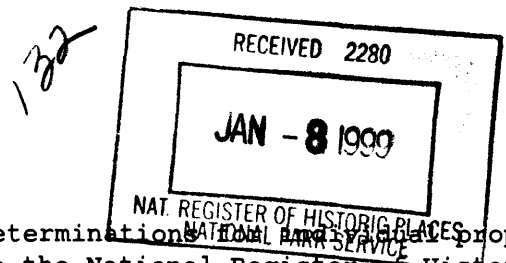


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for 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 "x" 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 processor, or computer to complete all items.

=====

1. Name of Property

=====

historic name Clagett, Robert Farm

other names/site number WA-III-036

=====

2. Location

=====

street Garrett's Mill Road


not for publication n/a city or town Knoxville vicinity x
state Maryland code MD county Washington code 043 zip code 21758

=====

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

=====

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



12-18-98

Signature of certifying official

Date

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

Signature of commenting or other official

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): _____

Edson J. Beall

Edson

Signature of Keeper

2-5-99
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

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>4</u>	_____ buildings
_____	_____ sites
_____	_____ structures
_____	_____ objects
<u>4</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing n/a

=====
6. Function or Use
=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: single dwelling

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE Sub: agricultural outbuilding

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: single dwelling

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE Sub: agricultural outbuilding
=====

7. Description
=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

COLONIAL/Georgian

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

roof Asphalt

walls Stone

other Wood

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more 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.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- 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.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance 1775-1948

Significant Dates 1775

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

n/a

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

=====

(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: Washington County Free Library, Hagerstown, MD

=====

10. Geographical Data

=====

Acreage of Property 9.82 acres

USGS quadrangle Harpers Ferry, VA-MD-WV

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

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing	
A	<u>18</u>	<u>268810</u>	<u>4358968</u>	C	<u>18</u>	<u>268580</u>	<u>4359120</u>
B	<u>18</u>	<u>268540</u>	<u>4358760</u>	D	_____	_____	_____

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: The nominated property is described as Parcel 1 among the Land Records of Washington County, Liber 1409, Folio 278.

Boundary Justification: The nominated property, 9.82 acres, comprises the remnant of the property with which the resource is historically associated, and constitutes an appropriate setting.

=====

11. Form Prepared By

=====

name/title Merry Stinson
organization _____ date May 31, 1998
street & number 21412 Leiter Street telephone (301) 791-1621
city or town Hagerstown state MD zip code 21742

=====

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 the SHPO or FPO.)

name Mr. & Mrs. Richard J. Hamilton
street & number 8307 Mountain Laurel Rd. telephone (301) 733-7814
city or town Boonsboro state MD zip code _____

=====

Paperwork Reduction Act 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.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 7

WA-III-036
Clagett, Robert Farm
Washington Co., MD

Description Summary:

The Robert Clagett Farm, located in southeastern Washington County, Maryland, comprises a late 18th century one-story stone dwelling house, exceptionally well-finished and remaining in nearly intact original condition, as well as a mid-19th century timber-frame barn and an early 20th century garage and shed. The farm takes its name from owner Robert Clagett (1786-1855). The current tract comprises 9.8 acres, bordered by Israel Creek, located among rolling, wooded hills at the narrow southern end of Pleasant Valley.

General Description:

The Clagett Farm is located in Washington County, MD, within a mile of Pleasant Valley's southern terminus at the Potomac River, just another mile east of Harper's Ferry, WV. South Mountain forms the eastern border of the valley and Elk Ridge provides the western boundary. The valley, three miles wide at its northern end, narrows to one mile near the southern end. This end of the valley is mostly wooded with outcroppings of sandstone, rather than the predominant limestone to the north.

