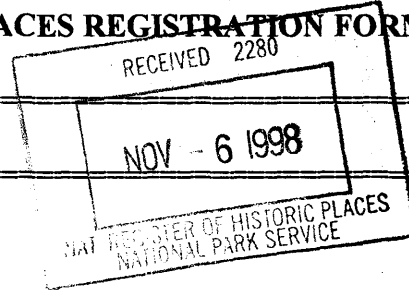


United States Department of the Interior National Park Service  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM



1467

1. Name of Property **RELLIM FARM**

historic name: Rellim Farm  
other name/site number: Miller Farm

2. Location

street & number: County Route 1 (Leetown Pike) not for publication: N/A  
city/town: Kearneysville vicinity: N/A  
state: WV county: Jefferson code: 037 zip code: 25430

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. Perci 10/8/98  
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

Rellim Farm  
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**4. National Park Service Certification**

I, hereby certify that this property is:

[Signature] Signature of Keeper      Date of Action  
Edson H. Beall      12-4-98

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): \_\_\_\_\_

**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	
<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>		sites
	<u>1</u>	structures
		objects
<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	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 listed in the National Register      0

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**6. Function or Use**

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**Historic Functions**

**Current Functions**

**AGRICULTURAL: SUBSISTENCE**  
Agricultural Field  
Agricultural Outbuilding

**AGRICULTURAL: SUBSISTENCE**  
Agricultural Field  
Agricultural Outbuilding

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**7. Description**

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**Architectural Classification:**

**Materials**

No Style

Foundation: stone, cement

Walls: wood

Roof: metal

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**Narrative Description**

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

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**8. Statement of Significance**

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**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

X  **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.

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**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**

Agriculture

**Period of Significance**

1888-1948

**Significant Dates**

1905, 1925

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Miller, Abraham

Miller, Paul Sr.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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**Bibliography**

(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
- Other

Name of Repository: \_\_\_\_\_

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**10. Geographical Data**

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**Acreage of Property:**      Roughly 50 acres

**UTM References**

Martinsburg Quad Map

see continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(See continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(See continuation sheet.)

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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Name/Title: Charles Miller, with

Organization: Katherine M. Jourdan, WV SHPO

Date: June 28, 1998

Street & Number: 1900 Kanawha Blvd East

City or Town: Charleston State: WV Zip: 25305-0300

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**Property Owner**

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

Name: Charles Miller

Street & Number: Rt 1, Box 5

Telephone: 304/ 876-2095

City or Town: Kearneysville State: WV Zip: 25430

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Rellim is located along CR 1, or the Leetown Road in Kearneysville, south of the junction of SR 9. The farm is approximately 50 acres with a small parcel outside the boundaries having been deeded to family members. Besides the orchard there are five contributing buildings associated with the Miller farm that have continued to serve as agricultural outbuildings.

The orchards were set out in 35 foot wide rows running east to west to take advantage of the westerly winds. Wind direction helps with air circulation, easing frost prevention, and damage from mold and other disease. The farm is rolling with a center section bordering on wet lands due to springs. Large boulders are in the cherry section of the orchard. The farmhouse and barns are set together in the northwest section of the farm bordering the main road. Farm lanes bisect the orchard for easy access in maintenance and for harvesting. A wind machine (c. 1985) is located in the center of the orchard, and is not included in the count.

**Orchard 1905/1930s Contributing**

Of the 50 acres, approximately 29 acres are in apple and 6 acres have cherries. The cherry trees are descendant of the original botanical stock of the property dating to 1925. The apple trees contain many of the older varieties dating from roughly the 1930s.

**Barn 1888 Contributing**

The two-story barn has vertical planks with a metal gable roof, and is constructed on a stone foundation. There is a hay hood on the south elevation and a shed roofed corn crib on the north facade. The west side has a loading platform built over a former silo's concrete base. The east side has three open bays for farm equipment. The interior has hand hewn beams supported by timbers with mortise and tendon joints and pegging.

**Hog Barn c. 1900 Contributing**

2 story, vertical wooden planks, with a stone foundation. The roof is gable with a metal roof. On the south side are two open bays used for farm equipment.

**Dairy Barn c. 1915 Contributing**

2 story vertical wooden planks, metal gable roof and a poured concrete foundation and floor for hygiene appropriate with the dairy industry. On the east and west facades are three 6 light windows. A shed roof overhang is on the south protecting a large door bay, and there is a second door on the north side.

**Milk House/Orchard Office c. 1915 Contributing**

Small, 1 story, wood drop siding, corrugated metal roof, concrete foundation.

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**Pump House c. 1930 Contributing**

1 story, wood drop siding, gable roof. Small door on south side to service pump. Concrete extension to side for previous holding tank.

**Wood Shed c. 1900 Noncontributing**

Three sided wooden structure. Once attached to carriage house that burned.

**Garage c. 1986 Noncontributing**

1 story, 3 bay frame building, vertical boards, gable end, double garage.

**Garage c. 1985 Noncontributing**

1 story, concrete block, 3 bay garage

**Main House 1888 Noncontributing**

Two story, five bays, vinyl siding, with side and rear additions. Center entrance with fluted pilasters and broken pediment in a Colonial Revival style. Pyramid hipped asphalt shingle roof with gable dormers on the front and rear facade. Entablature with brackets under the eaves. Windows are 6/6 double-hung sash replacement windows with louvered shutters. The house was renovated in 1988 from its former Italianate appearance.

**Metal Water Tank c. 1970 Noncontributing Structure**

Long tank mounted on pilings, used for tree spraying.



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**Rellim Farm History and Orchard Production**

Rellim Farm is significant under Criteria A for Agriculture, associated with the early Miller farm and the early 20th century orchard industry during the period of 1888 to 1948. The farm was established by Abraham Miller in 1888, who recognized the developing industry of orchards in the Eastern Panhandle in the late 19th century. In 1905, he laid out the formal orchard, which has continued in the Miller family throughout the 20th century as a rural landscape. The farm is the oldest continuously family owned and operated orchard in Jefferson County.

