

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

## 1. Name

historic Hoffman, Isaac, House

and/or common Hoffman, Isaac, House

## 2. Location

street & number 364 Shamer Lane n/a not for publication

city, town Houcksville  vicinity of congressional district Sixth

state Maryland code 24 county Carroll code 013

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. John L. Manwaring (Joanne M.)

street & number 364 Shamer Lane

city, town Hampstead n/a vicinity of state Maryland 21074

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Carroll County Courthouse Annex

street & number 55 North Court Street

city, town Westminster state Maryland 21157

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Maryland Historical Trust  
Historic Sites Inventory

has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date March 1985  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust, 21 State Circle

city, town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

# 7. Description

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<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date <u>n/a</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

## Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Number of Resources		Number of previously listed National Register properties included in this nomination: <u>0</u>
Contributing	Noncontributing	Original and historic functions and uses: <u>residential</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> buildings	
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites	
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures	
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects	
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> Total	

The Isaac Hoffman House is a two story gable roofed stuccoed stone farm house with a four bay facade (south elevation) with a one story full length porch and a fully exposed foundation wall which also has four bays. The east gable end has six-over-six windows in the two bays in both stories and two four-pane windows in the gable. The west gable end has windows only in the southernmost bays (the northwest corner is the location of the winder stair on the interior). On the north facade, the first story is at ground level. There is a one-story, one bay frame addition with a shed roof located at the doorway to the west room which appears to have been built in the early 20th century. Also on this facade are two six-over-six windows on each story. The interior of the house has a three-room plan of Pennsylvania German derivation. The west room on the first story is the major room of the house. It has entrances on the front and rear directly opposite each other. The west wall of this room contains a fireplace mantel, paneled cupboards, door to the basement stair and a winder stair with door in the northwest corner. The only surviving outbuilding is a stone springhouse (called a meat and milk house by the Shamer family). It is also sited to take advantage of the slop with ground level entrances on each of its two stories. It is a rectangular-shaped building with a gable roof covered with sheet metal.

# 8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** c. 1850      **Builder/Architect** unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

Applicable Criteria: A, C  
 Applicable Exceptions: none  
 Significance Evaluated: local

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

The Isaac Hoffman House is significant because of its architectural characteristics. Built about 1850, the house is unusual because of its retention of traditional Pennsylvania German features at this late date, especially the three-room plan, bank house design and the interior woodwork. Although Isaac Hoffman was a second generation American, he still used architectural traditions of Germanic derivation in the construction of this house. This is especially surprising in comparison to other architecture in Carroll County during this period which is beginning to show influences of national architectural trends on the vernacular farmhouse with L-shaped plan popular in this region.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Seitz, May. Hoffman Paper Mills. Towson, MD: By the Author, 1946.

Land and Probate Records of Carroll County, MD.

Lake, Griffin & Stevenson, Illustrated Atlas of Carroll County, MD 1877.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property approximately 1 acre

Quadrangle name Westminster, Maryland

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UMT References

A 

1	8	3	3	7	7	8	0	4	3	8	3	5	5	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

### Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet No. 5.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Joseph Getty

organization Carroll County Dept. of Planning date December 1984

street & number 225 North Center Street telephone (301) 848-4500

city or town Westminster state Maryland 21157

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature  6-11-85

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	Entered in the National Register
	date <u>7-25-85</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

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

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Isaac Hoffman House

Continuation sheet	Carroll County, Maryland	Item number 7. Description	Page 1
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GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Isaac Hoffman House is located at the end of Shamer Lane, approximately one-quarter mile south of Hoffman Mill Road near Houcksville. The property is located on a sharply sloping site that leads down to a stream. The stone house is built into a slope so that the basement level has full story on the main facade. There is a stone retaining wall so that the first story is at ground level at the rear of the house. A millrace once ran immediately in front of the house to operate a paper mill in a frame structure between the house and the stream. There is also a stone springhouse on the property located west of the main house.

Built circa 1850, the Isaac Hoffman House is a stone structure four bays by two bays in dimension. Its exterior contains Pennsylvania German design elements such as its construction into a bank providing a full story basement level and its double entrances in the four-bay facade. The house is constructed of fieldstone covered in stucco and originally whitewashed. It has a box cornice and a gable roof covered in standing-seam metal. The original roof covering was wood shingles. Interior-end brick chimneys rise at both gable ends.

The main facade (south elevation) has a full basement level with six-over-three windows in the outer bays and entrances in the two central bays. The first story is similarly arranged with six-over-six windows in the outer bays. The second story has six-over-six windows in all four bays. There is a double-tiered frame porch on stone piers on the main facade. The porch has square posts with applied molding. The basement level contains one panelled shutter that provides evidence for the original shutter design at this level. The first story has louvered shutters. The westernmost doorway on the basement level is a vertical board door while the easternmost doorway has a six-pane window with one horizontal and two vertical panels below it. The entrances on the first story have four-pane transoms and eight-panelled doors. The-eight panelled doors consist of six square panels in pairs on the upper section and one pair of rectangular lower panels.