MD Rt. 67 runs the length of Pleasant Valley. It replaces the Old Weverton Rd. to the east in some areas, such the Clagett Farm vicinity. The farm is located on the south side of Garrett's Mill Road west of its intersection with Rt. 67. Valley Rd. forms the eastern border of the farm, and Israel Creek, a stocked trout stream, runs along the farm's western side. A small 1875 stone arched bridge (WA-III-016) carries Valley Rd. over the creek. The Clagett Farm forms a rough triangle with the lower point at the stone bridge. A mid-19th century dairy barn is located in the northwest angle of Valley Road and Garrett's Mill Rd. A small, shed-roofed frame outbuilding at the edge of the field southwest of the house may have once housed pigs. A spring emerges about 70' south of the house. A 1930's frame garage is located at the northwest corner. The farm land consists of open pasture gently sloping to a marshy area draining into Israel Creek.

The Clagett house is a one-story stone structure measuring three bays long by two bays deep. The finished loft provides another level of living space. The main facade faces Garrett's Mill Road 40 feet to the north. The cellar level is fully exposed at the rear, overlooking the field rolling down to Israel Creek. A gravel driveway serves the garage. A concrete walkway leads from Garrett's Mill Road to the main entrance of the house, and another such sidewalk leads from the garage to the cellar entrance on the south. Two large black walnut trees shade the yard--one at the spring and another along the sidewalk to the cellar. A Norway Spruce and old lilac bushes stand to the north.

A one-story porch shelters the main facade and a two-story galleried porch runs along the south side. Both were built in the mid-20th century although the south side certainly always had a porch to provide access to the first floor's back entrance. Two dormers light either side of the loft. An interior stone chimney stack rises from either end of the asphalt covered roof.

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CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 8

WA-III-036
Clagett, Robert Farm
Washington Co., MD

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The main entrance is set distinctly west of center. The rear entrance opening onto the porch is located directly opposite the front door. The cellar entrance is positioned below this rear door. A small square window lights the cellar in the northern bay on either side. The eastern window retains its original diagonally set horizontal ventilation bars. A window with paired single-pane sashes was inserted in the west side's south bay in the mid-20th century. The south side of the cellar has a 2/2 sash window to the west and 4/4 sash window to the east.

Two-over-two Victorian sash windows light the main floor. A two-pane transom appears over either door. Two-pane casement windows light the attic gables.

The floor plan of the Clagett house consists of a single, large common room, the hall, running the length of the west side, two rooms on the east side, and an enclosed stair at the west wall of the southeast room. The original plan of the cellar (now altered) was similar. The loft had a single room at either end. The west room was later divided in two.

The hall's 12' long chimney block on the west wall provides a fireplace at the north end. The south end has no opening: it accommodates the cellar's chimney flue. One continuous mantel runs the length of the block. Three raised panels are centered over the fireplace. Six panels, 3 over 3, are centered over the south end. The chair rail runs continuously under these panels from the adjacent wall. One large replacement panel of sheetrock, located under this section, was removed, revealing solid stone masonry. Stove flue openings appear near the top of the chimney block in both sections. The hearth's remaining bricks, now covered with flooring are visible from the cellar.

Corner fireplaces heat the east rooms. The parlor to the north is especially well-finished with a plaster cornice and a panelled mantel capped with dentil work. The south chamber mantel is simpler: unpanelled with a strip of reeding.

Doors provide access between all the rooms. The hall and the chamber also have doorways to the stair.

Neither chimney block has a fireplace at the loft level. The east bedchamber has a plain board shelf. The west bedchamber's chimney shelf is supported by a bolection molding above a beaded board. A beaded board holding hand-carved pegs appears on the east bedchamber's west wall. An original 6-panel door is located in this wall. An opening in the ceiling near this area provides access to the attic. Narrow beaded-board batten doors hung on pressed Victorian hinges open into the knee walls under the dormers. The main level's ceiling height is 10', while the loft's ceiling measures only 7' high.

The stair turns in four steps at the south end, then runs straight. The stair treads were cut with a bolection molded edge. A bolection molded chair rail runs along the wall parallel to the stair, forming a handrail.

