

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

29

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Hollida, George Washington, House

other names/site number S-27

### 2. Location

street & number 4781 Scrabble Road not for publication N/A

city or town Shepherdstown vicinity

state West Virginia code WV county Berkeley code 003 zip code 25443

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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.)

Susan M. Pierce, DSHPO 12/9/03  
Signature of certifying official/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 commenting official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

### 4. National Park Service 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

Wilson A. Beall 2/11/04  
Date of Action

**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	
4	2	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
4	2	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 resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

DOMESTIC/secondary structure

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

DOMESTIC/secondary structure

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

MID-19TH CENTURY/Greek Revival

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE/limestone

walls BRICK; WOOD

roof ASPHALT; STONE/slate

other

**Narrative Description**

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

Refer to 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 patterns of our history.
- B** Property is 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 has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

**Period of Significance**

c.1842, c.1900, c.1945

**Significant Dates**

c.1842; c.1900; c.1945

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**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 a 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

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

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

**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 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
  - Other
- Name of repository:  
Berkeley County Historic Landmarks Commission

Hollida, George Washington, House  
Name of Property

Berkeley County, WV  
County and State

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## 10. Geographical Data

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**Acreage of Property** 5 acres

**U. S. G. S. Quad map:** Shepherdstown, WV, MD

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>18</u>	<u>256260</u>	<u>4374140</u>	3		
2				4		

N/A See continuation sheet.

### Verbal Boundary Description

(See Continuation Sheet)

### Boundary Justification

(See Continuation Sheet.)

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title David L. Taylor, Principal

organization Taylor & Taylor Associates, Inc. date February, 2003

street & number 9 Walnut Street telephone 814-849-4900

city or town Brookville state PA zip code 15825

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## Additional Documentation

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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)

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## Property Owner

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

name Andrew Laurenson & Margaret Hughes

street & number P. O. Box 1438 telephone 304-262-6699

city or town Shepherdstown, state WV zip code 25443

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Hollida, George Washington, House  
Berkeley County, WV**

Section Number 7 Page 1

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**7. Description**

The c. 1842 George Washington Hollida House (Berkeley County Historic Sites Survey No. S-27; Photos 1-4), is a two-story L-shaped “I” house of brick construction, presently painted, with a five-bay facade and a four-bay original ell extending northward from the northwest corner of the house. The property is located in the rural unincorporated village of Scrabble, less than one mile south of the Potomac River, in northeastern Berkeley County, in West Virginia’s eastern panhandle. The nominated property is sited on sloping terrain and contains six resources: the house itself (Resource No. 1; Photos 1-4), a drive-through shed (Resource No. 2; Photo 5), a smokehouse (Resource No. 3; Photo 6), a noncontributing well house (Resource No.4), a noncontributing outbuilding built in 2002 (Resource No. 5; Photo 7), and a 1945 timber frame bank barn (Resource No. 6; Photo 7). The G. W. Hollida House is altered little from the original and retains unimpaired integrity in all of its qualities: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

The Hollida House is of Flemish bond brick construction and was erected on a rise above the roadway. It is oriented to the south with a foundation of native limestone and is capped with an intersecting gable roof of standing-seam metal. The symmetrically-massed five-bay facade incorporates a modestly-detailed centered entrance. A single-story shallow hipped-roofed veranda appears to date from the 1920s and extends across the facade, accessed by a centered wood stair and trimmed with historic lattice skirting. The porch rests on brick piers upon which sit plain wood posts devoid of notable ornament and includes a simple wood balustrade. A poor-quality c. 1890 photo of the house (Fig. 1) shows a single-bay pedimented portico over the main entrance. The earlier portico was likely replaced by the present porch, the design of which suggests that while obviously not original, it was erected well within the period of significance of the property. A bulkhead door on the west end of the porch leads to the basement. In the gable ends of the main house are unadorned interior brick chimneys; other brick chimneys penetrate the ridge line of the roof of the ell. Each gable end of the main house is penetrated by a single-hung rectangular pedimental window. The ell is four bays in length and one bay in width, with a doorway shielded by a curvilinear hood (Photo 1; Fig. 2) on the west elevation. The aforementioned c. 1890 view (Fig. 1) shows a pedimented portico over this door. The east elevation of the ell includes a two-story brick addition built against the main house (Photo 4) and a laundry roof of coursed rubble stone at the northeast corner. Between the laundry room and the two-story addition is a small screened porch. All fenestration on the Hollida House is flat-topped, with many original six-over-six-light wood sash intact. Some windows no longer retain multi-light sash, but all windows maintain their original form and scale. The windows on the facade are articulated by

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Hollida, George Washington, House  
Berkeley County, WV**

Section Number 7 Page 2

---

exterior operable louvered wood shutters.

