Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

	DATA S	SHEE	1		
s	TATE: West Virginia				
C	OUNTY: Greenbrier				
Ei	FOR NPS USE ONLY				
	MAR	4 19	75		
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	S.GO				
ond	IAL DISTRICT:	···			
enbr	ier		025		
	STATUS	ACCES			
d	Occupied Unoccupied Preservation work in progress	Yes: Restr Unres	ricted		

1. NAME COMMON: Tuckwiller Tavern; Valley View Stock Farm, Inc Tuckwiller Tavern; Wilson Farm 2. LOCATION STREET AND NUMBER: Along U.S. Route 60 about 2 miles northwest of CITY OR TOWN: Lewisburg Sec STATE COUNTY CODE West Virginia 54 Gre 3. CLASSIFICATION CATEGORY OWNERSHIP (Check One) Z Public District Building Public Acquisition: X Private In Process ☐ Site Structure Both Being Considere Object C PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) \Rightarrow ☐ Government ☐ Agricultural □ Park Comments ☐ Transportation Industrial α Commercial Private Residence Other (Specify) ■ Military ☐ Educational Religious ☐ Entertainment Museum ☐ Scientific 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY 7 OWNER'S NAME: √est Frank T. and Mary Wilson, Valley View Stock Farm, Inc. ш STREET AND NUMBER: Virginia U.S. Route 60, West ш CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE S Lewisburg West Virginia 54 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION Greenbrier COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Greenbrier County Courthouse STREET AND NUMBER: Court and Randolph Streets CITY OR TOWN: STATE CODE Lewisburg West Virgini 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS TITLE OF SURVEY: ENTRY DATE OF SURVEY: Federal ☐ State DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: NPS USE STREET AND NUMBER: REGISTER ONLY CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE

	DESCRIPTION								
		(Check One)							
	CONDITION	🗓 Excellent	☐ Good	☐ Fair	☐ Dete	riorated	☐ Ruins	Unexposed	
	CONDITION	(Check One)		(Check One)					
		⊠ Alter	ed	☐ Unaltered			☐ Moved	☑ Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

David Tuckwiller and his wife, Sallie Linson Tuckwiller, built what became known as Tuckwiller Tavern about 1828 on land given David by his father in 1815. It is generally accepted that the brick house was constructed by John W. Dunn and David K. Spotts, local brickmasons, contractors, and "architects" who burned bricks on the grounds and took most of three years (1826-1828) to complete the structure and its many dependencies.

This stalwart, but picturesque house has marks of the early, rusticated Greek Revival architecture much favored by Dunn. Tuckwiller Tavern is a large, two-story (plus basement) rectangular brick building with a one-story ell to the rear of the west side. On a strong field stone foundation the builders erected twelve inch thick outer walls and even stouter seventeen inch deep interior supports and dividers. The unit has a simple plan of four, roughly square (18' 10" x 19') rooms on each floor of the front section (branching from full-length, nine foot wide hallways), two smaller rooms in the ell, and a basement divided into three areas. Each of the rooms is served by a separate fireplace, the four on the first and second floors of the main section housed in individual exterior chimneys which rise high above the gable ends of the high-pitched roof. Rooms in the ell share an interior chimney located along the partition.

Windows (9/6 double hung on the first floor and 6/6 double hung on the second) symmetrically break the front (north) facade, two being placed on either side of the main entrance door with five being located on the second floor of this elevation. First-story rooms also have a window to the side of the fireplace on the east elevation between the chimneys, and there are two windows on the second floor of the west elevation with the southeast room having openings to the rear. A porch, enhanced by four massive, white wooden columns, stretches across about two-thirds of the front, having replaced the original portico in 1911 (this is the only change to the original exterior). Another porch completely surrounds the interior of the ell at the back of the house.

Sleepers supporting the building are large, whole oak tree trunks still covered with heavy bark and exposed to sight in the basement. Joists of the second floor are concealed, 4" x 4" whip-sawn timbers. Interior woodwork is heavy and rather plain except for the beautifully reeded mantels. Some of the old floors of wide boards fastened by square iron nails are still in use, but others have been replaced or covered with pegged, random-width oak. Hall entrance doors are of wide boards battened on the inside and reinforced with long, hand-wrought iron straps, while all others are paneled and have the original locks and hinges. The only change ever made to the interior was the placing of a doorway between two first-floor rooms on the east side of the main hall.

