NPS Form 10-900
(Oct. 1990)

OMB No. 10024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Biggs, William and Catherine, Farm

other names CARR-1644

2. Location

street & number 8212 Sixes Bridge Road ☐ not for publication

city or town Detour ☒ vicinity

state Maryland code MD county Carroll code 013 zip code 21725

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature of certifying official/Title — Date 9-12-01

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature of certifying official/Title — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby, certify that this property is:
- ☐ entered in the National Register.
  - ☐ See continuation sheet.
- ☐ determined eligible for the National Register.
  - ☐ See continuation sheet.
- ☐ Determined not eligible for the National Register.
- ☐ removed from the National Register.
- ☐ other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private
- ☐ public-local
- ☐ public-State
- ☐ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)
- ☐ district
- ☐ site
- ☐ structure
- ☐ object

Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
6		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
6	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
DOMESTIC/secondary structure
AGRICULTURE/agricultural outbuilding

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Early Republic: Federal
No style

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone, concrete
walls stone, concrete
roof metal
other

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- ☐ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property.
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Area of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1793-1951

Significant Dates

1793

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

Previous documentation on files (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #_____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #_____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

_____

Description Summary:

The William and Catherine Biggs Farm is located at 8212 Sixes Bridge Road, about two miles northwest of Detour and 1 ½ miles west of Keysville in northwestern Carroll County, Maryland. The farm is situated on a generally flat site, with a hill to the north that slopes down to the Monocacy River on the north. The farm complex consists of a stone house, a stone outbuilding/summer kitchen, a frame bank barn, and an early 20th century concrete block barn, dairy building, and silo.

General Description:

The house is a two-story, five-bay by two-bay structure with a three-bay by two-bay, two-story ell. The structure is principally of rubble stone, with large quoins, but the south elevation is of mostly coursed ashlar. The whole building has been re-pointed recently. The main block has a gable roof of standing seam metal with an east-west ridge, and the ell has a similar roof with a north-south ridge. There are interior brick chimneys on the east and west gable ends, the north gable end of the ell, and in the center of the ell.

The four end bays of the south elevation cellar have horizontal, diamond-in-section wood louvers set into wide, pegged wood frames with a bullnose on the inner edge. The first story center bay has a six panel door that has sunk fields and ogee panel moulds. The frieze panels have oval fields. The door has a new lock and three plain cast iron butt hinges with loose joints. The soffit and jambs have sunk, flat panels with bead moulds, one on each side at door level, one on each side at transom level, and one on the soffit. The transom has a single light, but this has been altered. Flanking the door are reeded pilasters with applied horizontal reeding at the transom bar level. The transom bar itself is now covered and cannot be examined. Above the transom is a cornice with a small Greek ovolo and Greek ogee at the top, a small frieze, and a small Greek ogee and bead at the bottom. There are side lights that are set above the chair rail level, not extending down to the door sill. They have three-over-two double hung sash with wood sills and one panel on each jamb and the soffit that matches the panels of the door jambs. There is a one-bay, one-story porch that has a concrete deck and four large wood Tuscan columns. The soffit has beaded edge and center boards. There is a gable roof with asphalt shingles and a north-south ridge. The tympanum has an applied sun burst motif and the raking cornice has three large beads, each one of which steps in from the one above it. The four end bays have nine-over-six double hung sash with parting beads and with two outer stops set in grooves in the jambs. The window frames are mortised and tenoned and pegged at the top with small pegs that are about 1/2 inch in diameter. The inner edge of the frame has a bullnose like the cellar vent frames. The frames also have mortises for shutter hinges. There are wood sills and stone lintels. The second story has five six-over-six sash, with sills, frames, and lintels identical to the first story. There is a wood cornice with an ogee at the top, a narrow corona, a bed mould with two ogees and a bead, and a narrow frieze with a bead at the bottom.

The west elevation of the main block has no opening in the south bay of the cellar, and has a typical vent in the north bay. The first story also has no opening in the south bay, and has a typical nine-over-six sash in the north bay. Similarly, the second story has no opening in the south bay, but has a typical six-over-six sash in the

north bay. The gable end has two typical six-over-six sash. The gable peak has an arched recess with brick voussoirs and new mortar covering the recess. There are new, plain rake boards. On the west elevation of the ell, the cellar has no openings. The first story has a center door of six panels with sunk fields and bead panel moulds. There is a three-light transom. The door jambs each have three panels and the transom jamb one panel. They are flat, flush panels with bead panel moulds. The soffit is covered and possibly altered. The transom bar has been replaced, and the transom may be a replacement as well. New architrave covers the jambs. On either side of the door is a typical nine-over-six sash. There is a new wood porch in front of the door, with steps to each side. The second story has three typical six-over-six sash. The cornice is identical to that on the south elevation.

On the north elevation of the ell, the west bay of the cellar has a plywood door hung on butterfly hinges. Behind it is a beaded edge vertical board door on interior strap hinges. The first and second stories have no openings, and the gable end has two new one-over-one sash. There are tapered rake boards with beaded bottom edges. The east elevation of the ell is three bays, the two southern bays being recessed and containing a porch. The first story of the porch has an infill of German siding with a large, one light casement in the south bay and a pair of French doors in the center bay. The second story of the porch remains open, and has a plaster ceiling on riven lath, plaster on the west wall, and whitewash on the north and south walls. The chamfered posts have lamb's tongue stops and the horizontal railings between these posts are tenoned into mortises in the posts and pegged. There are rectangular-in-plan balusters with beads on the edges. The north bay has a typical nine-over-six sash. The north bay of the second story has a typical six-over-six sash, and the cornice matches that on the south elevation.

The north elevation of the main block has a cellar bulk head door, a typical nine-over-six sash in the center of the first story, a typical six-over-six sash in the center of the second story, and a cornice that matches the south elevation. On the east elevation of the main block is a typical vent in the north bay of the cellar. The first and second stories have no openings. The gable end has two typical six-over-six sash, and there are tapered rake boards with beaded bottom edges.

The cellar of the main block is divided in two by a stone wall on the west side of the center passage and stair. The east cellar has a summer beam that runs east-west, is hewn on all four sides, and is 9 ½ inches deep by 12 inches wide. The east partition wall of the first story is supported by two hewn girts that are 7 inches wide by 9 ½ inches deep, each with a center tenon into the summer beam. The junction of the summer beam and girts is supported by a post with chamfers and lambs tongue stops. On top of the post is a bolster with chamfered edges that is pegged to the summer beam from below. The post is set on a flat, square stone. The passage joists run east-west, while the rest run north-south. They are mill sawn, are 2 inches by 7 ¼ inches, and have a center tenon and peg in the summer beam. The newel post passes through the floor, and a joist is notched on one side for the post, which is nailed to the side of the joist. The cellar stairs are set on the east side of the stone partition wall. Near the south wall is a series of shelves hung from the joists. There are narrow vertical boards nailed to the joists, with round rungs set in holes at the bottom of each pair of boards to support the shelves. There are similar shelves along the east wall. On the east elevation is a stone fireplace buttress. One joist acts as a header, and the trimmers have through tenons. On the north elevation, set to the east, is a

door to the exterior. The west wall has a wide door way with a beaded edge vertical board door on strap hinges, with a Suffolk latch that has bean cusps. The west cellar joists match those in the east cellar. The west elevation has a stone fireplace buttress like that in the east cellar. The ell cellar is separate from the main block, and can only be reached through the door on the north elevation. The joists here match those in the main block. The entire cellar has dirt floors.

The house is a center passage, double pile plan with a rear ell that has two rooms. The center passage on the first story has 2 ¼ inch pine flooring that runs north-south, and the baseboard has a beaded top edge. There is chair rail that has a small torus on the shelf, with a cavetto below the shelf, then a bead, a sunk field, and a large raised bead on the bottom edge. The architrave is symmetrical, with a center bead and beads inside of fillets on each side. On either edge of the architrave is a reveal and a beaded interior edge. There are bulls eye corner blocks in the corners. The doors had six panels that have flush fields and ogee panel moulds. The small frieze panels are at the top of the door. Beneath the current paint can be seen the ghosts of wide lines on the fields, suggesting a faux two-tone graining previously on the doors. The doors to the east and southwest rooms have new locks. The south or front door jambs have sunk fields with bead panel moulds, with one panel each above and below the chair rail, and one on the soffit. The corner blocks on this door do not match the rest of the doorways, though they are similar. There is also architrave between the door and side lights. It has three flutes, with a large bead on each side. The side lights have 10 inch by 12 inch lights in mortised and tenoned and pegged sash, with parting beads and spring latches. The transom sash is mitered at the corners. On the west elevation is a two-run stair with a landing at the north. It has an open stringer with jigsawn brackets that have a flower bud motif based on Owen Biddle. Several of the brackets have been removed and are awaiting restoration. Below the stringer the plaster wall appears to have been re-plastered. The stairway has thin, tapered newels, a ¾ round hand rail, and new oak treads and turned balusters, though most of the balusters have fallen out. The newels have drop pendants. The apron on the landing has a Vitruvian wave. There is a door at the north end of the passage that has three cast iron butt hinges and is missing its mortise lock. Beneath the stairway, to the north, is a typical six panel door hung on two cast iron butt hinges. It has a wrought iron Suffolk latch with bean cusps. The architrave on this doorway has an ovolo and bead backband and a beaded interior edge.

