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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM**

**1. Name of Property**

historic name MILLER - PENCE FARM  
other names/site number

**2. Location**

street & number 8 mi. West of jct. US 219 and WV 122 not for publication \_\_\_  
city or town Greenville vicinity X  
state West Virginia code WV county Monroe code 063 zip code 24945

**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 X meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_ nationally X statewide X locally.

Randal Reid-Smith  
Randal Reid-Smith, SHPO  
7 August 2006  
Date

West Virginia Division of Culture and History

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:

*Edson H. Ball 9-28-06*

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):

*for*

Signature of Keeper 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>9</u>     | <u>1</u>        | buildings  |
| <u>2</u>     |                 | sites      |
| <u>1</u>     |                 | structures |
| <u>1</u>     |                 | objects    |
| <u>12</u>    | <u>1</u>        | Total      |

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) N/A

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

|                      |                                 |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Cat: <u>DOMESTIC</u> | Sub: <u>Single Dwelling</u>     |
| <u>EDUCATION</u>     | <u>School</u>                   |
| <u>AGRICULTURE</u>   | <u>Storage</u>                  |
|                      | <u>Agricultural outbuilding</u> |
| <u>FUNERARY</u>      | <u>Cemetery</u>                 |

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

|                      |                                 |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Cat: <u>DOMESTIC</u> | Sub: <u>Single Dwelling</u>     |
| <u>AGRICULTURE</u>   | <u>Storage</u>                  |
|                      | <u>Agricultural outbuilding</u> |
| <u>FUNERARY</u>      | <u>Cemetery</u>                 |

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

MIXED

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation LIMESTONE

roof: METAL/ALUMINUM

walls : BRICK, WOOD

other \_\_\_\_\_

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

**(SEE 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)

- X   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.
- X   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.
- X   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.)

Miller Pence Farm

Monroe County, West Virginia

- 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
- ARCHAEOLOGY HISTORIC NON--ABORIGINAL
- EDUCATION
- EXPLORATION--SETTLEMENT
- SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance: 1770-1955

Significant Dates: 1770, 1776, 1828, 1830, 1870, 1897

Significant Person  
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above) \_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder: Miller, Jacob; Pence, Henry

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

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

(SEE 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

Miller Pence Farm

Monroe County, West Virginia

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: WEST VIRGINIA AND REGIONAL COLLECTION WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES; MONROE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY; MONROE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property : APPROXIMATELY 406 ACRES  
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

| Zone Easting Northing |       | Zone Easting Northing |       |
|-----------------------|-------|-----------------------|-------|
| 1                     | _____ | 3                     | _____ |
| 2                     | _____ | 4                     | _____ |

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title : Jessica Brewer, Sarah Hoblitzell, Lynn Stasick, Barbara Rasmussen, PH.D., Gregory A. Good, PH.D.

organization West Virginia University Cultural Resource Management Program date: February 15, 2006

street & number Box 6306 Woodburn Hall telephone (304) 293- 2421 x 5226  
city or town Morgantown state WV zip code 26506

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

Miller Pence Farm

Monroe County, West Virginia

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 H.M. Rigg, III, M.D.

street & number P.O. Box 6360 telephone N/A

city or town Lake Charles state LA zip code 70606

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PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

The Miller Pence Farm is located on State Rt. 122 near the village of Greenville, West Virginia, that is approximately ten miles south of the intersection of Rt. 122 and U.S. Rt. 219. The 420-acre farm is located in West Virginia's Third Congressional District. It contains thirteen contributing resources and one non-contributing resource. The stately old farmhouse is visible from the road, sitting at the edge of a knoll some one hundred yards from the highway. A canopy of Black Maple trees shades the alley approach through a wide and well-maintained lawn. Originally, the house faced east, overlooking the original road to Greenville, but that road is long abandoned, and the house now faces north, beside the existing highway, a result of multiple alterations to the building over its very long life. Twelve of the outbuildings are clustered around the main dwelling in an eleven-acre plot. The thirteenth resource is an early twentieth century dairy barn complex located on the levels below the house, closer to Little Indian Creek. The cemetery is next to Rt 122, north of the house. The remainder of the farm's 406 acres is presently in pasture and hay lands. The fields are leased to a neighboring farmer, who grazes cattle on the property. Areas of former cultivation are not readily discernable. Local historians recall haymaking and wheat threshing on the property during the early part of the twentieth century. The historical record indicates that there was also an orchard on the farm, but that is not readily evident on the land.

THE HOUSE

**Exterior 1828**

The farmhouse was constructed in sections over a period of sixty years. Each generation of the Pence family added a wing or story to the home, as prosperity allowed and to accommodate the growing family. Five modifications have been made to the building, whose first iteration was a two story Federal style brick home that faced east. Built on a coursed rubble foundation, it is a 19 X 21 ft. rectangular, center hall structure with three ranked bays. The house is further supported by whole logs that rest on bedrock, which serves as the cellar floor. Original access to the cellar was originally on the north face, as evidenced by a surviving lintel that was filled in with brick long ago. Current access to the cellar is on the exterior of the east face. The windows are two over two double-hung sash, but they are not the original windows, which probably would have featured multi-paned sash in a 6/6 or 8/8 configuration, because glass was only available in small panes in 1828, the year the first part of the house was built. Patent dates of 1878 on the sash locks suggest the windows were added during the 1890 renovation. The end-gable roof was executed in metal, which has been replaced with more modern metal material. This portion of the house is constructed of soft, site fired brick. Ornamentation on the original house is limited to an ogee brick cornice, and wide wood panel trim under the gable eaves, emphasizing the rake of the roof. These embellishments are somewhat unusual for Federal architecture, but this vernacular interpretation of the style conveyed the relative prosperity of Henry Pence, who built it.

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As with most notions of style and architecture, new trends reached the interior portions of the nation somewhat later than along the coastlines and in the big cities. This partly explains why a Federal house would be built late in the period of popularity. Sometimes, building trends in the interior lagged as much as fifty years.

The original gable end chimney flanked the right face, which has no other adornment or windows. The simple, stepped, exterior chimney is not adorned with ornate brick work or other stylized touches. There are no windows on this face. A narrow door, however, now provides access to a later addition. Fenestration on the west and north faces has been obliterated by later additions to the structure. However, three windows were on the west face and one window faces south.

Soon after this construction, a single story rear extension was constructed, also exhibiting many aspects of the Federal architecture. The brick on the original house and the second addition has been laid in a garden bond, with header courses at varied intervals. The first header is the seventh course, followed by thirteenth, twenty-first, twenty-eight, and thirty-fifth.

**Exterior, 1830s**

The second addition to the farmhouse was a westward extension of the original one story ell. Although family history holds that this extension and the second floor above it were added in the 1870s, construction detail suggests otherwise.<sup>1</sup> The brick used in the one-story extension resembles the texture and composition of the original house, suggesting that it was made of the same elements and by the same hands as the original bricks. It would be difficult for two generations separated by more than forty years to create bricks that are so similar that it takes a keen eye to differentiate between them. Thus, it is highly likely that the extension was added within a very few years of the original construction, perhaps in the early 1830s. There is corbeling of the last three courses of brick on the exterior north and south walls, near the beginning of the wooden second story, that appears consistent with elements that were part of a cornice. Lastly, the rubble stone foundation is the same throughout, whereas an 1870 foundation probably would have been built with cut stone.

