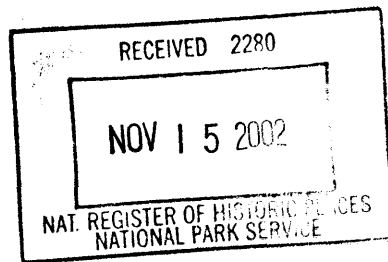


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



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

1. Name of Property

historic name Fiery, Joseph, Homeplace
other names WA-V-101

2. Location

street & number 15107 Hicksville Road not for publication
city or town Clear Spring vicinity
state Maryland code MD county Washington code 043 zip code 21722

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

[Signature] 11-14-02
Signature of certifying office/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying office/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

[Signature] 12/27/02
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Fiery, Joseph, Homeplace
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5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

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

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	0	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
2	0	Total

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

number of contributing resource previously listed in the National Register

N/A

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single dwelling
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: storage

DOMESTIC: Single dwelling
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: storage

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: Germanic Central-Chimney House

foundation Limestone

walls Limestone

roof Asphalt

other

Narrative Description

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

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

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

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Area of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1760s-1850s

Significant Dates

c. 1760

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on files (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Fiery, Joseph, Homeplace
Name of Property

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10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property 3.01 acres

UTM References Mason-Dixon MD-PA quad
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	1 8	2 5 5 9 1 0	4 3 9 8 3 1 0	3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2				4			

See continuation sheet

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

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paula S. Reed, PhD, Architectural Historian
Organization Paula S. Reed and Associates, Inc. date June, 2002
street & number 105 N. Potomac Street telephone 301-739-2070
city or town Hagerstown state Maryland zip code 21740

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

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

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

Property Owner

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

name Daniel Stasny and Karen Bream
street & number 15107 Hicksville Road telephone 301-416-3959
city or town Clear Spring, state MD zip code 21722

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

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

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Physical Description:

Located at 15107 Hicksville Road, the Joseph Fiery Homeplace was once a farm of 320 acres. Today, the remaining buildings of the farmstead stand on a tract of 3.01 acres. The buildings include a limestone Germanic central chimney house, probably dating from the 1760s or 1770s, with a one and a half story log addition, a limestone Swisser-style barn from the late 18th century and a former limestone summer kitchen converted to an outdoor summer house. The buildings are situated on the south side of Hicksville Road, facing south, away from the road, which dates from after 1859 as it is not shown on the Washington County map of that year. The buildings are to the west of Rockdale Run, formerly known as Fiery Run. The current 3-acre tract captures the meadows and yards around the buildings. A low swale passes in front of the buildings and extends to the east toward Rockdale Run. The farm once also contained a sawmill and gristmill in addition to the house and barn covered in this nomination. Former owners in the late 20th century have diminished the architectural integrity of the house by the replacement of the window sash and removal of interior plaster finishes and some wood work. However, the rarity of this house as a settlement period survivor and the important surviving features including the original attic staircase with unusual molded trim, the central chimney system which is intact to the roof ridge, the attic roof framing system with purlins and major rafters, two original doors and portions of original puncheon work in the cellar all recall the as-built appearance of this house. It is certainly one of the oldest surviving houses in Washington County. The barn, slightly later in origin, has had its forebay removed, but its masonry and framing system remains intact along with double granaries. A concrete block milk house and a stave silo are located adjacent to the barn.

Resource Count: 2 contributing buildings (house and barn)

The former summer kitchen, milk house and silo all are minor and were not counted.

General Description:

The house that is referenced in old deeds as the "Joseph Fiery Homeplace" is a two story, three bay limestone dwelling, measuring approximately 30 by 36 feet, with a one and a half story log addition. The house faces south with its front entrance in the east bay. An unusual feature of the house is the absence of any openings at all on the rear elevation. This phenomenon occurs occasionally with settlement period houses, but is indeed rare. Windows have segmental limestone arched openings, a characteristic of pre-1780 dwellings in the Cumberland Valley limestone belt. The window sash, however, have been replaced with late 20th century single pane windows. The windows do retain their original massive mortised and tenoned framing beneath aluminum wrapping. Vinyl shutters have also been added to the windows.