The east room flooring, baseboard, and chair rail match that found in the passage. The architrave is similar to that in the passage, but instead of a center bead it has a center lancet-profile moulding. All of the woodwork has been stripped of paint. The ceiling has had some plaster fall, exposing riven lath. On the east elevation is a fireplace with splayed stone jambs that were once parged, though most of this parging is now missing. It has a brick hearth. There is a wood mantel with fluted Doric columns topped with impost blocks that have raised ovals on their face. The frieze has a large center block with a sunburst motif. Above the frieze is a large bead bed mould. The mantel has a thick, straight shelf board, but there is a ghost of a moulding that is now missing from the edge of the shelf, and a clear nail pattern for this moulding. The windows have straight jambs with three panels on each jamb and one in the soffit. The top panels are small, like the door frieze panels. They are sunk, flat panels, with ogee panel moulds. The sash are mortised and tenoned and pegged, and have spring latches.

The west room flooring, baseboard, and chair rail match that found in the passage. The architrave is similar to that in the passage, but instead of a center bead it has a center reveal. The windows are identical to those in the east room, and the ceiling also has riven lath with plaster. On the west elevation is a center stone fireplace with splayed jambs that retain little of their parging. The hearth here is of stone. There is a wood mantel that has paneled pilasters, with sunk, flat panels and bead moulds. The plain frieze is flanked by impost blocks with oval patera. The bed mould has a cavetto below a band that contains sections of vertical reeding. Above this band is a large bead that also has sections of reeding. The mantel shelf is a thick, straight board with a new moulding fastened to the edges with wire nails. On either side of the fireplace is a built-in cupboard with a pair of semi-circular arched doors above a pair of square doors. Each door has one sunk, flat panel with an ogee panel mould. The architrave on the doors matches the rest of the room, with corner blocks at the imposts. The architrave is carried around the arch, with a wood keystone. Behind the arch is a square wood field. The top of the interior of each cupboard is square, not arched. The top doors are hung on plain cast iron butt hinges and have a plate latch and a square slide bolt that slides vertically to catch the bottom of one of the four shelves. The sides and back of the cupboard are wood. All of the woodwork in this room has been stripped of paint. The north elevation has a doorway leading to the northwest room. The door is missing, but was originally hung on the east jamb and later switched to the west jamb. It originally had three hinges.

The northwest room is divided into a center passage that runs north-south, with a small room on both the east and the west sides of this passage. The flooring, baseboard, and chair rail match that found in the passage. Both the north door and south door have reeded architrave that is mitered at the corners, with a bead on the outer edge. The north door is missing, but was hung on the east jamb with three hinges that are also gone. The jambs have three panels each, with the small frieze panels at the top, and the soffit has one panel. They are flat, flush panels with bead panel moulds. Most of the ceiling plaster in the passage has come down, revealing riven lath and sawn joists that run north-south. The east wall is sheetrock with a reused six panel door hung on three new hinges. This door had a large rim lock, but now has a new brass knob. The door is mortised and tenoned and pegged, with sunk fields that have no panel moulds. It has been cut down to fit this opening. The east side room has modern paneling and no significant details. The west partition wall is also sheetrock, with a six panel door that has sunk fields and ovolo panel moulds. The door is of modern construction, with new hinges and a mortise lock. The room is now a modern bathroom. On the west elevation is a window with mortised and tenoned and pegged sash and an architrave that has a beaded interior edge and a projecting bead on the outer edge. The architrave is mitered at the corners. There is an ovolo on the edge of the window sill and a bead on the bottom of the board below the sill. The window has straight jambs.

The south room in the ell has 2-3/8 inch pine flooring that runs east-west. The architrave has a beaded inner edge and a projecting bead on the outer edge. The chair rail has an ovolo on the shelf with a cavetto below it and a bead at the bottom edge. The woodwork has been stripped of paint. The ceiling is sheetrock, and appears to have been lowered. On the south elevation, to the east, is a built-in cupboard with architrave that is typical for this room, except that the inner bead is very small. This cupboard has a pair of tall, two panel doors that were originally a pair of one panel doors over another pair of one panel doors. The bottom edge of the top doors were cut at an angle to overlap an opposite angle cut on the top of the bottom doors. The doors

were hung on two cast iron butt hinges each, totaling eight hinges, but some are missing and others have been replaced. The top west door has an inner cabinet lock that has no identifying markings. The top east door has a square slide bolt with a small brass knob. The bolt is set vertically and slides up to latch to one of the shelves. The doors have sunk, flat panels with ogee panel moulds. The rails and stiles are mortised and tenoned and pegged, and a closet is set on top of the baseboard. The interior of the cupboard has four board shelves and wood boards on the sides and back. In the the southwest corner is an enclosed winder stair that has four steps below the door. The chair rail follows the steps up at an angle. There is a large, turned walnut newel post here that is not original to this location, or has been moved around, as the hand rail was once nailed to the west face. It now has new hand rail. The stairway is enclosed with beaded edge vertical boards that are finished with a trim board along the bottom that has a large bead on the bottom edge. The stairway is constructed with cut nails. There is a closet beneath the stairway that has a beaded edge vertical board door. The architrave here has a beaded interior edge and an ovolo backband. The door is hung on plain cast iron butt hinges and never had a lock, just a pivoting wood latch. The door to the stairs has beaded edge vertical boards and is hung on cast iron butt hinges that are painted, but appear to be plain. The door once had a Suffolk latch but now has a reproduction cast iron rim lock. The stairs were installed before the walls were plastered. The east door has six panels that have sunk fields and ogee panel moulds, with the small frieze panels at the top. A new brass lock replaces a large rim lock, and the door is hung on two large cast iron butt hinges. The north door is also of six panels, with flush fields and ogee panel moulds. It is hung on two plain cast iron butt hinges.

The north room in the ell has linoleum on the floor and sheetrock on the ceiling. The baseboard and architrave match that of the south ell room. The north elevation has a large stone cooking fireplace with traces of whitewash below the mantel tree, but not above. The fireplace has a stone hearth, straight jambs, and a wood shelf supported by two sawn brackets, all of which appears to be original. It appears that the wall was originally plastered above the mantel, but not below it. There is a corbeled stone in the back west corner of the fireplace with a drill hole in it to support the bottom end of the crane, with an iron eye above it to hold the top of the crane. To the west of the fireplace, in the northwest corner, is an enclosed winder stair to the second story. It has beaded edge vertical boards, with a matching door, and the steps beneath this door have been re-built using wire nails. The door has tapered battens on the back side, is hung on plain cast iron butt hinges, and had a Suffolk latch. Between this stairway and the fireplace is a closet with a beaded edge vertical board door that has straight battens on the exterior and these hung on plain cast iron butt hinges that have two loose joints. There is no evidence this door ever had a latch. The interior side of the door does not have any beads. Above the closet door is a panel consisting of three sunk, beaded edge vertical boards set in mortised and tenoned and pegged rails and stiles, with bead moulds. East of the fireplace is a cupboard with a pair of vertical board doors above another pair. The architrave has a beaded interior edge and a backband that consists of a wide board with an ovolo and bead. The door has tapered battens and plain cast iron butt hinges. The cupboard has two shelves at the bottom and four shelves in the top section, and has wood sides and back to the interior. The west door is a six panel door with sunk fields and ogee panels. It is hung on 20th century hinges and has a strip added to both the north and south sides of the door. It had a large rim lock once on the exterior side but now has a cast iron rim lock on the interior. There is a doorway at the east end of the south elevation, but the door is now

gone. It had three butt hinges on the east jamb. Each jamb has three panels and the soffit one panel, with flush, flat panels and bead moulds.

