National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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date entered

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

Type all entries	s—complete applicab	le sections		
1. Nam	1e			
historic Gen	eral Horatio Gate	es House		
and/or common	Traveller's Rest	: National Historic L	andmark	
2. Loca	ation			
street & number	State Route 48	3		not for publication
city, town Kea	rneysville	vicinity of		
state West_V	irginia	code 54 county	Jefferson	code 037
3. Clas	sification			
Category district X building(s) structure site object	Ownership public _X_ private both Public Acquisition in process being considered	Status _X occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted yes: unrestricted _X no	Present Use _x_ agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park X private residence religious scientific transportation other:
4. Own	er of Prop	erty		
name Mrs.	Martha Ann McInt	nsh		
street & number				<u></u>
	rneysville	vicinity of	state	West Virginia
		gal Descripti		
		efferson County Court	nouse	
street & number	Washington S	Street		
	harles Town			West Virginia
6. Rep	resentatio	n in Existing	Surveys	-
titleHistoric	American Building	gs Survey has this pr	operty been determined e	ligible? <u>yes X</u> n
date 1936			X federalsta	ate county loca
depository for su	urvey records Divis	sion of Prints and Ph	otographs, Library	of Congress
city, town Was	hington		state	DC

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
excellent X good	deteriorated	unaltered X altered	X original s	site date
fair	unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Traveller's Rest National Historic Landmark consists of a large farmstead of several log, wood frame, and masonry buildings, set on a rise, about 1/2-mile west of the village of Kearneysville, West Virginia. The complex is reached by a long lane at a prominent bend in Public Road 1/1, which intersects Rte. 480 1/4 mile southwest of Kearneysville.

A significant feature of the landmark property is a spring run, the source of which is covered by a stone springhouse, described below. The farmstead also includes a house, barn, shed, privy, wagon shed, and tenant farmer's or servants' residence, and several of these buildings may date from Gates's occupancy. The approximate relationship of the buildings is shown on the accompanying map.

These buildings are presently surrounded, as they were historically, by a combination of cultivated fields and pasture. The long lane approaching the house passes between such fields, cultivated on the right and pasture on the left, although the pastureland retains fragments of an orchard. Closer to the house the nature of the vegetation changes, to plantings of a domestic rather than agricultural nature, including shade trees and overgrown flowering shrubs.

The main house is a partially embanked, 1 1/2-story, gable-roofed, masonry house of local limestone, with a rectangular plan, 2 interior chimneys in the gable ends and a third interior chimney east of center along the rear wall. The house rests on a high basement, fully exposed on the south facade. Old photographs show a porch with steps approaching from the front. The present entrance consists of a plain wooden platform approached by a broad flight of steps from the west side. This feature was restored in 1976, based on a drawing published in 1860. The lawn immediately in front of the house includes remains of stone walks, terraces and perhaps of flower beds, which may have archaeological potential.

<u>Key Building</u>

The facade of the house consists of seven bays, with a clearly visible construction joint in the masonry between a 4-bay eastern section including the main entrance, and a 3-bay western section. Visible differences in the masonry also appear between the two sections; the eastern section is coursed ashlar, the western side is rubble masonry. In the mid-nineteenth century, the building was carefully repointed with squared, raised joints to give the effect of ashlar over the whole surface.

8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance—Carcheology-prehistoricagriculturex architectureartcommercecommunications	community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlement	landscape architectur law literature X. military music philosophy politics/government	science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater
Specific dates	1773-1790	Builder/Architect John	ı Ariss	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Traveller's Rest derives its primary significance from its association with General Horatio Gates, a major military figure during the Revolutionary War, whose home it was from 1773 to 1790. Additionally, however, the house is significant as a rare documented work by the eighteenth-century Virginia architect John Ariss. The survival of several outbuildings contributes to the sense of rural life on the Virginia frontier in the eighteenth century. **See section 8, pg. 3

Horatio Gates was born in England in 1727, and evidently entered the army at an early age, serving with Cornwallis in Nova Scotia in 1749-50. He fought in North America throughout the French and Indian War, including participation in Braddock's campaign in western Pennsylvania in 1758. It was undoubtedly at this time that he became acquainted with George Washington.

