

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION  
FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Rees, Morris III House

other name/site number: George McKown House; Springvale

2. Location

street & number: Route 24, Approx 0.2 Miles S. Of Route 51 not for publication: N/A

city/town: Gerrardstown vicinity: X

state: West Virginia-WV county: Berkeley code: 003 zip code: 25420

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic preservation Act, 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.)

*Susan M. Pierce*

*11/20/2002*

Signature of Certifying Official

Date

State or Federal Agency and Bureau

Date

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

Date

Rees, Morris III House

Berkeley

West Virginia-WV

Name of Property

County and State

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I, hereby certify that this property is:

*[Signature]*

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

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: Edward A. Beall]* *[Date: 1/5/03]*

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property:**

(Check as many boxes as apply)

**Category of property**

(Check only one box)

private

\_\_\_ public-local

\_\_\_ public-State

\_\_\_ public-Federal

building(s)

\_\_\_ district

\_\_\_ site

\_\_\_ structure

\_\_\_ object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing  
7 \_\_\_\_\_  
0 \_\_\_\_\_  
1 \_\_\_\_\_  
0 \_\_\_\_\_  
7 \_\_\_\_\_

Noncontributing  
0 \_\_\_\_\_ buildings  
0 \_\_\_\_\_ sites  
0 \_\_\_\_\_ structures  
0 \_\_\_\_\_ objects  
0 \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL

Name of related multiple property listing N/A

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

Number of contributing resources previously in the listed National Register N/A

Rees, Morris III House

Berkeley West Virginia-WV

Name of Property

County and State

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

Domestic: Single Dwelling (House),  
 Agriculture/Subsistence/Animal Fac. (Barn),  
 Domestic: Secondary Structure (Kitchen),  
 Domestic: Secondary Structure (Spring  
 House)

**Current Functions**

Domestic: Single Dwelling  
 Agriculture/Subsistence/Animal Fac.  
 Domestic: Secondary Structure  
 Vacant

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

Early Republic: Federal  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**

Foundation Stone  
 Walls Stone  
 Roof Slate  
 Other Wood

**Narrative Description**

(See continuation on 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 patterns of our history.

**B** Property is 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.

Rees, Morris III House

Berkeley West Virginia-WV

Name of Property

County and State

**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.

**Areas of Significance**

Architecture

Agriculture

**Period of Significance**

ca. 1805-1952

**Significant Dates**

ca. 1805-1952

**Significant Person**

(Complete if criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(See continuation sheets.)

Rees, Morris III House

Berkeley

West Virginia-WV

Name of Property

County and State

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliographical**

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

**Previous documentation on file (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

X Other

Name of Repository Berkeley County Historic Landmarks Commission

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of Property 33.09

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

Quad Map Name: Inwood

A 17 71055 438178  
Zone Easting Northing

B 17 751437 436035  
Zone Easting Northing

C 17 75136 436002  
Zone Easting Northing

D 17 751275 436005  
Zone Easting Northing

X see continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**  
(See continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**  
(See continuation sheet.)

Rees, Morris III House \_\_\_\_\_ Berkeley \_\_\_\_\_ West Virginia-WV \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Property \_\_\_\_\_ County and State \_\_\_\_\_

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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Name/Title: Geoffrey B. Henry and Jared N. Tuk, Architectural Historians \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: GAI Consultants, Inc. \_\_\_\_\_ Date: June 2002 \_\_\_\_\_

Street & Number: 570 Beatty Road \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: 412-856-6400 \_\_\_\_\_

City or Town: Monroeville \_\_\_\_\_ State: PA \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: 15146 \_\_\_\_\_

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**Property Owner**

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

Name: Mr. and Mrs. R. William Isherwood \_\_\_\_\_

Street & Number: Route 1, Box 133 \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: 304-229-8198 \_\_\_\_\_

City or Town: Gerrardstown \_\_\_\_\_ State: WV \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: 25420 \_\_\_\_\_

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## LOCATION AND SETTING

The Morris Rees III House (Springvale) is located on the west side of County Route 24, approximately one mile south-southeast of the community of Gerrardstown, in the Gerrardstown Magisterial District of southern Berkeley County, West Virginia. The house is situated in rolling terrain at the foot of the eastern slope of the North Mountain ridge, and gently rolling piedmont topography also surrounds the house on the north, east, and south. The Morris Rees III House property is bordered on the north by a farmstead with pastures, a scatter of mixed hardwood trees, and an apple orchard; on the east by a farmstead with fenced pastures; on the south by mixed hardwoods and a fenced pasture; and on the west by a fenced pasture, with mixed hardwoods and an apple orchard. A gravel and paved driveway leads from County Route 24 to the main house, terminating at a cul-de-sac to the west of the house. The immediate setting of the main house and outbuildings consists of a grass lawn, which is landscaped with mature trees and shrubbery. The grass lawn is surrounded by a split rail fence. A natural spring flows to the east from an area approximately 80 feet to the southeast of the house. The spring waters flow into a pond at the southeast corner of the property, and then into Mill Creek, east of County Route 24.

## CONTRIBUTING HISTORIC RESOURCES

The Morris Rees III House property contains seven contributing buildings: the main house, a frame tractor shed, a frame kitchen/living quarters, a frame stable, a barn, a stone spring house and a cinder block garage; and one contributing structure: a metal grain bin.

