

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

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**SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD**

NRIS Reference Number: 02001591 Date Listed: 12/30/2002

Property Name: Good-Reilly House County: Washington State: MD

\_\_\_\_\_  
Multiple Name

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Patrick Andrus  
Signature of the Keeper

12/30/2002  
Date of Action

=====

Amended Items in Nomination:

This SLR is issued to amend the Period of Significance defined in the registration form. The building is nominated under Criterion C for its architectural importance as a refined Georgian style building dating from the 1780s, yet the period of significance is defined as extending from c. 1765 - 1939. The registration form does not claim that the building has had a significant architectural evolution that would justify this long period of significance. The period of significance is amended to c. 1780 to reflect the building's original construction date.

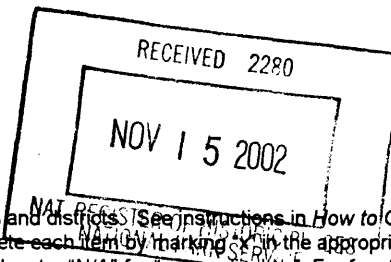
**DISTRIBUTION:**

- National Register property file**
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)**

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

1591



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 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 Good-Reilly House

other names WA-II-715

2. Location

street & number 107 E. Main St.

not for publication

city or town Sharpsburg

vicinity

state Maryland

code MD

county Washington

code 43

zip code 21782

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]  
Signature of certifying office/Title

11-14-02  
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 of the Keeper  
Patricia Andrus

Date of Action  
12/30/2002

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**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 |            |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| 1            |                 | buildings  |
|              |                 | sites      |
|              |                 | structures |
|              |                 | objects    |
| 1            |                 | Total      |

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

N/A

**number of contributing resource previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function of Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling  
Commerce/Trade/specialty store

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial/Georgian

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Limestone  
walls Limestone  
roof Wood Shingle  
other Weatherboard

**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

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.
[X] 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 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

c. 1765-1939

Significant Dates

c. 1765

c. 1895

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:

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** Town lot, approximately 50' X 206', .025 acre

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

|   |      |         |          |   |      |         |          |  |  |  |
|---|------|---------|----------|---|------|---------|----------|--|--|--|
| 1 | 18   | 263510  | 4371050  | 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 and Edie Wallace, Research Historian  
Organization Paula S. Reed and Associates, Inc. Date 25 February 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 Brien J. Poffenberger and Chase V. Poffenberger  
street & number 107 E. Main St. telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town Sharpsburg state Maryland zip code 21782

**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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Good-Reilly House  
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## Physical Description:

Located at 107 East Main Street in Sharpsburg, the Good-Reilly House faces south and forms the northeast corner of the town square. It is a 1½ story stone house with combined Maryland colonial and Georgian stylistic influence. It probably dates from the 1780s. It is one of four prominently located houses along Sharpsburg's main street constructed of finely cut ashlar limestone at the front elevation. Two of the four are already listed in the National Register (109 West Main and 200 East Main). The Good-Reilly House is the only one of the four that uses the colonial Maryland 1½ story form. The others are two full stories, more characteristic of substantial stone or brick houses in mid-Maryland. Adjoining the house at its east end is a small 1½ story infill section of frame construction, dating from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The stone house with the frame addition spans the entire width of the property. A central entrance hall and a separate rear stair hall bisect the interior of the house, with an unusual double stair descending to the rear wall and back door. Two rooms are located on each side of the hall.

## General Description:

The formal, symmetrical front of the Good-Reilly House, is one and a half stories high with inside end stone chimneys. A raised cellar results in half-windows just above street level aligned with the main level windows, and a central cellar entrance beneath the current entrance porch. The finely cut limestones forming an ashlar facade enhance the formality of the front. Stone jack arches top the central entrance, all of the main level windows and the two outer cellar windows. The cellar windows are outfitted with batten shutters attached with strap hinges. These lower windows have wide mortised and tenoned frames secured with pegs. The upper level windows and the main entrance have narrow frames from the mid or late 19<sup>th</sup> century and six over six light sash that date from 1994 restoration of the windows.

The east gable end of the original stone building is concealed behind the framed infill section on the east side. The west gable actually forms the northeast corner of Sharpsburg's public square. However, despite the prominence of the gable façade, the stonework is coursed limestone, typical of late 18<sup>th</sup> century stone construction elsewhere in Washington County. This elevation lacks the refined precision masonry exhibited at the front.