The main portion of the Hollida House is a central-passage, single-pile "I" house<sup>1</sup> from which extends an original two-story ell. The interior of this principal section is bisected by a central hallway, from which an open-string straight-run stair leads to the second story (Photo 12). The stair includes a simply-detailed round newel with a combination square and turned cap. A modest balustrade with a round handrail further accents the stair. Each of the two principal rooms in the main portion of the house have fireplaces with original Classical Revival-style wood mantles (Photos 9, 10). The fascia of the mantle in the dining room is ornamented with delicate reeding (Photo 9). The ell contains a dining-room and the kitchen on the first story and bedrooms and a bathroom on the second. Most original woodwork has been retained including simply molded door and window surrounds and multi-paneled doors with rimlocks (Photo 11). An enclosed stair leads from the diningroom to the second story of the ell (Photo 9). Interior wall surfaces are of plaster and wood floors have been retained and are exposed in most rooms. The upper story of the Hollida House is somewhat more sparsely detailed than the downstairs and contains two bedrooms in the main portion and, as noted above, additional bedrooms and a bathroom in the ell.

The George Washington Hollida House is located in the rural unincorporated village of Scrabble, which is on the Berkeley-Jefferson County line, less than one mile south of the Potomac River which divides West Virginia from southern Maryland. The property occupies a five-acre tract, one acre in width and five acres deep, the topography of which slopes upward from south to north along Scrabble Road. Contributing dependencies associated with the house include a simply-detailed gable-roofed drive-through shed (Photo 5), a stucco-clad brick smokehouse (Photo 6), and a 1945 bank barn, 67'× 37'. Noncontributing features within the nominated acreage include a 1960s concrete block well house located behind the house and a modern, architecturally-compatible wood building completed in 2002 on the foundation of an historic dependency. The property is landscaped and includes a yard on the front and sides of the house and agricultural fields behind, all punctuated by mature shade trees of varying dimension.

The following properties are included in the nominated tract:

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<sup>1</sup>This two-over-two-room house type was named by cultural geographer Fred Kniffen in a 1935 study of Louisiana folk house types. He so named these houses because most of their builders came from Indiana, Iowa, and Illinois. He expanded his discussion of this important folk house type in his 1965 article, "Folk Housing: Key to Diffusion."

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

**Hollida, George Washington, House**  
**Berkeley County, WV**

Section Number 7 Page 3

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1. George Washington Hollida House, residential

Description: 2-story Greek Revival-style I-house of brick, with a five bay facade and an original brick ell

Date: c. 1842

1 contributing building

2. Drive-through shed, residential dependency

Description: gable-roofed shed of wood construction

Date: c. 1900

1 contributing building

3. Smokehouse, residential dependency

Description: brick smokehouse clad in stucco

Date: c. 1900

1 contributing building

4. Well house, residential dependency

Description: rectangular concrete block well house, built outside the period of significance

Date: 1960s

1 non-contributing building

5. Outbuilding, residential dependency

Description: modern dependency built on the foundation of a previous dependency

Date: 2002

1 non-contributing building

6. Barn, agricultural dependency

Description: timber frame bank barn with gable roof and vertical board cladding

Date: 1945

1 contributing building

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Hollida, George Washington, House  
Berkeley County, WV**

Section Number 8 Page 4

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**8. Significance**

The c. 1842 George Washington Hollida House (Berkeley County Historic Site Survey No. S-27) meets National Register Criterion C for *architecture* and is locally significant as a locally-distinctive brick example of the I-house, which is among the most prominent folk house types seen in the Midwest and Upland South. The period of significance for the property is c.1842, the estimated date of construction for the house; c.1900, the construction date of the contributing shed and smokehouse; and c.1945, the construction date of the contributing bank barn. The Hollida House retains integrity and clearly reflects its appearance throughout the period of significance.

The house was erected about 1842 for G. W. Hollida (1800-1861). In 1830, with his brother John, George Washington Hollida had acquired several tracts of land lying in portions of Berkeley and Jefferson Counties, in the Scrabble area. Hollida was a farmer who was thrice married and lived in this house until his death two months after the start of the Civil War. Although the subject of several internecine court cases, in the years following his death and the remarriage of his widow, Susan, the house remained in the Hollida family. In 1919, John Henry Hollida and his wife, Irene, sold the house and 103 acres to George F. Turner. Over the years, the farm has been subdivided; the nominated area contains five acres including the house and the aforementioned immediate dependencies.

The Criterion C significance of the Hollida House is vested in its position as a locally-distinctive example of a sparsely-detailed Greek Revival-style I-house, erected by a Berkeley County farmer two decades before the Civil War. The central-passage I-house was a favored design for domestic construction during the nineteenth century, and the Hollida House represents the popularity of this house type and plan. For purposes of comparison, another central-passage Berkeley County I-house is the Daniel-Grantham House (NR 1994), which anchors Thunder Hill Farm. This property dates from 1818 and is a Federal-style three-bay stone house, to which has been appended an 1882 wood addition. Both the Daniel-Grantham House and the Hollida House embody the characteristic plan and massing of the I-house, although with its addition, the Daniel-Grantham House is larger.