Most important, this addition reoriented the Pence house to face north, rather than east. The present front entry is probably the original that was added in this iteration. Although the varnish is badly crazed and bubbled, there is evidence of red faux graining on both the interior and exterior of this door. The door latch is consistent with antebellum lock sets. This addition provided two more windows on the new front facade. The mystery of the south face of this addition remains unsolved. There are three disruptions in the brick bond that

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<sup>1</sup> Recollections of Florence Pence Dowdy, n.d., Monroe County Historical Society Collection.



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suggest that one window and one doorway have been removed, may have been accompanied by others, or both. Quite likely, there were two windows and a door on the south elevation that matched the symmetry of the north side.

The second addition to the house provided another brick chimney on the west end. There are visible disruptions in the brick work approximately two-thirds of the way up suggesting that the chimney was extended during the construction of the third addition. ( Mrs. Dowdy recalled that the chimney was not added until 1898, when James Pence took over the house. He used bricks from the old smokehouse.) There is no interior evidence of a fireplace on that end of the house. The chimney on the west end of the home was corbeled at the top, unlike the original chimney on the first section of the home.

**Exterior, circa 1870**

In 1870, approximately, Mrs. Dowdy recalled, a second story was added to the 1830s construction. This section of the house is constructed of lapped wooden siding. Another entrance and a second story porch were added to the front facade, which now features three ranked bays on both the north and south elevations. The two-story porch, in keeping with building trends of the time, features Victorian decorative elements. Balustrades frame each floor, although they do not match. The first floor balustrade is composed of spindles with soft curves and scrolled brackets that form porch supports at the capital of each turned post and pilaster. A spindled frieze transitions the lower porch into a more geometric design above. Plain square posts and crisscrossed spindles enclose the second floor porch. The double-hung windows on this addition feature six over six sashes and different hardware than windows in the older portions of the house. The entrance to the porch is over the front door, both of which are at the corner of the ell extension.

**Exterior, circa 1880-1897**

Mrs. Dowdy's recollection is that a two-story addition to the south gable end was constructed some years after the Civil War, perhaps in the 1880s. This extension, with a cut stone foundation, was executed in board and batten style, evoking the Carpenter Gothic architectural style. This addition increased the size of the building to 414 square feet. This section of the house connects to the original brick structure by the south window opening on the first floor of the brick house. The second floor of this addition is reached by a stairway opening to the outside on the west elevation. Located at the northwest corner of the board and batten addition where it adjoins the original house, the doorway limits entry to the second floor by providing access only on the exterior of the building. Two more doors, on the east and west elevations, provided access to the first floor. The fenestration in this wing features two over two double-hung sash and is asymmetric. One window and one door were added to each floor on both the east and west elevations of the new construction. A small round window is also on the west side, but is not likely original to this period of construction. A large bay window anchors the east face, but it was not added until 1913, according to Mrs. Dowdy. Exterior fabric of the bay is lapped siding like the later extension, and features an unusual shed roof. Three double-hung sashes in the bay

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are separated by geometric wooden paneling. The simple gabled roof of this wing and the shed roof of the bay window are finished with seamed metal appropriate to the age of the addition.

This wing is approximately eight to twelve inches lower than the original brick section. Its construction added another brick chimney and fireplace to the south, gabled end. As with the second chimney, this one is corbeled at the top. In addition to the two-tiered porch on the front of the house, covered porches were constructed on the east face and along the interior of the south/west ell. A long porch runs from the northeast corner of the original house, running along the original front to the door of the fourth extension. Italianate in feel, the airy and open frieze features machined support brackets atop plain, wooden posts. Above the frieze, a plain, wooden entablature engages the lip of the low hipped porch roof. This frieze was not added until after the railroad arrived in southern West Virginia in the 1890s, allowing for mass produced building components to be shipped to other locales. The frieze and brackets reflect a precision associated with such factory production. The Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad and the Norfolk and Western Railroad served this part of southern West Virginia. Alderson was most convenient depot for this part of Monroe County but there were also depots in Hinton, Prince, Ronceverte, and White Sulphur Springs.

A second porch traces the ell along the back south and west elevations from the southwest corner of the 1830s brick addition to the southwest corner of the board and batten addition. It is covered with a shed roof, supported by thin, simple, square columns and curvilinear columns that mimic those on the first floor section of the front porch.

#### **Exterior, circa 1910**

The most recent addition to the house was constructed on the south gable end of the board and batten addition. Unlike the other extensions, this one-story wing has a shed roof and lapped board siding supported by a foundation of short, rough-cut wooden posts set into the ground and enclosed by flush sawed wooden planks. A door and a window were added to the east and the west elevations. Another window was added on the south side. The fenestration is asymmetric and features two over two double-hung sashes. A cistern is located at the western corner that adjoins the fourth and fifth sections. A small porch with a shed roof shelters the east elevation and entrance from the elements. This addition is completely dedicated to kitchen space. A non-historic deck, added circa 1998, surrounds this section, affording a spectacular view of the Little Indian Creek Valley and the western rim of the Allegheny Mountains to the southeast.

#### **Interior**

The interior of the house retains many of the original elements added in each of the iterations. The parlor, which occupies the east room in the first construction, is anchored by a small fireplace surrounded in hand-planed walnut. A built-in walnut cupboard flanks the mantel, and painted walnut wainscot surrounds three walls of the room. The parlor has been divided by a modern wall to provide for construction of a pantry and modern bathroom. Across the hall, a large master bedroom occupies the rest of the 1830s ground-floor extension. The upstairs of the house must be accessed by three separate stairwells constructed with each

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addition, and also through a small hatch that opens into the large room above the westward extension. Investigators have concluded that this "door" through the brick fabric of the original house was originally a window, and was too difficult to enlarge for a full sized door when the second floor was added to the western ell.

The dining room is located in the board and batten addition. It is anchored by an ornately milled mantel also of walnut, which has been painted. The original stairwell features turned walnut spindles and Newel posts. Both stairwells and the attic access are steeply pitched, recalling Thomas Jefferson's disdain for the space that stairways "wasted" when they were spaciouly constructed. The attic is accessed via a ladder-like stair that takes very little space away from the large second floor bedroom of the original house. The roof is framed with rough-cut logs in a common rafter design, covered with wood planks over which corrugated metal roofing was installed. From the attic, it is clear that the roof pitch was altered from its original, because there are double rafters on the north side.

Utilities came to the house as they were available to the region. Originally, the house used spring water that was driven by gravity from its origin on a hill to the north of the house. That source was abandoned when Rt. 122 bisected the course of the piping system, and a well was drilled by the back porch entry to the board and batten addition, perhaps at the time the addition was constructed. The bathroom features modern fixtures, including a claw foot tub. A newer well was drilled in the 1990s. The building was electrified in the 1920s or 30s. Some of the wiring dates from the original installation. However, the electrical service has been substantially upgraded. Originally, the house used a Delco battery system to provide electricity before the common grid was established.

**One contributing building**  
**C, 1828, 1830, 1870, 1880, 1910**

#### THE 'SLAVE' SCHOOL

This unassuming building is constructed of board and batten siding. Its sole plate rests on piled stones at the corners and at the frame of the wooden plank door, the only bay on the facade. The roof is seamed metal. It contains one multi-pane window on the south side. The eight foot by fifteen foot rectangular structure is located a few feet to the south of the main house. Mrs. Dowdy recalled that it was constructed in 1897, but it appears to be much older, perhaps associated with the 1870s board and batten extension to the main house. The structure is in frail condition and would escape historic notice but for the fact that it served as a school house. The floor needs to be reinforced, but the rest of the building is in fair condition. Local memory refers to the structure as the "slave school" - a puzzling reference given that it was probably constructed after the Civil War. That the building served as a school is beyond doubt, as it still retains its "black board" and some childish inscriptions thereon. The black board is a rectangular swath of black paint on the otherwise untreated interior walls. It is one of two buildings on the property - quite close to each other - that served as schools. The interior

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of the building now contains bent wood hooks suspended from the rafters, from which cured meats were once hung.