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CONTINUATION SHEET**

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WA-III-036
Clagett, Robert Farm
Washington Co., MD

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The kitchen occupying the west end of the cellar fits the same dimensions as the hall above. A vertical board wall under the stair has been covered with plaster board. The north end of the kitchen was later closed off for a utility room. On the kitchen side, the western chimney block provided a fireplace, now blocked with stone, at the south end of the cellar. Two cut stones from the arched fireplace opening remain and the outline of a mantel is visible in the plaster. An adjoining set of shelves built into a large opening in the north end of the chimney block replaced an undetermined feature.

The stone base for the eastern corner chimneys is plastered in the cellar. Part of a board wall divides the two rooms. A beaded board batten door hung on strap hinges is visible on the east side of the central wall between the kitchen and the southeast room. This door has been covered on the west side of the wall and replaced by a modern door to the north. The cellar floor consists of poured concrete except for a dirt floor along the north side.

The main floor level's modern front door includes a nine pane window set above three shallow panels. The back door, comprising four shallow panels, appears to date from the late 19th century. An original six-panel door hung on HL hinges opens from the southeast chamber to the stair. A door leading from the parlor to the chamber, hung on HL hinges, is built with four shallow panels on each side and is secured with a late 19th century iron box lock with a brass knob. Pintles which once held strap hinges remain on the front door frame and on the parlor side of the door leading to the hall. Most of the rooms, except for the west room, retain their wide floorboards.

Beaded baseboards and bolection-molded chair rails trim all rooms on the main floor and the loft. On the first floor all architraves for the interior doors, as well as the north facade's exterior architraves, consist of ovolo casing trimming an ogee-molded stepped field ending in a beaded edge. The window architraves and the frames for the exterior doors are edged with a simple ogee molding on the interior of the house. All architraves on the exterior of the house, except for the facade and cellar, feature ovolo moldings. Shutter pintles are set in the window frames. Ogee, ovolo, and cavetto moldings trim the mantels.

Tapered square posts support the front porch roof. The back porch is built with chamfered posts. Three horizontal boards and a top rail complete the cellar level, and vertical rectangular balusters set between a footrail and handrail enclose the gallery.

The Clagett House is built with well-laid random rubble stonework, Jack arches composed of nine cut stones top the door and window openings on the first floor level. These arches join the wall in large cut corner blocks. One or two stones span each cellar and attic window. Large blocks form quoins at the corners of the house. Thin slabs of stone form the chimney tops. The varied gray and brown shades of the stone create a subtly colorful masonry. The house is pointed with sand-colored mortar except for the main facade, where the pointing is white.

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WA-III-036
Clagett, Robert Farm
Washington Co., MD

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Mill-sawn joists supporting the first floor level are visible in the cellar. Common rafters mortised, tenoned and pegged at the apex are notched over the plate at the eaves level. This plate is scarfed and pegged at its midpoint. The ceiling joist ends are set in the stone wall.

The Clagett house retains its pastoral setting. Its beautifully detailed architectural features are almost completely intact.

Barn:

The timber-frame dairy barn appears to date from the mid-nineteenth century. It is painted white with false, arched windows painted in red. It is set on a poured concrete foundation and iron interior posts. This appears to replace an earlier foundation. The pole roof construction is also not original. Vertical boards sheathe the walls and sheet metal covers the roof. The lower part of a deteriorated silo adjoins the east wall and a concrete block dairy section is attached to the west side.

The ground floor level includes three cow stalls, iron milking staunchions, and a long wooden hay rack. Drain channels are built into the concrete floor. The walls are covered with narrow beaded board wainscoting. Reused 6-pane windows light this level.

The hay loft has a pulley block for lifting bales of hay. Another device appears to be a roller winch for moving farm equipment. Many of the construction joints are nailed with large spikes.