The I-house as a house form was identified initially by renowned cultural geographer Fred Kniffen, who recognized these homes as representing the dominate traditional house type found throughout the South and the Midwest.



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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Hollida, George Washington, House  
Berkeley County, WV**

Section Number 8 Page 5

---

The "I" house was first recognized in Indiana in 1930 as constituting a link with the Middle Atlantic Source area. It was recognized again in the middle thirties in Louisiana in the form of a house introduced . . . in the late nineteenth century by settlers from Kentucky, Illinois, and Michigan . . . these qualities all "I" houses unfailingly had in common: gables to the sides, at least two rooms in length, one room deep, and two full stories in height . . . Of all old folk types, the "I" house is by far the most widely distributed, notably as a rural dwelling.<sup>2</sup>

As rural areas were settled and agricultural lands cleared, a new agrarian middle class was born and "the 'I' house remained the symbol of economic attainment and . . . its only requisites, one-room depth and two full stories, could be in any medium."<sup>3</sup> The medium George Washington Hollida chose for his "symbol of economic attainment" was brick, laid in the decorative Flemish bond with alternating headers and stretchers. And while the five-bay central-passage plan was often employed for Greek Revival-style domestic design, the Hollida house is first and foremost an "I" house, and its significance as described by Kniffen is as one of the "humbler buildings [which] by reason of their adherence to type and numerical superiority are far more important as markers of basic cultural processes than are the uniquely designed individual structures."<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>Kniffen, "Folk Housing," p.553-555.

<sup>3</sup>**Ibid.**, p. 562-563.

<sup>4</sup>**Ibid.**, p. 552.

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

**Hollida, George Washington, House**  
**Berkeley County, WV**

Section Number 9 Page 6

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

*The Berkeley Journal* 13 (1989). Martinsburg: Berkeley County Historical Society.

Kniffen, Fred. "Folk Housing: Key to Diffusion," *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 55 (December, 1965).

Joyce, Lavon, "Hollida House," [summary of deed transfers] MS in the collection of Berkeley County Historical Society, Martinsburg, West Virginia.

Land Records, Berkeley County, West Virginia.

Ruth, Frances D., "Sangsters," MS in the collection of Berkeley County Historical Society, Martinsburg, West Virginia.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Hollida, George Washington, House  
Berkeley County, WV**

Section Number 10 Page 7

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**10. Geographical Data**

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Containing that tract described in Berkeley County Deed Book 599, Page 73, containing a total of five acres.

**JUSTIFICATION**

The boundary of this nomination consists only of that area currently associated with the Hollida House, including several dependencies and one large bank barn; the balance of the property historically associated with the house and its dependencies has been subdivided off and is under separate ownership.

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
Continuation Sheet

**Hollida, George Washington, House**  
**Berkeley County, WV**

Section Number   Photo Log   Page 8

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**PHOTOGRAPH LOG**

All Photographs:

**Hollida, George Washington, House**

Berkeley County, West Virginia

Photographer: David L. Taylor

Date: 2002

Negatives filed at: West Virginia SHPO  
Charleston, West Virginia

1. George Washington Hollida House, southwest perspective, looking northeast, showing overall character of the property including its massing, fenestration, roof and front porch
2. George Washington Hollida House, south facade, looking northeast, showing c. 1920 porch, fenestration, brick finishes, etc.
3. George Washington Hollida House, southeast perspective looking northwest, showing porch, chimney, gable-end, etc.
4. George Washington Hollida House, east elevation, looking west, showing 2-story ell which extends north from the main house, the 2-story brick addition in the angle of the ell, etc.
5. George Washington Hollida House, dependencies, looking north, including a shed and the large 1940s bank barn located behind the house
6. George Washington Hollida House, dependencies, looking northwest
7. George Washington Hollida House, bank barn, looking north
8. George Washington Hollida House, smoke house, looking north
9. George Washington Hollida House, interior, first story, detail, showing mantle in original dining-room, trim, and boxed stair leading the second story
10. George Washington Hollida House, interior, first story, detail of livingroom, showing Classical Revival-style mantle
11. George Washington Hollida House, interior, detail, showing typical historic doors and escutcheons found throughout, baseboard, etc.
12. George Washington Hollida House, interior, detail, stair hall, showing open-string stair, balus-

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

**Hollida, George Washington, House**  
**Berkeley County, WV**

Section Number   Photo Log   Page 10

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Hollida, George Washington, House  
Berkeley County, WV**

Section Number   Illustrations   Page   11

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**Fig. 1** This c. 1890 photo shows the Hollida House with its original porticos on the facade and on the west elevation.