The west end has two windows at the main level, a former cellar entrance, now partially covered and two attic windows. These openings are irregularly placed and offset toward the south to accommodate another building that is constructed against the north side of the west wall, and also an interior fireplace in the northwest room at the main level. The main level south window in the west elevation was once an entrance that went directly into the southwest room. Evidence of the conversion remains in the stonework and is apparent in the greater width of this

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opening than for the other windows. The change was probably made in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The two attic windows are of different sizes. The north one is small with four lights while the south one is larger and possibly held six over three light sash. The large stone chimney with a corbel at its top dominates the west wall.

The rear or north elevation is essentially symmetrical with a central rear entrance and two windows on either side. There are two dormer windows, which are late 19<sup>th</sup> century additions. There are also low level windows into the cellar, and a rear cellar entrance. The dominant feature is the oversized transom over the rear door. It has twelve lights arranged horizontally in two ranks of six lights each. All main level windows have six over six light sash within original wide mortised and tenoned frames. The sash are replacements which date from 1994. The eastern north elevation window was converted to a door in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The roofing material is a recently installed wood shingle roof.

Behind the house the yard extends north to an alley. Two newly built hip roofed garden structures are on the sites of former outbuildings.

The front door of the house opens into a formal reception hall, which is separated from the rear star hall by a partition with a door leading from one space to the other. The door between the front and rear halls has a transom for borrowed light. The front hall is quite formal with refinement that includes crossetted architraves around the doors and plaster cornice molding. Doors have six raised panels. The south rooms have no fireplaces, relying on the southern exposure for warmth. The southeast room, a parlor is dominated by a wide round molded plaster ceiling medallion. It was reconstructed from evidence and profiles that remained in the ceiling. This room also has plaster molded cornice and partial crossettes on the door architraves.

The southwest room has two front-facing windows and two windows facing west onto the square, one of which was originally a door. This room also has plaster cornice molding. Behind, in the northwest room is the present kitchen with a large fireplace set on a diagonal in the southwest corner of the room. The northeast room also has a diagonal fireplace with an adjacent cupboard. The fireplace mantel has a crossetted architrave, a frieze with raised panels and a heavily molded shelf. From this room steps lead up into the frame infill section between this house and the dwelling on the next lot.

Between the two rear rooms is the back portion of the hallway with the staircase. This stair area is lit only by the oversized transom over the back door and by an interior transom bringing in borrowed light from the front hallway. The very unusual stairs was constructed with

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a double set descending from the upper half story along the east and west walls of the hallway. Since the hallway is not particularly wide, each stair run was quite narrow. At some point, probably in the mid or late 19<sup>th</sup> century when other changes were made to the house, the narrower run of steps along the west wall of the hall was removed, but seams and marks in the wall still indicate the presence of the stairs. The remaining run of stairs along the east wall is enclosed with beaded paneling, with a closed stringer and low molded handrail. Balusters are rectangular. Beneath this stairs is the run of steps to the cellar. A separate set of steps also once descended below the other stair case that was removed.

The cellar has two rooms in the rear, each with a diagonally set fireplace with a segmentally arched opening lined with stone. The front (south) section of the cellar is one large room that has been used intermittently as a commercial space.

The attic is divided into two small rooms, one at each end of the house with doors opening into them from a small landing area at the top of the stairs. Even these rooms feature chairrail and wooden cornice molding.

Despite a few alterations dating from the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the house retains a remarkable amount of its original material from the 18<sup>th</sup> century. It therefore has a high level of architectural integrity to its period of construction



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## Statement of Significance:

The Good-Reilly House is significant under National Register Criterion C as an intact example of a refined regional adaptation of the Georgian style. Built probably in the 1780s by owner William Good, the house displays numerous elements of the Georgian style, but with vernacular adaptations such as the narrow, rear facing divided central stairs. Woodwork, the parlor's large plaster ceiling medallion, plaster cornice work, and the fine cut stones of the front façade, reveal an owner of significant wealth with an eye for detail. The house is one of four contemporary high-style stone houses in Sharpsburg, each identifiable by their fine cut-stone façades. Two of these, including the subject house at 107 E. Main St. and the house at 109 W. Main St., were associated with the family of Moses Chapline, brother of the founder of Sharpsburg. Two of the four stone houses have been listed individually in the National Register, 109 West Main Street and 200 East Main Street.

## *Historic Context*

In 1732, Charles Calvert, Fifth Lord Baltimore and proprietor of Maryland, issued a proclamation opening Maryland's frontier for settlement. This was an effort to increase population and consequently income from the "back" parts of the colony. In part this was in response to an economic depression that had gripped the tobacco market intermittently since the mid 1600s. The promise of large land grants attracted the English land speculators of the eastern shore of the Chesapeake Bay and southern Maryland. The promise of the rich, well-watered farmland attracted the German farmers of Pennsylvania who bought smaller tracts from the wealthy landholders.<sup>1</sup>

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 farm. As farms developed and inhabitants prospered, towns and villages grew to support the local population.