Gates returned to Britain in 1762 and was retired on half-pay in 1765. He maintained his interest in America and acquired a reputation for republican sentiments. In the spring of 1772, Gates wrote to Washington about buying land. With his wife and son he sailed from England in August 1772; in early 1773 he purchased 659 acres in what was then Berkeley County, Virginia. It is probable that he chose the area on Washington's advice. Washington would have been familiar with it, having surveyed Lord Fairfax's holdings in the Shenandoah Valley; in addition, his younger brothers lived in the vicinity.

Gates purchased the land from Joseph Grable who had bought it in 1766 from John Judy. Both were local men. Judy, in turn, had bought the property from John Hyatt, who had acquired it from the proprietor Stephen Hollingsworth, to whom it had been patented in 1734. Hyatt (whose name is spelled Heit or Hiet in early documents) was possibly a Pennsylvania German, moving into northwestern Virginia from Lancaster. The eastern section of the house was very likely built for Hyatt. A house is shown on the same site on a survey of the property in 1753, clearly marked "Hyatt's House."

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geograph	cal Data				
Acreage of nominated property 202.5 Quadrangle name Martinsburg, W.VA			Quadrangle scale 1:24000		
UT M References			•		
	1 3 6 4 1 8 0 orthing	B 1 8 Zone	2 5 0 7 6 5 Easting	4 ₁ 3 6 ₁ 3 8 ₁ 6 ₁ 5 Northing	
c 1 8 2 5 0 4 4 5	1, 3 6, 3 1, 2, 0	D [1 ₁ 8]	2 5 0 0 8 0	4 3 6 3 3 0 0	
E 1 8 2 4 9 5 6 5	1 3 6 3 1 2 0	F L			
G		н			
Verbal boundary description	and justification				
	See Continua	tion Sheet			
List all states and counties	for properties over	lapping state or co	ounty boundaries		
state	code	county		code	
state	code	county		code	
11. Form Prep	ared By				
	g/Architectural reiff/President/	Historian /Architectural H	listorian		
organization Heritage Stu	udies, Inc.	da	ate October	1985	
street & number Box 864 Mag	oleton Road	te	lephone 609-45	2-1754	
city or town Princeton		st	ate New Jerse	08540	
12. State Hist	oric Pres	ervation (Officer C	ertification	
The evaluated significance of thi	s property within the	state is:			
national	state	local			
As the designated State Historic 665), I hereby nominate this prop according to the criteria and pro- State Historic Preservation Office	perty for inclusion in t cedures set forth by t	the National Register	and certify that it h		
title			date		
			- Gate		
For NPS use only I hereby certify that this pro	operty is included in	the National Register	date	3/2/1/	
Keeper of the National Regis	iter		uale /	,,,,,	
Attest:			date		
Chief of Registration					

NPS Form 10-900-a

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received Cate entered

Continuation sheet Traveller's Rest

Item number

7

Page

e

1

Another distinction in the masonry is that the major windows in the eastern section are surmounted by ordinary masonry, while those in the western section are surmounted by stone flat splayed arches. The latter treatment is accorded to all of the basement windows. The first-story windows all contain 9/9 sash, but muntins in the eastern section are considerably wider than those of the western section, as would be expected in pre-Revoluionary construction. All of the windows have molded sills and pintles for the raised panel shutters that show in early photographs. entrance, directly beneath the main entrance, contains a board and batten door; the main entrance contains a 6-panel The east elevation is blank except for two small, attic windows in the gable and a closed-up segmentally-arched first-story opening. The north elevation contains two 6/6 windows and a paneled door giving access to the western section of the house. The western elevation contains two small attic windows in the gable, an added 6/6 first-story window, and a closed-up, segmentally arched opening at the basement level. The roof, originally wood shingled but in the nineteenth century of standing seam metal, was replaced by the present wood shingled roof in Three dormers that pierce the roof are of early twentieth-century construction. These dormers may have replaced earlier ones.