### Morris Rees House (ca. 1805)—Contributing Building

#### *Exterior Description*

The main house of the Morris Rees III House property is oriented to the east and is a 2-story, 3-bay-wide, gable-roofed stone house built in the Federal style. The house is built on a raised basement, and this foundation consists of cut limestone, shale, and sandstone laid in regular courses. The stone is squared and typically larger at the corners. There is a below-ground entrance to the cellar on the south elevation. The stone exterior of the house, like the foundation, is constructed of cut limestone, shale, and sandstone, laid in regular courses with quoins. The north and south elevations contain a higher percentage of sandstone and use queen closers at the corners. Another decorative use of stonework on the exterior includes the splayed jack arches over the window openings.

The side-gable roof is covered in slate tile and has gable-end cornice returns. There are two interior-end stone chimneys with corbeled caps on the north and south elevations.

The circa-1980 front porch is a replica of the original porch. It is a 1-story, 1-bay portico with a tympanum, supported by wood Tuscan columns with a plain wood balustrade. A series of steps leading to the porch also has a continuation of the plain wood balustrade, with newel posts topped by ball finials.

The principal entrance is on the east elevation, and consists of a central door, containing three panels with decorative beading along the bottom of the door; they are separated from the two top panels by a glass pane. A rectangular transom tops the entrance.

Symmetrically flanking the entrance on the first story are 9/6 double-hung sash windows. These windows have plain peg board trim, circa-1860s wood louvered shutters with metal shuttercocks, and are topped by splayed stone jack arches. On the basement story are, from the south end to the north end, a 4-light casement window, a 6/6 double-hung sash window, and a single-pane fixed sash window. The second-story windows have 6/6 double-hung sash with peg board trim and circa-1860s wood louvered shutters with metal shutter-cocks. The second-story windows abut the cornice line.

The north elevation contains no windows or other exterior decoration on the first two stories. There is a 4-pane, fixed-sash window and a louvered attic vent in the attic story.

The west elevation of the main house has a 2-story, 2-bay wide, shed-roofed frame hyphen, which connects the main house to the circa-1843, 1-story, 5-bay, gable-roofed brick kitchen (now a living space). The hyphen has a standing seam metal roof and is covered by vinyl siding. The windows in the hyphen have 6/6 double-hung sash on the second story and two shorter 6/6 double-hung sash and a 1-pane fixed sash on the first story.

Attached to the west end of this hyphen is the former kitchen. This section was built in two stages and has a brick cornice and header bond lintels on the north elevation. The foundation of this section is stone and brick, laid in regular courses. The windows have 6/6 double-hung sash. On the west elevation of the former kitchen is a porch and entrance door, which was built around a pre-existing door on the kitchen. The other exterior kitchen door now serves as an interior doorway between the kitchen and the hyphen.

The south elevation of the main house has a circa-1930s sunroom extending from the first story and located above the side cellar entrance. This 1-bay, hip-roofed room rests on tapered concrete posts, and is clad in vinyl siding. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The windows in this room have 9/6 double-hung sash. As with the north elevation, there is a 4-pane fixed sash window and a louvered vent in the attic story.

#### *Interior Description*

The Morris Rees III House interior consists of finished living space on the first and second floors, along with an unfinished cellar and an unfinished attic. The first and second floor plans of the main block feature a center-hall, single-pile plan, with a single room on either side of the center stair hall. The 2-story frame hyphen features two rooms on each floor, separated by an enclosed staircase. The 1-story brick kitchen contains two rooms, with an exterior entrance on the south end.

The central *Stair Hall* has a stair on the south and rises in two stages with a landing to the second floor. The open-string stair has a turned newel post and a mahogany rail. There are two slender turned balusters per tread, and each step features a foliated step-end design.

Acorn pendants decorate the corner posts. There are stairs to the cellar beneath the staircase. The floors of the stair hall are replacement hardwood. The hall also features molded baseboard trim, and a chair rail with circa-1840 Greek Revival trim underneath. The doorways in the stair hall have molded surrounds with bull's eye corner blocks.

The *Parlor* is located to the north of the center stair hall. The entrance to this room has a grained early 19<sup>th</sup>-century door. Circa-1840 Greek Revival molded surrounds are present throughout this room. The window openings have splayed paneled reveals. The main feature of this room is the Greek Revival mantelpiece located on the north wall, which is flanked by paired modified Tuscan columns. Other features of this mantelpiece include a fluted frieze, a molded shelf, a paneled and plastered front, and a brick hearth. Also in this room are modern crown molding and wooden bookshelves.

The *Dining Room* is located to the south of the stair hall. The entrance from the stair hall is decorated with the same door molding as found in the stair hall, and has a grained early 19<sup>th</sup>-century door. The chair rail in this room is composed of simple shelf molding. The window openings in this room have splayed reveals, but with no paneling. A door on the west wall of the room has a paneled reveal. The interior cellar door is on the north wall of this room, and this 6-panel door has a box lock with a brass handle. On the south wall of this room is the Federal-style mantelpiece, which has pilasters with decorative center strips, and reeded strips as part of the capitals. There is also a built-in cupboard on the south wall of this room. This cupboard is framed with a molding strip and has 2-panel upper doors and single-panel lower doors. A door on the west end of the south wall opens to a small sunroom/office, which has beaded wainscoting and an exterior door.

