M/W

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

#### 1. Name of Property

historic name: <u>Pitzer, Elias House</u> other name/site number: \_\_\_\_\_\_

#### 2. Location

street & number: <u>1076 Clyde Borum Road</u>		not for	publication: <u>N/A</u>
city/town: Martinsburg		vicinit	y: <u>X</u>
state: <u>West Virginia-WV</u>	_county: <u>Berkeley</u>	code: 003	zip code: <u>25401</u>

#### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this \_X\_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 \_X\_ meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_\_\_\_ nationally \_\_\_\_\_\_ statewide \_\_X\_ locally. (\_\_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.)

20/2002

Signature of Certifying Official

Date

State or Federal Agency and Bureau

Date

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

Signature of Certifying Official/Title

Date

Pitzer, Elias House	Berkeley	West Virginia-WV		
Name of Property	Count	County and State		
4. National Park Service Cer	tification /he	7		
I, hereby certify that this prop entered in the National Re See continuation shee determined eligible for the See continuation shee determined not eligible fo removed from the Nation other (explain):	egister t e National Register t r the National Register	hature of Keeper Date of Action		
5. Classification				
<b>Ownership of Property:</b> (Check as many boxes as apply)	•••	<b>of property</b> ly one box)		
_X_ private	X bu	uilding(s)		
public-local		strict		
public-State	sit	te		
public-Federal structure		ructure		
	ot	oject		
Number of Resources within	Property			
(Do not include previously liste	<b>X V</b>			
Contributing	Noncontributing			
1	0	buildings		
0	0	sites		
0	0	structures		
0				
0	0	objects		

Number of contributing resources previously in the listed National Register 0\_\_\_\_\_

Pitzer, Elias House	Berkeley	West Virginia-WV	
Name of Property	County and State		
6. Function or Use			
Historic Functions Domestic:Single Dwelling	Current Fun Domestic: Sin	<b>ctions</b> ngle Dwelling	
7. Description			
Architectural Classification <u>MID 19TH CENTURY: Greek Revival</u>	Materials Foundation <u>I</u> Walls <u>Brick</u> Roof <u>Metal</u> Other <u>Alumi</u>		
Narrative Description (See continuation on 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 patterns of our history.

**B** Property is 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 whose components lack individual distinction.

**D** Property has yielded or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Pitzer, Elias House

#### Name of Property

Berkeley West Virginia-WV

## **County and State**

## **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

Architecture

## Period of Significance

1856

#### **Significant Dates** 1856 \_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person (Complete if criterion B is marked above)

N/A\_\_\_\_\_

## **Cultural Affiliation** N/A

# Architect/Builder

<u>N/A</u>\_\_\_\_\_

# Narrative Statement of Significance

(See continuation sheets.)

Berkeley West Virginia-WV

Name of Property

**County and State** 

### 9. Major Bibliographical References

#### Bibliographical

(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
- X\_\_\_Other

Name of Repository Berkeley County Historic Landmarks Commission

#### 10. Geographical Data

#### Acreage of Property 0.407 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

Quad Map Name: Tablers Station, WV

A 17 756445 4367952 Zone Easting Northing C \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_

B \_\_\_\_\_ Zone Easting Northing D\_\_\_\_\_

Zone Easting Northing

\_\_\_\_\_

Zone Easting Northing

\_\_\_\_\_ see continuation sheet

#### Verbal Boundary Description (See continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification** (See continuation sheet.)

Pitzer, Elias House	Berkeley	West Virginia-WV	
Name of Property	County and State		
11. Form Prepared By			
Name/Title: Geoffrey B. Henry and Jared N. T	uk, Architectural H	listorians	
Organization: GAI Consultants, Inc.	Date: June 2002		
Street & Number: 570 Beatty Road	Teleph	one: 412-856-6400	
City or Town: Monroeville	State: <u>PA</u>	Zip: <u>15146</u>	
Property Owner			
(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or	· FPO.)		
Name: Mr. and Mrs. Gene Michael			
Street & Number: 1076 Clyde Borum Road	Telepho	ne: <u>304-263-7642</u>	
City or Town: Martinsburg	State: <u>WV</u>	Zip: <u>25401</u>	