**One contributing building**

**Circa 1870**

THE SECOND (WHITE?) SCHOOL

Nearly abutting the brick structure that once served as a smokehouse, summer kitchen, and kiln, this frame structure is now in deteriorating condition, but it also served as a school for the Pence children, if the markings on its old painted blackboard may be believed. Childish graffiti, carvings in the walls, and the phrase, "Pence, Pence, Pen" are still evident in the building. It now serves as storage. It is a three bay center hall structure that probably was once a hall and parlor dwelling. It features finished plank interior walls and unpainted lapped siding on the exterior with six over six double-hung sash, and a formerly handsome paneled center door. The building overlooks the original road bed that served Greenville. Six wooden stairs lead from the ground to the entry. The rear of the building is at ground level. This building was constructed with some care, and originally was a substantial frame structure that may have at one time been a dwelling. Six over six double-hung sashes provide light to the east and west sides of the building. The windows of this building are of the same design as those in the 1870s second floor addition to the main house. Entrances are on the east and west faces. The building is unstable due to its age and neglected maintenance, but it has undergone few alterations in its life. The building rests on a pillar foundation that has become unstable. Because of its contributions to the history of education in rural West Virginia, the building, although frail, is significant.

**One contributing building**

**C. 1870**

THE KILN

Approximately one foot to the east of the second school, at its corner, is a former kiln that probably was a summer kitchen originally. It is enclosed on one end with a semi-arched lintel. Its single gable roof is covered with corrugated sheet metal. The craftsmanship of the building is quite fine. The foundation is cut stone. Some is dry laid but the upper courses are mortared. It may have been built or re-built of used bricks. Potash residues have half-filled the building. Now crumbling, this structure nevertheless affords important information about construction techniques in the early federal era in the Virginia upcountry.

**One contributing structure**

**Circa 1828**

THE BARN

Barn A - Constructed in the early twentieth century, this is a classic "pole barn" common to Appalachian farms. It has a gable front entrance for machinery and large animals, and a man gate and loft ladder on the right of the facade. A finely executed, louvered and a roofed cupola vents the hayloft and adds a distinctive finished look to the building. The siding is rough milled board installed vertically. The roof is

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seamed metal. Nearly obscured by overgrowth is a deteriorating silo at the right rear corner of the building. This building probably stored winter forage for livestock. The barn itself is constructed to the rear of, and adjoins a smaller and older barn.

One contributing structure  
Circa 1920

Barn B - The older barn contains two equipment bays and two center entries. A large hatch opens the hayloft, above. This building has a single gable roof finished in seamed metal that slopes gracefully over the equipment bays in an unbroken line, sheltering them from the elements. The bays are open at both ends, but partially enclosed on the sides. They are newer additions to the center portion of the building that were added on circa 1920. They have vertical sawn siding, while the center portion of the barn is more finely constructed. It is clad in smaller, horizontally applied wooden board siding. Latches and winches on this building are hand made of wood or metal. The entrance is not large enough for equipment or animals to enter. A variety of nail heads are visible in the structure, the most common being large cut nails, but there are a few very old rose-head nails. The barn was constructed circa 1880 - certainly before mechanized farming. Elements of the center portion of this barn recall the style of Old Virginia tobacco barns. The old nails are a testament to the Pence family's long tenure on the property and their frugality, not to the age of the barn. Astute farmers wasted nothing, including old nails. This barn may stand proudly with any of West Virginia's many wonderful old barns.

One contributing building  
Circa 1880

Barn C - This early twentieth century barn contains animal stalls and very old support timbers. It features a gabled roof, stone pier foundation, and wooden walls. There are some very old support stones and large support timbers inside. The owner suspects the barn was originally a dairy barn. Two smaller lean-to additions and a silo are attached to the building's exterior. A free-standing shed is opened on the west side, offering shelter for livestock.

One contributing building  
Circa 1920

Barn D - This tractor shed is constructed of vertical boards on a pole skeleton. The gable front bay door is attached with strap hinges. A lean-to shed is constructed on the left side, which is larger than the original structure. It was constructed at approximately the same time as the Barn A, in the first third of the twentieth century.

One contributing building  
Circa 1920

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Barn E - The chicken house. This small structure is clad in wooden siding and roofed with seamed metal. Not in use, it is overgrown with weeds and vines. There is a lean-to on the down hill side of the building that may have once housed calves. It is located over the hill from the main house, between the slave school and the corn crib. It was constructed in the late nineteenth century. Its poor condition renders it non-contributing.

**One non-contributing building**

**Circa 1880**

Barn F - This three-sided single story equipment shed is located adjacent to the "white" school and the summer kitchen structure. Open at the south end, it now houses miscellaneous tools and materials. It is open and high to accommodate large machinery. Constructed of vertical sawn boards on a pole structure, it is roofed in seamed metal. Early twentieth century construction.

**One contributing building**

**Circa 1930**

THE CORN CRIB (RUINS OF MILLER'S FRONTIER HOUSE)

The corn crib is a simple pole barn structure that most recently was used to store hay, not corn, on the farm. It incorporates into its construction the remains of a log building that is probably the remainder of the original John Miller family strong house. As such, this building is quite historically significant as a site of potential archaeological interest. The dimensions of the former log structure are sixteen by eighteen feet - a strong clue that this was a frontier structure constructed under the terms of the Virginia Land Law of 1730, which stipulated that settlers must construct a dwelling sixteen feet square and plant a crop to indicate their intention to settle. Several surviving logs give the impression of the building's size and scale. It was probably a single pen, two-story strong house.<sup>2</sup> On the hewn side, the logs measured nine to eleven inches thick. The structure was erected quickly with steeple notches - a German construction style. The chinking is long gone. Presently, the south and east walls are completely cut out, but their intersection serves as a supporting post in the corn crib that surrounds it. According to three architects who viewed the interior photos, it is highly unlikely that these logs have been moved from another site to the corn crib.<sup>3</sup>

The remnants of the 1770 log building are located below the knoll on which the house sits. The fort site enjoys a panoramic view of the Little Indian Creek Valley below. Less than three miles east of this site, an

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2

Silas Miller, Jr., "History of the Miller Family, as Recorded by Silas Miller, Jr.," NP, 1910-12, 58.

3

Peter Prugh, University of Florida; Michael J. Mills, AIA, Morgantown, WV, and David A Kemnitzer, AIA, Shepherdstown, WV

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intact log house survives near the Wallace Estill stone house<sup>4</sup>, and is strongly suggestive of what the Miller structure once looked like. About three miles to the southwest, near Greenville, the site of Cook's Fort has been identified. These strong houses, clustered near a stockaded fort shed some new information on frontier settlement patterns in the Monroe County area. A stone-lined spring box is approximately 100 yards behind and slightly up hill of the fort's remains. Not a fort in a real sense, this building was hastily constructed to help the settling family withstand an assault by Native Americans in the frontier era, if they were unable to reach Cook's Fort.