A basement runs under the entire house. The basement was originally finished with plaster walls and ceilings, part of which remain intact. The western section contains evidence of a brick floor laid in herringbone pattern. The eastern section contains a front room and two smaller rear rooms. Both the large west room and the larger east room have large fireplaces, and perhaps originally served as a kitchen and wash house. An original window grill, like those that apparently covered all of the basement windows, still survives in the west basement wall of the eastern section. It has a pegged frame and vertical bars that are square in section and set diagonally. These bars are similar, if not identical, to the balusters of the main stair.

The first floor plan has been restored to its eighteenth-century condition by the present owner by the removal of later partitions, which were still in place when the HABS drawings were made. The first floor interiors are remarkably intact. The plan was laid out for Gates by the early Virginia architect John Ariss (see Significance).

NPS Form 10-900-a (3-82)

United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received data entered

Continuation sheet

Traveller's Rest

Item number

7

Page

2

Across the south front in the eastern section are an entry with open well stair, with scroll stair ends, understair paneling, a simple rail, simple square balusters set on the diagonal, turned newels at top and bottom, and a molded cornice. The other front room is a parlor, with chair rail, dentil cornice, paneled fireplace wall with two overmantel panels. Originally the fireplace was flanked by paneled doors, one of which is missing, with the opening closed by a plain board. Framed in the parlor is a pane removed from one of the windows bearing a partial signature of General Gates and a full signature of John Mark, his successor. two small, rear rooms include chair rails, cornices, back-to-back corner fireplaces along the north wall, and plain mantels with paneled friezes. The mantel in the west room, which has recessed panels, may be a nineteenth-century replacement.

The western addition, also of eighteenth-century date and probably added by Gates, consists of a single room, approximately 22' x 30', with a paneled dado and paneled chimney breast with paneled breast closets. It was divided in the nineteenth century into two rooms, but returned to its eighteenth-century configuration by the present owner, who also added a basement stair in the rear of the room. The second floor consists of a single room at the east end, simply finished with plaster walls and ceiling, an extensively reworked area behind the stair hall, and a single room in the western section with an exposed beam ceiling and exposed stone chimney with fireplace.

Contributing

There are several other buildings in istructures on the property, including a tenant farmer's or overseer's house, springhouse, wagon house/corn into smokehouse, and schoolhouse. All of the outbuildings, except the barn, are in poor condition. Only the tenant farmer's or overseer's house and the springhouse are tefinitely related to the period of significance.

The tenant farmer's or overseer's twelling is a 2-story, 4-bay, gable-roofed, two-family to the of masonry construction similar to that if the western addition of the house. Each half contains an interest right gable end chimney, and the plan appears to have all western to each side on the first floor. Although parts of the walls have

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received date entered

Continuation sheet Traveller's Rest

Item number

7

Page

3

collapsed, the house still maintains sufficient integrity to constitute a significant contribution to the site. The south, west, and more than half of the east and north walls still stand, and the roof and interior remain substantially intact. The site also possesses archaeological potential, because of the information it could yield about the occupancy and use of such subsidiary buildings on the Virginia frontier. The current owner expects to restore this building once financing and a suitable use can be found.

The springhouse, built of the same local stone as the house and in a construction method similar to the east part of the house, is a 2-story, rectangular, gable-roofed building with a 1st-floor entrance on the east side and a 2nd-floor entrance on the north side, approached by a simple wooden stair. Its east wall contains a window grill larger than but otherwise similar to that in the basement of the house. This building, though of remarkable integrity, is structurally threatened by impending failure of its foundation, probably due to water intrusion from the spring

Non-contributing structures

The following structures do not contribute to the period of significance of the landmark. They may, however, be eligible for the National Register because of state or local significance. They are a two log structures, a wagon house/corn crib and a smokehouse of indeterminable date, an early nineteenth-century schoolhouse (according to oral tradition) and a barn built early in the twentieth century.