Spring:

Concrete steps and a concrete surround provide access to the spring. A plywood door covers the spring.

Shed:

This low frame building is covered by a shed roof and sheathed in boards.

Garage:

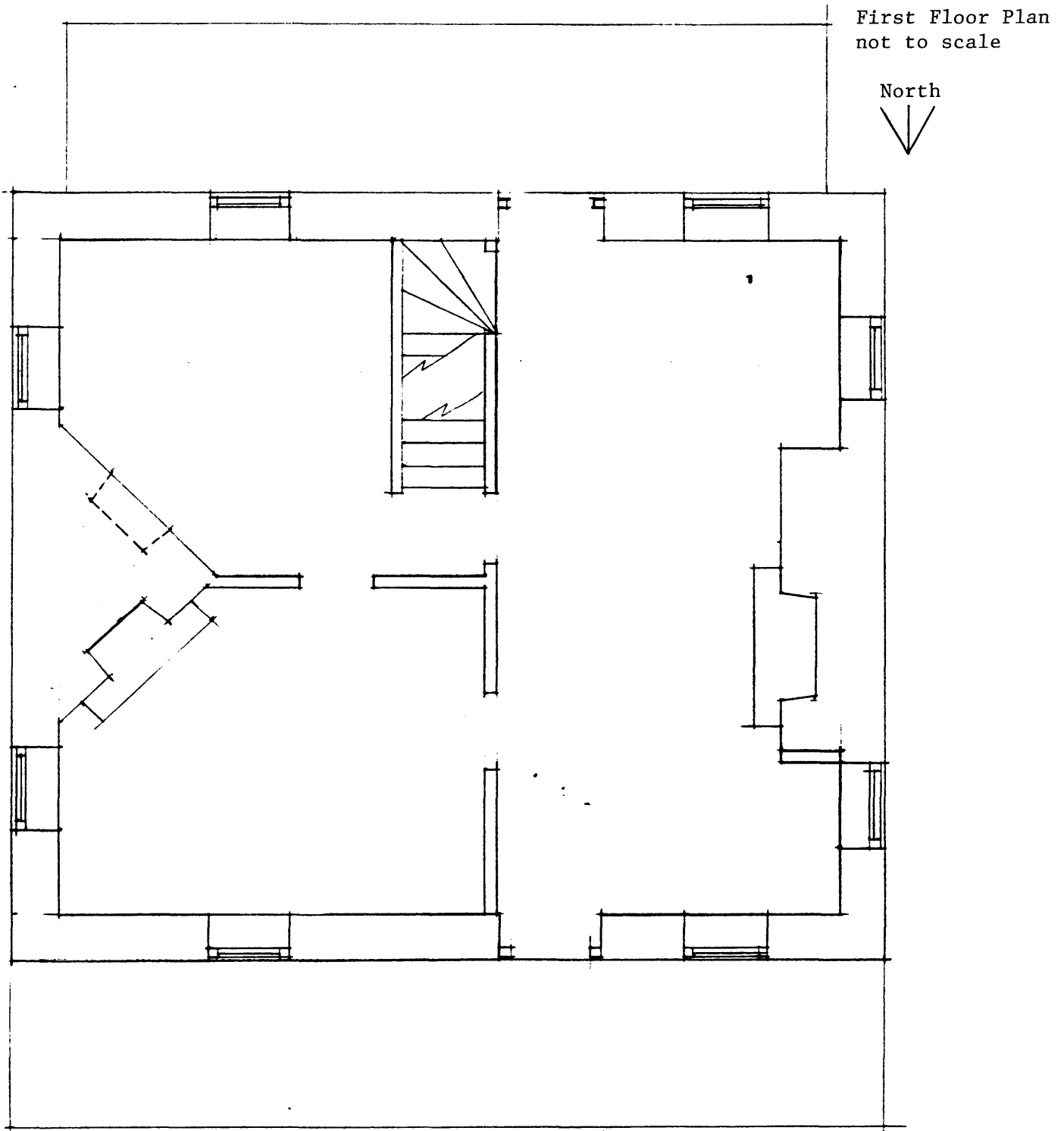
The wood-frame garage was built by the Tritapoes after they purchased the Clagett Farm in 1928. B & O Railroad boxcar lumber was incorporated into the structure. The building rests on a concrete foundation and is covered by an asphalt-shingled pyramidal roof.