The porch on the east is now enclosed. The doors on the north and south ends and on the west have reeded architrave. The window on the west has new fluted architrave. The west wall has been built out about 2 ¼ inches. There is baseboard with a beaded top edge, and the porch soffit has beaded edge boards that run east-west. The south door jambs had three panels each, and the soffit one panel. These are sunk and flat, and have ogee panel moulds.

The second story floor plan mirrors the first story, but with two rooms in the east half of the main block. The passage has chair rail on the north wall only. The west wall has been been re-plastered, but the east wall is original and never had chair rail. The stairway has turned, tapered newel posts with a ¾ round hand rail that is ramped. There are new balusters below the second story level, but those leading to the attic are tapered octagonal balusters that are hand shaved. The stair brackets and apron match those on the first story. The floor is random width pine, 3 ¾ to 6 ¾ inches wide that runs east-west and is face-nailed. The window at the landing is a typical six-over-six sash with a spring latch, but has no parting bead. The architrave has a beaded interior edge and a projecting bead on the exterior edge. The window on the south elevation is identical to the landing window. The partition walls are frame and have baseboard with a beaded top edge. The doors have reeded architrave that is mitered at the corners, with a bead on the outer edge. The east door is hung on three cast iron butt hinges that are heavily painted. It has six panels with sunk fields and ogee panel moulds, and the cast iron rim lock replaces the original large rim lock. The door is painted white, but there are ghosts on each field of a margin that is about ¼ inch wide, suggesting a two-tone graining beneath the current paint. The room side of the door also has these ghosts. The west door matches the east door, but has an original iron rim lock with a brass knob. At the south end of the passage, on either side of the window, are new built-in closets.

The southeast chamber floor and baseboard match the second story passage. The chair rail has an ovolo on the shelf, a cavetto below it, and a bead on the bottom edge. The door architrave is narrow, with a beaded interior edge and an ovolo and bead backband. The windows have narrow architrave like the windows in the second story passage. They have parting beads, and appear to have had spring latches. On the east elevation, to the north, is a fireplace with a brick hearth and splayed brick jambs that contain traces of plaster. The wood mantel has pilasters with three flutes that are cabled at both the top and bottom. The mantel has a plain frieze, a large bead bed mould, and an ogee and bead on the edge of the mantel shelf. There is a new built-in closet in the southwest corner. On the north elevation is a door to the northeast chamber that matches the door on the west. It has a plain cast iron rim lock that replaces an earlier, small rim lock.

The northeast chamber floor, baseboard, windows and architrave match that of the southeast chamber, but there is no chair rail. There is peg rail on the south elevation, west of the doorway, but the pegs are now broken. The rail has a bead on the top and bottom edges. This room is now a modern bathroom.

The southwest chamber also has the same flooring, baseboard, chair rail, and windows as the southeast chamber. The doors have reeded architrave that is mitered at the corners, with a bead on the outer edge. On the west elevation is a fireplace with a brick hearth, a splayed brick jamb on the south, and stone on the west and on the north jamb. The wood mantel apparently had pilasters and impost blocks, as well as other mouldings, but

these have been removed from the wood base and the mantel shelf removed, as well. Both north and south of the fireplace are built-in closets set above the baseboard. They have a pulvinated architrave with a bead on each side and a beaded interior edge, and the architrave is mitered at the corners. Each closet has two tall one panel doors that have sunk fields and ogee panel moulds. The doors are hand planed and are mortised and tenoned and pegged. There are ghosts of margins beneath the current paint that suggest that these doors were each painted to look like they were of three panels. There was a cabinet lock on the inside of one door, and a square iron slide bolt with a brass knob on the other side. The slide bolt survives, and slides up to catch on a wood shelf. The south closet has two shelves, and two others have been removed. The north closet has two shelves, and there is no evidence that others have been removed. The sides and backs of the closets are made of wood boards. The doorway on the north elevation is missing its door, which had two butt hinges on the west jamb.

The northwest chamber has the same flooring, baseboard, door architrave, and windows as the southwest chamber. It is divided in two by a north-south wall with sheetrock that is set to the west of the door. The north door in this room has six panels with sunk fields and no panel moulds on the south side, and with ogee panel moulds on the north side. The door has a small, plain cast iron rim lock with a brass knob that replaces a large rim lock. This door was originally hung on the west jamb, so that the panel moulds were on the south side, but was switched around and the original lock moved to the other side of the door. The door is hung on two cast iron butt hinges that appear to be plain, but are heavily painted. Both sides of the door have the ghosts of two-tone graining. The jambs have plain, hand-planed boards.

The south chamber in the ell has the same flooring as the southeast chamber, but it runs north-south. The baseboard and windows are the same, as well. The south door architrave matches the windows, but is wider. The east door architrave is reeded, with a bead on the outer edge, and is mitered at the corners. The ceiling has riven lath that is set very close together. On the north elevation, near the center, is a chimney flue. To the east of it is peg rail that has beads on the top and bottom of the rail, but the pegs have been broken off. The east door has six panels with sunk fields and ogee panel moulds; the small frieze panels are at the top. The door is mortised and tenoned and pegged, is hung on three butt hinges, and has a large rim lock made of bent iron plates, but with a foliate brass knob. There are faint ghosts of margins suggesting a two-tone paint job on two of the panels, but this does not seem to show up on the others. The jambs have three panels each, and the soffit one panel. They are flat and flush, with a bead mould. In the southwest corner of the room is a stairway leading down to the first story. At the top of the stairway is a railing with simple turned newel posts, rails that are mortised and tenoned and pegged to them, and rectangular-in-plan balusters with beads on the edges.

The north ell chamber is only accessible from the north ell room stairway, and is divided into two rooms by a partition wall that runs north-south. The northwest ell chamber has a stairway in the northwest corner with a railing on the south side of the stair opening that is identical to the railing in the south ell chamber, but the newel posts are square. The west sash is a typical six-over-six with parting beads, and had a spring latch. The architrave is narrow, with a beaded interior edge and a projecting outer bead. The board beneath the window sill is cut with a curve on each end that makes it appear to be pulvinated, but it is actually flat, and it has a bead on the bottom edge. The east elevation door architrave has a beaded interior edge and is head cut, with a miter at the bead only. The northeast ell chamber windows are identical to those in the northwest ell chamber, and the

west door architrave matches this, but is wider. There is an enclosed winder stair with beaded edge vertical boards in the northeast corner that leads to the attic. There are three steps beneath the door, which also has beaded edge vertical boards and is hung on plain cast iron butt hinges. The door has tapered battens that appear to be fastened with cut nails. There is a closet beneath the stairway. The door has been broken off here, but the cast iron butt hinges survive and appear to be labeled " GODDINGTON". The hinges are fastened with blunt tip screws. The stairs are constructed with cut nails.

The attic stairway in the center passage has a landing at the north, where it turns back to the south to reach the attic. The attic is closed off with a plaster wall that appears to be original, as the hand rail is ramped and abuts the door architrave. The door has beaded edge vertical boards, a Suffolk latch with bean cusps that is fastened with wrought nails, plain cast iron butt hinges, and tapered battens with cut nails. The architrave has a beaded interior edge and is head cut except at the bead, where it is mitered. The attic side of this wall has lapped vertical slabs with riven lath on the stair side and cut nails fastening the lapped boards. The summer beam is exposed in the attic floor, and is about 1/8 inch lower than the floor boards. It is 10 ¼ inches wide and has ¾ inch diameter pegs on each side of the top face for the joists. The pegs are spaced 14 ¾ to 15 ½ inches on centers. There are scribe marks on each side of each mortise, with a Roman numeral scribed next to each pair of mortise scribe marks. The floor is mill sawn and tongue and grooved, and some boards have Roman numerals cut into one end. The east attic sash have mortised and tenoned and pegged frames and have plain cast iron butt hinges on the inside. The west sash are identical, but are missing the hinges. Near the latter is a large, six-light casement that is mortised and tenoned and pegged and has plain cast iron butt hinges, and another that was identical, but the muntins were broken out. They fit the attic window space perfectly, appear to be original, and may be an early storm window. The ell rafters and summer beam are identical to those in the main block. The north sash have been replaced, but there are very deteriorated sash stored near the openings that are similar to the west storm windows.