The second bedroom, which has a dividing wall, is on the south end of the second floor, and has a grained door as found elsewhere. The moldings and chair rail in this room are Federal style, and the splayed window reveals are paneled. The mantelpiece of this room is located on the south wall, and has fluted pilasters and a plain frieze, as well as a molded mantel shelf. The hearth has a plain molding strip. There are two built-in closets in this room. These have 6-panel doors.

Also within the main block of the second floor is a ca. 1970 *Bathroom*, which is located on the east end of the main block, at the top of the stairs. This room has a grained early-19th century door, but all other features are modern.

Located in the two-story frame rear hyphen are a *Bedroom* and a closet. The bedroom is located on the south end of the hyphen and has a hardwood floor, plain moldings and window and door surrounds, and a built-in closet with a vertical board door. On the north end of this ell is the closet, which is trimmed with the same moldings and surrounds as the bedroom. An enclosed stair to the first floor wraps to the east and north of the closet.

On the first floor of the two-story hyphen are ca. 1990 modern kitchen and breakfast nook. A doorway on the west wall of the kitchen leads to the 1-story brick former kitchen to the west.

The 1-story brick former kitchen contains two rooms. The first room when entering from the main house block is a sitting room, which has a hardwood floor and is decorated with modern trim and moldings. There are windows on the north and south walls of the room, and an entrance door is in the southwest corner of the room. There is an undecorated brick-hearth fireplace on the west wall of this room. The fireplace is flanked by door openings into the family room. The family room, which is a modern addition to the former kitchen, is also decorated with modern moldings and trim, and has windows on the north, west, and south walls. A modern entrance door to this room has been built on the north wall.

The unfinished cellar of the main house is broken into two sections by the stairs leading from the dining room above. The north half of the cellar is open and is currently used for storage. The stone walls are unbroken on the north and west sides of the room, and three windows are placed on the east wall, along the entire length of the cellar. A stone-hearth cooking fireplace on the south wall highlights the south half of the cellar. This fireplace has a large wood beam serving as a mantel shelf and various cooking implements around the hearth. Also on the south wall is a wood door leading to the outside of the house. This wood door has a 6-pane fixed sash window.

The attic level of the house is unfinished, and is currently used as storage space. The pegged rafters in the attic bear Roman numerals, used to place them in order when the house was constructed. There are 4-pane fixed sash windows and louvered vents on the north and south walls of the attic story.

### CONTRIBUTING OUTBUILDINGS (7)

The seven contributing outbuildings consist of a barn, a stable, a tractor shed, a kitchen/living quarters, a stone spring house, a metal grain bin, and a garage.

**Barn (ca. 1890)—Contributing Building** This two-story bank barn dates from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, and is located approximately 200 feet to the northwest of the house, oriented west. It has a stone foundation laid in regular courses, and is sided with vertical board siding, with a corrugated metal roof. The basement level is open on much of the east elevation. There is a shed-roofed wing on the west elevation of the building. The barn was historically used as an apple-processing facility.

#### **Stable (ca. 1900)—Contributing Building**

This gable-roofed stable is located approximately 150 feet to the north-northwest of the main house. It dates from the late 19<sup>th</sup>-early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The standing seam metal roof has exposed rafter tails. The building has vertical board siding, and has a semi-enclosed shed-roofed porch with a corrugated metal roof.

#### **Tractor Shed (ca. 1900)—Contributing Building**

Located approximately 50 feet to the west of the main house is this ca.-1900s, 1.5-story, 3-bay, gable-roofed tractor shed. The roof, which is clad in corrugated metal, has two planes on each side. Of the three bays, one is open and two have vertical board doors with board trim. The building is clad in a mixture of vertical and horizontal wood siding.

**Kitchen/Living Quarters (ca. 1850)—Contributing Building** This building, which appears to have served as a summer kitchen and/or living quarters, dates from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, and is a 1-story, 2-bay, gable-roofed building with one main room and a separate secondary room. There are two doors on this building. The first is made of narrow beaded board and has a porcelain handle, and the second is board and batten with strap hinges. The windows in this building have 6/6 double-hung sash with modern shutters.

#### **Spring House (ca. 1805)—Contributing Building**

Approximately 80 feet to the southeast of the main house is a stone spring house which dates from ca. 1805, the same period as the main house. This building is constructed of the same native stone as the main house, and has a gable roof with exposed rafter tails. There is a door on the first

story and a second door in the basement level. Both doors are board and batten with strap hinges. There are 6-pane fixed sash windows on the east and west elevations of this building. The spring flows from the southeast corner of this building to a pond on the property, then on to Mill Creek.

**Grain Bin (ca. 1809)—Contributing Building**

Between the main house and the barn stands a cylindrical metal grain bin with a standing seam metal yurt-style roof. The foundation of this circa-1909 building is stone faced.

**Garage (ca. 1950)—Contributing Building** Located between the tractor shed and the outbuilding/kitchen to the southwest of the main house is a 1-story, 3-bay, gable-roofed, concrete block garage which dates from circa 1950.

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Springvale (Morris Rees III-George McKown House) is significant under Criterion C on the local level in the area of Architecture, with the main house on the property embodying the distinctive characteristics of Federal-style, domestic architecture in Berkeley County. The period of significance is ca. 1805 to 1952. Salient features of the Federal style on the exterior of this house include the symmetrical façade, stone jack arches, the graduated window heights, and the raised basement. The interior displays a wealth of high-style Federal woodwork, including the window and door surrounds, the central staircase, and several fireplace mantels. A portion of the interior was remodeled in the Greek Revival Style by owner George McKown in the 1840s. The only major alteration was to the formerly detached brick kitchen, built circa 1843, which has been joined to the main house. Otherwise, Springvale retains a high level of architectural integrity.