#### LOCATION AND SETTING

The Elias Pitzer House is located on the east side of Clyde Borum Road approximately 1.3 miles northeast of the community of Arden, in the Arden Magisterial District of central Berkeley County, West Virginia. The house is situated in a cleared, flat area, set among rolling terrain, approximately 3.5 miles east of the North Mountain ridge. Gently rolling piedmont topography surrounds the house in all directions. The Elias Pitzer House property is bordered on the north and east by mixed hardwood trees and fenced pastures, on the south by mixed hardwoods and an open pasture, and on the west by WV Route 45 and Borum Road. A gravel driveway leads from Borum Road to the main house, terminating at a circular driveway to the west of the house. The immediate setting of the main house consists of a grass lawn, which is landscaped with mature silver maples and shrubbery. The grass lawn is bounded by trees to the north and east, agricultural outbuildings to the south, and an open field to the west. There is a modern brick patio facing a modern tennis court on the south side of the house.

#### ELIAS PITZER HOUSE (1856)—CONTRIBUTING BUILDING

#### Exterior Description

The main house of the Elias Pitzer House property is oriented to the west and is a 2-story, 5-bay wide, gable-roofed brick house built on an L plan in the Greek Revival style with a two-story brick rear ell. The foundation of the Elias Pitzer House is built from cut limestone, which is squared and laid in regular courses. The brick exterior of the house is laid in irregular 5- to 8-course bond on all elevations. Other decorative uses of brick on the exterior include a dogtooth cornice on the primary facade and splayed jack arches over the window openings.

The side-gabled roof of the main house is covered with standing seam metal and has wooden rake boards. There are two interior-end brick chimneys with corbeled caps on the north and south elevations of the main house block. The roof of the rear ell is also covered standing seam metal. There are an interior brick chimney and an interior end brick chimney on the ell, both with corbeled caps.

Two steps lead to the west (front) porch, which is the focus of exterior decoration of the main house. It is a 1-story, 1-bay, flat-roofed Greek Revival-style portico clad in metal with a dentiled wooden cornice and plain frieze, and it is supported by square wooden posts with molded caps and bases. This portico is also the location of the principal entrance. It consists of a wood door with applied molding and crosetted corners, and Greek Revival paneled door reveals with a 7-pane rectangular transom. The entrance is topped by a splayed brick jack arch.

Symmetrically flanking the main entrance on the west are two 6/6 double-hung sash windows. The windows have molded wood trim and circa-1900 louvered wood shutters with shutter cocks, as well as splayed brick jack arches and plain wood sills. The second-story windows are slightly shorter, but also have 6/6 double-hung sash with molded wood trim and circa-1900 louvered wood shutters with shutter cocks. As with the first story, the second-story windows have splayed brick jack arches and plain wood sills. The basement windows have 3-pane, fixed-sash with wood frames.

The north elevation does not have windows or other exterior decoration on the first two stories. There are two 4-pane fixed-sash windows in the attic story. The north facade of the rear ell has the same scale and decoration as the west elevation. The ell is 2 stories high, 4 bays wide, and is constructed of 5- and 6-bond brick, with a dogtooth cornice and splayed jack arches over window and door openings. The entrance is on the northeast corner, and has a circa 1900s concrete porch pad which leads to the recessed paneled door, with paneled reveals. This door also has a 5-pane rectangular transom. As with the west elevation, the windows have 6/6 double-hung sash with circa-1900 louvered shutters.

The east elevation is laid in 5-, 7-, and 8-bond brick, with splayed brick jack arches above the 6/6 double-hung sash windows. Extending from the rear ell on this elevation is a 1-story,1-bay wide, gable-roofed smokehouse ell. The roof is covered with standing seam metal. This ell is built of 6-bond brick, and has a brick dogtooth cornice and brick corbeling. This smokehouse ell has brick diaper work on the east elevation. The foundation of the smokehouse ell is stone, laid in regular courses. The cornice on this elevation is corbeled. The windows on the south facade of the smokehouse ell have 6/6 double-hung sash with splayed brick jack arches and plain wood sills. The east elevation of the 2-story rear ell has a plain brick corbeled cornice, no windows on the first and second stories, and two 4-pane fixed sash windows in the attic level. The gable end of this ell has rake boards.