The rafters are mill sawn, are 3 ¼ to 3 ½ inches wide, and are slightly tapered, being about 3 ½ inches at the ridge and about 4 ½ inches at the foot. The ridge joints are open-faced bridles with pegs, and the feet have birds mouth cuts that abut a false plate, with one cut nail to hold each foot in place. The ends of the false plate are pegged to something below (probably a joist) with two wood pegs. The rafter feet do not line up with the joists. There are collar beams that are mill sawn, are 2 d to 2 ½ inches wide by 3 e to 4 inches deep, and have a center tenon and peg in the rafters. There are sawn Roman numerals on each rafter and collar, and the pairs were not erected in any particular order. The rafters are spaced 27 ¼ to 29 ¾ inches on centers. They support mill sawn lath and circular sawn shingles that are fastened with cut nails. There are diagonal wind braces let into the outer face of the rafters. Many of the rafters have painted words on them in a white cursive script, including "parsley" and "cabbage seed". Many are illegible, and many have wire nails and twine, suggesting that they may be related to 20th-century herb drying.

The stone outbuilding/summer kitchen is located about 30 feet east of the ell of the house. It is a 1 ½ story, two-bay by one-bay rubble stone structure with quoins, and has a gable roof of standing seam metal with a north-south ridge. The south gable end has the remains of an interior brick chimney. On the west elevation, the north bay has two doorways that are set right next to each other, but neither has a door now. There are

circular sawn frames with wire nails, but they are deteriorated. This wood covers a mortised and tenoned and pegged door frame for the south door, and it has a pintle on the north post. This post also functions as the south post of the north doorway, and it has a broken cast iron foliate butt hinge for the north door. There is a new steel lintel and re-pointing above the door opening. According to the owner, there was a large stone lintel here that the workmen failed to put back. The north and south jambs of the opening are stone on the outside and brick with plaster inside. The jamb sides of the stone are more roughly cut than the other edges of the stone, and may have been cut back to widen the doorway. The south bay is completely open, and the north and south jambs are finished, squared stones, with quoins on the north jamb. Thus, it appears that there was never a stone wall here. There are no openings on the upper story, but there are traces of whitewash here. The rafter ends are exposed, with a trim board fastened to them with wire nails.

The north elevation of the stone outbuilding has a narrow slit vent in the center of the first story. There is a metal pipe that passes through a rough break in the wall about two feet above ground and about three feet east of the west corner. The upper story has a window opening with a wood sill and a large stone lintel. The east elevation has a narrow slit vent in the north bay of the first story, and has no other openings.

The south elevation of this outbuilding has no openings on the lower story. The upper story has a doorway set east of center. The door is missing, but part of the deteriorated frame survives. It is mortised and tenoned and pegged in the top corners, and in the east jamb has two holes that were probably originally for pintles. The rake boards are fastened with wire nails.

The south room of the outbuilding is at least partially floored with dry-laid stone, though this may be added. On the south elevation is a stone fireplace with a corbeled brick chimney above and a wood mantel tree. The chimney bricks are toothed into the stone wall, suggesting that this is an original feature. The fireplace has straight jambs and a stone hearth. There are two cranes set near the front of the fireplace opening, one on each side, and a they have iron eyes at both the top and the bottom of the crane. The cranes are fastened with nuts and bolts. West of the fireplace on the south wall are three pockets that apparently originally held joists for the upper story. The western-most pocket lines up with a pocket on the north elevation. Unfortunately, the north wall of this room, which is one story high and is of stone, has some loose and missing stones at the top making it hard to be certain whether there were pockets here that aligned with pockets on the south. There is also a pocket near the east corner of the south elevation. The stones beneath the south door sill are loose, so it is not possible to tell if there was a pocket here. All three walls are whitewashed only half the way up. Near the center of the east wall are two corbeled stones, one above the other. The top stone is only slightly projecting from the wall, is at the whitewash line, but is not whitewashed itself. The bottom stone projects about four inches, and could have supported one end of a summer beam that would have run east-west. The stone is too low to have been a support for the eastern-most joist. Also on the east elevation, north of the corbeled stones, is a pocket or hole in the wall about one foot below the top line of whitewash. This appears to be a stove flue later added to the stone wall, as there is a brick hanging down in the back of the pocket as if it is filling a flue. There are bricks on both sides of this pocket and above it, and these bricks are also heavily whitewashed. There is also a bit of black creosote staining just in this area. Directly above this pocket, near the top of the wall, are

more bricks in the wall. Some of the bricks at the very top of the wall are loose. The mortar around the bricks is consistent with that of the rest of the stone work.

The north room is divided by a frame center wall that runs east-west and has plaster on circular sawn lath that is fastened with wire nails. The joists above are hewn, run east-west, and have creosote on them. There are numerous small metal hooks driven into the bottom sides of these joists. The walls are plaster on stone, with a layer of creosote covering the plaster, and whitewash on top of the creosote. There is a concrete trough in the northwest corner, and a pipe that comes through the north wall runs to this trough. Above the trough is a large triangular stone shelf set into the wall. There is a similar stone shelf set into the wall in the southeast corner. The vent on the east elevation is partially covered by the center wall.

The upper story is only floored on the north half since the joists of the south half have been removed. There is a hewn beam spanning the center of the building, above the center stone wall. The west rafters are two by fours that are mitered at the ridge, while the east rafters are ¾ round logs that have half laps and peg holes at the ridge, though these joints are no longer functioning. The rafters support shingle lath.

About 150 feet south of the house is a bank barn with a ramp on the south side and a forebay that faces north. The upper story is frame, with vertical board siding, and the gable roof has standing seam metal and an east-west ridge. On the north elevation, the lower story has beaded edge and center horizontal siding fastened with wire nails. The east bay has an opening that may have been for a wagon. To the west is a Dutch door that matches this siding, a broken six-over-six sash, another Dutch door made of this siding, a wide, altered opening in which three posts have been removed, another Dutch door, a window opening, and a widened doorway in the west bay. The upper story has two interior doors hung on rollers in the center. They are made of beaded edge and center vertical boards.

On the west elevation, the lower story has German siding above a concrete foundation and three partially covered, broken six-over-six sash. The upper story has an opening for a large vent in the gable end. The south elevation has two pair of wagon doors on rollers in the center. They are made of beaded edge and center vertical boards. The east elevation has a frame shed with corrugated metal siding and roofing attached to the lower story. The upper story has a six-over-six sash with a narrow vent to each side in the gable peak.

In the lower story, the west wall is a low concrete wall with heavy timber framing on top of it. There is a stone pier in the southwest corner, but the south wall is concrete. The frame north and west walls are circular sawn. The posts are mortised and tenoned, but are not pegged, and the door frames are wire nailed. There are two circular sawn summer beams that run east-west and are supported by five posts under each. Most of these posts have a bolster on top of them, and each summer beam has three scarf joints consisting of beveled half laps with offsets. The joists are circular sawn, and are 4 ¼ inches by 6 ½ inches. The joists are in three sections, spanning from the south wall to the south summer beam, from the south summer beam to the north summer beam, and from the north summer beam to the end of the forebay. The bottom chords of the upper story bents are one piece, are 6 ½ by 10 inches, and there are some peg ends protruding through the bottom of these chords.

The upper story has two center threshing floors with a hay mow to each side. There are five bents of circular sawn heavy timber framing that are mortised and tenoned and pegged. The bents form a Queen post

truss supporting the roof. The girts have through-tenons in the interior posts. The 2 by 4 rafters are mitered at the ridge and support shingle lath. The bent profile has down braces on the interior side of the interior posts, both up braces and down braces on the interior side of the interior posts supporting a single girt, and an up brace from the north interior post supporting the forebay girt.

About 50 feet east of the bank barn is an early 20th century barn that is a 1 ½ story, three-bay by ten-bay structure with a rusticated concrete block lower story and a semi-circular arched roof of standing seam metal with a north-south ridge and German siding on the north and south ends. The barn closely resembles prefabricated barn designs offered by Sears, Roebuck ca. 1920. On the south elevation, the lower story has a pair of crossbuck doors in center that are made with beaded edge and center vertical boards. To each side is a twelve-light sash with a wood lintel. The upper story has a crossbuck door in the center with a window opening to each side that has a jigsawn surround and pediment. One six-light sash survives, suggesting that these openings originally had six-over-six sash. The peak has a pair of crossbuck doors with a canopy above that is supported by brackets. The west elevation has ten twelve-light sash with wood lintels. The east elevation has nine twelve-light sash and a beaded edge and center vertical board door on rollers in the south bay. On the north elevation, the lower story has a pair of crossbuck doors in the center and a single one in the west bay. In the east bay is a rusticated concrete block wing connecting the barn to a concrete silo about ten feet north of the barn. The silo has a metal dome top. The upper story of the north elevation has a crossbuck door in the center with one window opening to each side and one in the peak.