Once part of the nearby Travellers Rest property, the farm was part of 721 acres that John Mark acquired on September 14, 1790, from Horatio Gates. Mark retained ownership of the land near present day Kearneysville for nearly 24 years until in 1814 he conveyed an eastern 215 acres to his newly married daughter and son-in law, Eliza and Aaron Jewett. Census records of the early to mid-nineteenth century indicate that Aaron Jewett was an attorney in nearby Shepherdstown, where he resided in the Entler Hotel. A dwelling on the eastern side of the Shepherdstown and Smithfield Turnpike was probably occupied by a tenant farmer.

After the death of Eliza Jewett, her property was acquired by Thomas Turner in 1867, which with outsales was then 200.75 acres. According to the 1870 census, Thomas Turner and his family resided in the previously occupied tenant dwelling which is no longer standing. Between 1875 and 1879, Turner built a brick home on the western side of the turnpike.

In 1874, Mary Susan, daughter of Thomas and Sarah Turner, married Abraham S. Miller. The couple may have resided in the previous tenant farmer's dwelling for several years. In March 1880, the Millers purchased the 61 acres of Turner's farm that was east of the turnpike. A fire destroyed their home in 1888, and Abraham built a new residence that fronted on the turnpike.

A farmer, Miller had named his farm "Rellim" by spelling Miller backwards in 1880. He made a living by subsistence farming with dairy cows, hogs and chickens and raising grain for his livestock. He devoted a small percentage of his farm to what today is called "truck gardening" which he sold in Kearneysville or nearby markets. He planted quince, pear, and cherry trees on the property. He also planted vegetable crops including sweet and Irish potatoes, melons, and beans, and raised vegetable "bedding plants" for sale.

Seeing a neighbor, Dr. Daniel Border, having apparent success with an apple orchard Abraham made a planting of two plots, one 5 acres and one of 3 acres, of apples as a commercial venture in 1905. These plantings were made in an organized fashion with rows running north and south. The trees were set a distance of 35 feet apart and the rows were 35 feet apart to allow the movement of equipment and animals necessary for taking care of the trees and for harvesting the fruit. Apple varieties originally planted included York Imperial, Grimes Golden, Stayman Winesap, Ben Davis, Ralls Janet and a few trees of early maturing varieties. Transparent and Red Astrachan were planted for the summer trade. As these trees grew into production age Abraham realized he was producing more fruit (an average of 300 to 400 bushels per acre) than he could sell locally so he purchased a hand cranked grading table and began packing fruit into barrels and later

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bushel baskets to be shipped to cities and foreign markets. These packed apples, and sometimes unpacked apples, were loaded into freight boxcars at the B&O Railroad siding in Kearneysville for movement to market.

By the late 1920s it was apparent that this acreage was too small to sustain a larger dairy cattle herd and so the decision was made to place all suitable acreage into an orchard. In 1929, Abraham Miller died and the operation of Rellim Farm was assumed by Paul Miller Sr., who had been assisting his father. Paul Sr. purchased the property from his remaining brothers and sisters and in 1932 planted the remaining acreage, which was suitable in apples and cherries. The low lying areas of the site were and still remain wetlands. The original fields on this site were defined by hedgerows of planted Osage Orange trees. These were removed, with the exception of the one along the western boundary which bordered the Shepherdstown-Smithfield Turnpike Road (presently designated CR 1), to allow for organized and continuous planting of the new orchard. This remaining hedgerow was to serve as a windbreak for the orchard to the prevailing westerly winds. This hedgerow, originally planted by Abraham Miller prior to 1890, still designates the western boundary of the site. Because there were no bulldozers readily available when Paul Sr. removed the Osage Orange hedges, the task was one that required significant physical effort and ingenuity (Figure 4).

In January 1930, A.L. Omph, who had been farming the nearby property known as Aspendale since August 1918, conveyed his acreage to the West Virginia State Board of Control for the purpose of providing West Virginia University with an experimental farm for the development of pesticides and disease control methods.

The expanding fruit industry in the Eastern Panhandle was the impetus for the development of an experimental orchard. Interestingly, the land that was purchased from Omph had been dedicated to the cultivation of field crops such as grain and hay. In order to begin horticultural studies immediately, the scientists from WVU relied upon the existing orchards in the area to conduct initial experiments and to improve orchard growing techniques.

The Millers (Abraham and Paul Sr.), whose farm had been operating an apple orchard since 1905 and had been producing cherries in commercial quantities since 1925, were solicited in the 1930s as a satellite experimental farm until the fields at Aspendale could be converted to orchards. Paul Sr.'s interest in fruit production extended beyond the marketability of his own crop and even prior to being approached by WVU, he was involved in the organics of pomology. With his love for experimenting it was no problem for the scientists at the newly established West Virginia University Experiment Farm to enlist his established orchard nearby for a variety of experiments with various pesticides and cultural management programs. Dr. Leif Verner, Horticulturist; Dr. Dillon S. Brown, Horticulturist; Dr. Carlton Taylor, Plant Pathologist; Dr. Arthur Thompson, Pomologist; Dr. Robert Adams, Plant Pathologist and Nematologist; and Dr. John Albert, Plant Pathologist, regularly used Rellim orchard from the early 1920s through 1965 to field test research and new techniques for the commercial production of apples and cherries in West Virginia. Miller's willingness to allow WVU to test pesticides and fertilizers on his own property clearly

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illustrates his concern for the advancement of the then emerging fruit industry in the region. Just outside the period of significance (50 years ago) is the first testing and commercial use of a low-volume concentrate speed sprayer in West Virginia. The testing occurred at Rellim orchard in 1953 under the auspices of the WVU Experimental Farm by Dr. Robert Adams. Paul Sr. purchased his first concentrate sprayer in 1954. This was the first low-volume concentrate sprayer purchased and used in West Virginia. Concentrate spraying soon became normal practice and continues in use to this day at Rellim orchard and in most commercial orchards in West Virginia and throughout the U.S.