**One contributing archaeological site**  
**Circa 1778**

**THE SPRING BOX**

A spring box located in the valley immediately east of the house was originally composed of four courses of rough cut stone. It has been modified for modern use, probably to water livestock. The opening measures six by two feet. It is highly likely that this spring was the Miller family's source of water. Although there is a trace of a trail up to the main house, the climb is very steep, making it unlikely that the Pence Family used the spring for the house. A very old well and pump are visible on the north porch, which was probably the main house's water supply. The spring area may also be of archaeological interest.

**One contributing structure**  
**Circa 1778**

**THE ORIGINAL ROAD CUT**

Traces of the old road cut can be seen on the farm. It is noticeable on the terrace below the "White" School and curves around the slope of the knoll in front of the corn crib and past the spring box before it disappears into a more modern farm road. The road was abandoned long ago when Rt. 122 linked Greenville to U.S. Rt. 219 and the county seat.

**One contributing site**  
**Circa 1800.**

**THE MILLER-HALSTEAD CEMETERY**

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<sup>4</sup>

The Wallace Estill, Sr., house is a National Register Property, and is one of Monroe County's first buildings. Estill was the county sheriff.

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This family cemetery, located to the east of the farmhouse, is the site of some fifty graves of the Miller and Halstead families, who maintain it in the modern era. The earliest burial was in the eighteenth century and the most recent in 1912.

One contributing site

Circa 1775



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STATEMENT OF HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

The Miller Pence farm near Greenville, West Virginia, is historically significant at the state and local level under Criteria A, C, and D. Under Criterion A, It is associated with the frontier advance of white settlement in the years of the American Revolution, the growth of an Appalachian farming community, and rural agricultural ways in the Ridge and Valley Province of West Virginia. Under Criterion C, the homespun interpretations of three important American architectural styles in the nineteenth century reflect the long tenure of a single family on this land, and evidences the changing tastes and family needs over six generations. Three resources have archaeological potential, making the farm historically significant under Criterion D.

The farm was originally settled by a German immigrant's son, John Miller, Sr., in the 1770s. Miller and his fellow frontiersmen tamed the region through the construction of Cook's Fort near Greenville, and their own strong houses built of sturdy logs. Remnants of Miller's log house survive, and that of Isaac Estill is intact on the adjacent farm. Throughout his life, Miller continued to gather acreage in the Little Indian Creek Valley until his holdings neared a thousand acres. His original plot of land was conveyed from the Robert Young survey, Treasury Warrant 1554. Miller erected his strong house where the Pence granary now stands and he built another two story log house on a parcel of land across present Rt. 122. That structure no longer stands. The Miller clan grew and prospered in the early frontier era and many of them moved farther west into what is now Boone County, West Virginia.<sup>1</sup> The situation the early settlers faced was not unlike that of the Piedmont settler of the 1740s. As described by historian Rhys Isaac, "only four or five acres per hand could be cultivated at any one time in tobacco and the food staple, Indian corn." For this reason, even large farms, long settled, consisted mostly of woodlands.<sup>2</sup> Monroe farmers did plant small plots of tobacco, but in the upcountry, the weather could be fickle, and farmers were very leery of putting too much effort into a crop that might fail. Indian corn, British wheat, and livestock were safer bets. Tobacco ravaged the fertility of the land, so in order to keep growing the weed, farmers corralled their livestock on the tobacco fields, but Isaac quoted an observer of the time that, "land when tired is forced to bear tobacco by penning their livestock upon it; but cowpen tobacco tastes strong."<sup>3</sup>

Whether for that reason or any other, the farms in the Indian Creek Valley became self-sustaining enterprises that focused on several crops, including tobacco. "Corn and tobacco were the twin staffs of life,"

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<sup>1</sup>Miller Family Genealogy, Monroe County Historical Society.

<sup>2</sup>Rhys Isaac, *The Transformation of Virginia, 1740-1790*, (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1982), 22,

<sup>3</sup>Isaac, *The Transformation of Virginia*, 23.

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Isaacs wrote. "Corn pone was bread and tobacco was money." There was a tobacco factory in Springfield District of Monroe County until the turn of the twentieth century. Monroe farmers also grew sorghum, wheat, fruit, sheep, cattle, and hogs. The valley in the 1770s, was similar in many ways to the Tidewater and Piedmont of the 1740s. The fertile lands and rolling landscape allowed for an early prosperity for the Monroe settlers and their progeny. Neither the elite farmers of low country Virginia, nor the hardscrabble Appalachian mountain farmers of the Central Appalachian Plateau, Monroe County farmers fell somewhere between those two extremes. They were successful yeomen or modest gentry. The Pence family met the standards for gentry in the area, with the stately home that Henry built in 1828, and his sons and their sons expanded with each generation of descendants. The land remained a working farm until the middle of the twentieth century.

While Miller had constructed a two-story log house in a typical frontier style, Pence departed from the once rigorously practiced "design conventions" that characterized Virginia architecture. There was "... a strictly coded 'grammar' of folk architecture had developed as regional culture matured."<sup>4</sup> Plain folks' homes were constructed with "precisely shaped timber upon ground plans characterized by controlled combinations of squares and divisions of squares of fixed size. Implicit rules governed the placement of doors, windows, and chimneys in these structures. The form and manner of construction, and the austere decoration applied to the finished lines, have all been interpreted as expressing a sharp sense of the need to define boundaries between 'culture' and 'nature.'"<sup>5</sup> However, early Virginians were not particularly ordered in their fences and outbuildings. Split rail, or snake and rider, fences early on provided a proverb for inebriation, "making Virginia fences."<sup>6</sup>

We know little about Pence's fence building ways, but his 1828 brick house is interesting in light of this definition. His original brick house is quite symmetrical and of a pleasing, classical, proportion, but within ten years it departed from the description that Isaacs provides. Pence initially built his home with a view toward higher status, perhaps envisioning a "gentleman's seat" in the old Virginia style. His main house was surrounded with dependencies showing no clear pattern. The original house shows evidence that its builder was familiar with life in warmer climates: the two story center hall structure had opposing windows for ventilation and cooling. All of the "great" houses of Virginia throughout the antebellum years were "conceived upon

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<sup>4</sup>Isaacs, *Transformation of Virginia*, 33.

<sup>5</sup>Henry Glassie, *Folk Housing in Middle Virginia: A Structural Analysis of Historic Artifacts*, (Knoxville, Tenn., 1975, 122-136.); Isaacs, *Transformation of Virginia*, 33.

<sup>6</sup>Isaacs, *Transformation of Virginia*, 34.

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Governor Alexander Spottswood's fundamental plan for building his house (palace) in Williamsburg. Spottswood demonstrated that a basic building layout could achieve formal balance by adding symmetrical elements on each side of a central formal building. Enclosed gardens and elaborate gates completed the formal setting. There are some traces of these elements in the Pence house, but by the second generation, the family was adhering to a different architectural vision.