The first story of the barn has a center aisle that runs north-south, with five wood stalls to each side. The stalls have crossbuck doors hung on rollers. There are also aisles across the north and south ends of the barn. The floor is concrete, with troughs in front of each row of stalls that are covered by iron plates.

About ten feet east of the barn is a dairy building. It is a 1 ½ story, three-bay by one-bay structure, of the same construction as the barn. The semi-circular arched roof also has a north-south ridge. The dairy is connected to the barn by a pent roof that has a slight pitch to the gable, and has standing seam metal. The south elevation has a new one-over-one sash on the first story and two large new casement windows on the second story. The west elevation has a door with four lights over two panels in the north bay and a crossbuck Dutch door in both the center and south bays. There is a boarded-up door set east of center in the north elevation, with a pair of new one-over-one sash in the upper story. The east elevation has three original window openings, but the south bay now has a new one-over-one sash, the center bay has two new one-over-one sash, and the north bay has new in-fill and a one-light sash.

Summary Statement of Significance:

The William and Catherine Biggs Farm is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under criterion C, as it embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, in this case an extremely well preserved and detailed example of the vernacular dwellings of the Federal period in Carroll County, Maryland. Also on the property is an unusual stone outbuilding that appears to have accommodated slaves in its upper story, and an early 20th century dairy complex.

Resource History and Historic Context:

The William and Catherine Biggs Farm is located on part of a tract of land known as the "Six Brothers", an 887 acre parcel re-surveyed and patented by William Biggs, Sr., in 1788. The Biggs family was one of the early settlers of Frederick County, and before that of the American Colonies. Progenitor John Biggs (d. 1709) was born in Worcestershire, England in the seventeenth century and emigrated to New Amsterdam in 1664 as part of the English colonization movement that sought to take over the Dutch settlements in Ulster County, New York. John Biggs died there in 1709. His son, John Biggs, Jr. (d. 1761), moved to Frederick County before 1741 along with Susannah Beatty, part of what appears to be a significant early migration from Ulster County. John Biggs, Jr.'s daughter, Hendricka Biggs (b. 1716-17) married Susannah and John Beatty, Sr.'s son, John Beatty, Jr. (1701-1746), and both families seem to have migrated together, along with some other families, including William Dern, Cornelius Low, and the Middaghs. Together, they left Ulster County about 1726 and moved first to the Raritan River area of Somerset County, New Jersey. Between 1737 and 1741 the Biggs family again moved, this time to Frederick County, settling in the Walkersville region. Once again, they established themselves in close proximity to the Beattys, who had moved c. 1732 from New Jersey to the Ceresville region. The full extent of this movement, and the reasons behind it, are not yet known.[1]

John Biggs, Jr. had two sons who settled in the vicinity of Detour, along the Monocacy River in both Frederick and present-day Carroll County. The oldest, Benjamin Biggs (1723-1785), stayed until c. 1769, when he moved his family to the Ohio Valley in the panhandle of West Virginia. The other son, William Biggs, Sr. (1725-1803), patented a tract known as "Anything" in 1754 and purchased some of his brother's land, "Benjamin's Good Luck," when Benjamin Biggs moved away. It was this land, and part of another tract, Gorsuch's Lot, that William had re-surveyed in 1788 and named "Six Brothers," for his six sons, William, Jr. (1754-1834), John (1758-1823), Benjamin (1760-1819), Jacob (1760?-1822), Frederick (1766-1840), and Joseph (1772-1841). William Biggs, Sr. was apparently looking to effect an equitable division of his property

[1] Susannah Beatty settled near Ceresville and live in the Beatty-Cramer Farm (F-8-35), recently acquired by Frederick County Landmarks for preservation. Grace L. Tracey and John P. Dern, *Pioneers of Old Monocacy: The Early Settlement of Frederick County, Maryland, 1721-1743.* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1987), pp. 309-10. "Notes on Biggs Family," typescript, The Tracey Collection, Historical Society of Carroll County. Grace L. Tracey, "The Old Road from Conewago to Monocacy," Historical Society of Carroll County *Newsletter*, v. 10, n. 4, (November 1961), pp. 3-4.

amongst his sons, establishing them all in farming, but for an unknown reason, John Biggs acquired land elsewhere in Frederick County. Instead, the "Six Brothers" was divided into five tracts, and on 16 December 1793 they were sold to the other five sons. William, Jr. received lot 1, 186 acres, for £600; Benjamin got lot 5, 165 acres, for £577; Jacob bought lot 3, 143 acres, for £514; Frederick purchased lot 2, 248 ½ acres, for £580; and Joseph received lot 4, 139 acres, for £486. At the same time, William, Sr. sold three slaves to William, Jr., Frederick, and Joseph, apparently with the intent that they would share them. The slaves were Barbara, age about 25, a girl named Henny, about six years old, and a boy named Henry, about three. William, Sr.'s wife, Naomy, was given a life interest in the use of Barbara. Along with the slaves, William, Sr. sold his three sons all his horses, cows, sheep and hogs, his farm utensils and household furniture, and a weaver's loom. The following day the five brothers, all listed as farmers in Frederick County, sold all of the land, slaves, livestock, and furniture back to their father, for the term of his life only. Thus, without a will (which could be contested after his death), William Biggs, Sr. smoothly divided his property among five of his sons. The lack of any mention of the sixth, John, suggests the possibility of a break between he and his father, but there may also have been separate arrangements made to provide for him.[2]

According to the 1798 tax assessment for Frederick County, four of the brothers still had farms in the area, William, Jr., Jacob, Frederick, and Joseph. Since William, Sr. was still alive, the farms were still technically his, but realistically, it was his sons doing the work. In addition, several had purchased other parcels to expand their land holdings. William, Jr. now had 245 1/3 acres. The only building listed was for Jacob, who had "built a small stone hse . . . ." Whether or not he was the first, the construction of stone houses was to be a pattern amongst the Biggs brothers. An 1895 history of the area states that "the buildings referred to of the Biggs families were built from 1800 to 1820, and that of Joseph (the youngest), built about 1814. . . . The boss mechanics, or carpenters, of that day were William Dern, William Carmac, Abram Forney and Jesse Stump. A view of these buildings now, will convince you that they were good workmen." Most (and perhaps all) of these buildings seem to survive, though little research and documentation has been done on them, and they seem to date from the early nineteenth century. The Jacob Biggs house (CARR-116) is located on Mumma Ford Road, and is a five bay, two story stone structure with a fanlight over the center entrance. This house is probably not the small stone building noted in 1798, but a replacement. There was reportedly a stone barn on the property that was recently demolished. Benjamin Biggs is shown on the 1808 Varle Map of Frederick County, the only one of the Biggs brothers to be named thereon. A stone house on the Frederick County side of Sixes Bridge Road, near the Monocacy, is apparently his house, but it has never been inventoried. Frederick apparently lived west of Benjamin, also in Frederick County. A stone and log house (F-6-73) with a stone barn, survive in this

[2]Grace L. Tracey and John P. Dern, *Pioneers of Old Monocacy*, pp. 310-11. "Notes on Biggs Family," The Tracey Collection, Historical Society of Carroll County. Land Patents, "Six Brothers," Tracey Collection, Historical Society of Carroll County. Frederick County Land Records, WR 12-136, WR 12-137, WR 12-139, WR 12-140, WR 12-141, WR 12-143, and WR 12-143 (2). William Biggs, Sr.'s obituary is in Bartgis' Republican Gazette, 22 April 1803. See F. Edward Wright, compiler, *Western Maryland Newspaper Abstracts, 1799-1805*, v. 2 (Silver Spring, MD: Family Line Publications, 1986).

location, but are threatened with demolition. Joseph Biggs' house may be the stone dwelling on Sixes Bridge Road, near Keysville Road, or could be located at the north end of Burrier Lane.[3]