Springvale is also significant under Criterion A on the local level in the area of Agriculture for its small but intact collection of late nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century agricultural outbuildings. These buildings are associated with the farm's history of both grain production and apple growing. The buildings include a rare late 19<sup>th</sup> century apple processing barn, a ca. 1909 metal corncrib, two frame sheds, a frame worker's house, and a garage. The period of significance is ca. 1805 to 1952.

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Springvale property is part of a 1,315-acre land grant received by John Mills, Sr. of Prince George's County, Maryland on 12 November 1735. Mills, a Quaker, was part of the wave of Quaker settlers who came from Pennsylvania and Maryland and settled in what was then part of Orange (now Berkeley) County, Virginia in the 1730-1760 period. John Mills divided his land in 1743, giving a 207-acre portion to son Henry Mills (Frederick County Deed Book 2, page 43).

In 1753, Henry Mills sold the property to Morris Rees, Jr. of Chester County PA, also a Quaker. He in turn sold it to his son, Morris Rees III at an unknown date. It is believed that the son built the present stone house ca. 1805. A special property tax assessment done in Berkeley County, Virginia in 1789 listed Morris Rees III as owning a house valued at \$435.00. This was not enough valuation for a large stone dwelling such as this. However, tax records in 1815 list Morris Rees III with a house valued at \$1,000, indicating the stone house was standing by that date. The mid-point date, ca. 1805, was chosen as the probable construction date for the house.

The Morris Rees III house is an excellent example of Federal-style domestic architecture in Berkeley County. On the exterior, the stone house features a symmetrical façade with a side gable roof and gable-end chimneys. The windows are graduated in size from the first to second stories, and the first-story windows have cut-stone jack arches. Although not original, the front porch is a reproduction of the porch depicted in historic photographs of the house. The raised basement, with the kitchen located nearly at ground level, is an unusual feature of this house. Numerous architectural surveys of Berkeley County have recorded no other stone houses with this type of construction, and it may reflect the Pennsylvania heritage of its builder. The large cooking fireplace is original and is a distinctive feature of this house. The nearby spring house, although a vernacular outbuilding, displays the same high quality stonework.

The Morris Rees III House interior is notable for its exceptionally well-preserved, high-style Federal woodwork. The central stair rises in two levels and features a molded handrail, slender turned balusters, and foliated step ends. Mantelpieces feature reeded pilasters and a molded shelf. In the dining room there are rare built-in cupboards. The windows have splayed window reveals.

When Morris Rees III died childless in 1817, a division of his land was made. The stone house and 227 acres were bought by Edward Bond the following year (Deed Book 30, page 171). He sold the property to Samuel McKown in 1821 for \$6,871 (Deed Book 32, page 76). McKown, who did not reside in the house, also owned several nearby properties, including the adjacent National Register-listed Marshy Dell property/. He left the 179-acre Springvale farm to his son George McKown in 1838. He also gave his son one adult male slave and three boys.

George McKown may have been responsible for the interior remodeling which, based on stylistic features, appears to date from the 1840s. The woodwork in the parlor, including the mantel and the window reveals, is crisply carved and boldly articulated in the Greek Revival style, which was popular in Berkeley County by the 1840s. This woodwork differs from the obviously earlier, Federal-style woodwork at other locations in the house. The door surrounds have distinctive Greek Revival-style fluting and bull's eye corner blocks. The grained wood doors also appear to date from this period.

Land tax records list George McKown as owning 179 acres with improvements valued at \$1,500. In 1843, the tax records list the value of improvements at \$1,600, along with a note calling attention to a side improvement. This may be for the one-story brick kitchen located a few feet away from the rear of the house. This kitchen was joined to the main house at an unknown date in the twentieth century (perhaps around the same time as the sunroom addition). The house is shown on the 1847 *Map of Berkeley County, Virginia* by John P. Kearfott.

Further information about the McKown homestead is derived from Population and Agricultural Census schedules between 1850 and 1870. In 1850, the Population Schedules for Berkeley County, Virginia list George McKown (52), occupation-farmer, living with wife Catherine (42), son Samuel (22), daughter Ann (10), and son Benjamin (7) on their farm. The value of real estate owned was \$20,625 (US Census Population Schedules, Berkeley County, Virginia 1850).

In the 1850 Agricultural Census, George McKown was listed as owning 175 improved and 75 unimproved acres, with a cash value of \$11,000 (US Census of Agriculture, Berkeley County, Virginia 1850). His livestock included seven horses, 10 cows, and 22 pigs at a value of \$767. In 1850, McKown's farm produced 800 bushels of wheat, 500 bushels of Indian corn, 150 pounds of wool, and 700 pounds of butter, along with 70 tons of hay.