Paul Miller Sr.'s knowledge of pomology was, without a doubt, gained at Rellim Farm where he was born and raised. His first experience with the scientific intervention that was to modernize the fruit industry was likely at the property of his older brother, Herbert, who owned a portion of the land formerly known as Socks Orchard. In April 1912, Herbert Miller and Benjamin Pratt purchased 52.25 acres from Daniel Socks. This parcel was located about ½ mile northwest of Rellim along WV 9. With regard to Benjamin Pratt as a historical character, an announcement published in the May 25, 1911, issue of the *Shepherdstown Register* reported the following:

B.G. Pratt, the well-known manufacturing chemist of New York City, president of the B.G. Pratt Scalecide Co., has leased for a term of ten years the Robert H. Stewart 90-acre orchard near Kearneysville... He proposes to adopt the most up-to-date and scientific methods in this orchard.

It can be presumed that the "scientific methods" undertaken by Pratt at the Stewart Orchard were likewise practiced at the Socks Orchard which was owned by Herbert Miller and Benjamin Pratt. During the 1920s, Paul Sr., who was also employed as a Kearneysville mail carrier, rented the dwelling at his brother's orchard. It is plausible to assume that he was involved with the production of fruit at this orchard as well as that of his father's at Rellim. As mentioned above, Paul Miller, Sr., took over operations at Rellim in 1929, where he implemented the horticultural techniques promoted by Benjamin Pratt.

As the automobile came into more common usage in the 1930s and 1940s, the customers for Rellim apples and cherries began coming to the farm and thus the dairy barn of 1905 became a sales room with no modifications except removal of the stanchions used for the cows. The barn has been unchanged since that time, and continues as a functioning building for the orchard. Descendants of the first regular customers continue to visit the orchard at harvest.

The original two plots of plantings from 1905 are still defined blocks with only slight modification of variety, but still predominately York Imperial on seedling rootstock. Since orchards must be periodically renovated to maintain fruit quality, the old trees on the site are being replaced with new dwarf and semi-dwarf trees and varieties that meet the present market demands. Currently Rellim produces and markets 22 different apple varieties. Rellim continues to produce some of the varieties originally grown by Abraham Miller. Trees of Yellow Transparent, Grimes

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Golden, and Stayman Winesap as well as the primary variety, York Imperial, can be seen along with newer varieties such as Braeburn and Fuji. One of the trees planted by Paul Sr., in 1932 has been maintained and regularly produces Grimes Golden apples for sale to the public. A second tree, A Stayman Winesap, from the 1932 planting was lost in a storm in 1996.

The remnants of the original Montmorency cherry orchard were bulldozed in 1994 to make room for new plantings to better serve the customer base. The present cherry orchard, planted in 1947, is on a different site than the original plantings and contains sweet as well as Montmorency tart cherries. Significant acreage originally devoted to cherry plantings has been replaced by apple due to the declining demand for tart cherries and lack of a local labor supply to harvest the crop. At the peak of cherry production, Rellim orchard employed 80 to 100 workers from Kearneysville and the surrounding area to harvest its cherry crop. The local C.H. Musselman processing plant, which purchased and processed tart cherries beginning in the early 1930s (it was at the urging of C. Musselman that Paul Sr. planted a large acreage of tart cherries) ceased processing cherries locally in the 1970s. Rellim orchard is the only remaining commercial tart cherry orchard in Jefferson County. In its early years of production from 1930 through 1960, Rellim orchard's 8 acres of tart cherries regularly yielded 50 to 60 tons of cherries, a significant yield at the time and given the state-of-the-art in culture that existed. Production today is limited to about 3 to 4 tons annually. Rellim orchard Montmorency tart cherries have been used exclusively to make the official cherry wine for the Washington, D.C. Cherry Blossom Festival since 1996.

Paul Miller, Sr. passed away in 1958. His son, Charles, is the current owner of record who continues to operate the orchard. The original 61 acre tract purchased by Abraham Miller has only been slightly reduced to about 50 acres as a result of outsales. The boundaries of Rellim to the west, south, and east are as they were in 1880 when originally purchased by Abraham Miller.

### **Eastern Panhandle Orchard - Historic Context**

As early as 1774, portions of the Eastern Panhandle were being developed as orchards. Specifically, George Washington, who owned property in Berkeley County, leased 125 acres of land to William Bartlett. While the Bartlett pear is a European import and not named for him, West Virginia is the seed bed of other fruit varieties. The Golden Grimes apple was first grown in Brooke County and the Golden Delicious was first cultivated in Clay County

Commercial orcharding was introduced to the Eastern Panhandle in 1851. Known as "Apple Pie Ridge" and located in neighboring Berkeley County, the orchard of William S. Miller near Gerrardstown (no direct relation to owners of Rellim), contained thousands of apple and peach trees as well as large numbers of cherry, pear and plum trees. The Eastern Panhandle achieved a reputation for its quality apples before the Civil War. However, when Miller could not find a market for his nursery stock because of military activities, he continued to plant on his farm.

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His orchard of 4,000 trees grew to 6,500 during the war.

The second large planting of orchards in Berkeley County was by J.N. Thatcher about 1868, when he bought stock from a closing business in Pennsylvania. Some of the varieties were: Early Harvest, Early Ripe, Maiden Blush, Spice, Red Astrakham, Smoke-House, Bellflower, Vanderver, Albermarle Pippin, Rumbo, Smith Cider, P.W. Sweet and Talahapahawkin. About 1890, the market was bringing \$3 a barrel, and created an interest by the local farmers to begin commercial orchards of their own. Some of these planters, mainly concentrated on Apple Pie Ridge were: Alexander Clohan, James H. Smith, J.T. Catrow, Honathan Newton Thatcher, John M. Miller, D. Gold Miller, G.C. McKown, Hunter McKown, Gilbert P. Miller, and I.L. Bender.