The wagon house/corn crib, consists of a 1-story log central section on wooden footings, gable roof, with flanking shed-roofed cribs. The central section consists of faced logs with open interstices, V-notched at the corners, and is sheathed with narrow vertical slats clinched with wire nails. Without a dendrochronological analysis, it remains uncertain whether this structure dates from the eighteenth or nineteenth centuries.

The smokehouse is a 1-story, rectangular, gable-roofed, building, consisting of a log pen similarly notched and jointed to that of the wagon shed/corn crib. The log structure of this building is obscured by vertical boards and battens added during the second half of the nineteenth

NPS Form 10-900-a (3-82)

OMB No. 1024-0018 Exp. 10-31-84

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For MPS use only received date entered

Continuation sheet

Traveller's Rest

¿ -, ·

Item number

7

Page

4

century. It may date from the eighteenth or nineteenth century.

The schoolhouse is a 1-story, frame, gable-roofed building, covered with German or "novelty" siding (c. 1900), clinched with wire nails. In the interior, molded woodwork survives, affixed with hand-headed cut nails; the building probably dates from the early nineteenth century. According to local tradition this building was used as a schoolhouse for the Strider children and others. A bell mounted on a log pole in front of the building lends credence to this tradition.

The barn is a large, 3-bay, English barn about 70 feet in length, and was built early in the twentieth century on an older foundation, according to tradition, after a fire -4 destroyed an earlier barn. The foundation is of rubble masonry similar to that of the other masonry buildings on the property.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received data entered

Continuation sheet Traveller's Rest

Item number

8

Page

Furthermore, in sending plans for the first floor to Gates in August 1773, Ariss expressed regret that he could not make the rooms larger, but pointed out that he was bound by the overall size of the building, 30 feet by 34 feet. These measurements are those of the eastern section. Ariss's letter also makes clear the functions of the rooms: an entry with staircase, a parlor, and two smaller rooms at the rear, which could serve as dining rooms or chambers. Presumably the large basement room was the kitchen.

John Ariss practiced in Virginia in the third quarter of the eighteenth century. The designs of such important projects as Mount Airy and the additions to Mount Vernon have been attributed to him, but very few buildings can be documented as his work. His letter to Gates is of additional interest because it demonstrates that he functioned purely as architect, not as a builder. Having drawn and sent the plan, he added, "Should your masons or joiners be at a loss I will with pleasure ride up to your house to instruct them." With the evidence of the Ariss letter, it is virtually certain that Gates was responsible for the interiors of the eastern section of the house, including the woodwork. The character of the cornices, paneling, and muntin profiles accords with a date in the third quarter of the eighteenth century. It is probable that Gates also added the western section, although, based on the evidence of its narrower window muntins, not until the post-Revolutionary period.

According to tradition, Gates operated Traveller's Rest as a tobacco plantation. This was a short-lived occupation, however, for in 1775 he offered his services to the Continental Congress. By July, having been accorded the rank of Brigadier General, he was serving as the first adjutant-general of the Continental Army, in which post he issued the first set of army regulations. He was, with the possible exception of Major General Lee, the most experienced senior officer in the Continental Army. the latter half of 1776, he commanded a large American force of Continentals and militia that successfully thwarted the advance of British troops down Lake Champlain into the Through much of 1776 and 1777 he fought with Hudson valley. General Philip Schuyler for the command of the Army's Northern Department. He finally became confirmed in this command in August 1777, and in October succeeded in capturing a British force of nearly 6,000 men at Saratoga

NPS Form 10-000 E

United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Item number

For NPS use only received date entered

Page

2

Continuation sheet Traveller's Rest

under General John Burgoyne, the first great American victory of the war.