By 1860, the McKown household was reduced to George and Catherine and a child Mary (9) of unknown relation. His real estate was valued at \$28,000 (US Census Population Schedules, Berkeley County, Virginia 1860). According to the 1860 Agricultural Census, McKown owned 200 acres of improved and 200 acres of unimproved real estate, valued at \$8,000 (US Census of Agriculture, Berkeley County, Virginia 1860). He owned 4 horses, 20 pigs, and 12 cows for a total value of \$340. The farm produced 400 bushels of wheat, 400 bushels of corn, 100 bushels of oats, 50 bushels of potatoes, 200 pounds of butter, and 30 tons of hay. In neither the 1850 nor 1860 Agricultural production Schedule is there any mention of orchards, indicating that McKown's farm produced primarily cereal crops.

According to the 1870 Population Schedules, McKown lived with his wife Catherine and employed Mathilda Chronesteo (35) as a domestic servant and William Simms (17) as a farm laborer (US Census Population Schedules, Berkeley County, West Virginia 1870). By then, his real property was valued at \$38,400 and personal property at \$1,200.

It is not known when farm operations at Springvale (the name first appears in a deed from 1891) first began to include growing apples. The lower Shenandoah Valley of West Virginia and Virginia became prime apple- and peach-growing regions after the Civil War and many formerly wheat-producing farms switched to orcharding during the late nineteenth century. Unfortunately, McKown's farm is not listed in the 1870 Agricultural census. If it had been, perhaps the census would indicate whether McKown or other nearby farmers had ventured into apple orcharding, which would emerge by the late nineteenth century as one of the dominant crops in Berkeley County. The development of refrigerated railroad cars in the 1870s and the easy proximity of Berkeley County farms to the B&O Railroad were strong incentives for the development of fruit crops in the Valley of Virginia and the West Virginia panhandle.

The agricultural buildings on the McKown property are associated with the continuous farming activities carried out between ca. 1805 and the 1960s. The intact apple processing building on the McKown property dates from the late nineteenth century and is associated with this important transformation in the history of agriculture in Berkeley County. It was operational into the 1960s. The metal corncrib on the property, dating from 1909, indicates the continuing corn and wheat production played in the history of the farm during this period. A mid-nineteenth-century frame domestic building, probably for a farm laborer, stands to the rear of the main house and is visible in a late nineteenth-century photograph of the main house.

George McKown died on 19 September 1880 and the farm was devised to his granddaughters Mary Anne McKown and Lucy McKown. In 1882, Lucy McKown sold her interest to Mary McKown Miller (Deed Book 81, page 67). Mary Miller died in 1891 and the farm descended to her husband David "Goldie" Miller. The house is shown on the 1894 *Kearfott Map of Berkeley County, West Virginia* under the ownership of D. Miller.

The farm remained in the Miller family until it was sold to its current owner, Raymond William Isherwood, in 1967 (Deed Book 234, page 616). By then, the farm had been reduced to 33.09 acres.

REFERENCES

Berkeley County Historic Landmarks Commission, "Springvale-George McKown House." National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form." 1978.

Berkeley County, WV Deed Records

Berkeley County, WV Land Tax Records

Berkeley County, WV Will Records

EHT Traceries. "Springvale." Historic Property Inventory Form. 20 October 1998.

Frederick County, VA Deed Records

Kearfott, John P. *Map of Berkeley County Virginia*. 1847.

Kearfott, John P. *Map of Berkeley County West Virginia*. 1894.

US Census Bureau. Population Schedules for Berkeley County VA 1850, 1860

US Census Bureau, Population Schedules for Berkeley County WV 1870, 1880

US Census Bureau, Census of Agricultural Production, Berkeley County 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880

Wood, Don C. "The John McKown Family of Berkeley County VA (WV)." No date.

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The nominated boundaries of the Morris Rees III House (Springvale) property are shown on Berkeley County tax map, Gerrardstown District, Parcel 43 and include 33.09 acres.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The nominated boundaries for the Morris Rees III House (Springvale) property are drawn to include the historic approach from the road, the farm pond and spring, and the contributing historic resources of the farm. These resources include the main dwelling house and the contributing agricultural and service outbuildings.

**UTM REFERENCES (CONTINUED)**

<b>E</b>	17	751222	4359944
<b>F</b>	17	750932	4360038

United States Department of the Interior-National Park Service  
**National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**  
**Section Photo Page 1**

**Rees Morris III House**  
**Berkeley County, West Virginia**

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Name of Property: Morris Rees III House  
Address: CR 24, approx. .2 miles south of CR 51  
Town: Gerrardstown, WV  
County: Berkeley County

Photographer: Geoffrey B. Henry, GAI Consultants, Inc.

Date: 2 October 2001

Negatives: WV SHPO, Charleston, WV

Photo 1: View of East Elevation of Main House, Camera Facing West

Photo 2: View of North and West Elevations Showing Hyphen and Ell, Camera Facing Southeast