Apples were being shipped to different markets before 1889, including England. In 1894, the Berkeley County Horticultural Society was formed and held its first show at Fellers Hall, at the corner of Queen and Race Streets. The first apple carnival was held in Martinsburg a year later. About this time the Horticultural Society, working in conjunction with the WV Experimental Station at Morgantown, began the systematic combating of the San Jose scale and other fruit pests by the use of the new power sprayers.

According to a 1922 publication concerning the history of West Virginia, Jefferson County ranked second in the state's production of apples even though it had over 300,000 fewer trees of bearing age than its neighbor Berkeley County, which was ranked first.

By 1927, Berkeley County had over 880,000 trees (567,348 bearing) with a total output of 695,150 bushels of apples in a single year. About 17,600 acres of the county were planted in orchards which was 11% of the tillable land.

Through the efforts of a local delegate to the State Legislature, a State Demonstration Packing Plant was located in Inwood in 1920. The plant demonstrated the packing and shipping of apples. There boxes and barrels of apples were packed for growers and sent out over the country. Also in Inwood was the Musselman plant which canned apples, not presentable to the grocery market.

Jefferson County histories are not as detailed as Berkeley County about the early orchards, but the countryside and soil types are in fact similar. The success of local farmers probably sparked an interest in converting some sections of the farms into orchards. Jefferson County undoubtedly reaped some of the same benefits of marketing and shipping.

As mentioned in Rellim Farm's history statement, the branch of the WVU Agricultural Experiment Station at Kearneysville was established in the 1930s exclusively for the betterment of orcharding and the apple industry in Berkeley and Jefferson Counties. Rellim Farm's relationship with that entity has been documented.

One of the largest orchards in the county, having a continuous tract without fences or land division, was on the outskirts of Charles Town. The Harry F. Byrd Corporation at the Jefferson Orchard contained 1,461 acres in the late 1960s. The orchard produced 750,000 bushels annually with roughly 60,000 trees. In contrast to the older practice of producing hundreds of varieties of apples, the Jefferson Orchard only produced six. It was/is a common current practice

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to only plant those varieties most popular with the public and those which bear with some regularity and volume. In 1970, those varieties included Red Delicious, Stayman, Rome Beauty, York Imperial, Golden Delicious, and Winesap.

By 1968, the principal crops of the State of West Virginia in order of their acreage and value were: hay, apples, corn and tobacco. The most important farm products in order of cash receipts or farm income were: dairy products, cattle, apples and eggs. Apples and other fruit held the same high ranking in the mid-1900s. The State of West Virginia ranked 8<sup>th</sup> for apple production and 14<sup>th</sup> for peach production in the U.S. with about 70 % of the state's fruit grown in the Eastern Panhandle. Orchards currently account for the greatest cash receipts from other crops in the state. Apples and peaches are a \$24 million a year industry which generates an additional \$38 million of economic activity.

By 1998, many of the small family orchards had disappeared. In Jefferson County, only the Huyett Family Orchard, Jefferson Orchard, Hockensmith, Hockman and Miller's remain. Rellim is the oldest family owned orchard.

### Orchard Production in General

The agricultural methods and philosophy of growing fruit has changed during the last century with the advances in science. The US Department of Agriculture has routinely made available publications dealing with a variety of new agricultural methods, including fruit production. During the early decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Washington state led the nation in apple production, followed by New York, Oregon, Virginia and West Virginia.

Publications kept orchard men apprised of new varieties of apples and methods of combating the elements. The early brush piles burning between the rows of trees to prevent freezing on cold nights, advanced to oil smudge pots in the 1930s. By the 1980s the elements are fought with wind machines which draw the higher warmer air down and keeps the frost from settling in the low areas.

Insect pests, and disease are fought with chemical spraying, which has continued to change and alter with new discoveries. West Virginia University's tests on the local orchards before their own orchards grew to their present size has added greatly to the technical knowledge used today. The average life span of a cherry or apple tree is roughly 20 years, before trees succumb to age and disease. The general practice is for trees to be bulldozed out. If planted in blocks, whole rows may be bulldozed and the block replanted in corn, ryegrass or soybeans for a year to renew the soil. After that time the soil is turned under for a new block.

Apples on the small farms were packed by hand, and shipped by wagons to the local train station along the B&O railway line. A fruit broker in Martinsburg, at the Fruit Exchange near the B&O Railway handled the marketing of the fruit.

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**Summary**

When compared to the historic and economic development of the region, it is clear that Rellim Farm, as a forerunner to the commercial orcharding that hallmarks the Eastern Panhandle, as an antecedent to the historically significant WVU Experimental Farm and as a current contributor to the economics and character of Jefferson County, is a significant resource not only for the region but also the State of West Virginia.

The trees at Rellim Farm are the major contributing element to the cultural landscape. They reflect and preserve the social, cultural and economic history of the Eastern Panhandle more clearly than any other feature or building. The day to day decisions of the Miller Family in maintaining the orchard's botanical stock have served to protect the integrity of this historic resource. Rellim Farm, excluding the 1880 dwelling (remodeled in 1983), demonstrates with clarity its significance as an early commercial orchard in Jefferson County and the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia. The land retains its integrity of location and setting. The barns and other support buildings associated with commercial fruit production have also survived. Therefore, because its historic use has been maintained, Rellim Farm continues to convey the feeling and association of an early-twentieth century commercial orchard.