The south elevation of the main block of the house has no windows on the first and second stories, and two 4-paned fixed sash windows in the attic level. The south elevation of the rear ell is clad in asbestos siding, which encloses the original side porch. The first and second stories are separated by a steeply-pitched shed-roofed overhang, which is clad in composition shingles. The first-story windows have overlapping 9/9 double-hung sash, and are grouped in threes with the exception of one window on the east end. The off-center door is a four-panel door. The second-story windows have 6/6 double-hung sash, and two windows on the west end of the second story are of smaller scale than the rest of the windows. A modern brick patio has been constructed to the south of the ell.

#### Interior Description

The interior of the main house of the Elias Pitzer House property consists of a finished living space on the cellar and an unfinished attic. The first and second floor plans of the main block feature a center hall single pile plan, with a single room on either side of the center stair hall. The 2-story ell features two rooms on each of the floors, which are separated by an enclosed staircase. The 1-story brick smokehouse ell contains one room, with an interior entrance on the west end.

The central *Stair Hall* has a stair on the south and rises in a double flight with a curved landing to the second floor. The open-string stair has an urn-shaped turned newel post terminating at a square block, a walnut rail, and two plain tapered spindles per tread. There is a coat closet beneath the staircase. The floors of the stair hall are pegged, with a molded baseboard. The hall also features a beveled chair rail with Greek Revival trim. The doorways in the stair hall have molded surrounds with bull's eye corner blocks. A four-panel door with original hardware at the east end of the hall leads to the back porch.

The *Library* is located to the south of the center stair hall. Greek Revival molded surrounds and crown molding are present throughout this room. The window openings have paneled reveals. The room has a mantelpiece located on the south wall, which is flanked by plain pilasters with

molded caps and bases. This mantelpiece has a plain frieze, a plain shelf, and a brick hearth. The mantelpiece is flanked by wood book shelves.

The *Parlor* is located to the north of the stair hall. The entrance from the stair hall is decorated with the same door molding as found in the stair hall. This room has crown molding throughout. The window openings in this room have splayed reveals. On the north wall of this room is the Greek Revival-style mantelpiece, which has fluted pilasters with decorative center strips, a paneled frieze, and a molded shelf. The brick hearth is currently occupied by a modern wood burning heater. A doorway on the east wall opens to the rear ell, and has Greek Revival-style molding and bull's eye corner blocks.

There are two *Bedrooms* located within the main block on the second floor. The master bedroom is located on the south end of the stair hall and has the same decorative features and details as found in the parlor and library on the first floor. The room is trimmed with Greek Revival door trim, window trim, and chair rail. The window reveals are paneled. The mantelpiece in this bedroom is on the south wall, and has a paneled frieze, and a molded mantel shelf. To the east of the mantel on the south wall is a non-original built-in closet.

The second bedroom is on the north end of the second floor, and it has plain wood door moldings, chair rail, and window reveals. The mantelpiece of this room is located on the north wall, and has plain wood pilasters, a plain frieze, and a plain wood mantel shelf. There are two modern built-in closets in this room.

Located in the two-story rear ell are a *Dining Room, Kitchen*, and two *Bedrooms*. The dining room is located on the first floor of the west end of the ell and has a pegged wood floor, plain moldings and window and door surrounds, a beveled chair rail, and a built-in closet with a two-panel door. The mantelpiece is located on the east wall and has plain pilasters, a fluted frieze, and a plain shelf. A doorway on the south end of the room leads to the enclosed porch, and a doorway on the east end of the room leads to the kitchen. These doorways have plain molding and corner blocks.

To the east of the dining room is the *Kitchen*. This kitchen has the same moldings and trim as those found in the dining room. It has an exterior door on the north wall and an interior door to the original smokehouse ell on the east wall. There is a cooking fireplace on the east wall, with a brick hearth and a timber shelf.

The second floor of the rear ell contains two bedrooms. The second-floor hallway has plain trim and a Greek Revival cornice. The bedroom on the west end of the ell is decorated with plain trim and moldings, a beveled chair rail, and has no fireplace mantel. Modern built-in closets have been added to this room. The bedroom on the east end of the ell has plain trim, a beveled chair rail, recessed door molding, and a modern built-in closet. There is an attic door with plain trim and moldings on the west wall of this room. The second floor of the enclosed porch contains a modern bathroom and an enclosed wood stairway to the first floor of the porch, which is also enclosed and currently used as a sitting room.