William Biggs, Jr.'s house also seems to fit into the 1800-1820 period. Both the southeast and southwest room mantels have vernacular interpretations of Federal details, especially the oval sunbursts and reeding. The stair brackets are taken from Owen Biddle's The Young Carpenter's Assistant, first published in Philadelphia in 1805. These brackets can be found in at least two other Carroll County dwellings, the Stoner-Saum house (CARR-1435, NR) near McKinstry's Mills of c. 1817, and the Campbell-Barnitz House (CARR-132C) at 211 E. Main Street, Westminster, of c. 1815. One unusual feature of the house is the large number of closets and cupboards. The southwest room has built-in cupboards flanking both sides of the fireplace, as does the southwest chamber above, and there is a closet in the south wall of the south ell room, and a cupboard on the east side of the kitchen fireplace, not to mention closets under both winder stairs. "Boss mechanic" Abram Furney's (Forney) daughter, Catherine, married William Biggs, Jr. in 1787, so he is a logical choice to be the builder of the stone house. However, Furney moved to near Cadiz, Ohio, in 1807, leaving a narrow window of opportunity in which he could have built the house. A William Dern accompanied the Beattys and Biggses to Frederick, William Biggs, Sr., is thought to have married a Dern and Isaac Dern was a witness for William Biggs, Jr.'s will, so there seems to have remained a close connection between the families. In addition, Frederick Biggs' son, William (1796-1876) was a trustee at a later date for Waesche Chapel in Detour, along with Frederick Dern and William Carmack. Thus, either Furney, Dern, or Carmack, (or all three) are possible builders of the Biggs family houses.[4]

William Biggs, Jr. died in February, 1834, and the inventory of his property gives one a glimpse into what his farm was like at that time. As his father had before him, Biggs continued to farm using slave labor. His labor force consisted of three female slaves, Nel (or Nelly), Rue (or Ruth), and Pry, three girls, Maria, Rachel, and Harriet (a child of Pry), and ten male slaves, Cy (or Cyrus), Thomas, Nathan, Harry, Frank, Augustine, Thomas, Aaron, Alfred (a child of Pry), and Coleman. Several of these were Ruth's children, but it is not certain which they were. In a community with numerous Germans and Quakers who rarely owned slaves, Biggs was unusual, and the large number that he owned probably made him one of the largest slave holders to reside in present-day Carroll County. All of these slaves had to be housed somewhere, and there are probably several places that they inhabited which still survive, as well as some that do not. The two small north ell chambers do not connect with the rest of the second story, being accessed from the stairway in the kitchen. Because the south ell chamber was not connected to these north chambers, a third stairway was added, giving access to the south ell chamber from below. This arrangement is unusual, but the seclusion of the rear ell chambers from the rest of the house is not, whether there were slaves or hired help in the house. Perhaps the

[3]Samuel Weybright, "Middleburg District (Supplementary)," *Taneytown Carroll Record*, 1895, reprinted in *The Carroll Record Histories of Northwestern Carroll County Communities*, Joseph M. Getty, ed. (Westminster, MD: Historical Society of Carroll County, 1994), pp. 55-7.

[4]Christopher Weeks, *The Building of Westminster in Maryland*, (Westminster, MD: Mayor and Common Council of Westminster, 1978), pp. 23-4, 150. Weybright, "Middleburg District," pp. 56-7. "Notes on Biggs Family," The Tracey Collection, Historical Society of Carroll County.

women and children inhabited these spaces. The stone outbuilding to the east of the house is a unique structure that has undergone some alterations. It probably served as a smokehouse, laundry, and summer kitchen on the lower story, and as slave quarters on the upper story. The only access to these upper rooms was apparently from an exterior stairway that no longer survives.[5]

Perhaps as a result of the large number of slaves, his holding of livestock was also unusually extensive. He had twelve horses and seven [match?], 18 cows, 23 two-year-old calves, 4 yearling calves, 18 sheep, eight ewes with nine lambs, four sows, one of which had ten pigs, 41 shoats, and a boar. The farm was apparently mostly fenced with post and rail, or at least in the process of being switched over from the earlier worm fencing, as Biggs not only had a large quantity of locust posts and chestnut rails, but also "1 post boaring [sic] machine with 2 aug[ur]s". His fields were improved with plaster, of which he still had a ton in storage somewhere on the farm. One field apparently comprised 40 acres, planted in wheat, with another of 20 acres in wheat and one of four. As they were assessed at different rates per acre, they were probably planted at different times and thus some were further along in their growth than other fields. There were also two fields of rye, one of 22 acres and the other of 19. In addition, Biggs held a one-half interest in two acres of rye and seven acres of wheat, plus a one-third interest in 16 acres of rye. As the inventory was taken in February, this gives us only a clue to his winter crops. The summer crops are hinted at by the storage of 8 tons of hay in one location and other, lesser amounts elsewhere, plus 400 barrels of corn. Also put up for the winter were 55 bushels of rye and another 26 bushels of rye, as well as 300 bundles of rye straw, 100 bushels of wheat and 43 barrels of already ground wheat flour, 16 bushels of bran, some buckwheat, and two barrels of dried apples and one of dried peaches. He also owned a "windmill," which may have been a wheat fan, as one was not listed under that name; by this period most farmers had switched to wheat fans for winnowing grain.[6]

His personal property was also impressive, not only for what he had, but for how much. It included a secretary with books, as well as another desk, two 24-hour clocks and an eight-day clock, a cider mill and distillery equipment, and a new "percussion lock gun". There was a total of twelve beds. Five of the beds were listed together, and were of little value, suggesting the possibility that they were used by the slaves.[7]

In his will, Biggs left all his real estate and personal property to his wife, Catherine (1769-1856), for her life, and gave her the right to sell any of the personal property if she needed. After her death the farm, remaining personal property, and a tract of mountain land was to pass to their grandson, Benjamin Poole, the son of their only child, Amy. Amy Biggs had married a local farmer, Daniel J. Poole, in 1816. Conflicts arose very quickly, resulting in a lawsuit by Catherine Biggs against her son-in-law, Daniel Poole. She testified in court in September 1839 that she ". . .has resided in the dwelling house + on the farm of her said husband on which he resided and has with the slaves + stock on the said farm, cultivated a portion of the same with the knowledge and consent of the Defendant . . . + his family + has also been in the use + enjoyment of all the

[5]William Biggs Inventory, Frederick County Register of Wills, GME 7-122. The names and relationships of the slaves have been clarified by comparing this document with the records in Carroll County Circuit Court, Equity 47, Catherine Biggs et al v. Daniel J. Poole, 2 September 1839, Maryland State Archives, Box 1. For more on this case, see below.

[6]William Biggs Inventory, Frederick County Register of Wills, GME 7-122.

[7]William Biggs Inventory, Frederick County Register of Wills, GME 7-122.

furniture in the dwelling house + the other personal property on the said farm." She then complained that Poole had taken some of her slaves against her will and sold them out of the county, where she felt they could not be recovered. In addition, he had taken her grain, which he was about to sell, and had indicated his intention to sell all the personal property.[8]

At issue was a paper that Catherine had signed, reportedly authorizing Poole to recover some runaway slaves. (Tom, Nathan, and Frank had apparently taken off shortly after the death of William Biggs, Jr.) Catherine could not read, and the paper had not been read to her, but Poole was using it as a power of attorney to sell any of her property he so chose. The court enjoined Poole from further interference until the case could be heard and he could produce the paper in question. In November 1840 Catherine requested that her bill of complaint be stricken from the court docket, and the case was concluded. Apparently, with the help of her brother and brother-in-law, she worked things out with her son-in-law, but we know nothing of what this arrangement was. Daniel Poole was in other trouble, as well, and the causes and full extent are also not clear. In January 1840 Poole declared that he, ". . . finding it impossible to attend to all his business, and farm his lands to profit, to the extent to which he has been accustomed, has determined to sell his personal property and rent his farm." The farm was located on the Middleburg to Mechanics-town road (now apparently Mumma Ford Road).[9]

Poole's assertion that he could not attend to all his business may have been a smokescreen for financial problems that forced him to sell goods to cover his debts. This is suggested by the land records, beginning in December, 1842, when Poole turned his property over to trustees because of his indebtedness. In this deed, Poole also surrenders his right ". . . as tenant by the courtesy . . ." in the lands that descended to his wife, Amy, from her father, William Biggs, Jr. This is the beginning of a series of curious and unusual transactions that include the Biggs farm. Two months later, this right is sold to Benjamin Poole ". . . for the sole and seperate [sic] use and benefit of Amy Poole . . . ." The money used for this transaction came from the sale of some of Amy Poole's other property. Thus, her husband's life interest in her father's farm was now under the control of her son. It would appear that the purpose of these transactions was to protect the Biggs farm from Daniel Poole's creditors. Throughout these manipulations, it is clearly stated that the property that Catherine held, in lieu of dower, was exempted from consideration. A major problem arises in explaining what has transpired. In the first place, no land passed to Amy; the inheritance went to her son, Benjamin. Yet from this point on, the Biggs farm is always referred to as Amy's inheritance from her father, though there is no clear title to explain this. Benjamin, in turn, would grow up to be a merchant in Keysville, not a farmer.[10]

The 1852 tax assessment indicates that Catherine Biggs was still in control of her farm, and was tilling it rather successfully, judging from the fact that her livestock was valued at a substantial $515. The 200 acre farm and its buildings was only valued at $4,000, which in itself was above the average. The assessment also gives our first glimpse of the buildings, noting there was both a stone house and stone barn. The barn was also likely constructed in the period 1800-1820, when the house was built. Four years later Catherine was dead. The 1861

[8]William Biggs Will, Frederick County Register of Wills, GME 1-537. Carroll County Circuit Court, Equity 47.