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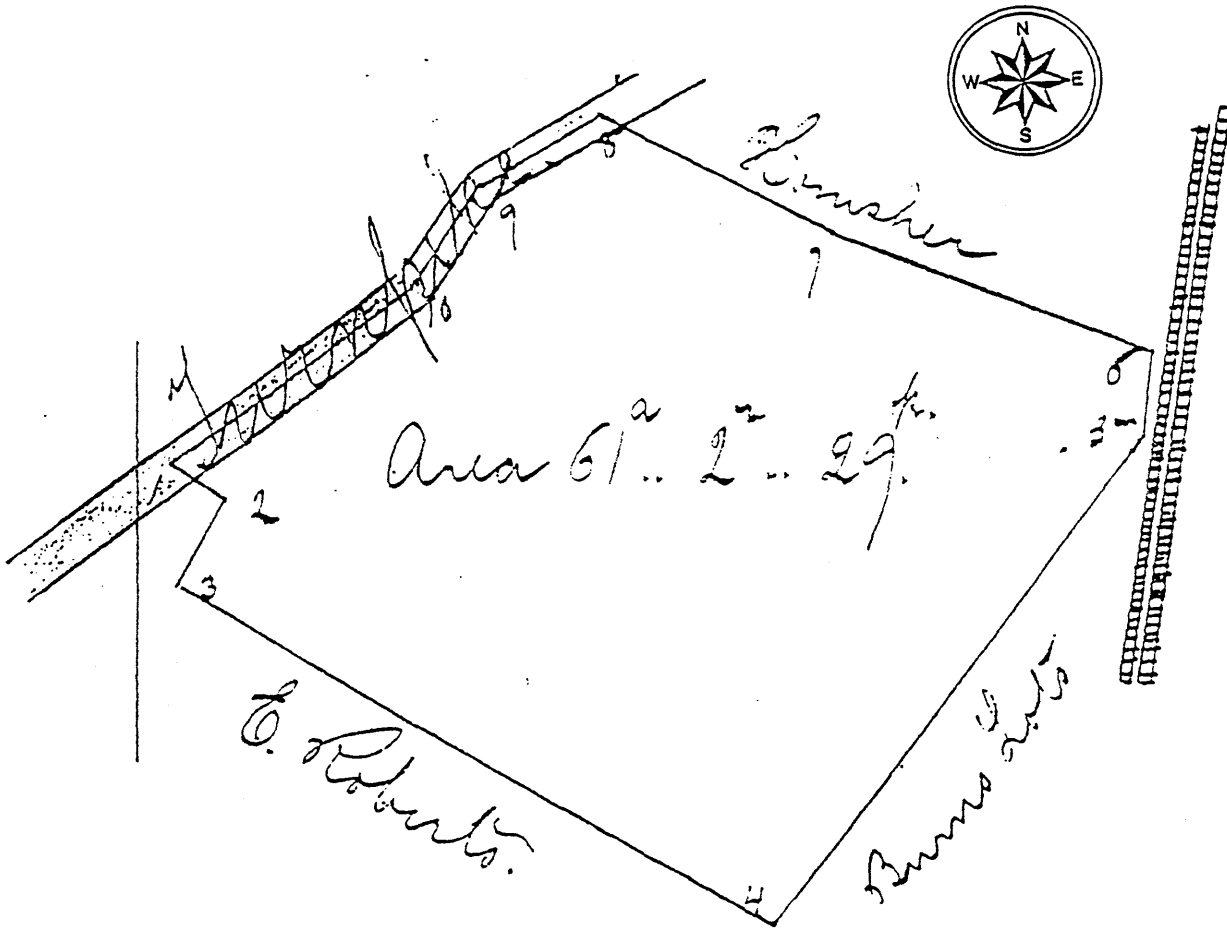
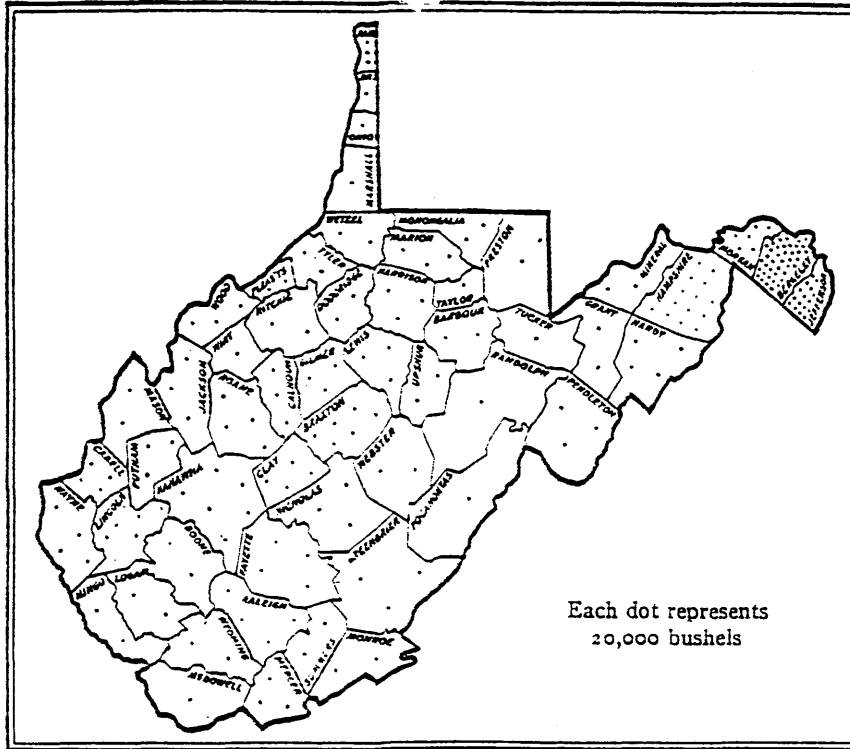


Figure 1 - Plat of Rellim Farm at the time of its purchase by Abraham Miller in 1880.  
(Jefferson County Deed Book H: 235)



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 2



LEADING APPLE COUNTIES

COUNTY	BUSHEL OF APPLES	TREES OF BEARING AGE
Berkeley . . . . .	306,476	482,776
Jefferson . . . . .	322,902	180,906
Hampshire . . . . .	287,275	401,074
Morgan . . . . .	128,844	166,472
Kanawha . . . . .	123,640	166,852
Braxton . . . . .	115,791	138,852
Lincoln . . . . .	114,882	104,331
Raleigh . . . . .	93,580	92,260
Fayette . . . . .	89,719	92,908
Cabell . . . . .	81,500	134,706
Wayne . . . . .	80,313	127,919
Roane . . . . .	78,722	138,737
Hardy . . . . .	76,935	110,948
Clay . . . . .	72,187	59,908
Putnam . . . . .	69,166	108,791
Nicholas . . . . .	68,417	80,866
Hancock . . . . .	68,159	56,989
Marion . . . . .	68,151	98,082
Jackson . . . . .	66,393	126,894
Calhoun . . . . .	65,541	73,627

Figure 2 - Facts and figures concerning West Virginia apple production in 1922.