See Continuation Sheet No. 2

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Hoffman, Isaac, House

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

The east gable end has six-over-six windows in the two bays on both stories and two four-pane windows in the gable. The west gable end has windows only in the southernmost bays (the northwest corner is the location of the winder stair on the interior). On the north facade, the first story is at ground level. There is a one-story, one-bay frame addition with a shed roof located at the doorway to the west room which appears to have been built in the early 20th century. Also on this facade are two six-over-six windows on each story.

The interior of the house has a three-room plan of Pennsylvania German derivation. The west room on the first story is the major room of the house. It has entrances on the front and rear directly opposite each other. The west wall of this room contains a fireplace mantel, paneled cupboards, door to the basement stair and a winder stair with door in the northwest corner. The mantelpiece is highlighted by a Pennsylvania German swirling-teardrops motif in its center. The east room originally was partitioned into a larger southeast room and a smaller northeast room. This partition was removed from the house but is being reconstructed by the present owners. The larger southeast room contains the fireplace with a mantel design almost identical to that in the west room.

The basement is also partitioned into two rooms each with its own entrance. The west room contains a large fireplace and was used as a summer kitchen. The east room contains mud-and-straw insulation in the ceiling and was used as a root cellar. The second story contains three bedrooms each with peg rails along the walls. The windows throughout the house have beveled sides and plain wood frames. The roof has a common rafter system pegged at the ridge and with collar pieces nailed to each rafter.

The only surviving outbuilding is a stone springhouse (called a meat and milk house by the Shamer family). It is also sited to take advantage of the slope with ground level entrances on each of its two stories. It is a rectangular-shaped building with a gable roof covered in sheet metal. The ground story contains a spring with dairy troughs. It is accessible from the east facade where there is a batten door and window. The south and west facades have ventilator windows to the ground floor. The upper story has an entrance on the north gable end and is lit solely by a six-over-three window on the south gable end. The fieldstone structure is whitewashed and has a box cornice. It also contains some original hardware including a thumb-latch on the batten door at the north facade.

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Hoffman, Isaac, House

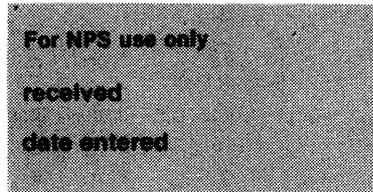
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HISTORY AND SUPPORT

The tax assessment records suggest that Isaac Hoffman constructed his stone house circa 1850 because of a sizable increase in that year. The house contains features of Pennsylvania German design that display cultural persistence. These features include the three-room plan, the interior woodwork, and the bank house design. Although Isaac Hoffman was a second generation American, he still used architectural traditions of Germanic derivation in the construction of this house. This is especially surprising in comparison to other architecture in Carroll County during this period which is beginning to show influences of national architectural trends on the vernacular farmhouse with L-shaped plan popular in this region.

On this property, Isaac Hoffman created an industrial complex consisting of a paper mill and a fulling mill. A late 19th century photograph shows the paper mill (a frame structure with stone ends) and several frame accessory buildings, including the straw shed and boiler room with smoke stack. The photograph also shows the millrace and flume and agricultural buildings on the property that included a chicken house, corn crib and milk and meat house. The mill buildings no longer stand.

The history of paper manufacturing in Maryland has its beginnings in the activities of the Hoffman family of Baltimore County. William Hoffman was a papermaker in Frankfurt-on-the-main, Germany before emigrating to Pennsylvania. He rented and operated a paper mill outside of Philadelphia for several years and, in 1775, he moved to Maryland and established its first paper manufactory on the Great Gunpowder Falls. He provided paper to the Continental Congress during the American Revolution. In 1781, he expanded his operations by establishing a second papermill, the Gunpowder Mill, near his original Clipper Mill. His five sons and several grandchildren were all involved in the papermaking business extending through a number of mill properties throughout northern Baltimore County.

After William Hoffman's death, the Clipper Mill passed onto his second son Christian, who was the father of Isaac. Christian ran the Clipper Mill until his early death in 1833. Isaac, who was born in 1813, was able to purchase his own paper mill in Baltimore County in 1836. In 1848, he sold this property and moved to the East Branch of the Patapsco Falls near Houcksville in Carroll County. This is where he built his large stone house, which is the only remaining Hoffman family home because the Baltimore County properties were inundated with the construction of Prettyboy Dam.

See Continuation Sheet No. 4

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HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

Isaac Hoffman was killed in an accident while boarding a train in Baltimore in 1865. An extensive inventory of his personal property exists in the probate records of Carroll County. This inventory includes items within the industrial complex and provides insight about the papermaking operation of the mid-nineteenth century. Along with the tools and equipment, the following items are listed in the inventory: "400 reams of rapping paper--\$105.00; Lot of Straw--\$8.00; 1184 lbs Canton waste--\$23.68; 300 lbs Canton rages--\$12.00; and 848 lbs of wollen rages--\$16.96."