In the lower Antietam drainage, in the area that would later be known as the Sharpsburg District, the predominant landowner was Joseph Chapline. Joseph was of English heritage and had grown up on a plantation in southern Maryland. His "manorial" grant of 1739, which he

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called "Mount Pleasant," from Charles Calvert included just over 2,000 acres and required that he live on his plantation bringing English civilization to the wilderness.

The French and Indian War interrupted settlement of the western regions Maryland beginning with the defeat of General Braddock in 1754 and lasting to 1763. Most of the Antietam drainage settlers fled east of the South Mountain for protection. A letter written by George Washington to Lord Fairfax of Virginia noted that all but two families had fled the settlement called Conococheague.<sup>2</sup> The signing of the Treaty of Paris in 1763, however, began the process of resettlement and the development of the Antietam drainage area progressed rapidly. The southern migration of German farmers from Pennsylvania accelerated. The granting of land patents increased accordingly and German owners became increasingly common. No doubt many of the earlier land speculators were cashing in on their investments.

In 1762 Christian Orndorff, a German miller, from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, purchased 503 acres of "Smith's Hills" from James Smith, on the banks of the Antietam Creek.<sup>3</sup> The next year, in 1763, Joseph Chapline founded the town of Sharpsburg just over a mile from the home and mill of Christian Orndorff. In 1765, Chapline and three other investors established the Antietam Iron Works near the mouth of the Antietam Creek. The same year Thomas Van Swearingen was given permission to begin running a ferry across the Potomac River just three miles west of Sharpsburg to Shepherdstown (est. 1763), then in Virginia.<sup>4</sup> By 1768, Chapline had sold 75 lots in his new town, many already improved with houses and stores.<sup>5</sup>

The settlement of southern Washington County in the latter 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries exhibited a mixture of wealthy landowners, yeoman farmers, craftsmen, and laborers, centered on the town of Sharpsburg, the surrounding mills, and the Antietam Iron Works. The growing prosperity 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. It was, however, on the list of commodities that by law had to be shipped to England in pre-Revolutionary days. Therefore, in the 1760s and 1770s, wheat profits were limited by market conditions in England. The increase of wheat production, though, 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 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Sharpsburg too had grown; by the 1800 U.S. Population Census, the town of Sharpsburg numbered 512 souls, including 28 slaves and four freemen. By 1776, the growth of the western region of Frederick County had progressed sufficiently to allow the

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creation of a new county, Washington, with its government located at Hagerstown (then known as Elizabeth Town), although Sharpsburg had nearly won the honor of becoming the new county seat, losing only by one vote.

The growth of the greater region led to its being served by important transportation routes. A good system of turnpikes and the National Road were developed through the first decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. While improved roads helped the movement of farm products to the mills and markets, the search for a water route along the Potomac River, begun in the 1780s by George Washington, culminated in the development of the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal from 1828 to its completion at Cumberland in 1854. The C&O Canal had a significant impact on the growth of towns along its length in Washington County. In 1880, at the height of the Canal's existence, the population of Sharpsburg peaked at 1,260.<sup>6</sup>

Good roads, the C&O Canal, and the proximity of the B&O Railroad, as well as the overall prosperity of the region were certainly factors influencing Confederate General Robert E. Lee's decision to enter Maryland and occupy the portion of it consisting of the Cumberland Valley in September of 1862. Lee's invasion into Maryland culminated in the Battle of Antietam, which ultimately forced him back into southern territory across the Potomac River. For the people of the Sharpsburg area, the effects of the bloody battle continued for months, even years afterward. Claims to the government for damages were delayed because verification of who caused the destruction was difficult (the Federal government only reimbursed property owners for damages caused by Union troops), and it was also sometimes difficult for the Government to establish the applicant's loyalty. In most cases, claims were not paid until the 1880s.

During the war, the railroads had spread to prime farming regions to the west, attracting many of the descendants of the industrious German farmers who had developed the farms of central Maryland. Soon these same railroads would be bringing grain from the west to the eastern markets and lowering grain prices. The farms of Washington County by 1880, still facing debts incurred from losses during the war, as well as lower land values, were unable to compete with the new mid-western grain belt. The eventual demise of the local milling economy by the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and the C & O Canal in 1924, would leave southern Washington County, and the town of Sharpsburg, a quiet shadow of the bustling pre-war era.