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**Figure 4 - Removal of one of the Osage Orange hedge fences with manpower and a steel wheeled Fordson tractor at Rellim Farm, circa 1931.**

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 1

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Figure 5 - Cherry harvesting crew at Reilim Farm, circa 1935. Horses used to haul picked cherries from field to packing shed.

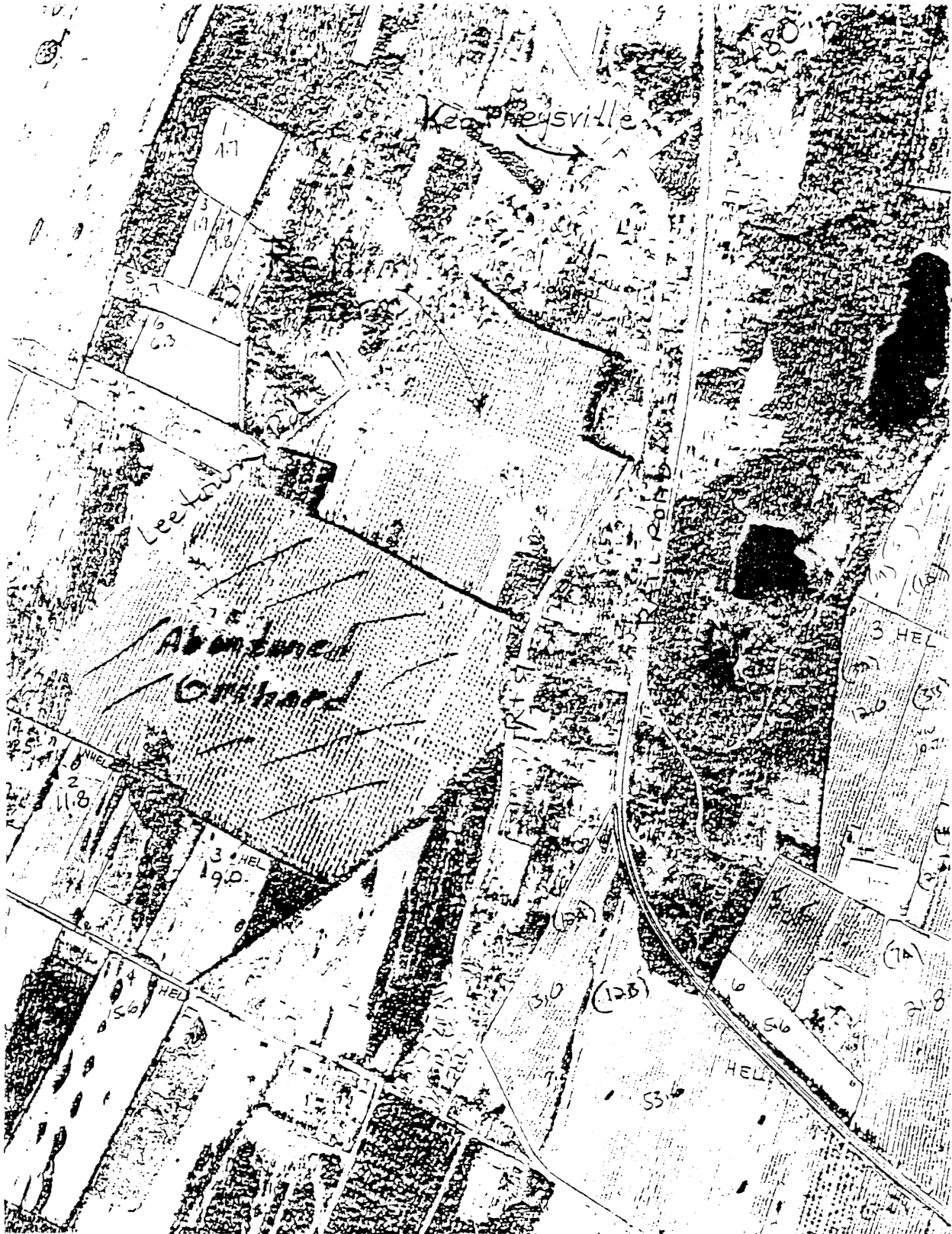


Figure 6 - Cherry harvest in 1944 at Reilim Farm. The use of teenage children to harvest crops was common during WWII.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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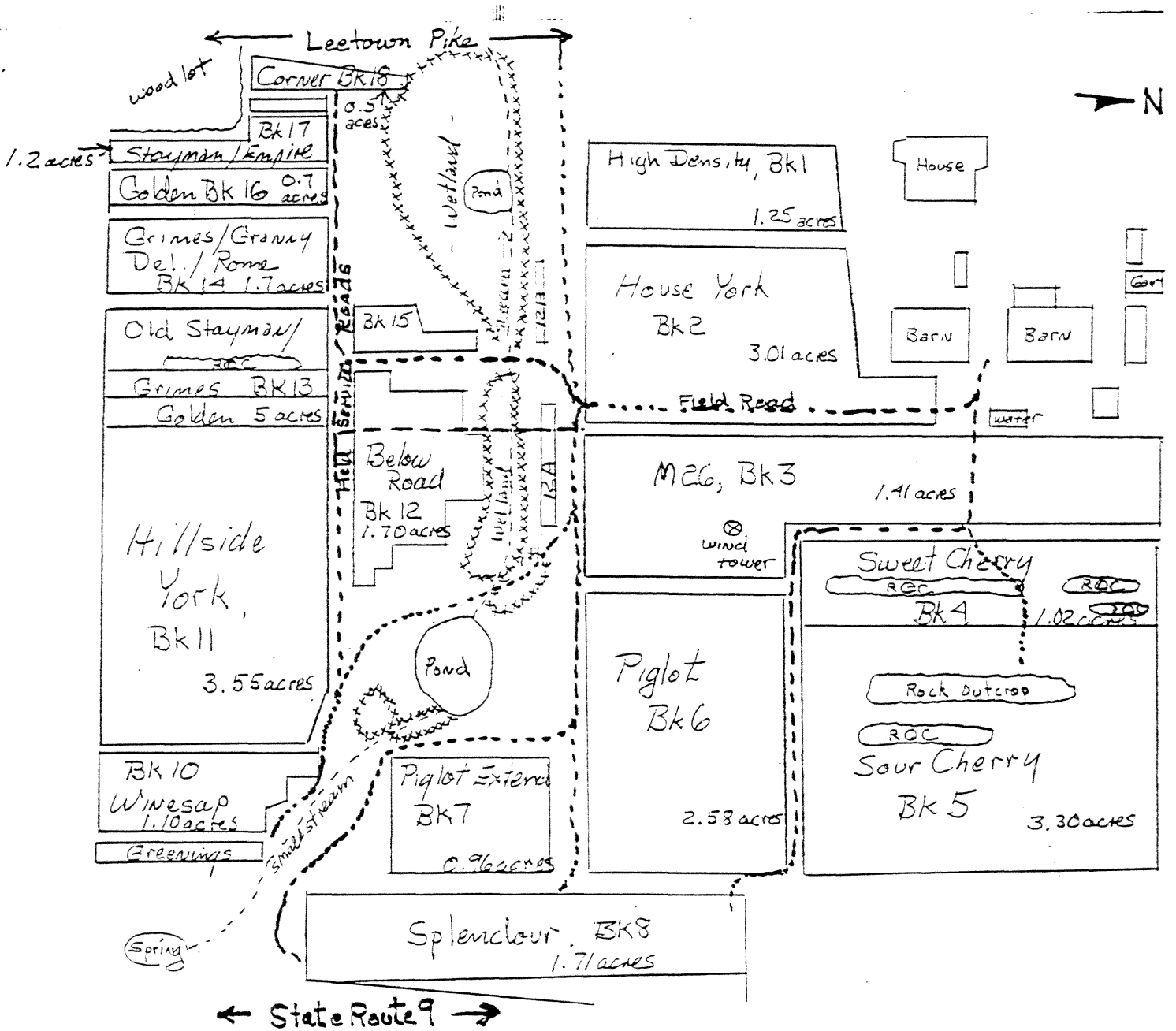
VICINITY MAP FOR RELIM FARM



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 11

LAND USE AREAS FOR RELLEM FARM



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Rellim Farm                      Jefferson County, WV  
Name of Property              County/State

Section number      9              Page              1

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**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Rellim Farm  
**Name of Property**

Jefferson County, WV  