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The front door retains original framing and its transom. A late 20th century porch spans the front of the building, replacing an original porch which appears of have covered most of the first story front of the building. It is the only exterior door in the main section of the house. There was originally a cellar entrance in the front elevation to the west of the main floor entrance.

In the mid 19th century a new log kitchen was built against the west end wall of the main house. It is a one and a half story, three-sided structure built against the west wall of the stone house. It has one room per story and functions as the current kitchen. It is offset to the south slightly, however, extending outward from the south façade of the stone section. Its entrance to the exterior is in the short east elevation, which partially encloses the front porch of the house.

The interior of the house retains its original three-room, central chimney Germanic plan. The front entrance opens into the original küche, the German kitchen or hall. The stairs are located just inside the door in the southeast corner of the room. Although they are replaced at the first floor level, the staircase is in its original location and the upper level stairs remain intact. The large kitchen fireplace remains in place, although plaster has been removed from the chimney wall. The major alteration to the küche is the construction of a bathroom into the space along the east wall opposite the fireplace. While this alters the appearance of the space, it is a reversible alteration, made by former owners.

Opposite the chimney wall are two rooms, the tradition stube and kammer. These spaces are intact, each with 18th century doors leading to the küche. The door from the stube, the southwest room has six steeply raised panels within a massive mortised and tenoned door frame with molded ovolo trim. It shoes evidence of having had strap hinges replaced in the 19th century with butt hinges. The door from the kammer to the küche is less formal, but equally old, being a two-plank board and batten door with molded battens and long strap hinges.

At the second floor, the most significant feature is the staircase to the attic. Covered with modern materials on its outer surface, the original structure is fully in place. The inner surface retains original planning marks and a set of steps leading to the attic with unusual molded edges.

The attic has its full framing and flooring system. The central chimney passes through the space, but was removed above the peak of the roof when a brick furnace flue was added to the west gable end of the house. The roofing system has pairs of major rafters with diagonal bracing and collars. These carry purlins, which in turn carry pairs of common rafters.

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The cellar retains portions of its original puncheon work, although the original mud and plaster infill has been removed. The puncheons are hewn and are the full width of the log on the bottom surface, while the sides are hewn at a taper, causing the log to narrow to the top surface.

The log addition attached to the west end of the house has one room at each story. From its second story, the original end wall of the stone section is clearly visible.

To the west of the house is a limestone Swisser-style barn, approximately 76 by 43 feet. It had an arch-topped date tablet in its east gable end, but if any inscription remains, it is illegible. The arched top, however is consistent with 18th century style date stones. However, it appears to be later than the main house and probably dates from the 1790s. Its walls are constructed of coursed limestone with vertical ventilator slits in the gables. Joist pockets at the threshing floor level on each exterior gable end suggest that there were once some sort of extensions from the end walls. Stone granaries project from the north wall on either side of the doors to the threshing floor. The interior of the upper level of the barn has two timber-framed bents. The interior surface of the stone walls are parged with a brown coat to smooth the surface. The roof framing system includes purlins and the pulley and winch mechanism for moving hay and straw through the barn remains intact. In front of the barn is a stave silo and a concrete block milk house which appears to date from the 1930s or '40s.

The property is in good condition and about to be rehabilitated by removal of some of the out-of-character alteration of the late 20th century.

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Statement of Significance:

The Joseph Fiery Homeplace is significant for its architectural expression as a rare example of settlement period housing in Washington County. Following the traditional German three-room, central chimney plan, it is one of only a few such buildings in Washington County, nearly all of which date from the 18th century. According to analysis of the 1790 census, Washington County had the highest number of German residents in Maryland, at 31% of the population. This house dating from approximately 1768 represents the first period of effective settlement in the county following the end of hostilities of the French and Indian War. Despite alterations to the house made in the late 20th century, it retains key elements marking it as a first period house in Washington County. These include the three-room central chimney floor plan, roof framing system, exterior masonry features, significant interior elements such as two original doors and the attic staircase with fine molded finishes, and puncheon work in the cellar. The companion limestone Swisser style barn, although dating from somewhat later than the house, in the late 18th or very early 19th century also reflects the German heritage of Washington County. The property therefore meets National Register Criterion C as representing a rare survival of early Germanic architecture in Washington County, constructed from the trademark limestone characteristic of the Cumberland Valley.