### *Architectural Context*

Although there are a few references to pre-1760 stone houses in Washington County, stone was used frequently as a building material beginning in the second half of the 18th century with most examples in the lower Cumberland Valley dating between 1780 and 1840. Although

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stone was selected much more frequently than either brick or frame for house construction in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, it was by far a rarer choice than log.

Most buildings constructed before about 1770 were apparently small and fairly temporary in nature, since very few buildings survive from this period. Many properties were simply abandoned during the French and Indian War as settlers fled from the threat of Indian raids. Most permanent and stable settlement occurred after the 1760s.

The people of the Cumberland Valley built according to the materials that were available to them, sometimes drawing upon long-established traditions based upon European and British patterns and upon their own interpretations of current styles and construction techniques, adapted to local conditions. Elements of fashionable styles were incorporated into the region's buildings along with traditional features. Although there are pure stylistic examples, particularly dating from the later 19th century, the vast majority of Washington County's buildings are vernacular structures.

### *Resource History*

William Good was among the first to purchase lots in Sharpsburg in 1764. His deed for Lot 50, on the edge of the town square, was recorded on January 20<sup>th</sup> at a cost of one shilling (Frederick Co., Deed Book J, page 680). In July, Good purchased Lot 20 for two pounds, the higher price possibly because of the presence of water on that parcel (Frederick County, Deed Book J, page 681). These purchases were apparently only the beginning of a career in land speculation, particularly of Sharpsburg properties. Good additionally bought, subdivided and improved Lot 51, eventually selling it to the tenants.<sup>7</sup>

The west half of Lot 50 appears to have held more meaning for William Good than his other properties. He held the lot until his death in 1811 although he did not live there at the time of his death. According to family history, Good had married Mary Chapline, daughter of Moses Chapline (brother of Joseph the founder of Sharpsburg), around 1760. In 1761, John, their first son was born. Where this occurred is not known, however family lore continues that another son, Josiah, was born in 1768 in the stone house on Lot 50.<sup>8</sup> This would imply that the subject Good-Reilly House was constructed between 1764 and 1768, which the architectural evidence does not support. It is possible that, like many of the earliest houses in Sharpsburg, a log house was first constructed on the lot, which the William Good family occupied. A indication that the Good family were indeed living in Sharpsburg at the time comes in a 1769 advertisement in the *Maryland Gazette*, which listed William Good on the managing committee for a lottery to complete construction on the Reformed Calvinist church building in Sharpsburg, located on the lot (#61) immediately behind Lot 50.<sup>9</sup>

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In 1775, William Good, Sr. purchased a 77-acre farm southeast of Sharpsburg from Moses Chapline (Junior) which appears to have been the beginning of his 400-acre plantation on which he died (Washington County Deed Book B, page 211). Eldest son, John, at age 15, joined George Washington's continental army in 1776, serving as a sergeant in the Revolutionary War.<sup>10</sup> It was perhaps John's return from war that precipitated the construction of the high-style dwelling now located on the west half of Lot 50. The elegant Georgian finish elements of the house belie the relative wealth of the builder, because the 1 ½ story height and too narrow Georgian-inspired central split stairway imply certain restrictions to the overall statement of the house. The apparent use of the southwest room of the house as an office, with a door (now a window) leading onto the village square indicates that at least one of the Good family members was occupied with a business on the premises. From 1802 to 1810, John Good served as a Justice of the Peace for Washington County, however there was no indication that he was ever occupied as a county lawyer.<sup>11</sup>

Whether William Good built the stone house for his son or possibly as his 'town house' is not clear in the records. Population Census records from 1790 and 1800 do not clearly show any of the Good family living in the town of Sharpsburg. In 1803, the Maryland tax assessment for Washington County recorded John Good in possession of one house and lot, five outlots (garden lots) and seven slaves.<sup>12</sup> He also was assessed for 300 acres just north of town however no improvements were listed. Younger brother Josiah was also listed with a house and lot in Sharpsburg. Family history notes that John had married the widow of Benoni Swearingen who inherited their larger stone house (125 E. Main St.) after his (Benoni's) death in 1798.<sup>13</sup> It then seems quite likely that Josiah Good occupied the family house on the town square.

In 1811, William Good, Sr. died at the age of 72 on his farm outside of Sharpsburg.<sup>14</sup> Despite his apparent wealth, William Sr. left no will. John, serving as administrator of the estate, sold the 400-acre 'plantation,' then occupied by William Good, Jr.<sup>15</sup> The stone house on the west half lot 50 was sold to Elizabeth Chapline, sister of Mary Chapline Good (Washington County Deed Book Y, page 41). The purchase price of \$1,000 was an indication that the improvement was considered substantial.