**County/State**

**Section number      PHOTO      Page      1**

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Rellim Farm  
CR 1/Leetown Road  
Kearneysville, WV  
Jefferson County

Photographer:                      Charles H. Miller

Date:                                      Feb 1, 1998

Negatives:                              Charles H. Miller

- Photo 1      Main House, West Facade  
                    Camera looking east
- Photo 2      Milk House/Office  
                    Camera looking NW
- Photo 3      Barn from 1888  
                    Camera looking NE
- Photo 4      Barn and Hog barn (R)  
                    Camera looking North
- Photo 5      1915 Dairy Barn (L), and 1888 Barn (R)  
                    Camera looking NW
- Photo 6      Orchard and Barns  
                    Camera looking NW
- Photo 7      Orchard  
                    Camera looking East from Main House
- Photo 8      Orchard  
                    Camera looking West
- Photo 9      Orchard  
                    Camera looking South

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

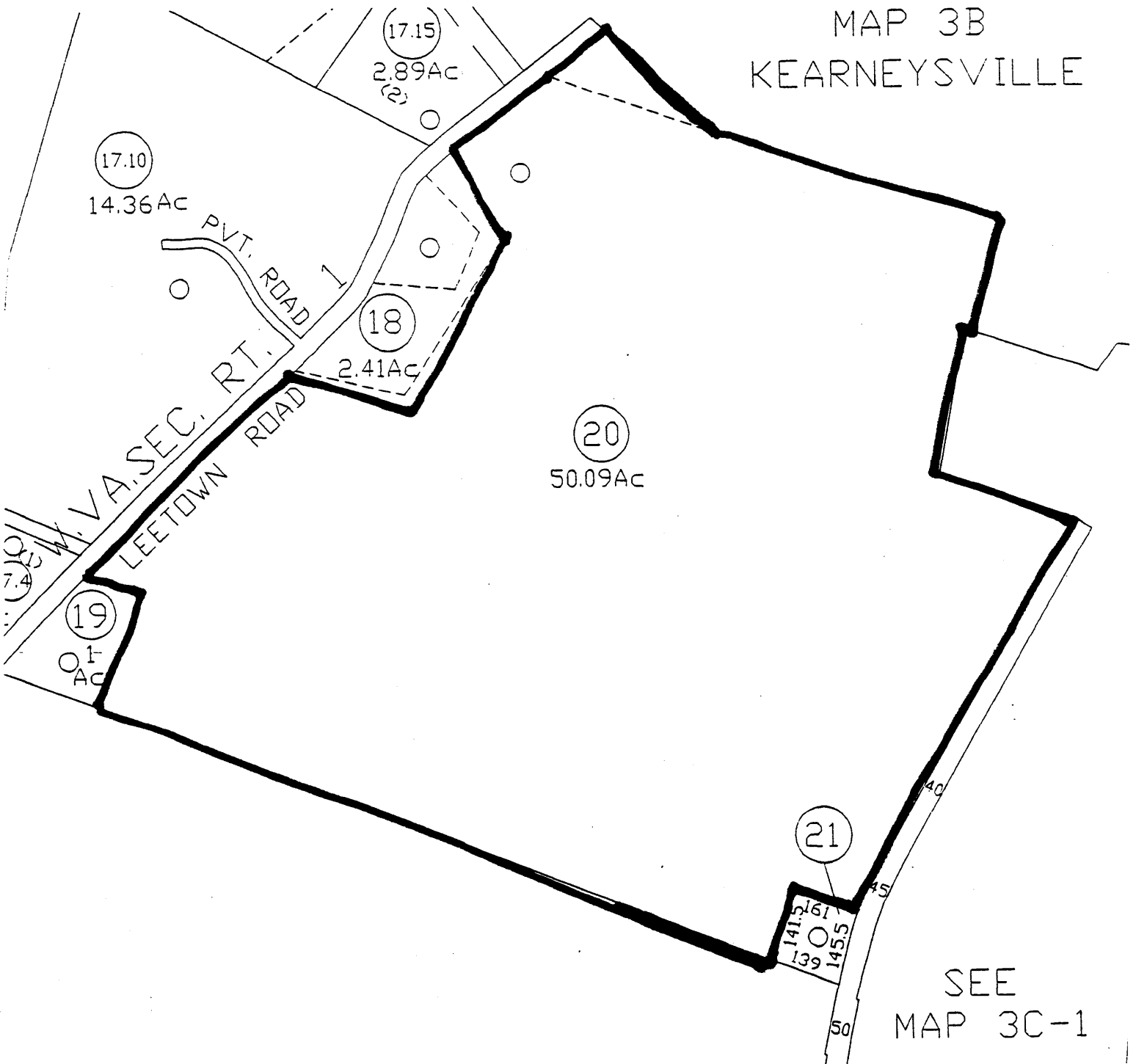
National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