Historic Context:

The Joseph Fiery Homeplace represents an important slice of regional history rooted in the rich soil cultivated and developed into prosperous farms by German husbandmen. A few pioneering farmers and fur traders initially settled the area in the 1730s and 1740s. At that time Lord Baltimore had just opened Maryland's frontier or "back country" for settlement, and Germans were migrating through the area to create settlements in Virginia. Seeking to develop the back portions of Maryland, Lord Baltimore began to encourage settlement on his colony's frontier. Speculators from eastern Maryland responded by acquiring large tracts for subdivision and resale to German farmers. As settlement progressed, political divisions of the frontier occurred. Until 1748, the Williamsport/Hagerstown area was part of Prince George's County. Afterward it was Frederick County until 1776 when Washington County was formed.

Settlement was sparse until the close of the French and Indian War in 1763, and the end of Pontiac's rebellion the following year. Thereafter, settlement progressed rapidly as transportation routes improved and word of the rich farmland in the Cumberland and Shenandoah valleys spread. The land was made fertile by numerous limestone outcrops, which give special visual character to the landscape as well as providing material for buildings and fences. The English speculators who had acquired large grants of land as investments began to subdivide and sell into smaller lots of 100-300 acres which were ideal for a profitable family

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farm. These farms were divided into fields of 20-40 acres and planted with small grains and corn or clover. Other lands were left in pasture and woodlots, as the process of clearing the land was slow. Woodlot and pasture functions were often combined in areas where rock outcrops made cultivation difficult. Allowing cattle and hogs to forage through woodlands helped to keep them open and clear. As farms developed and inhabitants prospered, towns and villages grew to support the local population. Hagerstown was incorporated in 1763, although settlements were present on its site earlier. Evolving from a mid 18th century trading settlement at the confluence of the Potomac River and the Conococheague Creek, Williamsport is located where a prominent 18th century highway crosses the Potomac River. Its location has helped the town to become prosperous. Although a settlement was present at the site of Williamsport as early as the mid 18th century, the town was not formally created until 1787. It was located at a ferry crossing of the Potomac River on a major north-south highway running along the center of the Great Valley of Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania.

The area prospered, achieving a high level cultivation and development during the period from 1760-1860. Most of the substantial farmhouses and "Swisser" barns common to the region were constructed between 1780 and 1850. Favored building materials for houses were log (nearly always covered with siding or stucco), native limestone, or brick (most brick farmhouses in the area date from after 1820). The earliest barns were log or limestone with brick or timber framing favored after the 1830s.

The population remained dominated by Germans who migrated into the county from Pennsylvania, although a significant number of landowners from eastern Maryland, mostly well to do members of the upper levels of society, made their homes in Washington County as well. Although the Germans had a major impact on Washington County culture as evidenced in architectural and agricultural traditions, types of churches and language, the Germans were nevertheless a minority in the population. According to the nation's first census, taken in 1790, Washington County's white population in that year was 14,472. Of those, 4,356 were of German descent, or 31%. This percentage of Germans was the highest in the state. Frederick County had a population of 26,937 whites, with 5,137 Germans, which computes to 20% of the white population. For comparison, Franklin County, Pennsylvania, just north of Washington County, had a total population of 15,057 whites of whom only 1,296 or 9% were of German descent. For Washington, Frederick, and Franklin (PA) Counties, the largest portion of the population was tabulated as English/Welsh. Frederick County had the greatest population of all counties in Maryland in 1790, with a total count of 30,791.¹

¹ *A Century of Population Growth From the First Census of the United States to the Twelfth, 1790-1900.* Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1970, p. 272.