Elizabeth Chapline probably did not occupy the house. It was more likely occupied by Gabriel Nourse, to whom she sold the property in 1815 (Washington County Deed Book AA, page 283). Nourse, whose family lived in Washington, D.C., was already serving as postmaster in Sharpsburg by 1813, as noted by his advertisement for letters at the post office in July 1813.<sup>16</sup> Nourse probably used the convenient office room, fronting onto the town square, for his post office establishment. Unfortunately, Gabriel Nourse appears to have accumulated a number of

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debts, including fifty dollars owed to a "Tavern Keeper in Martinsburg," which eventually forced him to sell his property in 1834 (Washington County Deed Book PP, page 352).

Through the next sixty years, the stone house passed through a number of owners forced to sell the property as 'insolvent debtors.'<sup>17</sup> In 1894, Charles and Mary Porter, who were not insolvent, sold the house and lot to Oliver T. Reilly (book 102, page 572). Reilly was making a name for himself as the premier Antietam Battlefield tour guide and purveyor of relics. Through the 1890s, as a tide of elderly Civil War veterans made their last pilgrimages to the battlefields, Sharpsburg had made improvements to encourage visitation to the Antietam site. A new train station was located on the western edge of town, and a macadamized road, shaded by an allee of maple trees, led from the station through the town to the National Cemetery and passed Oliver T. Reilly's basement full of battlefield relics. O.T. Reilly had witnessed portions of the Battle of Antietam in 1862 as a boy of six, from his home in nearby Keedysville. His and others' memories of the battle were recorded in a book he published in 1906.<sup>18</sup> Reilly also operated a cigar store in the narrow eastern addition he had constructed onto the stone house. Both his cigar and relic business must have been quite successful. In his 1939 deed of conveyance of the house to Charles and Martha Billmyer, Reilly, by then a widower, included this provision:

The said Oliver T. Reilly...does hereby reserve unto himself for and during the period of his...natural life, and no longer, the right and option for the use and enjoyment by him of his store room located on the East side of said property and now used by him in conducting a cigar store therein, as well as the two small rooms above said cigar store and also the basement room front and under the main house on the property...for the storing and sale of relics therein...and also the right to live in a room to be designated by the grantees [Billmyers] ...in the main house. (Deed Book 209, page 181)

O.T. Reilly's family recalled that he continued to live in the house in the front parlor (southeast room), and when he died, his wake was held in the southwest room on the town square.

The Billmyers sold the Good-Reilly House in 1944 to Raleigh Bender for \$2,000 (Washington County Deed Book 228, page 102). It remained in the Bender family until 1993 when it was sold to current owner.<sup>19</sup>

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### Major Bibliographical References:

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### Endnotes

<sup>1</sup>Paula S. Reed. "History Report: The D.R. Miller Farm, Antietam Battlefield, Sharpsburg, Maryland." (Hagerstown, MD: Preservation Associates, Inc., 1991), p. 1.

<sup>2</sup>Thomas J. C. Williams. *History of Washington County, Maryland*. (Hagerstown, 1906; reprint, Baltimore: Clearfield Co. and Family Line Publications, 1992), p. 56.

<sup>3</sup>Julia A. Drake and James R. Orndorff. *From Mill Wheel to Plowshare*. (Cedar Rapids, Iowa: The Torch Press, 1938), p. 22.

<sup>4</sup>Lee and Barbara Barron. *The History of Sharpsburg, Maryland*, (Sharpsburg, MD: published by the authors, 1972), pp. 28-36.

<sup>5</sup>Jeffrey Wyand, "The William Chapline House," manuscript, Sept. 1974, p. 2; see also J. Thomas Scharf, *History of Western Maryland*, Vol. II, (Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co., 1968), p. 1203.

<sup>6</sup>1880 U.S. Population Census, Washington County, Sharpsburg District No. 1, microfilm collection, Washington Co. Free Library, Hagerstown, MD.

<sup>7</sup>The eastern half of Lot 50 and western half of Lot 51 were sold to Catherine Huffman for £300 in 1798, "beginning at the corner of the stone addition to the house that the said Catherine Huffman ... now lives in..." (Washington Co. Deed Book K, page 890). The eastern half of Lot 51 had been sold in 1783 to the occupant of the house on the lot, Philip Breakley (Buckley) for £70 (book C, page 478).

<sup>8</sup>Judy Bauer, a William Good descendent, letter dated 18 April 1996.

<sup>9</sup>Scharf, pp. 1208-1209.

<sup>10</sup>*Maryland Archives*, p. 18 (1776), as cited in Bauer letter, 1996.

<sup>11</sup>Scharf, p. 991.

<sup>12</sup>1803 Tax Assessment Record, Western Maryland Room, Washington Co. Free Library, Hagerstown, MD.