Photo 3: View of South Elevation, Camera Facing North

Photo 4: View of Grain Bin and Barn, Camera Facing Northwest

Photo 5: View of Barn, Camera Facing Northeast

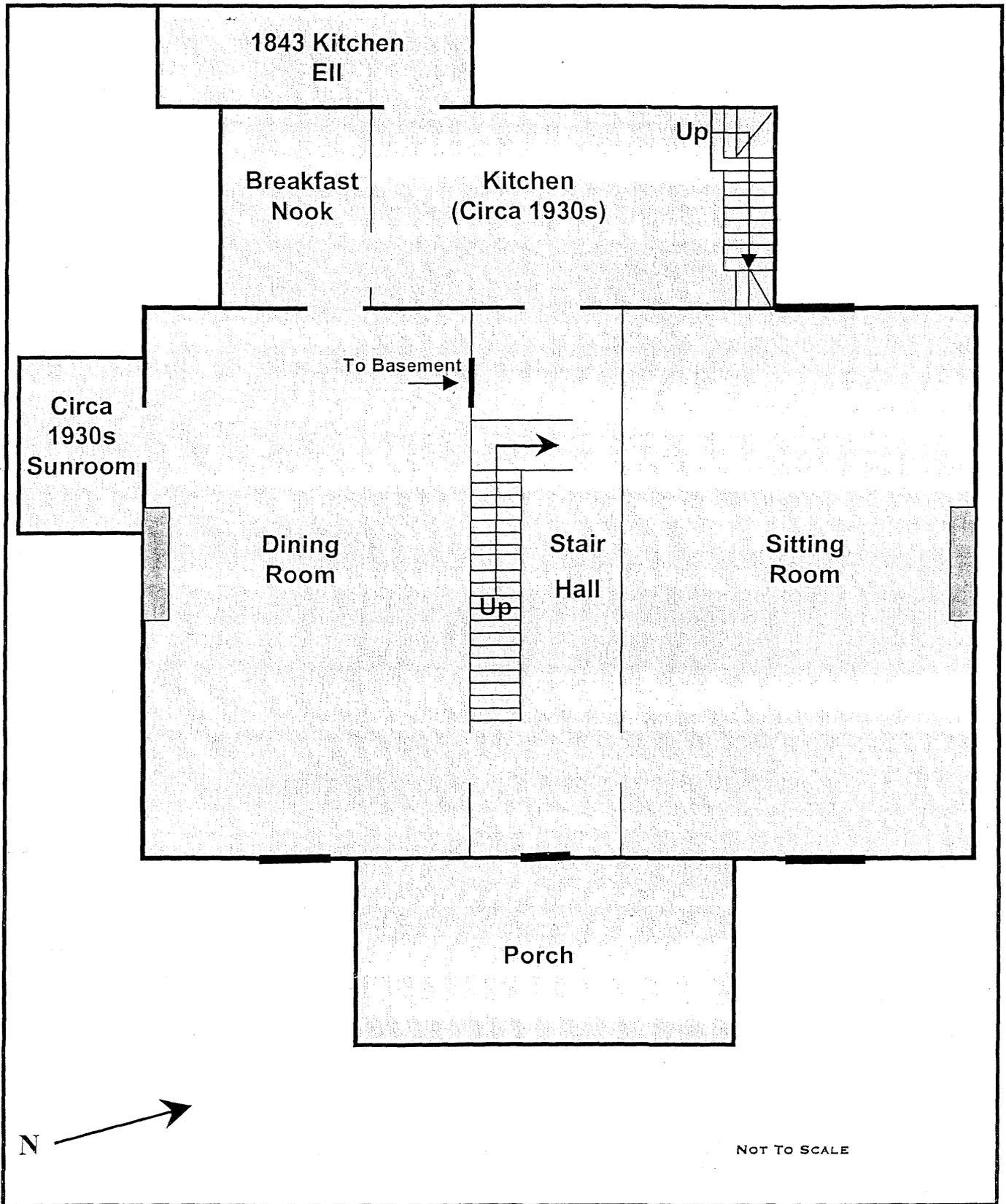
Photo 6: View of Stone Spring House, Camera Facing Southeast