By 1830, Spottswood's formality of the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries had been abandoned in service to the needs of a growing family and a sprawling farm that lay 150 miles west of the old colonial capital, and whose fortunes now focused on a different direction, growing ever more so with each successive generation.<sup>7</sup> The second hundred years of Virginia architecture turned away from the Tidewater and began to express the needs and values of a new mountain culture that largely eschewed the idea of a landed patriarch in favor of a robust gentry that did not isolate itself from the yeomanry. This departure found its roots in religious dissent. The established Anglican, now Episcopalian, church of Virginia gradually gave way in the post Revolutionary era to the persuasiveness of the Great Awakening, which gave voice to middling sorts of folk who chose to affiliate with Methodists or Baptists. Long present in the mountains were Presbyterians, also, who had chafed under the established church. The religious revolution came from New England, where the austere and pious Baptists provided a stunning contrast to the gaiety and cheer of Virginia's traditional church.<sup>8</sup>

In return for the piousness of the Baptists, small farmers and gentry who embraced the faith were warmly enfolded into a community of support in times of hardship, offering the member security against many of the threats of the day. Illness, debt, drought, and other challenges were more easily faced from within a group whose members shared these threats. Thus, upcountry Virginians gradually adopted a plainer lifestyle and expressed this humility in their architecture, clothing, and religion.<sup>9</sup> Henry Pence may have come to Indian Creek to flourish as a gentleman, and in his lifetime he probably achieved many aspects of that vision. However, his sons and grandsons found success as members of the gentry class.

Several of Jacob Miller's progeny remained in Monroe County, settling along Hans Creek and Second Creek. Millers were prominent in establishing the community of Weikle, where the extended family still holds an annual family reunion and adds to the substantial family genealogy that was completed in the 1950s. The Indian Creek Valley and the community of Greenville, formerly known as Centerville, was fully settled by 1799,

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<sup>7</sup>Isaacs, *Transformation of Virginia*, 37.

<sup>8</sup>Isaacs, *Transformation of Virginia*, 165.

<sup>9</sup>Isaacs, *Transformation of Virginia*, 164.

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when Monroe County was formed from Greenbrier County. The Miller family also became prosperous on other valley lands. The early settlers in the Indian Creek Valley included Griffy Garten, James Maddy, Jacob Mann, John Halstead, James Miller, Jr., Matthew Creed, John Miller, Jr., Michael Miller, R. Garten, and James Handley. These early settlers formed the core of a farming gentry in western Virginia. They represented the third, and successful, attempt to settle the valley. Whites had been trying to wrest this valley from Native Americans since the mid 1750s.<sup>10</sup> These settlers came into the valley as an organized defensive unit, prepared for and expecting the stress and violence that they did indeed encounter. During Dunmore's War of 1774 Indian attacks on settlers led to the second white retreat from the area. Settling in the middle of the American Revolution, attacks on the valley's successful settlers also increased. Cook's Fort was erected near modern Greenville to defend the families in the lower valley. Though most of the settler families had strong houses of their own, they "forted up" at Cook's in times of serious danger. Cook's was a stockaded bastion of more than an acre that sheltered settlers in the valley when individual strong houses were not sufficient to repel attacks by Indians. Most of the early settlers, including John Miller, Sr., a Revolutionary War veteran, helped construct the fort for the common good. Most of the strong houses were about three miles away from the fort, and from each other.

The Miller family dominates the Indian Creek Valley folklore; John, Sr., and his brother Jacob were notoriously fearless and dispatched Native Americans at every opportunity. John crossed the Allegheny Mountains to claim his 397-acre land grant along Indian Creek in 1785. His lands adjoined Wallace Estill and Jacob Mann. During the early settlement period, Jacob Miller rescued two children who were kidnaped after their parents died in an Indian raid. The family clings to the story, also, of how John outsmarted an Indian who was making gobbling noises to lure the settler out of his house. Instead of moving quickly to shoot a turkey, however, John exited his house via the back door and circled wide around the Indian for nearly a mile before creeping up behind him (still gobbling), and shooting and scalping the hapless warrior.<sup>11</sup> John Miller's tract of land on Little Indian Creek became the Pence Farm. He also claimed 190 acres on the south of the creek, 230 acres adjacent to Jacob Mann, 40 acres near Isaac Estill, 49 acres on the other side of the Estill place and two additional tracts for a total holding of 983 acres of land.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>10</sup>Oren F. Morton, *A History of Monroe County, West Virginia*, reprint (Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company, 1988), 34.

<sup>11</sup>Miller Family Genealogy, Monroe County Historical Society.

<sup>12</sup>Miller Genealogy; Monroe County Survey Record Book 3, 164, April 12, 1785; SRB3, 26, June 7, 1788; SRB3, July 3, 1789; SRB3, 275, Oct. 22, 1795.

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By the time Monroe County was formed in 1799, the region was under the leadership of the original settlers' sons. Wallace Estill's son Isaac was Monroe County's first sheriff. After serving as a Greenbrier County justice in 1790, he was appointed the sheriff by the governor in 1799 and reappointed to the post in 1813. The election results of 1800 show that five members of the Miller clan voted in the county's first election.<sup>13</sup> We do not know if they voted for Jefferson or Adams, but it is likely that as farmers, they were not keen on Adams' strong Federalist perspectives. They were, in fact, the very embodiment of the righteous land owner that Jefferson believed was the rock of stability that the new nation needed.

John Sr. died in 1826 and willed his farm to his five sons. The two story house was deeded to his youngest son Adam. John and another son Henry lived with Adam until John's death. Adam had been born inside the safe stockade of Cook's Fort in 1778. Bequeathing real estate to the youngest son was often done in this part of rural West Virginia. It provided security in retirement for the parents and a start on life to the son. Adam sold the property to Henry Pence and moved to Hans Creek where he lived until 1844.<sup>14</sup> Sarah Miller, widow of John, petitioned the government for a Revolutionary War pension in 1833 at the Union courthouse.

The Miller-Halstead Cemetery included in this nomination was established by the first generation of the families. The families are tied together by the marriage of a Miller son to a Halstead daughter. Fifty-five burials there date from the late eighteenth to the early twentieth century. The grave of Charles Miller is particularly ornate. He was a popular gunsmith in the region. His headstone is etched with a rudimentary rifle and a flower design that was his trademark. Other burials are Henry Miller, 1774-1862; Adam Miller, 1778-1844, and the children of John and Barbary Miller. The family continues to tend the Miller - Halstead Cemetery which is located on the Pence farm. Many of the gravestones are not legible, and a few have been broken. No burials have occurred there since 1912.

Every acre of John Miller's handsome holding of land was eventually sold by his sons or grandsons, although they continued to reside in the county, some along Hans Creek and some along Second Creek. A few of them moved to Greenville. With their staunch German heritage, the Millers did not condone slavery, and no record indicates that the family ever owned slaves. Many other founding families, however, did, making Monroe County the sixth most populous slave county in the region that became West Virginia. In 1860, there were approximately 1,114 slaves and 107 free blacks in Monroe County. Jefferson, Berkeley, Hampshire, Hardy, and Kanawha counties had more slaves on the eve of the Civil War.

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<sup>13</sup> Morton, *A History of Monroe County*, 466.

<sup>14</sup> Miller Genealogy, Chapter 9.

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African Americans came to Monroe County with white Americans. Morton notes in his county history that "Old Christopher" was among the dead at the ill-fated Fort Baughman located in modern Summers County.<sup>15</sup> Early in Monroe's history, slavery took root in the largely agricultural county, Mrs. Anne Royall, a Monroe County planter's wife and early journalist, observed that the winter of 1824 was very harsh for the slaves on her plantation.

Like elsewhere in the upcountry south, slavery was well regulated, but not as widespread as in the tobacco counties of Piedmont and Tidewater Virginia. "House slaves looked down on field hands, but both of them looked down on poor whites," Morton wrote.<sup>16</sup> Despite its presence, the institution was never very widespread and was well on its way to extinction even before emancipation. Manumission in wills was rather common.<sup>17</sup> Educating slaves was also apparently not uncommon, though it did not catch on wildly. "Children of Negro slaves were being taught to read in the Sunday school of Old Rehobeth Church near Union," historian Charles H. Ambler wrote. "To this day, some of her Negro leaders attribute their progress to the educational opportunities which their parents had there."<sup>18</sup> Immediately after Emancipation, however, local school records indicate that there were six schools dedicated to black children in the county.