<sup>13</sup>Bauer letter, 1996.

<sup>14</sup>*Hagerstown Gazette*, March 12, 1811, microfilm collection, Washington Co. Free Library, Hagerstown, MD.

<sup>15</sup>*Hagerstown Gazette*, October 29, 1811, microfilm collection, Washington Co. Free Library, Hagerstown, MD.

<sup>16</sup>Scharf, p. 1206.

<sup>17</sup>Washington Co. Deeds: TT/858, IN5/546, IN8/734, IN9/185, LBN1/488, WMcKK3/389, 79/376.

<sup>18</sup>Oliver T. Reilly, *The Battlefield of Antietam*. Sharpsburg, MD: Oliver T. Reilly, 1906.

<sup>19</sup>Washington Co. Deeds: 236/573, 281/62, 702/690, 702/689, 732/1003, (will book) 60/418, 1101/926, 1483/486.



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## Verbal Boundary Description:

The property includes all of the western half of lot #50 in Sharpsburg as shown on tax map 76.2, parcel 394, containing .025 acres.

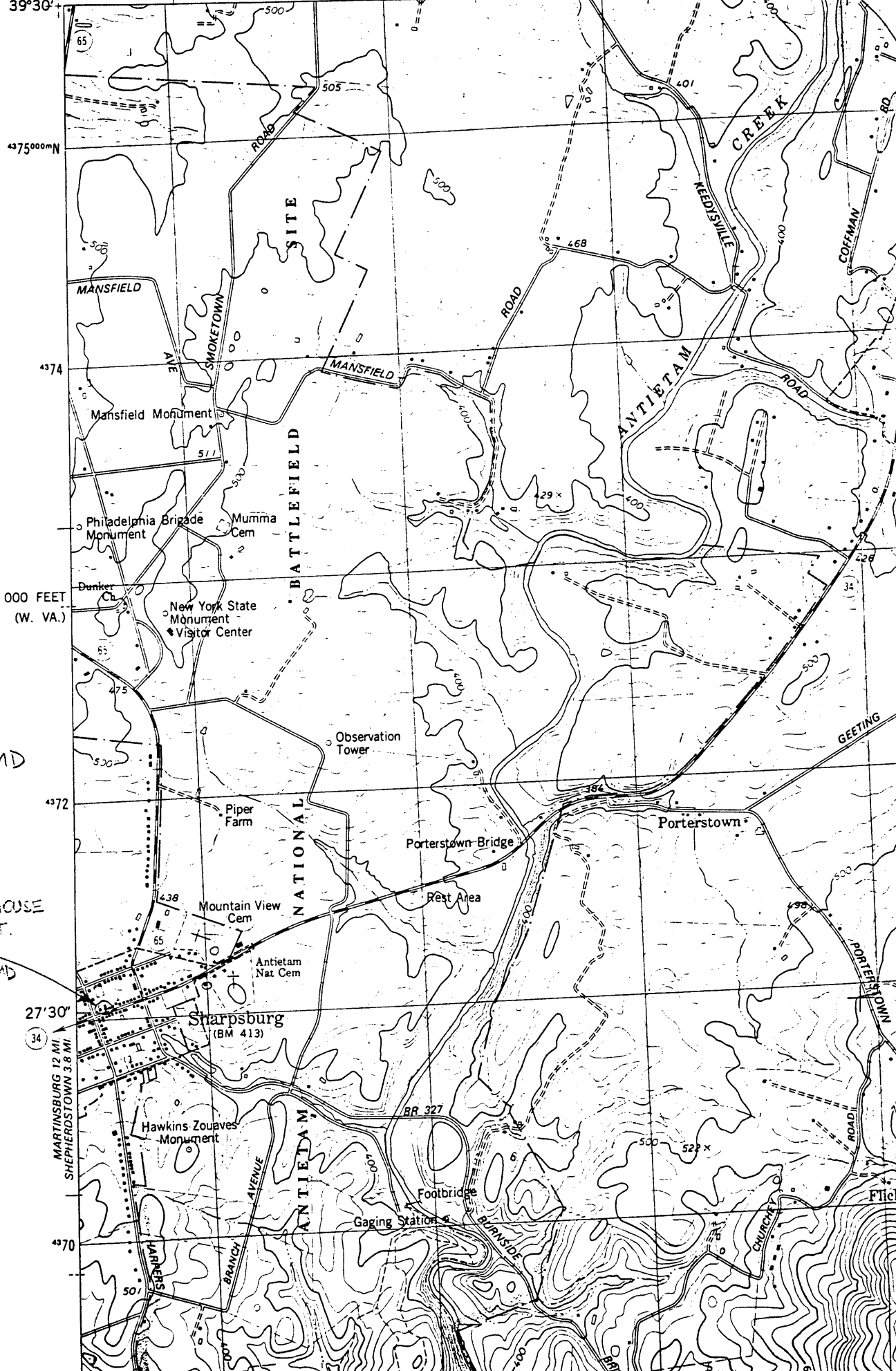
## Boundary Justification:

The boundary includes all of the property associated with the Good Reilly house since 1798.

