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CARR-824

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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date entered AUG 1 0 1987

SEP 1 0 1987

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms* Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Nam	e						
historic	Arter, So	lomon, House	(preferr	ed)			
and or common	Arter-Dav	idson House					
2. Loca	ation						
street & number	4029 Geet	ing Road			N/	Anot for public	cation
city, town	Union Mil	1s <u>X</u> vic	inity of S	ixth Congres	ssional D	istrict	
state	Maryland	code 24	county	Carrol1		code	013
3. Clas	sification					<u> </u>	
Category district X building(s) structure site object	Ownership publicX private both Public Acquisition in process being consider _X not applica	Accessible X yes: reset	ipied progress stricted	Present Us X agriculti commer educatio entertaii governn industrii	ure cial onal nment nent	museum park X private re religious scientific transport	:
name	er of Prop	s. Amos G. Dav	idson				
street & number	4029 Geeti		145011			41-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-	
city, town	Westminste		inity of		state	Maryland	21157
	tion of Le	egal Desc	riptio	n			
courthouse, regis	stry of deeds, etc.	Carroll Coun	ty Courth	ouse Annex			
street & number		55 North Cou	rt Street				
city, town		Westminster			state	Maryland	21157
6. Repr	esentatio	n in Exis	ting \$	urveys			
	nd Historical T ic Sites Invent		has this prop	perty been deter	mined eligi	ble? yes	X no
date 1987			***	federal	_X_ state	county	local
depository for su	rvey records	Maryland His	torical T	rust			
city, town		Annapolis	,		state	Maryland	21401

7. Description

Condition excellent _X_ good fair	deteriorated ruins unexposed	Check one unaltered X altered	Check one _X original site moved date _	N/A
Describe the p	resent and origina	l (if known) phys	sical appearance	
Number of	Pagauraga		Number of mucuio	walm 1datal National

Number of Reso	urces	Number of previously listed National
Contributing	Noncontributing	Register properties included in this
33	0 buildings	nomination: 0
0	0 sites	
1	0 structures	Original and historic functions and
0	O objects	uses: agricultural, residential
4	0_Total	

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

The c. 1810 Solomon Arter House is representative of Pennsylvania German domestic architecture in Carroll County, and is significant for preservation of its interior stenciling. The house is a two-story, three-bay structure of log construction. It has a gable roof, and originally had The main facade faces south and has a interior brick chimneys at each end. central entrance, and was altered in the late 19th century with the construction of a full-length porch and a projecting one-bay pantry. interior consists of a central hall plan and originally had four rooms (two to each side) on both stories. On the second story, the northeast bedroom contains several sections of original stencil decoration which runs from floor to ceiling and consists of two large motifs. Stenciling in the second story hall and at the cornice level of the southeast bedroom is also seen at selected spots. During a January 1985 remodeling, stenciled designs were also revealed at the cornice level (but which apparently ran from floor to ceiling originally) in the two rooms on the west side of the first story. The history of the property also reflects the early 18th century culture of the Pennsylvania Germans in this area. At one time, there was a small log mill, a blacksmith shop and numerous agricultural outbuildings. Today, the 1872 bank barn, hoppen, and 1883 frame Victorian tenant house (which also has a pantry projection like the main house) remain on the site.

United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	7	Page	1	Arter,	Solomon,	House	
				Carro1	1 County,	Maryland	

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The Solomon Arter house is located on the east side of Geeting Road, approximately .1 mile north of Deep Run Road in northern Carroll County, Maryland. During the summer of 1985, the road in this area was changed, but the original road passed along the lane that runs between the bank barn and the main house. The house and barn are on the east side of Deep Run, a stream that runs into the Big Pipe Creek at Union Mills. The farm was part of a tiny village known as Deep Run, as identified on U.S.G.S. Topographical Maps. The house is constructed into a slope in the Pennsylvania German bank house tradition, in this case with the west gable end having a ground level entrance into the basement. The main facade of the house faces south.