Monroe County exhibited an early interest in providing education for its children, although in the earliest years, it was a precarious and unregulated affair, mostly characterized by subscription schools. By 1820, however, the county began to address education, by appointing Jacob Peck as School Commissioner. Virginia's Old Fields school system of support for public education did not catch on in Monroe County because families were unwilling to bear the stigma of being unable to pay to educate their children. Even so, the first public school in what became West Virginia was erected in Monroe County in 1829. It was located near Sinks Grove and was operational for three or four years. Two other schools in two other counties opened that year as well, all three of them a part of Virginia's experiment with public education.<sup>19</sup> The irony is that the subscription schools were abysmally worse than the public schools. By 1846, state law established school districts, and the

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<sup>15</sup>Morton, *A History of Monroe County*, 185.

<sup>16</sup>Morton, *A History of Monroe County*, 185.

<sup>17</sup>Morton, *A History of Monroe*, 187.

<sup>18</sup> Charles H. Ambler, *A History of Education in West Virginia*, (Huntington: Standard Printing and Publishing Company, 1951), 133.

<sup>19</sup>Ambler, *A History of Education in West Virginia*, 43-44.

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first one in Monroe County was along Little Indian Creek. Meaningful public schools, however, did not become established until after West Virginia statehood. Because there are two schools on the Pence property, one much more modest than the other, the Pence family apparently was willing to support education for emancipated children. According to their wills, the family owned two slaves at one time.<sup>20</sup> The smaller school has only one window, and that faces away from the house. This scattering of circumstantial evidence, coupled with the physical evidence on the Pence farm indicates that there were indeed two early schools on the farm, and that one of them served black children. The other school likely served the large tribe of Pence children from the two family farms that abutted each other.

The Pence family came to Monroe County far later than the Millers and found a much easier path to success. Valentine Pence and his sons Jacob and Henry left Germany in 1747 to settle in Rockingham County Virginia. Jacob moved farther west to purchase the Isaac Estill farm in 1818, dying one year later. After 1820, the Pence family appears regularly in the county deed books, will books, and military records. When Jacob senior died, his son and executor, Henry, then eighteen years old, used part of his inheritance to purchase Adam Miller's land.<sup>21</sup> Miller's son Daniel sold his fifty-eight acres on Indian Creek to Jacob Pence, Jr. in 1823. Jacob later used his inheritance of \$1,000 to purchase additional land from Moses Miller. Jacob Pence also inherited four cows, a three-year-old steer, one yearling bull, and all of the beehives that belonged to his father. Although the appraisal of the elder Pence's estate reported one Negro girl, her disposition is lost in the historic record. In 1828, Henry Pence built the brick portion of the farmhouse in a Federal architectural style. His son Moses Pence was deeded the farm in February 1839, but Henry lived to see the end of the American Civil War – his ardent wish.<sup>22</sup> Fourteen years later, Moses's son Emanuel M. Pence, aged three years, died of the croup on Jan. 20, 1853.<sup>23</sup> Despite this hard blow, Moses Pence established a flourishing agricultural enterprise. In the census of 1860, his real estate was valued at \$41,050, and his personal property at \$6,400. This wealth was substantial for the time; The county's wealthiest farmer, Alan Caperton, was approximately twice as wealthy as Pence, but there were only five or six other farmers between them. Pence's farm passed to his son W.W. Pence in 1902, and then to James R. Pence in 1936, who deeded it to Headly Dowdy and his wife Florence Pence the

<sup>20</sup>Will of Jacob Pence, Monroe County Historical Society.

<sup>21</sup>Monroe County Will Book 11(1817-1829) P79-80. The estate was appraised by William Vawter, John Campbell, and William Shanklin.

<sup>22</sup>Monroe County Deed Book M, Page 197; Morton, *History of Monroe*, 392.

<sup>23</sup>Pauline Haga, comp., *Monroe County Deaths, 1853*. Mss. West Virginia and Regional History Collection of West Virginia University Libraries.

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same year.<sup>24</sup> Moses and W.W. were the last sons to make alterations to the house.

Monroe County grew by 1,223 persons in the decade between 1810 and 1820. The town of Union in 1820 had a population of 158, with fifty-seven slaves and two free blacks. Since the Civil War, the population has varied little, bouncing above and below 12,000 population. In 2006, the population of Union was less than one thousand and the county did not have, or need, a single stop light.

According to the family wills, the Miller-Pence farmstead supported livestock. There was an orchard on the property at one time. Monroe County soils are underlain by a thick formation of limestone, making them well suited for grasses and field crops. Historian Oren Morton observed that the paucity of coal, gas, and oil spared Monroe County from the ravages of industrialization that swept most of the rest of the state in the 1880s. What Morton did not fully realize is that there are substantial deposits of iron ore in the county, that someday may lure industrialists to Monroe County. The deposits are protected by the Thomas Jefferson National Forest, which covers the eastern most portion of Monroe County, very close indeed to the Miller-Pence farm.

“Old Monroe” was loyal to the Confederacy during the Civil War, and the Pence family was, also. Ten members of the family served in the Southern Army.<sup>25</sup> Four confederate military units were formed in Monroe County. The Monroe Guards, formed in 1859-60 became part of the 27<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry and did gallant service that weakened the Federal forces at Manassas. Lowery’s Battery was formed in Greenville in June of 1861, and a young John Pence was named the Orderly Sergeant. He survived the war. J.H. Pence served as lieutenant in Lowery’s Battery, and L.A. Pence served with Lowery’s also. Seven other members of the Pence clan also served and survived the war. Monroe’s Sharpshooters were formed at Union early in the war, and at Sinks Grove, the Rocky Point Grays were organized. They fought at Lewisburg as well as other major encounters in the war.

Sixteen members of the Miller clan served in the Confederate Army. One son, C.E. Miller, died of disease at Ohio’s Camp Chase Prison.

After the war, former confederates suffered a long period of distrust and prejudice despite the fact that they accepted the war’s outcome. Many were not allowed to vote. Lawyers were disbarred. Within the free schools that proliferated, test oaths were required of teachers. Testing was by oral exam, and no student

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<sup>24</sup>Monroe County Deed Book 36 P601, Deed Book 67 P 436.

<sup>25</sup>Morton, *History of Monroe*, 451.



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received any sort of certificate for study. By 1876, however, Monroe County Superintendent of Schools J.D. Beckett had established sixteen schools in the Springfield District. County wide, there were seventy schools for white children and six schools for Negro children. A total of 3,449 pupils was enrolled in school. The black schools compared favorably with the white, Morton wrote. Teachers in every school were "of a better class than prior" to the war, although the school facilities were universally poor. As of 1916, there were 3,256 white students and 219 black students. There were 120 schools, 130 white teachers and six black teachers managing six black schools. Five teachers served the county high school that had an enrollment of 122 students. There were thirty-six school libraries with holdings of 1, 478 books.<sup>26</sup>

Life was difficult for Monroe's black families in the postwar era, because there was no work. Former slaves who had no special skill were in dire straits. Thus, they migrated to the nearby towns of Alderson, White Sulphur Springs, and Ronceverte, where their labor served the railroads and the world famous Greenbrier Resort. The Monroe County census of 1870 lists a few households with black "servants," suggesting that in some cases former slaves stayed in Monroe County, working as hired help.