On November 27, 1777, Gates was appointed by Congress as President of the Board of War. This appointment nominally placed him above General Washington, and during his six-month tenure there, his relations with Washington became strained. Though no definite link has been proven, he apparently was sympathetic to the "Conway Cabal," a conspiracy of Continental Army officers that sought to replace Washington with Gates as Commander-in-Chief. He was again reappointed to command the Northern Department on April 15, 1778, then on October 27 to the Eastern Department, placing him in Boston during the winter of 1778-9. He returned to Washington's army on the Hudson during December 1779. In early 1780 he returned home to Traveller's Rest. This visit lasted only until June, however, when he was given command of the southern army shortly after the loss of Charleston, South Carolina. Unfortunately, Gates suffered a major defeat at Camden, South Carolina in August 1780, which resulted in his being relieved of command in October with a call from Congress that a formal inquiry be made into his conduct. inquiry could not be made, however, because no generals could be spared to conduct it. Gates, however, spent most of 1781 at home, waiting and lobbying for this investigation, so his name could be cleared. The inquiry was never held, but Congress nevertheless restored him to active service in August 1782, and for the rest of the war he was stationed with the army at New Windsor, New York. Gates again returned to Traveller's Rest.

His only son died at home in 1780, and his first wife died in 1784. In 1786 he married Mary Vallance, a Maryland heiress. In 1790, with the new Federal government seated in New York, Gates emancipated his slaves and moved to New York City, where he spent the balance of his life. He sold Traveller's Rest the same year to John Mark, who resided there. In 1809 Mark sold 215 acres from the western end of the estate, and in 1814 sold 215 acres from the eastern end. In 1818 he sold the remainder of the property, a central portion of 339 acres that included the house, to John Boley. In 1830 Boley sold this land to Isaac Strider. Strider bought an additional approximately 102 acres in 1835, to the north of his land, and this enlarged property was inherited in May 1850 by James Strider. James Strider, however, died

NPS Form 10-900-a

OMB No. 1024-0018 Exp. 10-31-84

3

United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received data entered

Continuation sheet

Traveller's Rest

Item number

8

Page

intestate in December 1850, and the property was partitioned among Isaac H. Strider and Julia Ann Strider. A division was made in 1868 leaving the southern part of the property, including the Traveller's Rest homestead site, to Isaac H. Strider, with whose descendants the property remained until purchased by the present owner in 1965.

**Only the military significance of this property has been evaluated on a national level. The architectural significance is, at least, of state and local significance.

This nomination supersedes the boundary study signed by the Keeper of the National Register in 1979. The boundary has not changed; the information provided is more complete.

. 4

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received data entered

Continuation sheet

Traveller's Rest

Item number

9

Page

1

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"Horatio Gates" in <u>Dictionary of American Biography</u>. 7:184-188.

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Collection of Martha Ann McIntosh. Abstract of chain-of-title for Traveler's Rest.

New York City. New-York Historical Society. Manuscript letter of John Ariss to Horatio Gates, August 21, 1773.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Par NPS use only received Sate entered

Continuation sheet

Traveller's Rest

Item number

10

Page

1

Boundary Description

The following boundary description is quoted from a survey conducted in 1965 for the current owner.

A certain tract or parcel of land known as Traveller's Rest, situate in the Middleway District, Jefferson County, State of West Virginia, being bounded and described as follows