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The prosperity that grew in Washington County during the latter 18th and early 19th centuries was the result of agricultural intensification as frontier conditions lessened and farming and support networks matured. Most prominent in the developing economy during the time period was the dominance of wheat and small grains and the shift away from less profitable tobacco. While southern Maryland remained committed to tobacco cultivation, the central and western counties increasingly turned to wheat production. Wheat was a more saleable product than tobacco and was not restricted by production legislation as tobacco had been. The increase of wheat production promoted growth of Baltimore, Frederick and Hagerstown, as well as towns in south central Pennsylvania and the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. These places show evidence of significant growth in the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

Eventually the region became known for grain production. Grain was sold in bulk, or processed into flour and meal, or distilled into whiskey. These commodities were shipped to markets in Baltimore or Philadelphia. Shipping from central and western Maryland and the grain growing regions of Pennsylvania and the Shenandoah Valley was a problem, and hindered the growth and prosperity associated with grain production. There was no inland water route to the farming areas, although navigation of the Potomac and Susquehanna were promoted or opposed by various factions. Rail service did not develop until the 1830s, so highway transportation had to serve the freight hauling needs of the region. Maryland, therefore promoted turnpike development, although most of these toll routes were privately funded. The output and growth in population in the western areas of Maryland encouraged construction and improvement of roads which were generally described as “miserable and worst in the union” in the late 18th century.² Baltimore officials in 1787 laid out 20-foot wide roads to Frederick, Reisterstown and York, Pennsylvania. However, it was private turnpike companies and in some cases mill owners who actually constructed the roads.³

The dawn of the 19th century brought enormous growth to Central Maryland, part of the “bread basket” of the country, and its primary market, Baltimore City. According to Susan Winter Frye, “By 1810 Maryland had become the third largest flour-producing state in the nation behind Pennsylvania and Virginia. Washington County was the state’s foremost county in terms of the value of its flour mills and the number of barrels of flour produced by these mills.”⁴ An 1831 editorial in the Hagerstown newspaper the Torchlight and Public Advertiser numbers the flour mills of Washington County as “upwards of sixty-four,” saying “...it is believed that we send annually to market 130,000 bbls. Being about one fifth of all the flour inspected in

² Robert J. Brugger, Maryland, A Middle Temperament, Baltimore: Johns Hopkins, (198), p. 153.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Susan Winter Frye, Mill Settlement Patterns Along the Antietam Creek Drainage, Washington County, Maryland. Bound thesis, College of William and Mary, 1984, p. 45.

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Baltimore.”⁵ This tremendous growth in production was supported by equal population growth. Between the years 1790 and 1820 Washington County grew by 8,603 people, by 1860, the population had grown by another 8,342 people while growth in many eastern counties had slowed or even decreased. The growth of farms and grain production in the western counties was made necessary by the phenomenal growth of cities such as Baltimore, which increased its population by over 200,000 people between 1790 and 1860.

By the time of the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861, the area was well established and intensively farmed. Farms were characterized by fields and boundaries marked with wood or stone fences, orchards and small herds of cattle, hogs and sheep, and flocks of chickens and geese. Farms had carefully maintained woodlots kept to supply firewood, building materials and fencing. Demand for wood was great in the 19th century with the need for construction material and fuel (most households consumed about 10 cords of wood per year for heating). Historic photographs affirm the massive consumption of wood, revealing that the landscape at the time of the Civil War had far fewer trees than seen today.

The prosperity of the greater region led to its being served by important transportation routes, a good system of turnpikes, the National Road, C&O Canal and the B&O Railroad.

After the Civil War, Maryland’s urbanization accelerated. Population began to shift with internal migration from the countryside to the cities. Baltimore grew, but so did cities like Cumberland, Hagerstown and, to a lesser extent, Frederick. By 1910, Cumberland was the second largest city in Maryland, with a population of 21,838. Hagerstown was third with 16,507 and Frederick was the fourth largest city with 10,411 people. Baltimore City, however, had 43.1% of the state’s population, ranking seventh in the nation.⁶ The rapid growth of Baltimore, Hagerstown and Cumberland had to do with the multiple railroads serving these cities in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Hagerstown was a hub for four intersecting railroads. The good transportation opportunity led to growth of industries there and consequently population growth.

As the urbanization and industrialization process gradually transformed the economy of Maryland and of Washington County, the County responded by shifting to dairy products, fruit and vegetable production. Corn and wheat were still major agricultural products, but milling in Washington County changed from production for market to custom work for local farmers and planters. Susan Winter Frye, in her study of milling in the Antietam drainage area in Washington County recorded similar findings concerning the decline in milling. “Several trends become apparent in the flour milling industry during the nineteenth century. First, large milling establishments had reached their pinnacle about mid century. By 1880, several of these large

⁵Torchlight and Public Advertiser, March 10, 1831, microfilm collection, Washington Co. Free Library, Hagerstown, MD.