[9]Carroll County Circuit Court, Equity 47. *Westminster Carrolltonian*, 14 February 1840, p. 3, c. 4.

[10]Carroll County Land Records, JS1-541; JS2-80; JS2-82.

Martenet *Map of Carroll County* suggests that the Biggs farm passed to Benjamin, as the will suggested, but the 1866 tax assessment indicates that Amy Poole held the farm, while Benjamin held 12 acres of "Terra Rubra" and was in the dry goods and grocery business. He continued at that trade for the rest of his life, living, and running a store, in Keysville. The 1861 map also indicates that Daniel Poole owned two farms (one in Frederick County), and a later history suggests that he added a third, so he must have rebounded well from his earlier travails.[11]

Amy Poole died in September, 1868. The previous December she had written her will, and husband Daniel had written that he gave "consent for my wife Amy Poole to make and publish the within instrument of writing, as, and for her last will and testament." Circumstances in the 1840's had made Amy Poole more independent than most women of her time in Carroll County, and eventually forced her husband to give this unusual consent for her to dispose of her property. Her real estate was sold, and the money went to four of her five children, the other already having received his share. Daniel Poole was given $966.88 by his wife, and he moved to Salmeville, Columbiana County, Ohio, to live with his son, William H. Poole. Daniel died there in August, 1871. It actually took a few years to sell Amy Poole's land, and her father's farm did not sell until June, 1875. It was purchased by Hiram Englar for $7,600.[12]

Hiram Englar is a well-known farmer in nineteenth-century Carroll County. He seems to have farmed the Appler-Englar Farm (CARR-936, NR), and beginning in 1867 started setting up his sons in farming by purchasing farms in the region. Englar first purchased the 115 acre farm of his father-in-law, Daniel Engel (CARR-1332, demolished), just south of New Windsor, in 1867. This farm may have been meant to set up his second son, David, who eventually bought it in 1885, but this scenario is complicated by the fact that Hiram

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[11]Carroll County Tax Assessments, District 10, 1852, 1866, Maryland State Archives. *Martinet's Map of Carroll County, MD*, 1861. *Westminster American Sentinel*, 1 May 1875, p. 3, c. 3. J. H. Koons, "History of Keysville," *Taneytown Carroll Record*, 1895, reprinted in *The Carroll Record Histories of Northwestern Carroll County Communities*, Joseph M. Getty, ed. (Westminster, MD: Historical Society of Carroll County, 1994), p. 90.

[12]Amy Poole Will, Carroll County Register of Wills, JMP3-569. Carroll County Orphan's Court, Minutes of Proceedings, 7-509, 10-13. No advertisement for the sale of the Biggs farm could be found in the Westminster papers, although it was reported to the court that the farm was advertised. The long period between Amy Poole's death and the sale of the farm makes it difficult to locate any ad.

Englar then purchased the 274 acre Biggs farm, and his son, David, is shown here on the 1877 atlas. One suspects that David may have been running the Biggs farm, but was not living on it. At the time that David bought his grandfather's farm from his father, his brother Louis P. Englar bought the Biggs farm from Hiram, in March 1885. Louis probably never farmed the land, however, and probably purchased it simply as an investment. Louis Englar died young and childless, in March 1892, leaving his widow Laura $5,000 and the rest of his property to his father. His estate was probated in Frederick County, indicating that he was living there, and not on the Biggs farm. [13]

Laura Englar renounced the will and instead took her dower right. In the meantime, Hiram also died, leaving his property to his widow, Elizabeth. Louis Englar's property was ordered sold by the court, and returned $4,102.06 after expenses. Laura received $820.41 in lieu of dower, plus $345.44 as her share of the remainder. As described in August, 1893, the Biggs farm held ". . . a fine large stone dwelling house, a 92 foot stone barn in good condition . . . ," and was occupied by William F. Six. It had been reduced to 241 acres. This confirms the existence of the stone barn, which since disappeared at an unknown time. The farm was bought by Dr. Sidney Sappington of Frederick County, and once again must have been simply an investment property. The naming of the road after Six suggests that he may have remained here for some time, but there is unfortunately no information about his residency. Sappington left the farm to his daughter, Adelaide Hammond, and her sons, and they held it until 1972. Thus, after the death of Catherine Biggs, the farm of her and her husband seems to have been a tenant property until 1972.[14]

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[13] Vivian Barnes Englar, *Genealogy of the Englar Family: The Descendants of Philip Englar 1736-1817* (Taneytown, MD: The Carroll Record Print, [1929]). Carroll County Tax Assessment, District 11, 1866-76, 1876, 1876-96, Maryland State Archives. Carroll County Circuit Court, Equity 3165, David Englar, et al, v. Elizabeth Englar and Laura V. Englar, 26 July 1893.

[14] Carroll County Circuit Court, Equity 3165. *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, 5 August 1893, p. 3, c. 7. Carroll County Land Records (see attached chain of title).

Major Bibliographical References:

See footnotes, Section 8.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 17.01 acres

UTM References Emmitsburg, MD-PA quad
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	18	303590	4388930
B	18	303830	4388880
C	18	303740	4383680
D	18	303640	4383680

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kenneth M. Short
Organization _____ date December 2000
street & number 610 Regester Ave. telephone (410) 377-4953
city or town Baltimore state MD zip code 21212

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional Items
(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO)

name _____
street & number _____ telephone _____
city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et. seq.).

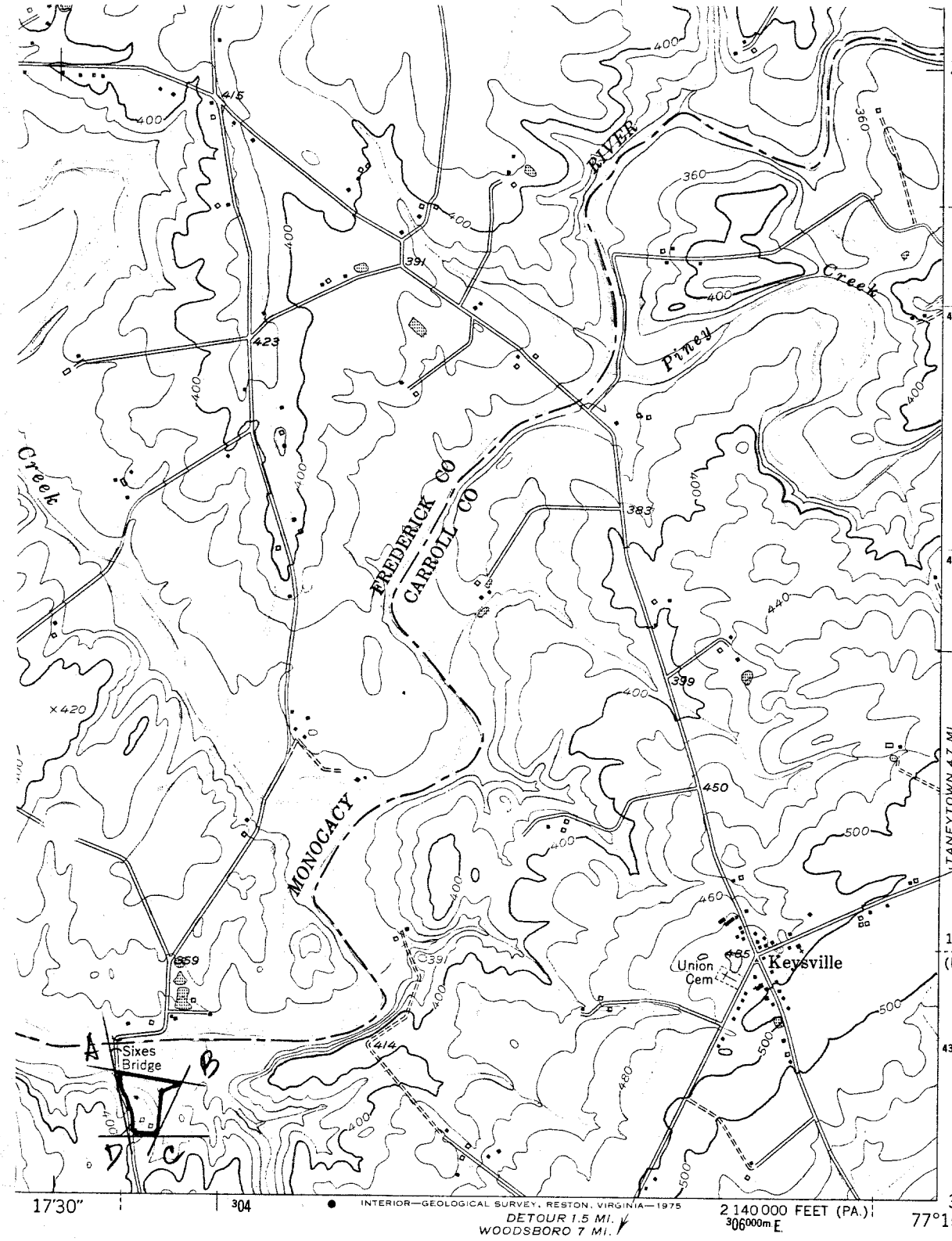
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