Beginning at a railroad spike in the center of Public Road 1/1 said railroad spike being located at an angle point in said road (at or near the former location of a large walnut tree) at a point approximately 2,334 feet westerly from State Highway, Secondary Route 1, and on a line of lands now or formerly of Thomas C. Trussell; thence following the center line of said public road, being by line of lands now or formerly of Thomas C. Trussell North 83 degrees 47 1/2 minutes West 80.5 feet to a railroad spike; thence continuing along the center line of said public road, being by line of lands now or formerly of Thomas C. Trussell and lands now or formerly of Dr. Logie, South 81 degrees, 46 1/2 minutes West 1,200.1 feet to a railroad spike; thence continuing along the center line of said public road, being by line of lands now or formerly of Dr. Logie, South 78 degrees, 16 1/2 minutes West, 409.3 feet to a railroad spike, the southwest corner of lands herein described and common to lands now or formerly of Daniel and Edward Getzendanner; thence leaving said public road and following line of lands now or formerly of Daniel and Edward Getzendanner North 18 degrees 13 1/2 minutes East, 3,566.8 feet to a fence corner, the northwest corner of lands herein described and in lands now or formerly of Daniel and Edward Getzendanner; Thence through lands now or formerly of Daniel and Edward Getzendanner, being now partly by line of lands of the West Virginia University Experimental Farm, South 68 degrees 48 1/2 minutes East, 3,211.3 feet to a fence corner, the northeast corner of lands herein described and common to other lands now or formerly of Daniel and Edward Getzendanner and lands now or formerly of T.O. Everhart; thence by line of lands now or formerly of T.O. Everhart, South 31 degrees 0 minutes West, 1,090.2 feet to a fence corner; thence continuing by line of lands now or formerly of T.O. Everhart, South 54 degrees 40 1/2 minutes East, 15.6 feet to a fence corner common to lands now or formerly of Thomas Turner; thence by line of lands now or formerly of Thomas Turner, South 26 degrees 28 minutes West, 1,925.5

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received

Continuation sheet Traveller's Rest

Item number

10

Page

2

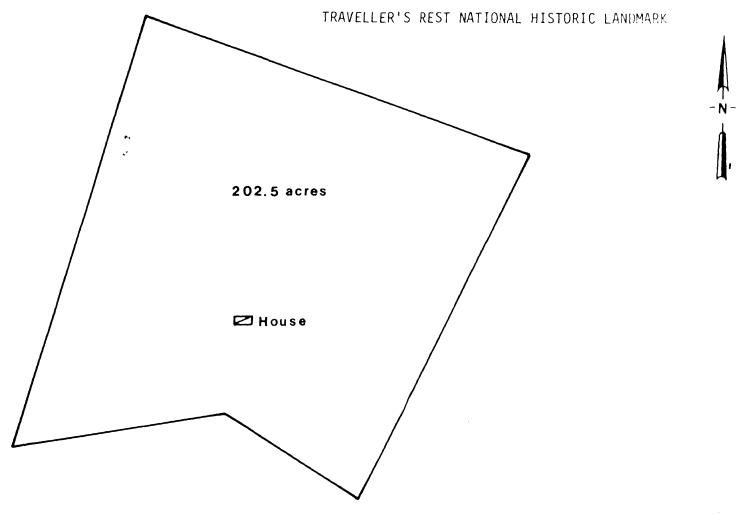
Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the Traveller's Rest National Historic Landmark are that part of the property owned by Gates that includes Gates' house and outbuildings. This is the property that remained with the Gates house after a nineteenth-century subdivision and that is perceived locally as constituting Traveller's Rest. In addition, the property remains in agricultural use, and maintains the historic setting of the house and its visibility from the road (now Public Road 1/1) that forms its southern boundary, as well as the historic vista from the house across the landscape.

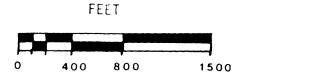
The eastern third of what was once Gates's property has now been developed with tract housing. The western third and a small strip of land to the north remain open. These other properties are not visible from the house site, and have been excluded from the Landmark.

Consideration was given to running the southern boundary along the north side of the road, rather than down its center. However, the boundary, as given, has been consistent since the mid-eighteenth century, when it appeared on a survey drawn for John Hyatt in 1753 (see copy attached) and was cited in a deed of August 2, 1762, registered in Book 7, p. 228 at the Court House in Winchester, Virginia. It is repeated in all subsequent deeds, and remains the legal boundary of the Traveller's Rest property. As such, it is not subject to change due to altered circumstances, such as widening of the road, without a legal record in the form of a property transfer, and thus has more permanence than an arbitrarily chosen boundary.

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PLOT PLAN (showing boundary)



Based on Plat of Survey "Traveller's Rest" To Be Conveyed By John and Nancy Ambrose to Allen K. and Martha A. McIntosh, Middleway District, Jefferson Co., W.VA. August 1965.