Photo 7: View of Mantelpiece in Master Bedroom, Camera Facing North

Photo 8: View of Panel Door and Molding in Dining Room, Camera Facing North

Photo 9: View of Original Cooking Fireplace in Basement, Camera Facing South

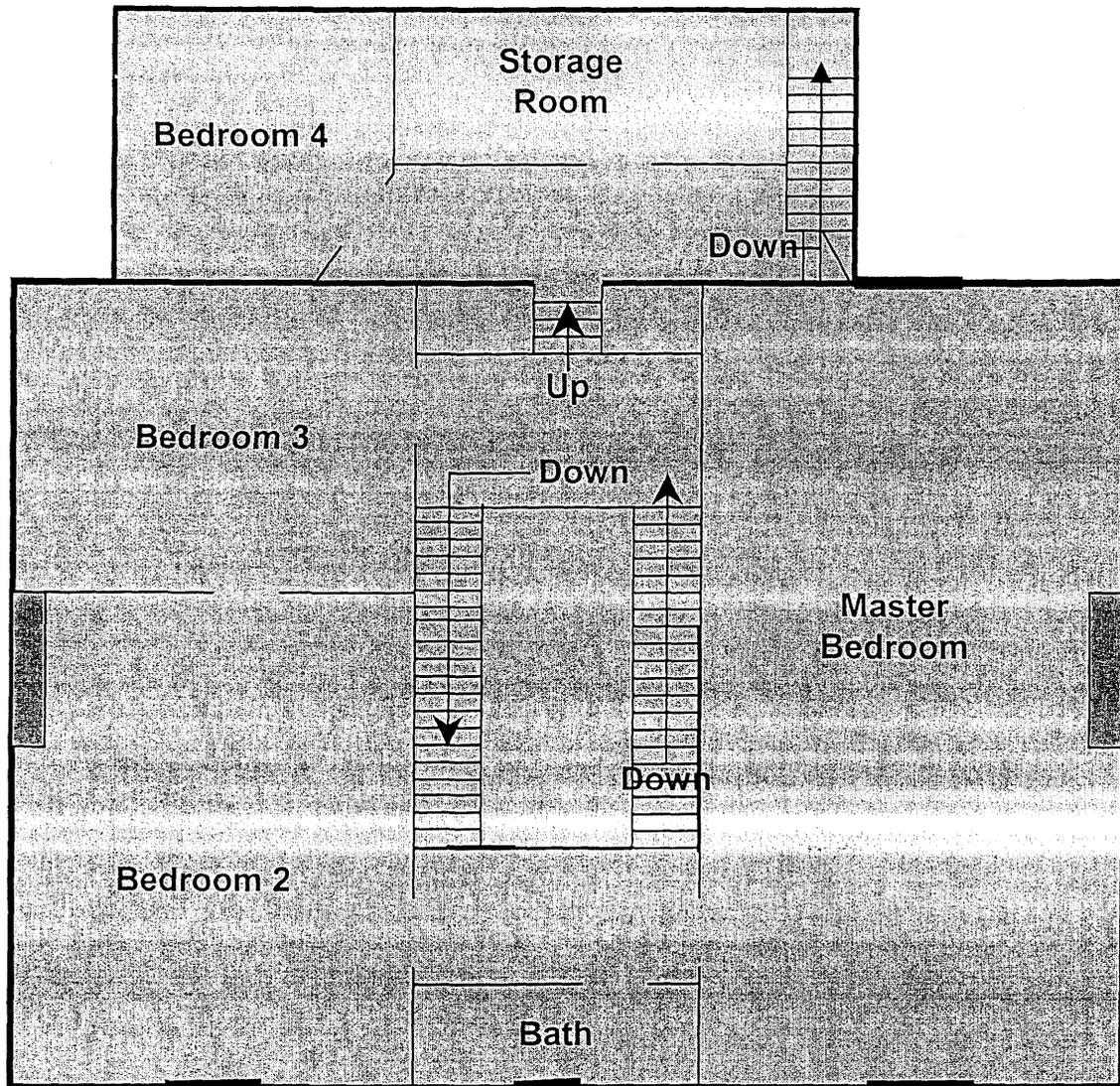
Photo 10: View of Dining Room Mantelpiece, Camera Facing South



**FIGURE**

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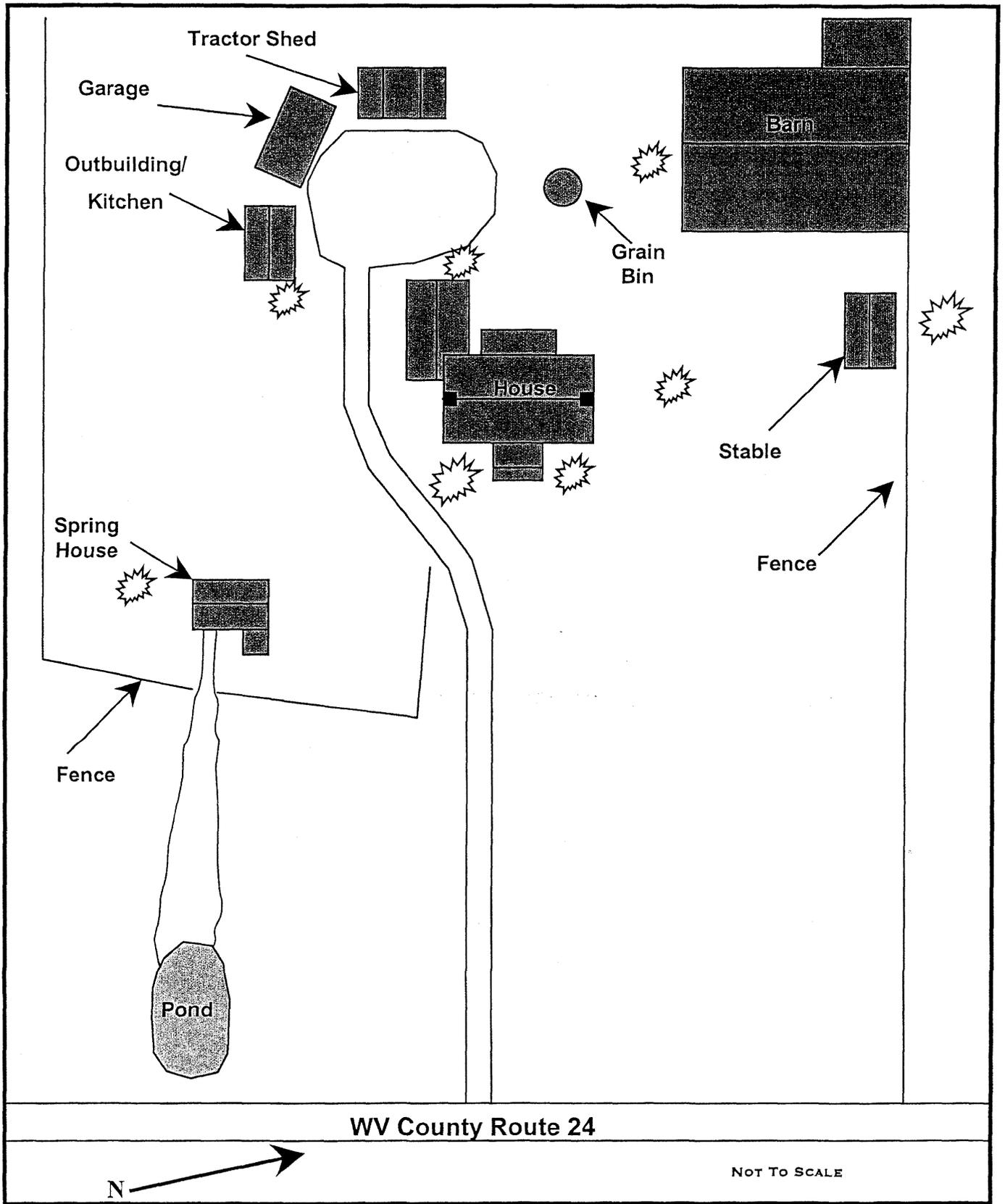
**1ST FLOOR PLAN, MORRIS REES III HOUSE,  
GERRARDSTOWN VICINITY, BERKELEY  
COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA**