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WA-III-036
Clagett, Robert Farm
Washington Co., MD



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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8 Page 12

WA-III-036
Clagett, Robert Farm
Washington Co., MD

Significance Summary

The Robert Clagett Farm is significant under Criterion C primarily for the architectural character of the late-18th century stone house. The exceptionally well crafted house, built of local sandstone, relates to the tradition of fine stone masonry characteristic of the vernacular dwellings of Washington County in the 18th century, while its three-room end-chimney plan is more frequently associated with neighboring Loudoun County, Virginia. Exceptionally finely finished for a house of its size, the building displays elements of both German and English architectural traditions, reflecting the cultural interplay that characterized the region in the period. The farm also retains a collection of 19th- and early 20th century outbuildings, exemplifying the evolution of this agricultural property. The period of significance, 1775-1948, extends from the date of construction of the stone house to a point fifty years in the past.

Resource History & Historic Context

The Robert Clagett Farm's late 18th century stone house exhibits a unique type of masonry and floor plan for this area. The farm is located in the southern end of Pleasant Valley. This area was settled in the fourth quarter of the 18th century by predominantly English settlers, many of whom came from Frederick County and tidewater Maryland to the east, or from Virginia to the south.

This region has always been important for transportation and industry. An Indian path provided the route for the old Weverton Road, and later Rt. 67. Crampton's Gap gave access to the valley a few miles to the north of the Robert Clagett Farm, and MD Rt. 340 follows the Potomac River to the South.

In 1727, Israel Friend received a deed for a tract of land on the west side of Elk Ridge where Antietam Furnace later operated. It is not certain whether he lent his name to the creek on the Robert Clagett Farm that was once known as "Israel's Cabbin Branch."¹

Harper's Ferry, West Virginia has long been a busy manufacturing center across the Potomac River. The C & O Canal opened a new way for commerce in 1828, along the Maryland side of the Potomac River, and the B & O Railroad built a line from Weverton to Hagerstown in 1867². Weverton to the south and Brownsville to the north were the villages closest to the Robert Clagett Farm.

The Robert Clagett Farm, when sold after his death in 1855, totaled 130 acres, including parts of the tracts "King Cole," "Boteler's Ramble," "Keep Trieste," "The George," and "Resurvey on Grim's Delight."³ The current tract referred to as The Robert Clagett Farm totals 9.8 acres. Robert Clagett's deeds do not indicate on which tract the residence is located. Further detailed research suggests that the house stands on "King Cole,"⁴ although the exact chain of ownership and therefore the identity of the structure's builder, is unclear.

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CONTINUATION SHEET**

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WA-III-036
Clagett, Robert Farm
Washington Co., MD

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"King Cole" was patented by Henry Wright Crabb of Frederick County in 1754 for 1,970 acres⁵. Investors from Annapolis owned part of the property. In 1783 nine resident owners were assessed on the tract⁶. The improvements of two landowners were valued much higher than any others-- Rudolph Brown at 35L (pounds) and James Allen at 30L. Neither could have built the Clagett house, however, because deeds indicate that Brown's property was farther to the north, and Allen's property nearly adjoined the Clagett farm to the southwest.⁷ Robert Clagett's father Dr. Zachariah Clagett bought parts of King Cole in the 1790's, but it is not likely that he built the Clagett house because the building's architectural features appear to date from approximately 1770-1790.