The c. 1810 Solomon Arter house is a two-story, three-bay by two-bay structure of log construction. It rests on a field stone foundation that is built into a partially-excavated slope with the western part of the foundation exposed at ground level. The logs are presently covered with German siding, but were originally covered with mill-sawn weatherboard. The German siding is part of a late 19th century remodeling that also included the construction of a full-length, one-story porch on the main facade. The portion of the main facade covered by the porch roof contains the original wood siding of the main facade still in place, which can be viewed by removing boards in the porch ceiling. This area reveals the original siding (14-16 inches wide) and also shows that a one-by gable roofed porch existed over the main entrance at one time. The house has a gable roof with a boxed cornice that returns at the corners. Originally, brick interior chimney stacks rose at the peak of the roof at each gable end.

The main (south) facade is three bays wide with a central entrance. All but one of the windows on the first story throughout the house are nine-over-six, and most of the second story windows retain original six-over-six (some of the second story windows were replaced with 2/2 sash in the late 19th century). The windows on the second story of the main facade and on each story around the house have a flat pointed-arch cornice. All of the windows have louvered The central entrance has a four-pane transom, a six-paneled door, and its original box lock. The box lock is constructed so that the exterior handle can be unscrewed as a means of locking the front door. length, one-story front porch with shed roof was constructed in the late 19th It was supported by tapered posts and has a square bannister railing. The easternmost bay of the first story was apparently altered at the These alterations include shifting one story window to an same time. asymmetrical position, the insertion of a second doorway that leads directly to the southeast room, and the addition of a narrow pantry that projects out under the front porch roof.

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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

			Arter,	Solomon,	House	
Section number	 Page _	2	Carrol1	L County,	Maryland	

The basement is exposed at ground level on the west elevation. The basement is constructed of rough-coursed fieldstone with a bevelled joint. southernmost bay contains a wide entrance and the northernmost bay contains a six-over-three sash window. Small four-pane windows are also located on the north and south elevations of the western portion of the foundation level. Also, the sloping ground is cut out underneath the porch on the south elevation to provide a sheltered working area. The west elevation has two nine-over-six windows on the first story, two six-over-six windows on the second story, and two square four-pane windows in the gable. The east gable end has an identical pattern of fenestration.

The north elevation has a central entrance with a one-bay, one-story entrance porch with a gable roof. The westernmost window on the first story retains its nine-over-six sash while the easternmost window contains two-over-two sash. The central window on the second story is offset at a lower level to light the staircase. All three second story windows contain six-over-six sash.

The interior plan of the house originally consisted of a central stair hall with two rooms on each side. This plan was popular in the Pennsylvania German region during the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The central stairhall is a through-passage with doorways on the south and north walls. The stairs are located on the west wall and lead to a landing with several stairs on the east wall leading up to the second story. On both sides of the stairhall, there were originally two rooms, with the northern rooms being of slightly smaller dimensions than the southern rooms. The fireplace in each side was located in the southern room. The north room on the west side contained a back staircase. Both sides have been remodeled with the removal of the partitions, however the back stair in the western side has been retained. On the eastern side, a modern kitchen has been constructed in the apparent location of the original kitchen. On the south wall, the fenestration was altered in the late 19th century to provide for a narrow pantry, a doorway leading to the front porch, and repositioning of the window. The second story has an identical four-room plan which retains its original partitions. front of the stairhall, however, has been altered with the insertion of a The attic is unfinished and reveals a common rafter roof framing system. The basement apparently has been altered several times but appears to have originally consisted of a cellar area in the eastern portion and a summer kitchen in the western portion.

The major significance of the Solomon Arter house is derived from the preservation of evidence of the original interior finishes of the house. This evidence indicates that the stairhall and all of the rooms, except for the northwest room on the second story, contained ceiling-to-floor stenciling as

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

				Arter, S	olomon,	House
Section number	7	Page _	3	Carrol1	County,	Maryland

interior finishes. The preservation of this evidence at the Solomon Arter house is the best among known examples of early 19th century Pennsylvania German stenciling designs in the region, according to officials of the Pennsylvania German Society.