NOT TO SCALE

**FIGURE**

**2ND FLOOR PLAN, MORRIS REES III  
HOUSE, GERRARDSTOWN VICINITY,  
BERKELEY COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA**



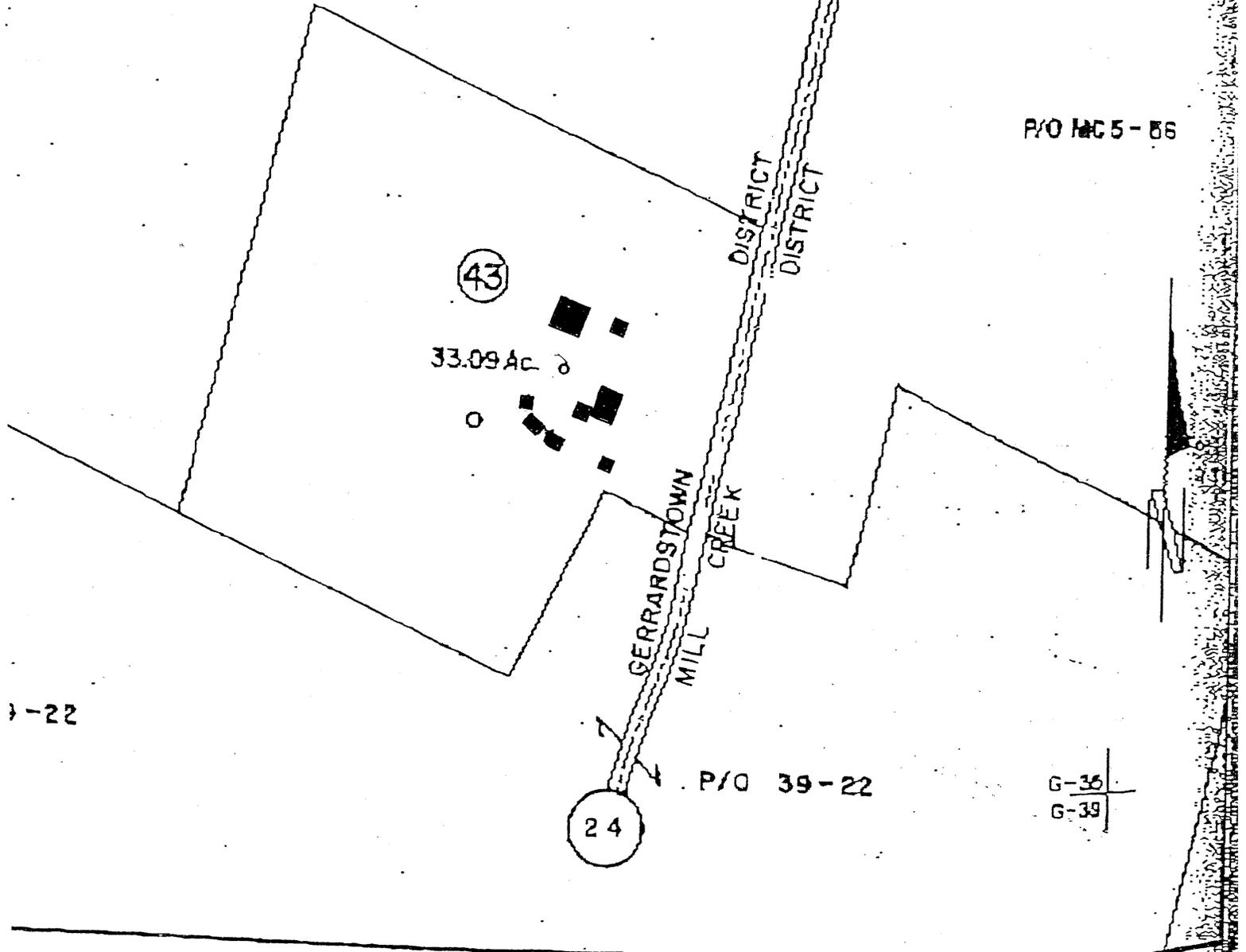
**FIGURE**

**SKETCH PLAN, MORRIS REES III HOUSE,  
GERRARDSTOWN VICINITY, BERKELEY  
COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA**

MORRIS REES III HOUSE  
BERKELEY COUNTY, WV

P/O 34.6

P/O MC5-86



F BERKELEY  
IRGINIA  
Assessor

G 35

Date, Aerial Photography, April, 1958

Date, Map Made

Scale 1" = 400'

Scale 1" = 400'