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Elias Pitzer House is significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture on the local level as embodying the distinctive characteristics of vernacular Greek Revival-style domestic architecture in Berkeley County. The period of significance is 1856. Salient features of the Greek Revival Style on the exterior include the symmetrical façade, central one-bay, flat-roofed front porch, dentil brick cornice, and the front door with its applied molding with crosettes. An unusual feature of the Elias Pitzer House is the original attached smokehouse on the rear of the house. The house's interior retains nearly all of its original woodwork intact, including fireplace mantels, window and door trim, built-in cupboards, and staircases. The Elias Pitzer House retains a high level of architectural integrity.

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

į,

The Elias Pitzer property is part of a 396-acre land grant received by Thomazin Elsey from Lord Fairfax on 15 February 1752. A 100-acre portion of this tract was later acquired by Henry Bowers. In 1788, Bowers executed an agreement with his son George Bowers for the use of the property. According to the agreement, the elder Bowers, or his widow Catherine, received one-third of all the farm's products. Half of a barn on the property was reserved for three cattle and for feed storage. In addition, George Bowers was required to replace shingles on the barn roof when needed. Henry Bowers was allowed a life interest in the main house. No portion of this original house stands today.

In 1810, George Bowers' son, John Bowers inherited the house and the 100-acre farm. On 13 April 1836, the farm was sold to Martin Pitzer (1789-1870). Martin Pitzer was the son of Michael Pitzer, who had moved to Berkeley County, Virginia from Pennsylvania in 1780. Before his death in 1822, the elder Pitzer had acquired 859 acres in Berkeley County, most of which he willed to his two sons, Martin and Jacob. Martin Pitzer acquired several additional tracts of land after his father's death, including the former Bowers property.

The 1847 Kearfott *Map of Berkeley County, Virginia* indicates that Martin Pitzer's son, Elias Pitzer (1819-1900) was residing on the former Bowers property, perhaps in the house mentioned in the 1788 legal agreement between George and Henry Bowers. Land tax records from the 1840s indicate that the farm's improvements were valued at only 100 dollars, indicating a very modest residence

On 13 March 1855, Martin Pitzer sold the 100-acre farm to Elias Pitzer and his wife Mary Gladden Pitzer (Berkeley County Deed Book 57, page 1). Within a year, Elias Pitzer began construction of his two-story, Greek Revival-style brick residence on a knoll overlooking the farm. In 1858, the Berkeley County land tax records indicate an increase in assessed value of \$800 for a Anew house.

The Elias Pitzer House is an excellent example of vernacular Greek Revival-style domestic architecture in Berkeley County and embodies the essential characteristics of brick construction from this period. On the exterior, the house features a symmetrical façade with a side gable roof and gable-end chimneys. The house is trimmed with a brick dentil cornice.

transom. The door features applied molding with crosette corners. The interior is notable for its exceptionally well-preserved, vernacular Greek Revival-style woodwork. These include mantels, door and window trim, built-in cupboards, and two staircases.

The Elias Pitzer House shares similarities with several other vernacular Greek Revival-style houses in the area. The Henry J. Seibert House, built in 1867, is a two-story brick house with an L plan and a one-story, flat-roofed front porch. Although it possesses a Flemish bond façade, the Seibert house otherwise lacks the high-quality brickwork and detail of the Elias Pitzer House. The Washington Gold House, located near Gerrardstown and dating from 1854, has similar interior woodwork. An ornate Victorian-style porch replaced the original Greek Revival-style porch in the 1890s.

Information about the Pitzer homestead is derived from Population and Agricultural Census schedules in 1850 and 1860. In 1850, the Population Schedules for Berkeley County, Virginia list Elias Pitzer (28), occupation-farmer, living with wife Mary (24), daughter Eliza (8), daughter Margaret (5), and son George (3) on their farm.

In the 1850 Agricultural Census, Pitzer was listed as owning 160 improved and 40 unimproved acres, with a cash value of \$6,000 (US Census of Agriculture, Berkeley County, Virginia 1850). His livestock included 6 horses, 6 cows, and 20 pigs at a value of \$500. In 1850, Pitzer's farm produced 800 bushels of wheat, 400 bushels of Indian corn, 150 pounds of wool, and 300 pounds of butter, along with 5 tons of hay.