The walls of the northeast bedroom retain two sections of original stenciling. One section runs floor-to-ceiling and the other runs part of the way up the wall before it is painted over. The stenciling pattern of both sections is identical consisting of two large motifs, a red tulip rising from a heart and a green abstract leaf. The motifs run alternately in both a horizontal and vertical pattern. The heart and tulip motif was a popular design in Pennsylvania German decorative arts. It is possibly a reference to scripture (Matthew 7:17, 18: Matthew 12:3-25; and Luke 6:43-45) where it is stated that from the heart rose good deeds, and the tulip frequently represents good things or good fruit in the Pennsylvania German culture. This section of stenciling was revealed by the current owners in the late 1940s, when they removed a layer of wallpaper. They left these panels exposed, and while the light has probably faded the colors to some extent, the stencils and their colors are still quite vivid. The red color is deep and the green on one wall is dark, while on the other wall it is a blue-green.

While the other rooms do not contain examples that are as well-preserved evidence of the stenciling patterns remains. In the second story hallway, the stenciling is very faint but consisted of a blue six-point floral motif separated by a yellow pattern. In the southeast bedroom, only a portion of the cornice of the stencil can be viewed by lifting floor boards in the attic. This pattern consisted of a green flower with three green leaves above a blue swirling pattern. In the southwest bedroom, there is no known surviving evidence for stenciling, although there probably was stenciling here originally. The northwest room, which contains the back stair, appears to have always served as a utility or storage room and retains its original whitewash surface without stenciling.

On the first story, the west interior walls were exposed during a remodeling in January 1985. With the ceiling and wall plaster dating from the early 20th century removed, the location of the former partition between the two rooms became evident. Further, the ceiling joists and underside of the second story floor boards were found to have been painted a pink color in the southwest Apparently, the ceilings were room and whitewashed in the northwest room. covered with lath and plaster in the mid 19th century and in the early 20th century the walls of both rooms were completely replastered. When this new plaster was removed during the 1985 remodeling, the only original plaster that was found was a 7 to 8 inch strip at the cornice level, which had been concealed by the earlier plastering job. This preserved strip revealed two different stencil patterns, both consisting of floral motifs. southwest room, the pattern had two different designs. It begins in the southeast corner of the room with a green maple leaf pattern above blue swirls, but becomes more abstract along that wall changing to a leaf pattern

United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	number	7	Page	4
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with three petals (instead of maple leaf five petals). The colors are quitebright in this room and the way the pattern is interrupted makes it appear that it continued in some manner from floor to ceiling. In the first story stairhall, evidence suggests that the blue floral and yellow pattern from the upstairs would have continued. There is no current evidence of stenciling in the rooms on the east side of the stairhall.

The farm complex of the Solomon Arter house comprised numerous buildings typical of a prosperous Pennsylvania German agricultural center. According to the present owners, a complex of buildings on the west side of the lane (originally Geeting Road), included a small mill, blacksmith shop (which oral tradition says was the original house), wood shed, corncrib and shed, brooder house, and chicken house, located between Deep Run and the road. These structures were all located north of the existing hog pen and bank barn. On the east side of the road was a smokehouse. (As no readily discernible evidence of the outbuildings remain, their sites could not be located precisely without archeological investigation and thus were not counted as contributing to the significance of the resource.)

Also on the east side of the road is a small frame house constructed in 1883 as a retirement house for Solomon Arter, Jr., who was by then planning to turn over the operation of the farm to his son, Enan. This house is interesting in the way it incorporates Victorian design features while reflecting the conservative nature of this region. The house is constructed into a sharp slope with the main facade facing west. The slope is located on the east side so that the entire first story of the east side is covered by the ground. The north gable end is constructed of brick and contains an interior-end brick fireplace. The west, south and east facades are constructed of frame covered in German siding. This structure is built on a stone foundation. two-stories, two-bays by one-bay in size with a gable roof. The main facade has a full-length, one-story porch with a shed roof and a projecting pantry, similar to the one added to the main house, at its southwest corner. interior of the structure consists of a one-room plan with a corner stair beside the fireplace. On the south facade is a one-story, three-sided, projecting bay window.