⁶William Lloyd Fox, “Social-Cultural Developments from the Civil War to 1920.” Walsh and Fox, p. 503.

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mills had converted to other lines of manufacture. Those merchant mills that continued producing flour decreased their output.”⁷ The fact that Frederick and Washington Counties were still producing large amounts of wheat and corn while decreasing mill output, indicates that grain was being shipped unprocessed to markets or mills in Baltimore, or was converted locally to animal feed.

The trend toward urbanization and the shift of population to Baltimore continued into the 20th century. In 1920, Maryland had become 60% urban with slightly over half the state’s population in Baltimore.⁸ By the end of the 1920s, the number of farms in Maryland had decreased by 4,704.⁹ Meanwhile suburban residential districts and recreational areas spread outward from Washington D.C. and Baltimore into Montgomery and Baltimore Counties, a trend that has continued to the present. The conversion of farmland use to dairy and orchards in the county led to the decrease of local agricultural industries particularly milling and attendant businesses and industries. While Washington County’s population continued to grow, it grew much more slowly than the urban growth of Baltimore, as the rural population siphoned off to the more flamboyant life in the city.

Property History:

The history of the farmland that became the Joseph Fiery Homeplace extends back to the early settlement period of Washington County. Evan Shelby, pioneer landowner in the area north and east of Clear Spring on August 17, 1768 sold 100 acres, part of Resurvey on the Mountain of Wales, known as “The Hole in the Rock” to Joseph Fieri [Fiery]. Apparently, there was some sort of mistake and the land that Joseph Fieri occupied and possessed was not the same as the land described in the deed from Shelby. Shelby also sold land to Abraham Barnes who in turn transferred it to Richard Barnes. Some of the land which legally belonged to Fieri was occupied by Barnes, while Fieri was occupying land that legally belonged to Barnes. To correct the error, Richard Barnes and Joseph Fieri transferred or swapped titles to their respective pieces of land in. (Washington County Deed Book H, Folio 189). This transaction indicates that Fiery likely occupied the property from 1768, and probably constructed the stone house shortly after which would be consistent with the appearance of the house.

Meanwhile, Joseph Fiery was accumulating other lands, including 152 ½ acres from Jeremiah Tolbert and Denton Jacques, trustees for John Weathering for £1,520 on November 4, 1786. This was predominantly from a tract called “Struggle,” and “Resurvey on Three Friends” and “The Venture.” (Washington County Deed Book E, folio 157). Then, on May 19, 1792,

⁷ Frye, p. 71.

⁸ James B. Crooks, “Maryland Progressivism,” Walsh and Fox, p. 590

⁹ Dorothy M. Brown, “Maryland Between the Wars,” Walsh and Fox, p. 704.

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Fiery bought from Richard Barnes of St. Mary's County 13 ½ acres of "Montpielier," adjoining "Struggle." For this small parcel he paid £5. (Washington County Deed Book G, folio 817).

Joseph Fiery died on August 6th 1833. In his will, he left the "home farm" of 320 acres to his son John. His single daughters, Mary Catherine and Mary Eve were given use of "the stone end of the house wherein I now live, The Garden in the Hollows, Firewood sufficient for their use..." The heirs were also to have the choice of Negro slaves if they wanted them. (Washington County Will Book D, folio 74).

After John Fiery died in a drowning accident, the farm passed to Solomon Fiery and Ann Maria, his wife, Maria Fiery, Albert Small and Alice, his wife and Elizabeth Brewer. They in turn sold the farm, by this time containing 172 1/8 acres, to Sally Grove for \$12,051.50 on September 28, 1867. (Washington County Deed Book LBN 2, folio 515). Within just a few months, Sally Grove sold 159 ¾ acres to Gustavius Ditto and Jacob Strite for \$11,992.96. She had just previously sold Jacob Strite nine acres of the property. (Washington County Deed Book LBN 2, folio 677, 787). In a mortgage agreement between Sally Grove and Strite and Ditto the improvements on the property are listed: "a stone dwelling house with a log part attached, stone bank barn, sawmill, a dilapidated grist mill and other outbuildings..." (Washington County Deed Book LBN 2, folio 516). The 1859 Map of Washington County (copy attached) shows the mill along Rockdale Run, on the property of Solomon Fiery. The current Hicksville Road did not exist, so access to the house was from the east off Rockdale Road.