11 SE  
AMSPORT

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

77°45' 264 265 2500 FEET (W. VA.) 42'30'



KEEDYSVILLE, MD  
QUAD

GOOD-REILLY HOUSE  
107 E. MAIN ST.  
SHARPSBURG, MD

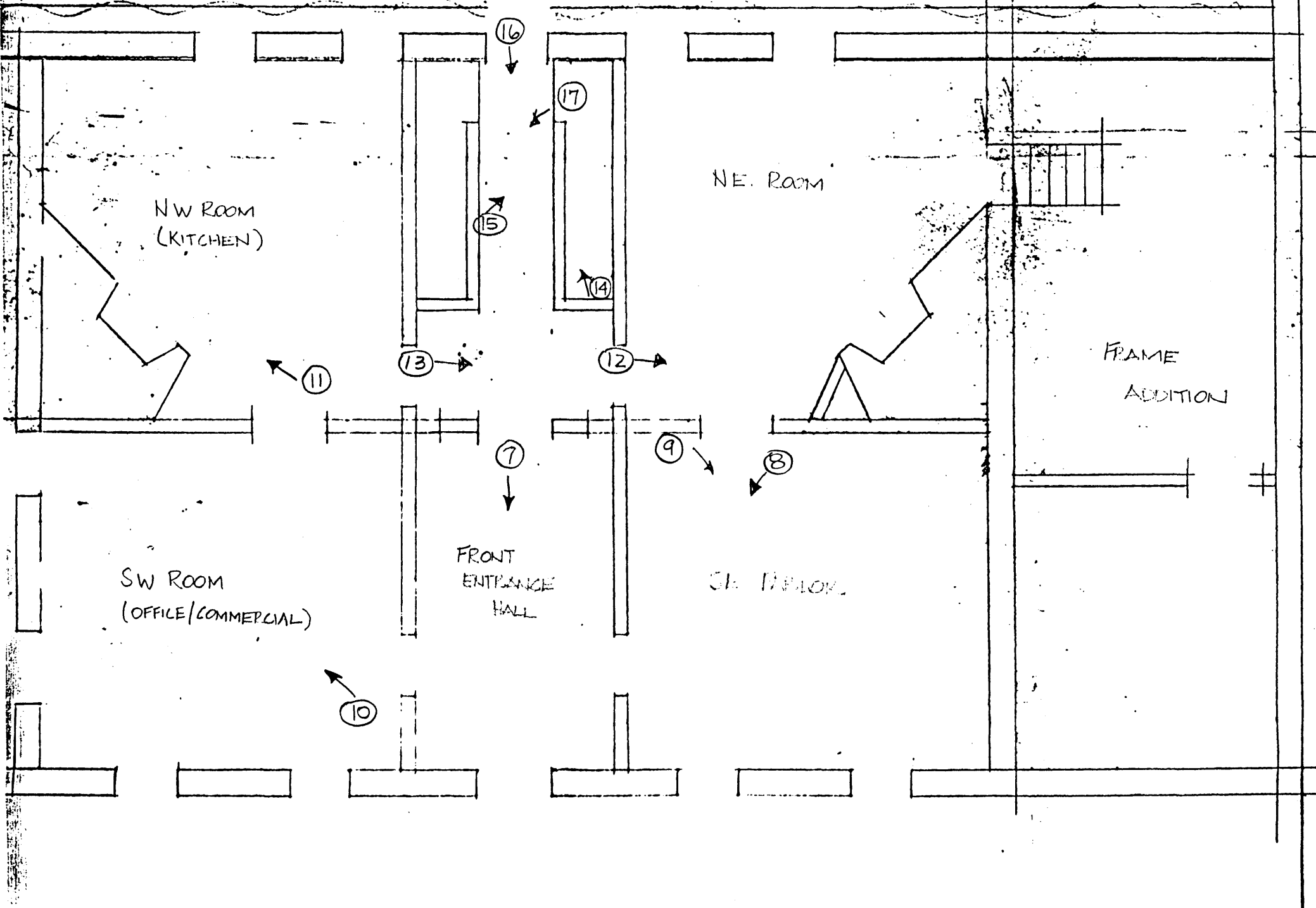
27'30'  
34  
MARTINSBURG 12 MI.  
SHEPHERDSTOWN 3.8 MI.