The frame bank barn was constructed in 1872. It is a large structure constructed in the regional style with a stone foundation built into a slope so that the east side has ground level entrance to the threshing floor. The west side has a projecting forebay with doors leading into the stalls. The foundation is constructed of uncoursed fieldstone. The frame section is covered in vertical boards and has louvered openings in two rows (four in each row on the gable ends). In the gables are a pattern of round-arched central-louvered windows flanked on each side by a square louvered window. The west facade forebay section has a row of six louvered windows on the

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

	_		Arter, Solomon,	House
Section number _		Page	Carroll County,	Maryland

second level and four (in the outer two bays on each side) on the first level with the center bay containing two four-over-two sash windows in a central doorway of double doors. The east elevation (bank side) contains two large double doors in the center of the elevation, four louvered openings on the top level and two four-over-two sash windows on the first level on the northern side of the elevation. A man-door within the large wagon doors contains Pennsylvania German style hardware with a strap hinge that is connected to a double-flange patterned pintle.

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance—Carcheology-prehistoricX agricultureX architectureX artcommercecommunications	community planning conservation	landscape architectur law literature military music philosophy politics/government	e religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	c.1810;1872;1883	Builder/Architect unk	nown	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Applicable Criteria: A, C Applicable Exceptions: none Significance Evaluated: state

SUMMARY:

The Solomon Arter House provides a unique perspective on the interior finishes of Pennsylvania German architecture through the preserved examples of stenciling found in its rooms. The structure is representative of Pennsylvania German farmhouse dating from the early 19th century in the northern section of Carroll County. While the characteristics of the house are typical of a middle-class farmstead in this region, the preserved evidence of the stencil decoration which uses folk motifs and appears throughout the house, provides many insights into Pennsylvania German finishes. The house was built by Solomon Arter, a member of the Arter family that was prominent in the Pennsylvania German culture of this region. The house and farm complex as they stand today show the growth and evolution of a Pennsylvania German farmstead through the 19th century.

9. Major Bibliographical References

CARR-824

Land Records of Carroll County and Frederick County, Maryland

The Arter/Arthur Family of Fountain Valley

GPO 911-399

10. Geo	graphical Data			
Acreage of nomina	ted property approximately	10 acres		
Quadrangle name	Manchester, MD-PA		Quadrangle scale $\underline{1}$: 24000
UTM References				
A 1 8 3 2 9 Zone Easting	4 16 10 4 13 9 14 6 13 10 Northing	B 1 8 Zone	3 2 19 3 16 10 4 13 9 14 Easting Northing	51310
c 1 ₁ 8 32 ₁ 9	1,2,0 4,3 9,4 6,0,0	D 1 8	3 2 9 2 0 0 4 3 9 4	7 14 10
ELL LL		F L		
G		н 🔃		لبيا
Verbal boundary	description and justification)		
See Continu	ation Sheet No. 10.1			
List all states an	d counties for properties over	erlapping state or c	ounty boundaries	
state N/A	code	county	code	
state	code	county	code	
11. Forn	n Prepared By			
name/title	Joe Getty			
organization	Carroll County Dept.	of Planning d	ate May 1987	
street & number	225 North Center Stre	eet t e	elephone (301) 848–4500)
city or town	Westminster	S	tate Maryland	
12. Stat	e Historic Pres	servation	Officer Certific	cation
The evaluated signi	ficance of this property within th	e state is:		
	national X state	local		
665), I hereby nomi	State Historic Preservation Office nate this property for inclusion in iteria and procedures set forth by	n the National Register	and certify that it has been eval	ublic Law 89– luated
State Historic Prese	ervation Officer signature	With	8-4-87	
title	STATE HISTORIC PRESER	VATION OFFICER	date	
For NPS use on				
I hereby certif	fy that this property is included in	n the National Register Entered 111		
	lores Byen	National Regis	iter date 9-10	-87
Keeper of the N	ational Register			
Attest:			date	
Chief of Registr	ation			

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

_	_	Arter, Solomon,	House
Section number <u>8</u>	_ Page1	Carroll County,	Maryland

HISTORY:

On October 4, 1810, Solomon Arter purchased a 188-acre parcel of land that consisted of parts of the patents "Leonard's Choice" and "Ohio". He paid 942 to Stephen Sholl for the property (Frederick County Land Records WR38/237). According to the oral tradition as conveyed by Arter descendants to the present owner Amos G. Davidson, the property at that time contained a small log house and a small grist mill. The land records show that Sholl had purchased the property from John Regle in 1809 (WR/35/80). Regle is listed as a Weaver in an earlier deed in which he purchased the property from Edward House, Tanner, on March 23, 1793. (WR/11/689).