The Henry Pence farm stayed in the family until the death of the last descendant to live there, Florence Pence Dowdy. Howard Rigg, M.D., purchased the 178 year old farm in 1994 from Mrs. Dowdy's children for sentimental reasons. His grandmother, Anna Georgia Miller Wickline, was a descendant of the Miller clan and his grandfather, the late Virgil Blanton Wickline, also a farmer in the Greenville area, often worked for the prosperous Pence family during harvest times, and told Dr. Rigg many stories about the farm and his association with it. With that connection to the land, Dr. Rigg intends to place the farm in a conservation trust so that it will remain intact forever to serve as an example of a southern way of life that is quickly passing away.

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<sup>26</sup>Morton, *History of Monroe*, 248.

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UTM References:

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|                 |                           |
|-----------------|---------------------------|
| House:          | 531221E/ 4153652N         |
| Barns A and B:  | 531281E/ 4153490N         |
| Barn C          | 531439E/ 4153380N (NAD27) |
| Barn D:         | 531284E/ 4153474N         |
| Barn F:         | 531313E/ 4153435N         |
| “White” School: | 531328E/ 4153435N         |
| “Slave” School: | 531328E/ 4153433N         |
| Cemetery:       | 531445E/ 4153506N         |
| Corn Crib:      | 531342E/ 4153380N (NAD27) |

Points of a polygon encompassing the farm clockwise from point A: (NAD27)

A 17 531145E 4153532N  
B 17 531486E 4153537N  
C 17 532647E 4152762N  
D 17 531159E 4152747N

Verbal Boundary Description

The property consists of three parcels of land that once comprised the homestead of prominent early farmers John Miller and subsequently Henry Pence. Parcel A contains 182.948 acres of land, Parcel B contains 215.918 acres of land and an excluded cemetery of 0.091 acres, and Parcel C contains 7.242 acres of land, all of which was conveyed by the heirs of James R. Pence to Howard M. Rigg, III, M.D. on Dec. 20, 2006, and described in Monroe County Deed Book 210, Page 274.

Boundary Justification

The property encompasses the traditional Miller-Pence Homestead of 406 acres and the Miller-Halstead family cemetery of .09 acres.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Miller-Pence Farm  
Name of Property