By July of 1874, Gustavius Ditto had signed all of his estate in trust "for the benefit of creditors." Thus, on April 24, 1877, Louis E. McComas, and Frisby Tilghman Spickler, trustees, sold the farm to Christian Leshar. The farm remained in the Leshar family until 1974.

According to Scharf's History of Western Maryland, Joseph Fiery's house was used as the polling place for elections for District #4 in 1800.¹⁰

Property Evaluation:

The Joseph Fiery Homeplace is architecturally significant due to its early construction date, and its reflection of German cultural traditions. Both the barn and house represent vernacular architectural expressions that were introduced by German immigrants to the region.

¹⁰ J. Thomas Scharf, History of Western Maryland, vol. II, Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co., 1968 (originally published, Phila. 1882). p. 1242

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These Germanic traditions eventually came to be hybridized into Central Maryland's distinctive regional architecture.

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Major Bibliographical References:

Washington County Land Records
Washington County Probate Records

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Washington County, Maryland

County and State

Section 10 Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description:

The nominated property includes the entire remaining tract associated with the Joseph Fiery Homeplace, 3.01 acres. It is that property which is identified as parcel #137 on Washington County Tax Map 22.

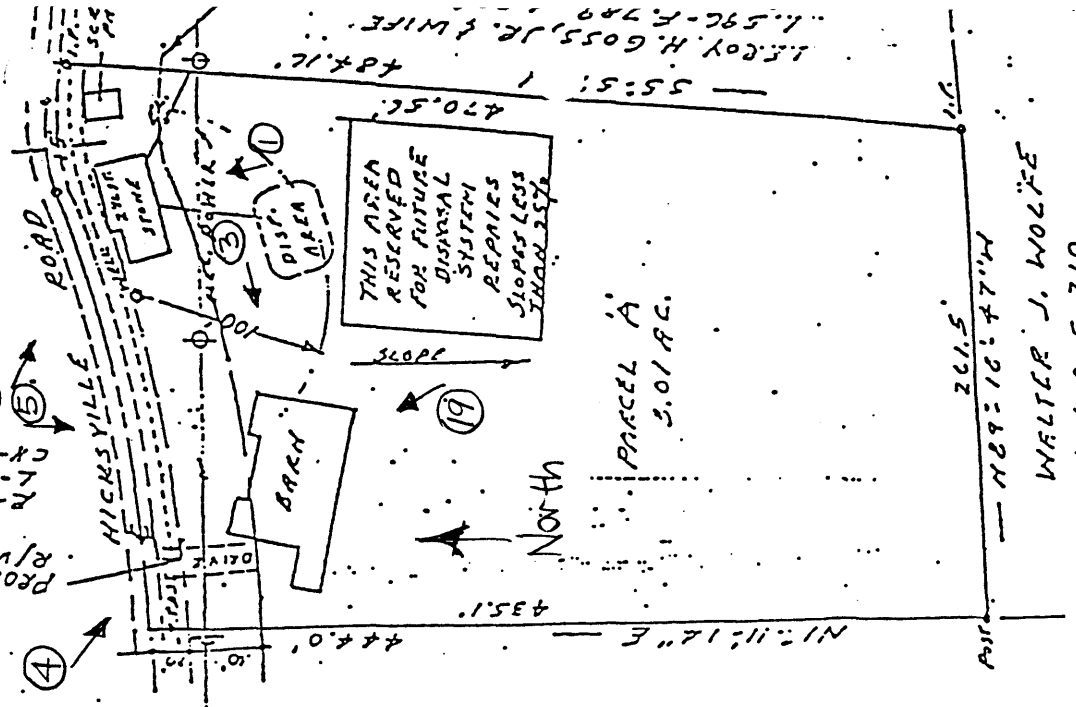
Boundary Justification:

The property is the remaining collected acreage with the historic buildings and their immediate grounds and setting. The nominated are includes the house, barn, their yards, associated outbuildings and meadowland to preserve the open, agricultural environment of the historic property.