Solomon Arter was born on December 27, 1775 and was the son of Michael Arter. Michael Arter lived near Westminster and was responsible for the construction of two prominent Pennsylvania German houses — Rockland Farm and Innisfree—northwest of Westminster. A genealogical publication entitled **The Arter/Arthur Family of Fountain Valley** states that Michael Arter immigrated to this country either from Alsace or Switzerland. He lived in Strausburg, Pennsylvania, and after his marriage to Catherine Dillon in 1761, he moved to the Westminster vicinity. Records at St. Benjamin's Church in Westminster show that they had ten sons and two daughters.

Solomon Arter built the house now standing on the property sometime after 1810, and its interior stenciling dates close to the time of construction. In 1834, Solomon Arter and his wife Catherine deeded the property to three of their children, Lydia, Catherine, and Solomon Arter, Jr. (Frederick County Land Records JS/48/139). By 1854, Solomon Arter, Jr. had bought the interest of his two sisters in the property (Frederick County Land Records JS/43 and Carroll County Land Records 17/491), and on September 11, 1886 he sold the property to his son Enan Arter(65/31). After the death of Enan Arter, the property was willed to his son, Noah N. Arter who retained possession to 1918. Thus the Arter family were owners of the farm property for 108 years.

Noah N. Arter sold the property to Milton Bankert (132/444) who sold it one month later to John Orestus Lippy (132/506). The Lippy's sold the property on August 7, 1942 to its present owners Amos G. and Louise L. Davidson (179/272).

The significance of the house lies in its retention of evidence for the original stencil decoration of the interior. This evidence is considered the best-preserved example of Pennsylvania German interior stenciling known in the region by officers of the Pennsylvania German Society. The panel of stenciling that survives in the northeast bedrooms shows the manner in which this treatment ran from the floor to the ceiling. The colors in this room and in the other samples use bright shades, relying primarily on reds, blues, and

United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	number	8	Page	2
Geometri	Hulliboi		, ago	

greens. Most of the stencils use floral motifs popular in the Pennsylvania German folk idiom. The other samples are not as vivid and complete, but do show the colors and patterns that appear to have run from floor to ceiling. It is also probable that all of the rooms in the house, including the stairhall, (except for the second story northwest room which was used for storage and retains its original whitewash coat) originally featured Pennsylvania German floor to ceiling stenciled patterns as their interior finish.

The Arter property developed in the manner of many small prosperous farms in this region. Its late 18th century development included the construction of a small merchant mill, a family-run operation for grinding grain. The original house was a log structure north of the mill that was converted to a blacksmith shop when Solomon Arter constructed the main house. Other agricultural buildings that existed in this farm complex include a chicken house, brooder house, wagon shed/corncrib, wood shed and smokehouse. Related structures still standing on the property include an 1872 frame bank barn, a frame hoppen, and an 1883 tenant house. Another interesting feature of the main house and the tenant house is the frame pantry that projects out from the main facade along one corner of the porch. This odd appendage is found on several farm houses in this area and may be a regional architectural characteristic of the late 19th century unique to the Pennsylvania German settled regions of Maryland and Pennsylvania.

United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	 Page1		
	 		

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

The nominated property, approximately 10 acres, encompasses all elements of the resource within their immediate setting. Boundaries are depicted on the attached map, drawn to the scale 1" = 600', and are defined by Deep Run on the west and south and a current property line on the east. The north boundary is drawn to exclude a large primarily wooded area which does not specifically contribute to the significance of the resource.