Monroe County, West Virginia  
County and State

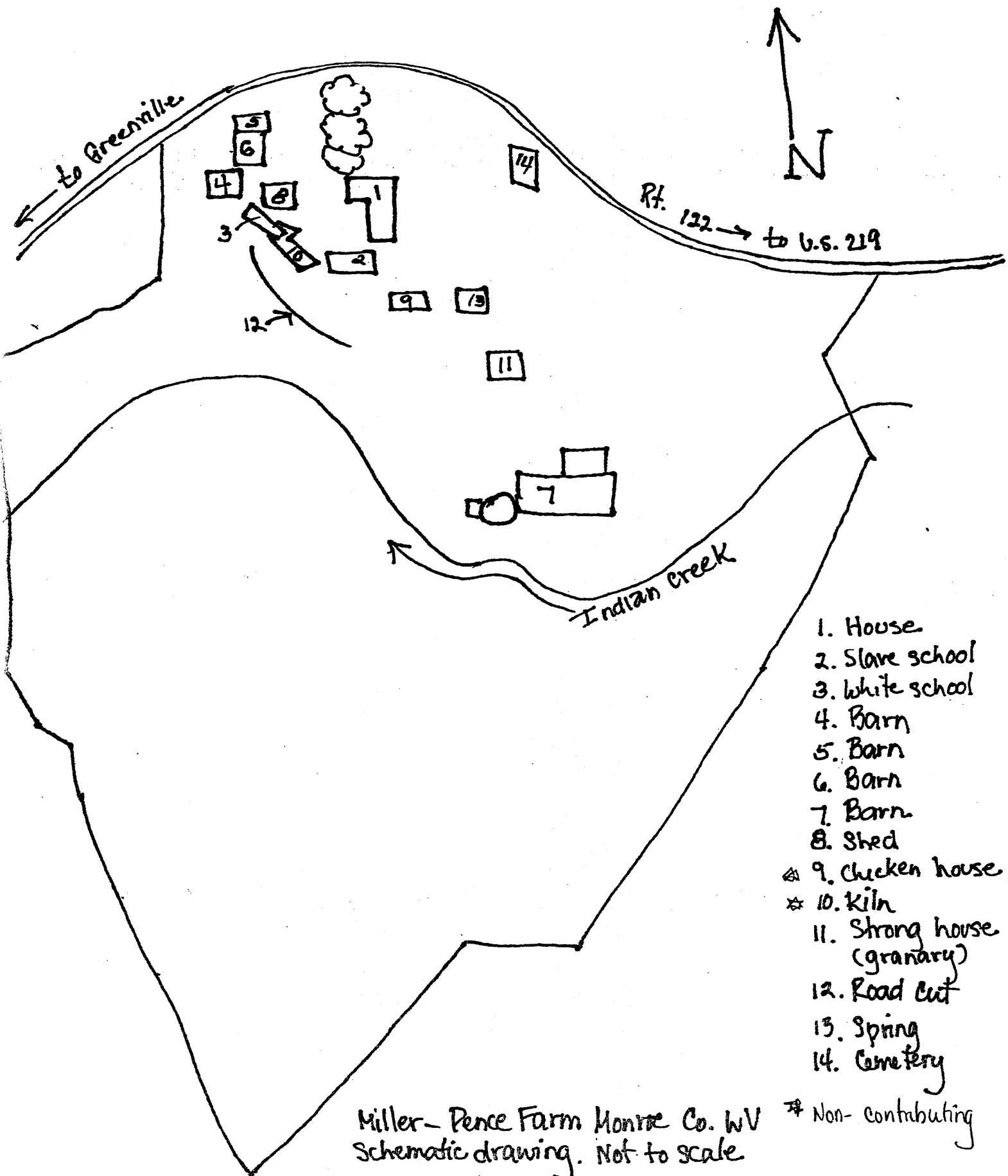
Section Photo Log

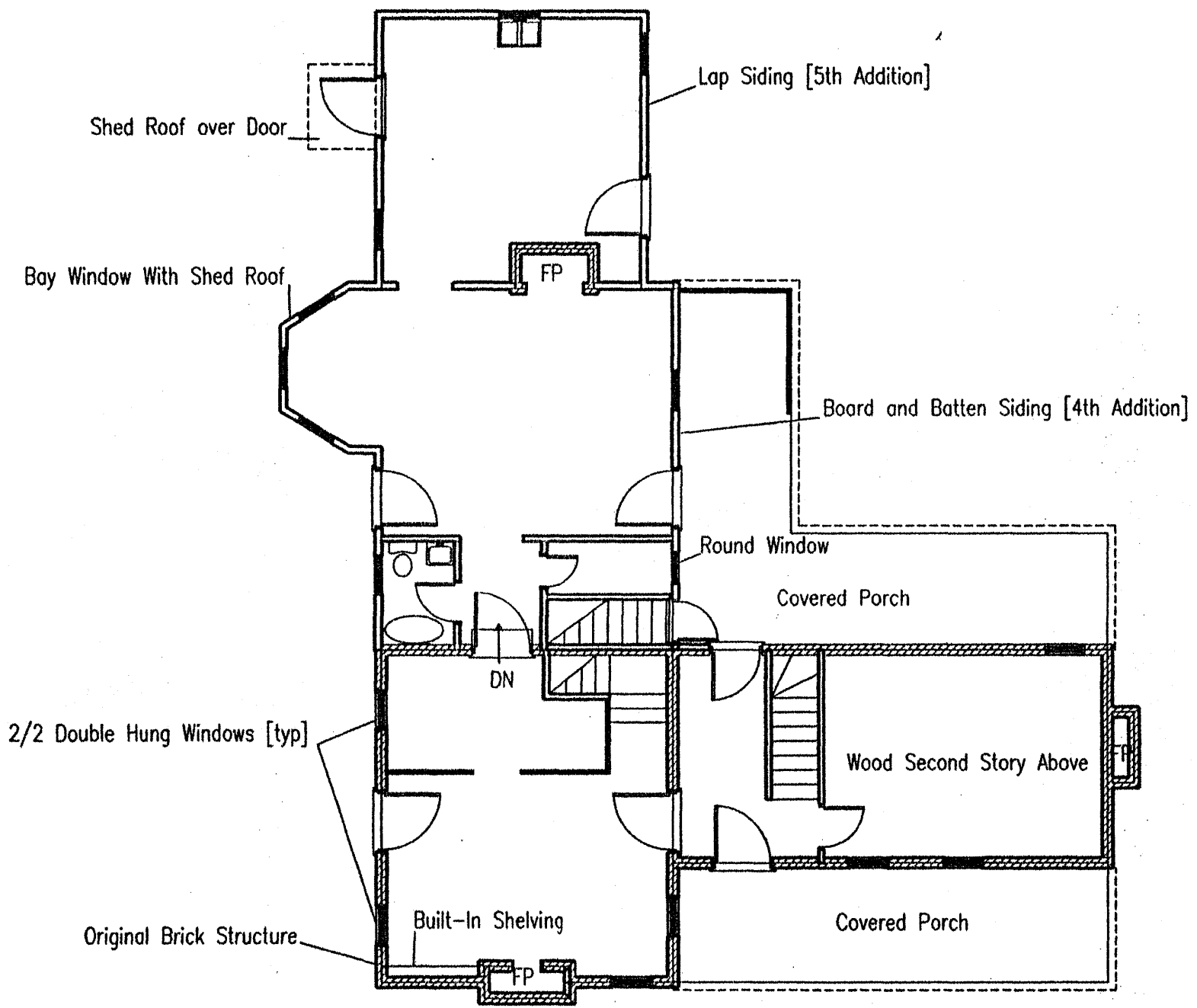
Page 1

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Photographer: Barbara Rasmussen  
Date: May 2005

- Photo 1 of 6 Camera looking South  
Main facade of the Miller-Pence Farmhouse
- Photo 2 of 6 Camera facing Southwest  
Barns A and B
- Photo 3 of 6 Camera facing South  
The "Slave School"
- Photo 4 of 6 Camera facing South  
The Granary and site of Miller's strong house  
log ends exposed
- Photo 5 of 6 Camera facing Southwest  
Three-quarters shot of the Miller-Pence Farmstead
- Photo 6 of 6 Camera facing East  
Western elevation of the Miller-Pence farmstead showing detail of chimney construction stages



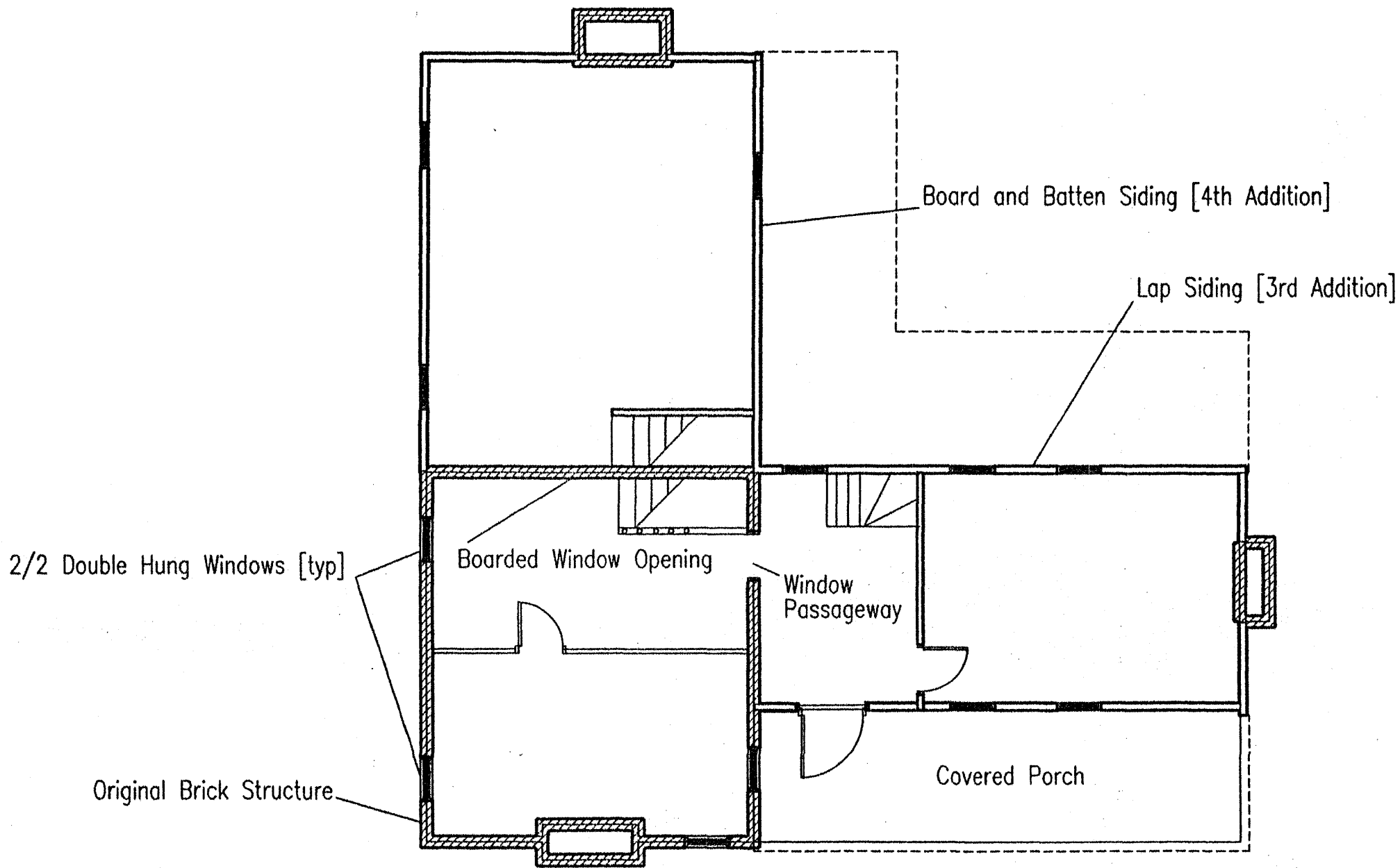


Pence-Dowdy Farmhouse, First Floorplan

Scale 1/4" = 1'0"

J. Brewer

Miller-Pence Farm  
 Monroe County, WV



Pence-Dowdy Farmhouse, Second Floorplan  
 Scale 1/4" = 1'0"

J. Brewer

Miller-Pence Farm  
 Monroe Co., WV