Rellim  
Jefferson County, WV

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries include Plats 19 and 20 as shown on the Jefferson County tax map below.

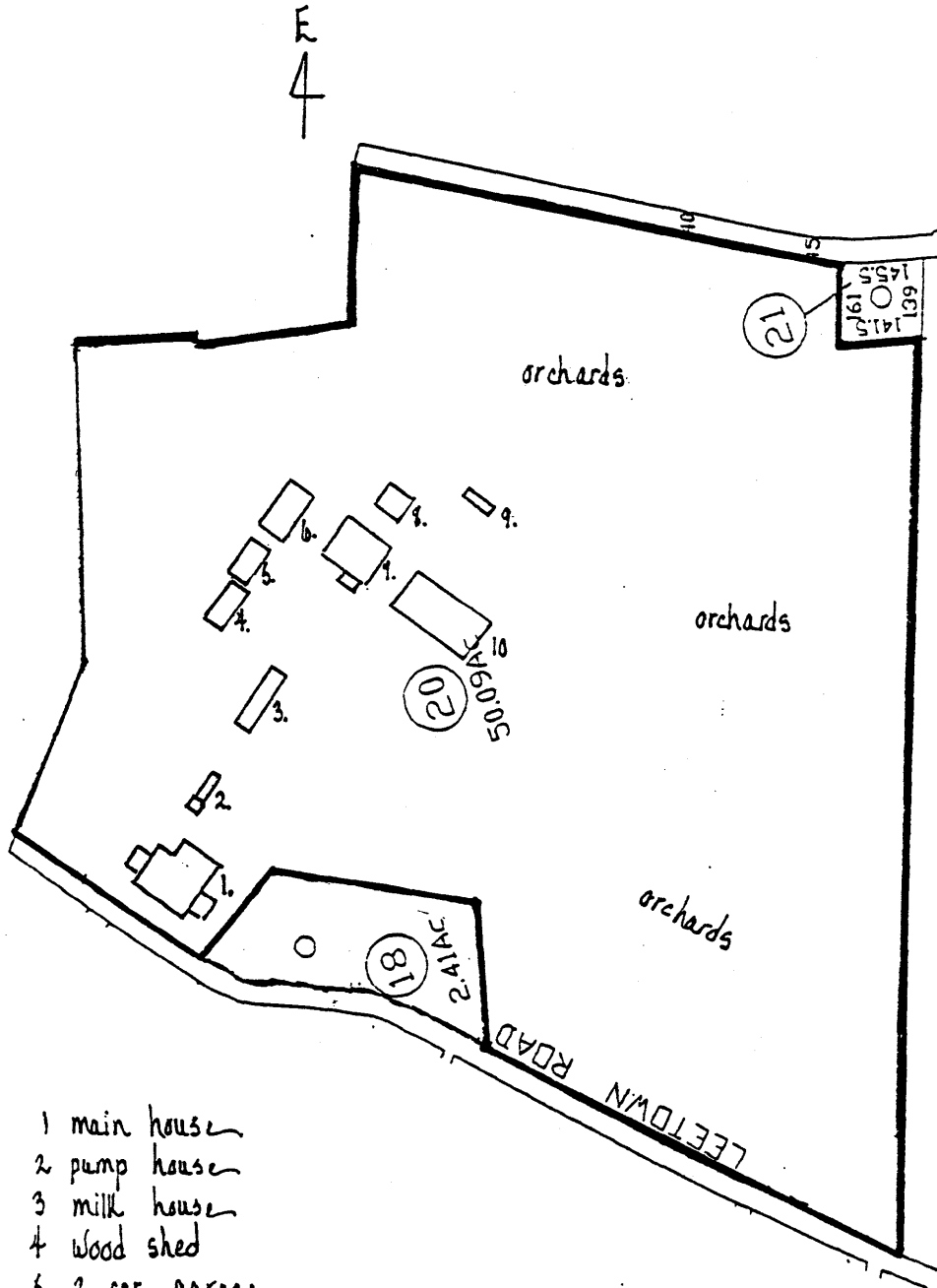


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Rellim  
Jefferson County, WV

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_ Sketch #1



- 1 main house
- 2 pump house
- 3 milk house
- 4 wood shed
- 5 2-car garage
- 6 3-bay garage
- 7 1910 barn
- 8 hog bin
- 9 water tank
- 10 dairer barn

Rellim

not drawn to scale  
LKB