Robert Clagett's father, Dr. Zachariah Clagett (1760-1825) and grandfather Posthumous Clagett (1738-1822) were large landholders in southern Pleasant Valley⁸. Posthumous's first purchase was 327 acres of "Park Hall," just north of "King Cole," in 1761⁹. Posthumous presumably moved to the area which became Washington County from some part of eastern Maryland, where the Clagetts were well-established. Although he was described as a "bricklayer" in his original deed, he was later referred to as a farmer and planter¹⁰.

Dr. Zachariah Clagett first purchased part of "King Cole" in 1797¹¹. Over 50 land transactions were recorded for Dr. Clagett in Washington County. These transactions include parts of the five tracts listed in the 1855 sale of the Robert Clagett Farm.

Robert Clagett began acquiring the tracts that made up the 1855 farm in 1809 with part of "The George" (originally patented in 1739) deeded from his father, "for natural love and affection."¹² This site may have included the mill that was known in the mid-19th century as Garrott's Mill. This mill appears on Israel Creek on Varle's 1808 map though it was not given a name¹³. In the 1811 sale of parcels of the 10,000 acre tract "Keep Trieste," the mill is referred to as Clagetts Mill¹⁴. The Torch Light newspaper in Hagerstown carried a notice for "the firm of Garrott and Clagett on July 3, 1821. Robert Clagett advertised "a first rate Merchant Mill, an old Mill, Saw Mill, and Miller's House, convenient to the mill" for sale in the same newspaper on November 23, 1824. Robert Clagett sold this site to his son-in-law Edward Garrott in 1825¹⁵. "Garrett's Mill" appears to be a late 19th century corruption of the original spelling "Garrott."

Robert Clagett was one of Dr. Zachariah Clagett's ten children. Robert served as the executor of his father's estate. Dr. Clagett appears to have had many financial interests since over 80 debtors are listed in his estate accounts.

Robert Clagett and his wife Ann lived in Washington County during the 1810, 1820 and 1830 census. Notices in the Torch Light newspaper in Hagerstown list Robert Clagett as a Judge of Elections and Manager of the School Fund as late as 1834. They lived in Petersville, Frederick

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

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WA-III-036
Clagett, Robert Farm
Washington Co., MD

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County during the 1840 and 1850 census¹⁶. When Robert died in 1855, he was again a resident of Washington County¹⁷. It is not known exactly when he might have been residing in the house on the Robert Clagett Farm. Robert Clagett appointed his son Dr. Grafton A. Clagett as his executor. He listed his six children as his heirs. (His wife had died in 1848.) Clagett specified, "I desire my two aged servants Isaac Quin and Dinah, to have their liberty and shift for themselves so long as they are able." Clagett granted his executor the significant sum of \$1,000 to be used for the support of the two said servants.

This is just one example of significant slave manumissions by three generations of Clagetts--Posthumous, Dr. Zachariah, and Robert. The Washington County Land Records list numerous such certificates of freedom¹⁸. In 1816 Posthumous Clagett sold to his son Dr. Zachariah Clagett, for \$4,000, his livestock, tools and "all my Negro's/" Five slaves were deemed "all too old for me to liberate" as they were obviously too old to fend for themselves. Four men were to serve until age 39, and four women were to serve until age 35, at which time they all apparently would be freed¹⁹. Descendants of these slaves were probably students at the "Colored School" which was located on the west side of Israel Creek, across from the Robert Clagett Farm, in the late 19th century²⁰.

The Clagett family was also significant for its many generations of physicians--including Dr. Zachariah Clagett, his grandson Dr. Grafton A Clagett and other 19th century relatives Dr. Joseph E. Clagett, Dr. Hezekiah Clagett, and Dr. James H. Clagett²¹.

