

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

NOV 01 1979

DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1** NAME Maidstone Manor Farm

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

William R. Leigh House

**2** LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Located on Route 1/4 between the intersection of Route 1 and Route 1/4,  
and the intersection of Route 1/5 and Route 1/4.

CITY, TOWN

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF Marlow

STATE  
West VirginiaCODE  
54COUNTY  
BerkeleyCODE  
003

**3** CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4** OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Mr. &amp; Mrs. Dan Folk

STREET & NUMBER  
Maidstone FarmCITY, TOWN  
Falling Waters

VICINITY OF

STATE  
West Virginia 25407

**5** LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, Berkeley County  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN  
Martinsburg, W. Va. 25401

STATE

**6** REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE H-12, Berkeley County Historical Society & Berkeley County Historical Landmarks  
Commission SurveyDATE  
1973-78FEDERAL STATE  COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS Berkeley County CourthouseCITY, TOWN  
Martinsburg, WV 25401

STATE

# DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Maidstone Manor house is a square brick house, mechanical bond to front 1/5 sides and rear. Pyramidal roof slate covered, chimneys interior on sides, midway between peak and eave parallel to front of house, one each side, brick. Three bays wide, two keep 6/6 sash front and sides, 9/6 or 6/9 in rear where windows are full length ceiling to floor at both levels. Three bay entrance portico, with paired Doric columns at side open pediment. Door double, lock with 4 panels, sidelights transom and paneled reveals. Brick stepped cornice of three rows of brick. One brick outbuilding, one side now being rebuilt, diamond vent open brick pattern in each gable end. Chimney

Barn of indeterminate age.

Smokehouse brick

Site of slave cabin

The land is being used for raising beef cattle.

# SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
1400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES \_\_\_\_\_ BUILDER/ARCHITECT \_\_\_\_\_

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Maidstone Manor Farm is very significant because it was the early home and farm land of William Robinson Leigh, a famous Western scenic artist. The house has a further significance for its outstanding architectural type, built in 1848 by William Leigh. William Robinson Leigh was born here at the Maidstone Farm Sept. 23, 1866. He was a double grandson of Rawleigh Colston and Elizabeth Marshall Colston. It was here on the Maidstone Farm land that William roamed in childhood. He was able to observe the animals, trees, sunsets, storms and all phases of nature that made him aware of details he later needed in painting his Western scenes. It was here that he started to paint, some times on the barn and out buildings. The farm land was inherited by William Leigh and his sister, Mary Susan Selden Leigh. A division of this land was made in 1849. William Leigh, Jr. received 265 1/2 acres where he has "lately built." William Leigh sold off small tracts leaving 250 3/4 acres in the farm which still remains today.

This hipped roof, almost square house is one of a few of this type building located in Berkeley County. The house served as the mansion house of a 550 acre plantation. 250 acres of the 265 acquired by William Leigh, Jr. in 1849 still remains with the farm. The whole farm has been included because of its historical significance and agricultural representation, plus the fact that it was here on this land that William Robinson Leigh roamed and worked as a boy and developed his great appreciation for nature and it wild-life which he so realistically portrayed in his paintings.

# MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Berkeley Journal, Honeywood and Maidstone Manor, 1977 Special Issue, published by The Berkeley County Historical Society.

## GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

**UTM NOT VERIFIED**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 267 ± A

QUADRANGLE NAME Hedgesville

QUADRANGLE SCALE \_\_\_\_\_

UTM REFERENCES

A 

1	8	2	5	1	2	0	0	4	3	8	5	8	5	0
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B 

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    ZONE EASTING NORTHING

    ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C 

1	8	2	4	9	5	9	0	4	3	8	5	6	9	0
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D 

1	8	2	4	9	0	5	0	4	3	8	6	4	2	0
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E 

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H 

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the fork in the road, thence SW 3200 ft. thence NW 2500 ft., NE 300 ft., NW 1300 ft., NE 2900 ft, thence along the road SE 4200 ft. to the beginning.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE Don C. Wood, Genealogist, Historian, Historic Archeologist

ORGANIZATION President, Berkeley County Historical Society DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman, Berkeley County Historical Landmarks Commission

STREET & NUMBER Route 3, Box 79 TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CITY OR TOWN Martinsburg, WV 25401 STATE \_\_\_\_\_

## STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ LOCAL \_\_\_\_\_

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

FOR HCRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

10/10/80

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

H-12 Maidstone Manor Farm

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Located on Route 1/4 between the intersection of Route 1 and Route 1/4, and the intersection of Route 1/5 and Route 1/4.

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H-12 Maidstone Manor Farm

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William Robinson Leigh was born September 23, 1866, at Maidstone Manor being allowed to roam the farmland at will, he was able to observe the animals, trees, sunsets, storms and all phases of nature that would make him aware of detail that was needed later in life to make his paintings very skillful. He quite often was found drawing pictures on doors and buildings on the farm. At the age of 14 he entered Maryland Institute. When 17 he went to the Royal Academy in Munich, Germany. He spent 4 years in Bavaria and then came back home to Berkeley County. Several people in Berkeley County today own paintings done by Leigh. Maidstone Manor was sold in 1884 when Leigh was 18. His father had suffered much loss during the Civil War and died while Maidstone was in the process of being sold by the Court to pay his creditors. Leigh returned to Berkeley County many times throughout his life and always visited Maidstone.

After Leigh's schooling abroad and a visit to Berkeley County he went to Baltimore for a year and earned enough money to return to Munich. His earlier trip had been financed by an uncle. He worked with Philip Fleish painting cycloramas. Some sold for \$1,000.00. He was now winning all kinds of awards. Leigh remained abroad for 5 years before returning to New York where he married. In 1906 Leigh finally went to the west but maintained a studio in New York City. He went on many trips to Africa and on big game hunts in the U. S. He also turned to writing his book, Frontiers of Enchantment which was published in 1938-"an artist's adventure in Africa." Of his many writings "The Western Pony" with paintings, published in 1933, is considered the best. Leigh wrote and was featured in many magazines: Life, May 24, 1937, The American Museum of Natural History in Nov. and Dec. issues were devoted to the African Expedition, Colliers Nov. 1950, True Sept. 1951, Saturday Evening Post April 1951 are but a few.

Leigh died in 1955. His studio at 200 West 57th St., New York, was given by Mrs. Leigh to Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where it is open to the public.

FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)

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H-12 Maidstone Manor Farm

**CONTINUATION SHEET**

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Montana, the Magazine of Western History, July 1967, page 43  
West Virginia Hillbilly, June 30, 1973 from Charleston Gazette Nov. 14, 1921

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Point C was left off map; this map is taken from the last survey of the farm which shows 267 acres. The earlier deeds had called it 250 acres.



MAIDSTONE MANOR

HISTORIC

BUILDINGS

H-12

Hedgesville Quadrangle

Berkeley County, West Virginia

Area of District 267 acres

SCALE 1 : 7,920

November 1978