After Isaac Hoffman's death, the mill was operated for several years by his son James Conrad Hoffman. It was then sold to George Keller who is shown on the 1877 Illustrated Atlas of Carroll County as mill operator and store owner. It passed through several families during the early 20th century until it was purchased in 1928 by Dr. Maurice E. Shamer, a Baltimore physician. At that time, the mill was in a deteriorated condition and was torn down shortly thereafter. Other outbuildings on the property at that time included a spring house (milk and meat house), corn crib, hog pen, tenant house and bank barn. The original bank barn burned in a fire in the mid-twentieth century. Dr. Shamer sold the property in 1967 and it passed through two families until 1980 when the present owners purchased the house and began the process of restoring it.

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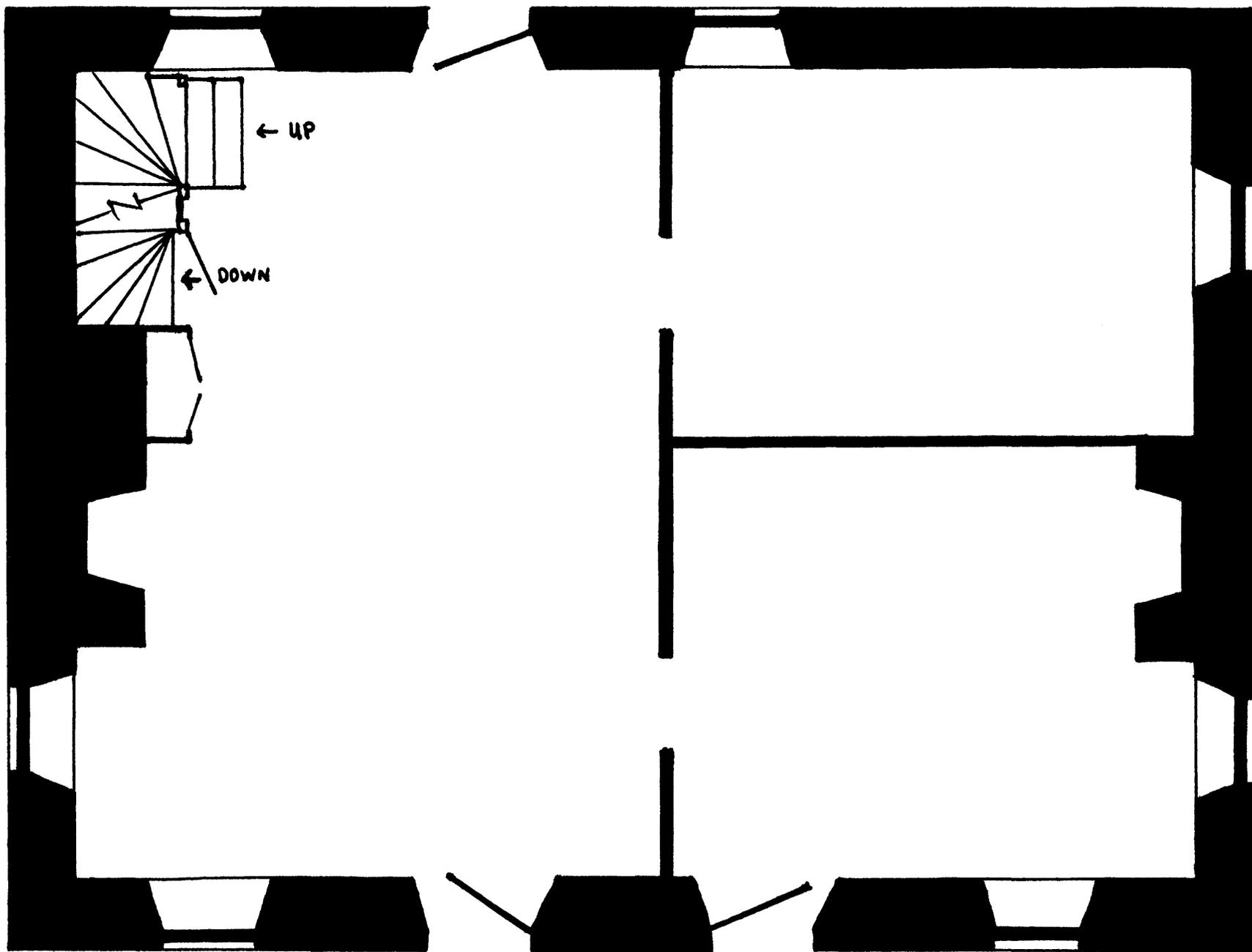
GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundaries, as delineated on the enclosed map, consist of existing property lines, in whole or in part, and arbitrary lines drawn either as an extension of or perpendicular to existing lines.

Boundary Justification:

The boundaries are drawn to encompass the historic resources, the house and springhouse, and to exclude the newer dwelling across the road to the south and the open field and wooded areas to the west and south. The northern and eastern lines generally correspond to the ridge of the hill that rises to the back of the house. The southwestern line is based on the existence of Shamer Lane.



CARR-903 ISAAC HOFFMAN HOUSE

FIRST FLOOR PLAN

J. Getty  
December 1984

N ↗  
scale: 1/4 inch = 1 foot

Hoffman, Isaac, House

364 Shamer Lane  
Houcksville vicinity

Carroll County  
Maryland

boundary map for nomination to the  
National Register of Historic Places  
1985