The Robert Clagett Farm was sold to Dr. Edward L. Boteler in 1855²². The Botelers had lived in southern Pleasant Valley since the late 18th century²³. When Boteler died in 1881 he bequeathed to his "daughters Prudence C (wife of H. C. Elgin) and Rachel (wife of J. L. Elgin), as tenants in common for and during their natural lives the Clagett Farm, Washington County, Maryland, on which John Mills now resides as tenant, purchased from the heirs of Robert Clagett." Boteler specified that he resided on his farm near Brownsville²⁴.

In 1886 and 1889 the Elgins sold parts of the farm to Edward F. Main, whose heirs in turn sold it to Calvin T. and Rhoda Tritapoe in 1928. Rhoda Tritapoe sold the 9.82 acre parcel of the Robert Clagett Farm to Rick and Nancy Hamilton on May 1, 1998²⁵.

Rhoda Tritapoe relates many stories about the farm, including the fact that the dwelling served as a hospital for soldiers after the Civil War Battle of Crampton's Gap. The B & O Railroad trains stopped in the Garrett's Mill area, providing transportation to Hagerstown for shoppers and workers, and to Weverton and Brunswick to points east and west. The railroad also carried freight and farm goods²⁶.

The dwelling house on the Robert Clagett Farm dates from approximately the 1770's to 1790's,

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CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8 Page 15

WA-III-036
Clagett, Robert Farm
Washington Co., MD

judging by its masonry, interior finishes, and floor plan. The house is exceptionally well-finished and well-preserved, and it is a unique building in the region. It is also one of the oldest.

The jack-arch window heads of the Clagett House are typical of 18th century stone buildings, but the corner blocks adjoining the arches are especially distinctive. The rubble masonry is well-laid and the stone blocks forming the quoins are carefully chosen. The chimney tops of thin slabs of stone show skillful masonry.

Several types of stone native to this mountainous area were used to build the Clagett house, rather than the predominant limestone found about five miles farther north. The main building stone is sandstone with some greenstone mixed in. The stones' natural shades of rusty brown, tan buff, light gray and dark charcoal gray blend beautifully. This stone was used in other buildings in the area, but not in such a refined form²⁸.

The Clagett house was built in a single story with dormers, a form more common in Tidewater Maryland. The cellar fully exposed on the south is typical of this hilly area, however. A review of the Historic Sites Survey in nearby Frederick County, MD, failed to reveal any buildings comparable in floor plan, form, or masonry.

The off-center door creating an asymmetrical facade is unusual even though this arrangement serves the floor plan well. This pattern resembles the facade of a typical German three room center chimney house such as WA I-054, Old Forge Farm, although the Clagett house has end chimneys. The early 19th century stone house at Eakles Mills (WA-II-265) displays the same three room plan with central boxed stair, off-center door, jack-arch window heads, and walk out cellar. It differs in that it stands a full two stories tall, has a parlor fireplace with unheated chamber, and displays much-altered finishing details. Fiery's Inheritance (WA-V-366) is another example of a late 18th century stone house with this end-chimneys three-room plan, including the central stair. However, this larger building features a symmetrical four-bay facade and stands two stories tall, with major later additions. The Clagett house apparently never had an addition.

This particular three-room plan with end chimneys is fairly common in Loudon County, Virginia, just a few miles to the south, across the Potomac River. This area was settled in the mid-18th century by Englishmen from Tidewater Virginia as well as Quakers and Germans from the Philadelphia, PA, area²⁹. This plan is sometimes referred to as the "Quaker Plan." However, Dave Edwards, who conducted the Loudon County Historic Sites Survey, states that the three-bay facade which accompanies this plan is always symmetrical, and never has the off center door seen at the Clagett house. These Loudon County structures were built of stone in the late 18th and early 19th centuries and stand a full two stories in height³⁰.

The exceptionally well-finished woodwork of the Clagett house incorporates a wide variety of late 18th century moldings including ovolo, ogee, bolection, and cavetto. A late example of similar woodwork appears at the Lantz Ziegler House (WA-I-159) built in 1800 although in this case the woodwork is lighter and smaller, reflecting the approaching influence of the Federal style. Moldings similar to those at the Clagett house are also seen in the 1770's section of WA-I-054, Old Forge Farm.