Verbal Boundary Description:

The nominated property is described in the Land Records of Carroll County, Maryland, in Liber LWS 845, folio 831, and depicted as Parcel 121 on Carroll County Assessments and Taxation Map 26.

Boundary Justification:

The nominated property, 17.01 acres, represents the remnant of the property historically associated with the resource, and comprises the contributing buildings within their immediate setting.



CARR-1644

BIGGS, WILLIAM & CATHERINE, FARM

CARROLL COUNTY MARYLAND

A: 18-303590-4388930

B: 18-303830-4388880

C: 18-303740-4388680

D: 18-303640-4388660

(UNION BRIDGE) 5563 II SW

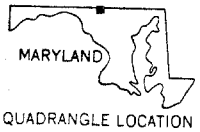
MILE

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty — 4 LANE | 6 LANE — Light-duty

Medium-duty — 4 LANE | 6 LANE — Unimproved dirt

U. S. Route State Route



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

EMMITSBURG, MD.—PA.

N3937.5—W7715/7.5

1953
PHOTOREVISED 1971
AMS 5563 III NE-SERIES V833

CARR-1644
William & Catherine Biggs Farm
8212 Sixes Bridge Rd
Carroll Co, MD
Photo: Ken Short
Date: July 2000
Neg. loc: MD SHPO
[illegible]
House - S. elev.
1/25

CARR-1644
William & Catherine Biggs Farm
8212 Sykes Bridge Rd
Carroll Co, MD
Photo: Ken Short
Date: July 2000
Neg loc: MD SHPO
S. elev. - portico.
2/25

CARR-1644
William & Catherine Biggs Farm
8212 Sykes Bridge Rd
Carroll Co, MD
Photo: Ken Short
Date: July 2000
Neg loc: MD SHPO
House - north & west elevs
3/25

CARR-1644
William & Catherine Biggs Farm
8212 Sixes Bridge Rd
Carroll Co, MD
Photo: Ken Short
Date: July 2000
Neg. loc: MD SHPO
House - E elev.
4/25

CARR-1644
William & Catherine Biggs Farm
8212 Sixes Bridge Rd
Carroll Co, MD
Photo: Ken Short
Date: July 2000
Neg. loc: MD SHPO

Front (s.) door, interior
5/25

CARR-1644
William & Catherine Biggs Farm
8212 Sixes Bridge Rd
Carroll Co, MD
Photo: Ken Short
Date: July 2000
Neg. loc: MD SHPO
1st story passage stairway
6/25

CARR-1644
William & Catherine Biggs Farm
8212 Sixes Bridge Rd
Carroll Co, MD
Photo: Ken Short
Date: July 2000
Neg. loc: MD SHPO
E. Rm, vw. Southeast
7/25

CARR-1644
William & Catherine Biggs Farm
8212 Sixes Bridge Rd
Carroll Co, MD
Photo: Ken Short
Date: July 2000
Neg. loc: MD SHPO
E. Rm. mantel
8/25

CARR-1644
William & Catherine Biggs Farm
8212 Sixes Bridge Rd
Carroll Co, MD
Photo: Ken Short
Date: July 2000
Neg. loc: MD SHPO
E. Rm mantel detail
9/25

CARR- 1644
William & Catherine Biggs Farm
8212 Sixes Bridge Rd
Carroll Co, MD
Photo: Ken Short
Date: July 2000
Neg. loc: MD SHPO
Southwest Room, Westerly.
10/25

CARR-1644
William & Catherine Biggs Farm
8212 Sykes Bridge Rd
Carroll Co, MD
Photo: Ken Short
Date: July 2000
Neg loc: MD SHPO
Southwest Room mantel
11/25

CARR-1644
William & Catherine Biggs Farm
8212 Sixes Bridge Rd
Carroll Co, MD
Photo: Ken Short
Date: July 2000
Neg loc: MD SHPO
Southwest Room mantel detail
12/25

CARR-1644
William & Catherine Biggs Farm
8212 Sykes Bridge Rd
Carroll Co, MD
Photo: Ken Short
Date: July 2000
Neg loc: MD SHPO
Southeast room, stairs in southwest corner
13/25

CARR-1644
William & Catherine Biggs Farm
8212 Sykes Bridge Rd
Carroll Co, MD
Photo: Ken Short
Date: July 2000
Neg loc: MD SHPO
Northeil room, NW northwest

14/25

CARR-1644
William & Catherine Biggs Farm
8212 Sykes Bridge Rd
Carroll Co, MD
Photo: Ken Short
Date: July 2000
Neg. loc: MDSHPO
Southeast Chambermantel
15/25

CARR-1644
William & Catherine Biggs Farm
8212 Sixes Bridge Rd
Carroll Co, MD
Photo: Ken Short
Date: July 2000
Neg. loc: MDSHPO
Southwest Chamber, west elev

16/25

CARR-1644
William & Catherine Biggs Farm
8212 Sixes Bridge Rd
Carroll Co, MD
Photo: Ken Short
Date: July 2000
Neg loc: MD SHPO
Stair landing bet 2nd & attic
17/25

CARR-1644
William & Catherine Biggs Farm
8212 Sykes Bridge Rd
Carroll Co, MD
Photo: Ken Short
Date: July 2000
Neg loc: MD SHPO
Outbuilding - west & southeleus
18/25

CARR-1644
William & Catherine Biggs Farm
8212 Sykes Bridge Rd
Carroll Co, MD
Photo: Ken Short
Date: July 2000
[illegible]
Neg. loc: MD SHPO
Outbuilding - west elev.
19/25

CARR-1644
William & Catherine Biggs Farm
8212 Sixes Bridge Rd
Carroll Co, MD
Photo: Ken Short
Date: July 2000
[illegible]
Neg. loc: MD SHPO
Outbuilding - southroom, southeleV.
20/25

CARR-1644
William & Catherine Biggs Farm
8212 Sixes Bridge Rd
Carroll Co MD
Photo: Ken Short
Date: July 2000
Neg. loc: MD SHPO
Barn- east & northeleus
21/25

CARR-1644
William & Catherine Biggs Farm
8212 Sykes Bridge Rd
Carroll Co, MD
Photo: Ken Short
Date: July 2000
Neg loc: MD SHPO
Barn northeast
22/25

CARR-1644
William & Catherine Biggs Farm
8212 Sixes Bridge Rd
Carroll Co, MD
Photo: Ken Short
Date: July 2000
Neg loc: MD SHPO
Barn- west & south elevs

23/25

CARR-1644
William & Catherine Biggs Farm
8212 Sykes Bridge Rd
Carroll Co, MD
Photo: Ken Short
Date: July 2020
Neg. loc.: MD SHPO
Barn- upper story frame
24/25

CARR-1644
William & Catherine Biggs Farm
8212 Sykes Bridge Rd
Carroll Co, MD
Photo: Ken Short
Date: July 2000
Neg. loc: MD SHPO
New Barn- west & south elevs
25/25