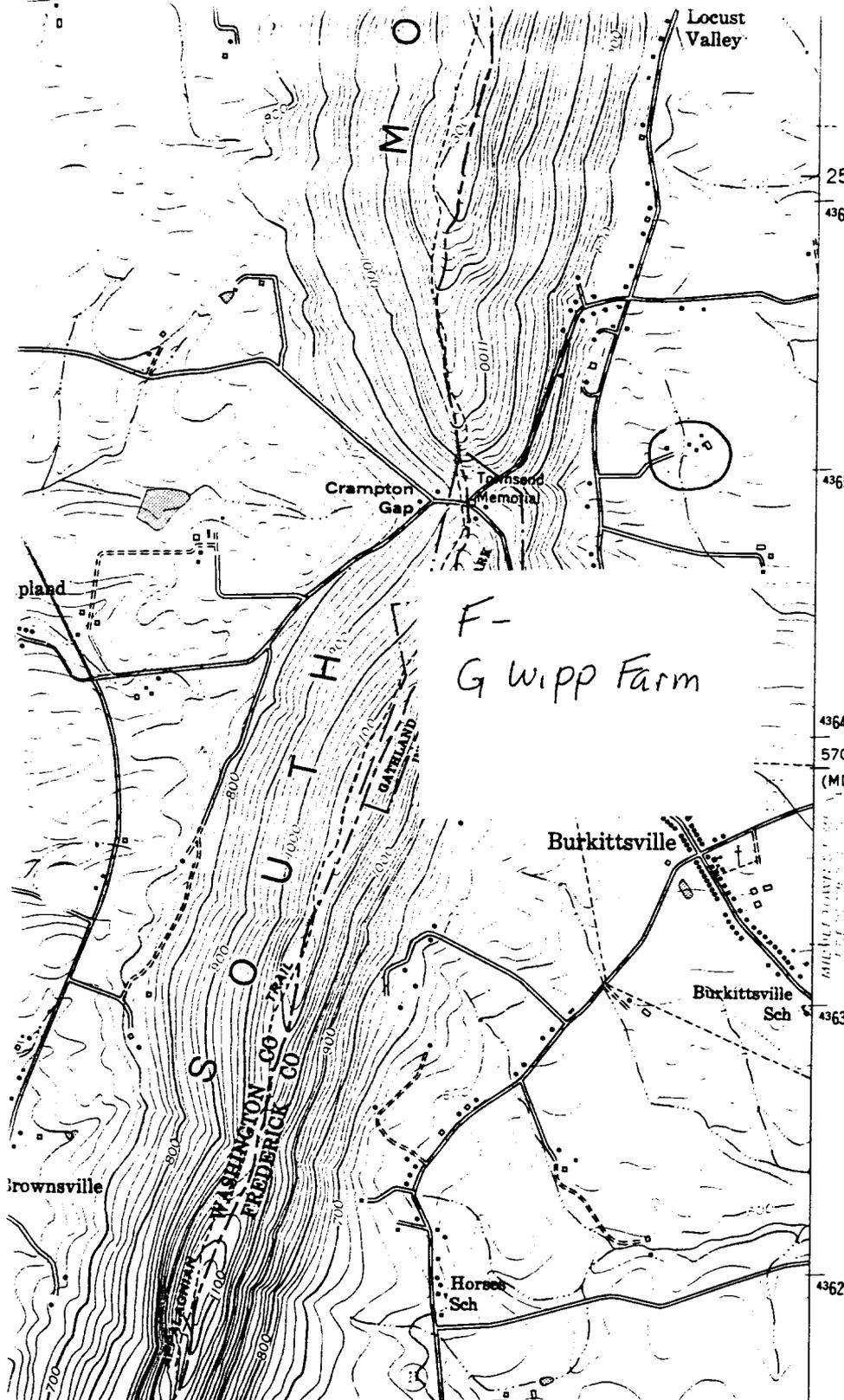
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- Swinton, William, Army of the Potomac, Smithmark Publisher, New York, 1995.
- U.S. War Department, The War of Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, Series I, Vol XIX, Parts I and II, Government Printing Office, Washington, 1880-1901.

Manuscripts

- rye, Dennis, National Register Nomination Form, South Mountain Battlefields F-4-17-ABC, 1986.

Maps

- The Official Military Atlas of the Civil War, Plate 27, Gramercy Books, New York, 1983.
- Engineers Maps, 1862, National Register Nomination, South Mountain Battlefields F-4-17-ABC, 1986.
- Macombe Map, 1861.



F-2-97
G. Wipp Farm

F-
G Wipp Farm

● INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C.—1972
BROKENICK 58 M
POINT OF ROCKS IS M

620 000 FEET (MD.)
273000m E
77°37'30"

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
1963

- Heavy-duty ————— Light-duty —————
- Medium-duty ————— Unimproved dirt - - - - -
- U. S. Route State Route

(POINT OF ROCKS)
5462 / SE

KEEDYSVILLE, MD.—W. VA.

N3922.5—W7737.5/7.5

1953

MD-55



STATE LOCATION



F-2-97

Griffin's Farm

Fairbank, Michigan

Edith B. White

- 1910

Michigan State

University of Michigan

overall of Char-Mon Farm

1910



F-2-97

G. W. Fair

Fairbank Co, Maryland

Edith B. White

5 N. 1st St. H.A.

Wash. D.C. 20002

Very truly yours,

G. W. Fair

-13-



F-2 97

→ (1) 1977

→ (2) 1978

→ (3) 1979

→ (4) 1980

→ (5) 1981 from MA Comm. Act

NB 1982 - 1983

3/3





F Z 17

0 - 1 Fall

F₁ = 0

F₂ = 1

F₃ = 1

F₄ = 2

F₅ = 3

N₁ = 1

5/5



1. 100%

2. 100%

3. 100%

4. 100%

5. 100%

6. 100%

7. 100%

8. 100%

9. 100%