To the rear of Tuckwiller Tavern stands a brick smokehouse, the last remnant of the numerous brick outbuildings constructed about the time of the main house. These originally included a hugh barn, granary, slavehouse and blacksmith shop, all torn down about 1920 to facilitate the building of U.S. Route 60 in the area.

S	IGNIFICANCE			
	PERIOD (Check One or More as A	ppropriate)		
ı	Pre-Columbian	☐ 16th Century	☐ 18th Century	20th Century
	15th Century	☐ 17th Century	19th Century	
	SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable	and Known) C. 18	28 (constructed)	
	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Chec	k One or More as Approp	riate)	
i	Abor iginal	Education	Political	Úrban Planning
ı	Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
	☐ Historic	Industry	losophy	
	Agriculture	Invention	Science	
		Landscape	Sculpture	_
ı	☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
		Literature	itarian	
	Communications	⅓ Military	Theater	
	Conservation	Music	Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Among the many buildings which have influenced the history of southeastern West Virginia, Tuckwiller Tavern certainly deserves mention as a noteworthy example of an excellently designed and executed structure which served in the growth of the area's economy. Itself the center of a fine stretch of farmland, the tavern became a frequented stop along a route which tapped the interior of western Virginia to the Ohio country and provided a major east-west access for the flow of capital, labor and raw materials. The significance is attested to further by military activity in the region during the Civil War, for its prize was recognized in the issues of economic and political realities as a gateway to the Kanawha Valley.

Tuckwiller Tavern is one of the best samples of the rusticated architectural interpretations of master builder John Dunn in the southeastern portion of what is now West Virginia. This large and imposing brick structure stands as a solid reminder of modified Greek Revival lines placed upon a former frontier with a growing sophistication. The pairs of high exterior chimneys and steep gable roof provided the practical in warmth from large and plentiful fireplaces and as protection against the elements, but they also contributed to the picturesque air of this magnificent stop along the James River and Kanawha Turnpike.

The tavern was constructed under the auspices of David Tuckwiller who had received the land from his father in 1815. Together with its outbuildings (a substantial brick barn as well as other log barns, a smokehouse, granary, slavehouse, blacksmith shop and stone still), the main house was a reminder of the prosperity of the hardy German family which had come to the area from the Valley of Virginia about 1776. David ran a successful farming operation, but he is best remembered as host to the traveling public which passed along the major highway between the Ohio River and the east in this part of Virginia. Drovers especially liked the facilities of the farm, for they always could expect good lodging, meals and fine care for their animals. Tuckwiller Tavern became a must stop on the way to the markets at Richmond, Baltimore and Philadelphia.

As with its note in the commerce between east and west, the place also played a role in the developing transportation system. It became a stage stop along the turnpike and helped foster a growth in the use of the route as a preferred highway. Guaranteed accommodations at regular intervals made travel easier, and the hospitality displayed here added to the renown of its proprietor. Until about 1872, when the railroad captured much of the business in shipping animals to the east, Tuckwiller Tavern remained an impressive stop along the way.

During the Civil War, a skirmish occurred a short distance from the

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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Form 10-300a (July 1969)

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

West Virginia	
COUNTY Greenbrier	
FOR NPS USE ONL	Υ
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
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(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

8. SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

house at a place called Tuckwiller Hill. Many of the wounded were treated at the tavern, and several died there. Its use as a headquarters and barracks in 1864 by Union General David Hunter adds to its distinction, more so because it was not destroyed (Hunter had a reputation for destruction of property in the area) than because it housed high military personnel.

With the end of its extensive service as a place of respite for the traveler, the house continued to serve as the center of a prosperous farm. The land is still good, and prize stock is currently being raised by a corporation partly under the ownership of descendants of David Tuckwiller. The old tavern is no less sturdy and impressive with age. In fact, today it still stands out as one of the finest homes in southeastern West Virginia.