PLANNING SECTOR - V
 LOCAL ROAD, ZONED - A
 22-05-104

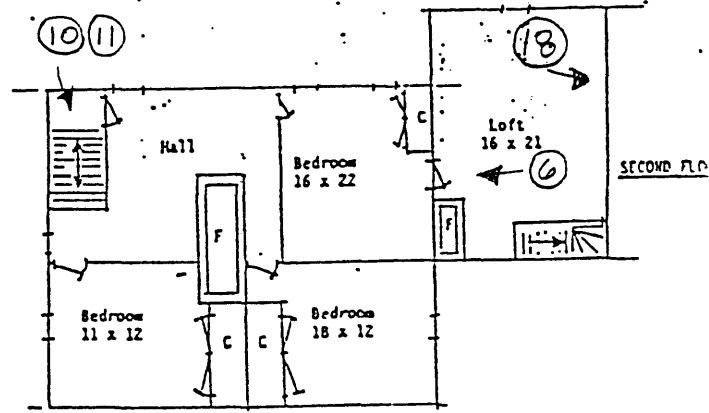
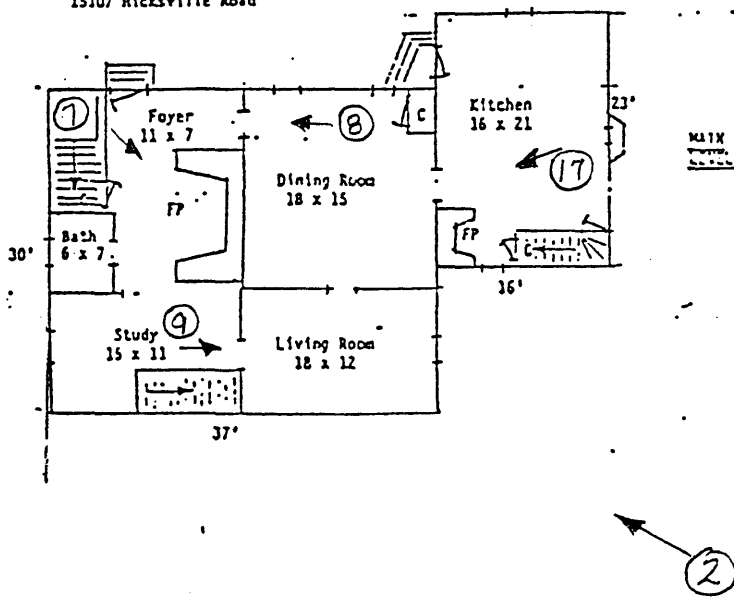
R-130
 L-42.3C
 CT-N2-00-57E
 #6.09
 584-1734 E 2124

PROPOSED FUTURE
 R/W LINE
 R-875
 L-236.CC
 CK-N2-00-22E
 235.94

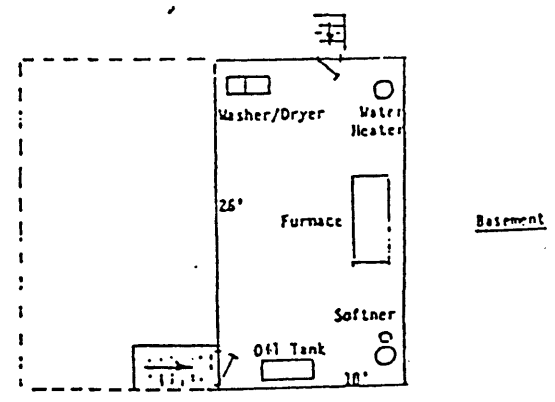


CHARLES F. BARKIN L.625-F.168

First Floor
 Floor Plan
 15107 Hicksville Road



Approx. 2,900 Sq. Ft
 Total Area



Joseph Fiery Homeplace
 15107 Hicksville Rd.
 Clear Spring, Washington Co. MD.

WA-V-101

① Photo view and number

Joseph Fevy Homeplace
15107 Hicksville Rd.
Clearspring, MD Washington Co.
WA-V-101

Tax Map 22, parcel 137