Flick

GOOD-REILLY HOUSE  
107 E. MAIN ST. CHARLESBURG, WASHINGTON CO. MD  
MAIN FLOOR PLAN



WITH PHOTO  
NUMBER AND VIEW



NW ROOM  
(KITCHEN)

NE ROOM

FRAME  
ADDITION

SW ROOM  
(OFFICE/COMMERCIAL)

FRONT  
ENTRANCE  
HALL

St. DITION

11

13

5

7

10

17

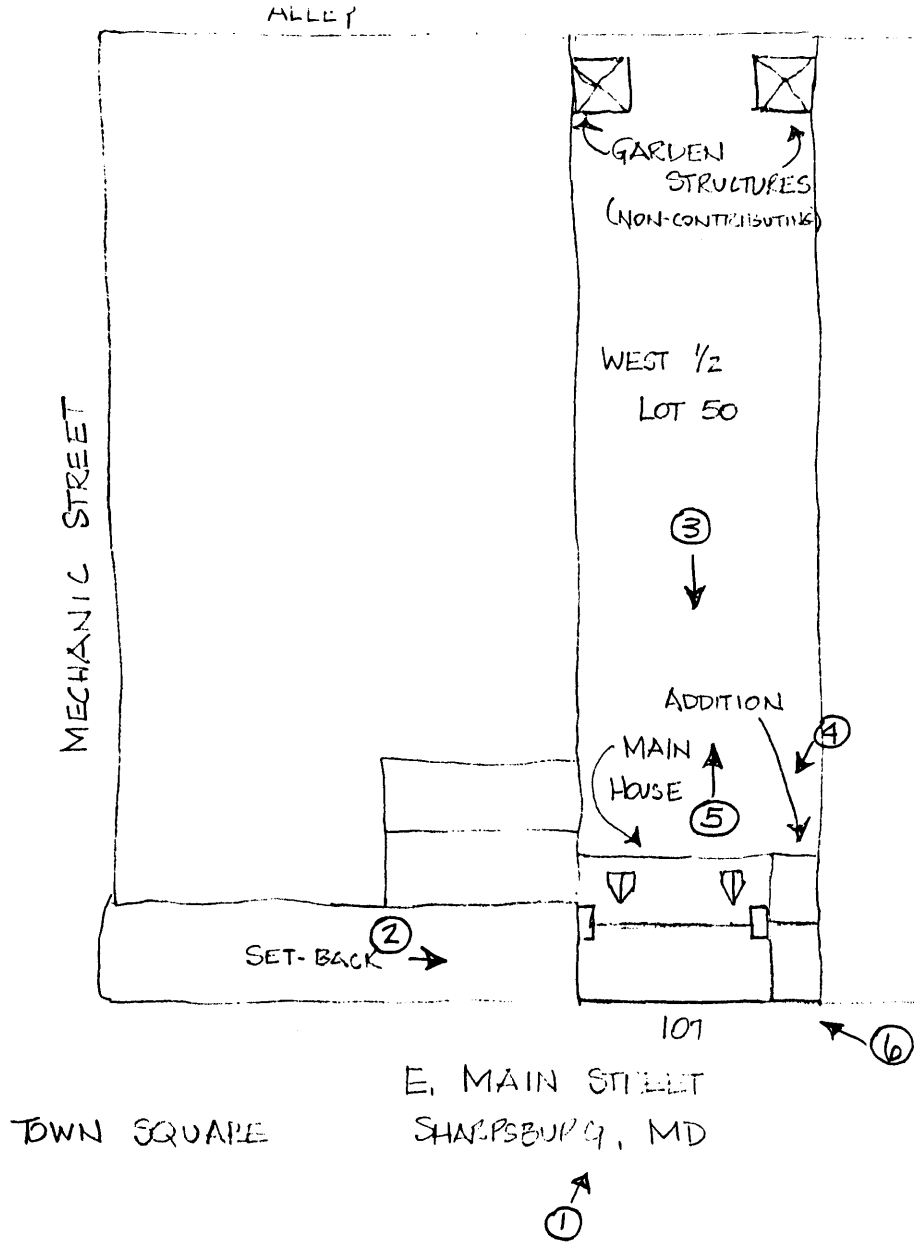
12

9

16

14

8



GOOD REILLY HOUSE  
 107 E MAIN ST  
 SHARPSBURG, MD

SITE PLAN  
 (NOT TO SCALE)  
 WITH PHOTO NUMBER  
 AND VIEW