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The parlor with its complete set of woodwork and plaster cornice is the most elaborate room in the Clagett house. The hall's twelve foot long paneled chimney wall is an unusually extensive treatment of such a space.

The Clagett house is smaller than most other stone dwellings of its era and is unusually well-detailed for such a small structure. It is also uncommon for such a fine, small house to not include later additions. Presumably a summer kitchen and other outbuildings once augmented the structure.

The asymmetrical facade of the Clagett house may reflect a German influence on a building that otherwise displays elements similar to buildings in the English areas of Tidewater Maryland³¹. Its masonry is unique and its plan is rare in the area.

Footnotes:

- 1 Washington County Land Records (WCLR) P/246 1803
- 2 Strain, Paula M., The Blue Hills of Maryland p. 66
- 3 WCLR Liber IN 9/54 Folio 387
The date is stated as November 27, 1854, but there is an apparent discrepancy in the records since the cemetery dates his death to December 6, 1855, and his will was probated December 18, 1855
- 4 WCLR Tracts on Microfilm, and IN 9/54 f.387 tract drawn out to 1" = 600' to match 1998 Tax Assessment Maps. (Tract drafted by Merry Stinson.)
- 5 Land Patents, State of MD, BK & GS #1, f. 344
- 6 1783 Tax Assessment, Maryland House of Delegates, Washington County, Lower Antietam Hundred, f. 32-41
- 7 WCLR D/547, 1785; I/656, 1796, and later deeds
- 8 WCLR list over 50 land transactions for Dr. Zachariah Clagett.
- 9 Frederick County Land Records G/3/6
- 10 Chancery Records (Washington County) B33 folio 116 (microfilm #2472 MD. Hall of Records)

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- 11 WCLR K 10/625
- 12 WCLR T 17/408
- 13 Varle, Map of Maryland (1808)
- 14 WCLR W 18/799
- 15 WCLR HH 26/99
- 16 US Census, Frederick and Washington Co. MD
- 17 Washington County Wills Liber E/319
- 18 WCLR R/317, DD /506, FF/9, GG/369 & 512 (to cite just a few of many Certificates of Freedom)
- 19 WCLR BB/448
- 20 WCLR EO 180/19
- 21 Williams, Thomas J.C., History of Washington County, MD, 1906, p804
- 22 WCLR IN 9 54/387
- 23 WCLR E/865 1788 Henry Boteler from Robert Smith "Smith's Discovery" 55 acres
- 24 Washington County Wills G/78
- 25 See various Land Record references listed in Section #9 Bibliography.
- 26 Hamilton, Rick; Interview with Rhoda Tritapoe 5/2/1998
- 27 State of MD. Dept. of Geology, The Physical Features of Washington County, 1951 p. 141
- 28 Maryland Historical Trust, Washington County Historic Sites Survey, 1978 Sites # WA-III-048,046, -030: also the Robert Cushing House on Old Weverton Rd. (not surveyed)
- 29 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, Loudon County Historic Sites Survey
- 30 Ibid., Sites #53-184, 200, 223, 245, 266
- 31 Miller, Marcia M., and Orlando Ridout V, editors, Architecture in Annapolis, 1998
The Vernacular Architecture Forum and the Maryland Historical Trust, p.56 and 113.

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MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period: Agricultural-Industrial Transition,
1815-1870

Prehistoric/Historic Period Themes: Architecture

Resource Type:

 Category: Building(s)

 Historic Environment: Rural

 Historic Function and Use: Farmstead

 Known Design Source: None

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Williams, Thomas J. C. History of Washington County, Maryland. Orig. pub. Hagerstown, MD, 1906; rpt. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co, 1968.

Scharf, J. Thomas History of Western Maryland. Orig. pub. Philadelphia, 1882; rpt. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co, 1968.