By 1860, the Pitzer household had increased by five additional children: Rachel (9), Martin (7), Mary C. (5), James E. (3), and Henry B. (1) (US Census Population Schedules, Berkeley County, Virginia 1860). According to the 1860 Agricultural Census, Pitzer owned real estate valued at \$6,000 (US Census of Agriculture, Berkeley County, Virginia 1850). He owned 7 horses, 20 pigs, and 16 cows for a total value of \$410. The farm produced 550 bushels of wheat, 600 bushels of corn, 200 bushels of oats, 150 bushels of potatoes, 250 pounds of butter, and 10 tons of hay.

Elias Pitzer died on January 3, 1900 and according to the terms of his will, his farm was sold at auction (Will Book 24, page 79). An advertisement of sale in the *Martinsburg Herald* newspaper on November 24, 1900 described the farm as: that tract of land known as the Elias Pitzer Home farm, estimated to contain 163 acres. The quality of the land is an excellent grade of limestone in a good state of cultivation. It is improved by a two story brick dwelling-house, the main building 40 feet in length by 20 feet in width, with a wing 35 feet in length and 20 feet in width, with slate roof, containing eight rooms, and cellar under the entire building, a brick smoke house, a corn house, a bank barn, and a double cistern.

The buyer was Elias Pitzer's son E. Mong Pitzer. In 1907, James B. Fisher bought the property (Deed Book 113, page 154). In 1938, the farm was sold to Carroll and Elmer Seibert (Deed Book 165, page 380). It remained in the Seibert family until 1975 (Deed Book 285, page 543). The present owners, Gene and Virginia Michael, purchased the farm in 1976.

#### REFERENCES

Berkeley County Historic Landmarks Commission, *Washington Gold House-Mountain View Farm*. National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form. 1978.

Berkeley County Historic Landmarks Commission, *Hayes-Pitzer House*. National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form. 1978.

Berkeley County Historic Landmarks Commission, *Henry J. Seibert House*. National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form. 1978.

Berkeley County, WV Deed Records.

Berkeley County, WV Land Tax Records.

Berkeley County, WV Will Records.

Gioulis, Michael. Elias Pitzer House. Historic Property Inventory Form. November 1996.

Hartley, David. Elias Pitzer House, Arden District, Berkeley County WV. No date.

Kearfott, John P. Map of Berkeley County Virginia. 1847.

Kearfott, John P. Map of Berkeley County West Virginia. 1894.

US Census Bureau. Population Schedules for Berkeley County VA 1850, 1860.

US Census Bureau, Population Schedules for Berkeley County WV 1870, 1880.

US Census Bureau, Census of Agricultural Production, Berkeley County 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880.

### Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated boundaries of the Elias Pitzer House property are shown in a survey contained in Berkeley County Deed book 285, pages 539-540, and include .407 acres.

#### **Boundary Justification**

The nominated boundaries were drawn to include the main house and its immediate setting only. The ca. 1960 tennis court is excluded from the boundary. Also excluded are four agricultural buildings located to the west side of the main house, on the opposite side of the driveway. The agricultural buildings date from 1930-1950 and are in deteriorated condition; two of them are vacant. They do not relate to the significance of the property under Criterion C and do not constitute significant resources under Criterion A in the area of Agriculture.

#### Photographs

All photographs are of the Elias Pitzer House, 1076 Clyde Borum Road, Berkeley County, WV 25401

Photographer: Geoffrey B. Henry, GAI Consultants, Inc. 2 October 2001

Negatives located at West Virginia Division of Culture and History (SHPO), Charleston WV

- Photograph 1 Main House, South and West elevations, facing northeast
- Photograph 2 Main House, West and North elevations, facing east
- Photograph 3 Main House, North and East elevations, facing south
- Photograph 4 Main House, East and South elevations, facing west
- Photograph 5 View of Dining Room Mantelpiece, facing east
- Photograph 6 View of Parlor Mantelpiece, facing north
- Photograph 7 View of Parlor Door Molding and Chairrail, facing northeast





ARDEN VICINITY, BERKELEY COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA



VIRGINIA