**Fig. 2** By the time of this photo, the porticos seen in Fig. 1 had been replaced. The portico on the facade was replaced by a substantial porch, while that on the west elevation was replaced by a semi-circular hood.



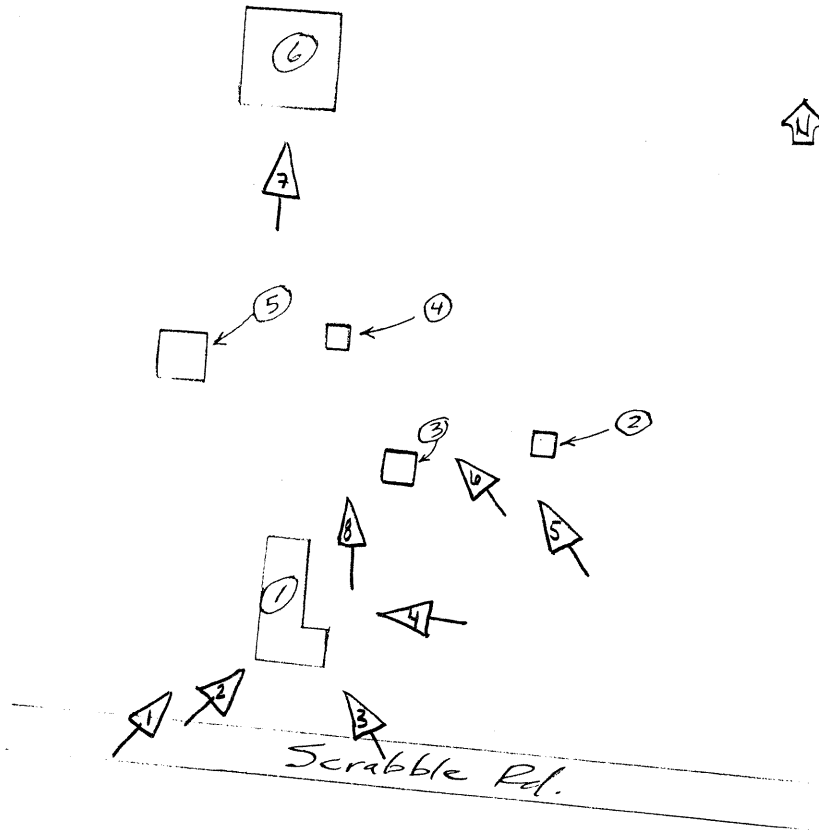
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Hollida, George Washington, House  
Berkeley County, WV

Section Number      Page

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Sketch Map.  
 Numbers refer to inventory in Section 7  
 ← = photo vantage points  
 Not to scale



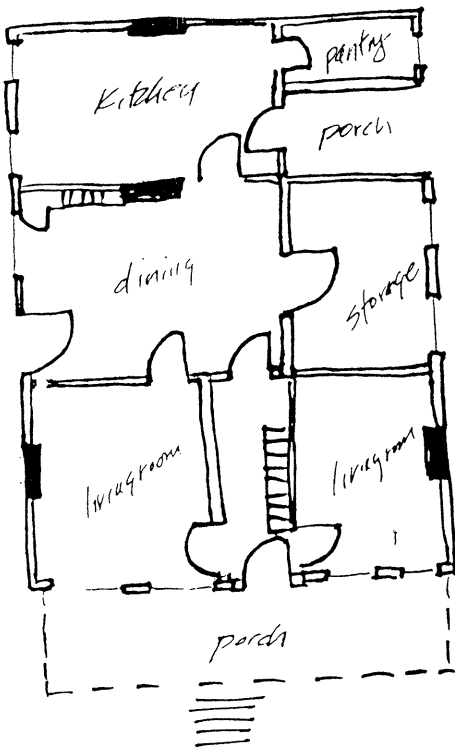
**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

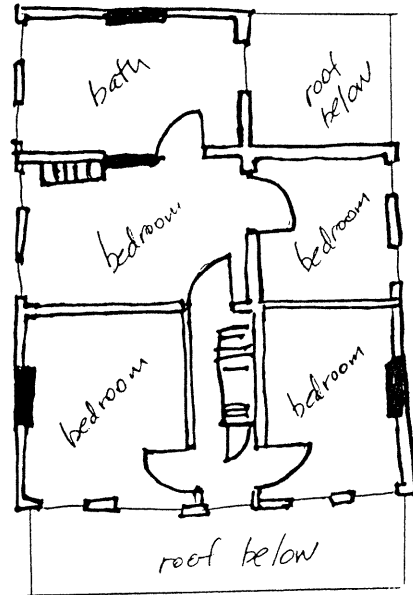
**Hollida, George Washington, House  
Berkeley County, WV**

Section Number      Page

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*First story*



*second story*

