

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

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

For HCRS use only

received MAY 29 1985

date entered

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

1. Name

historic The Mary Park Wilson House

and/or common "Old Stone House Farm" "Oban Hall"

2. Location

Located on the west side of W.Va. Secondary Route #51/2, one-half mile street & number south of the intersection with W.Va. Sec. Rt #51 not for publication

city, town Gerrardstown vicinity of congressional district N/A

state West Virginia code 54 county Berkeley code 003

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. & Mrs. J.R. Wagner

street & number 301 Wilson Street

city, town Martinsburg vicinity of state West Virginia

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Berkeley County Courthouse

street & number 100 West King Street

city, town Martinsburg state West Virginia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

G-87 Berkeley County Historic
title Landmarks Commission Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date March 1984 federal state county local

depository for survey records Berkeley County Courthouse

city, town Martinsburg, state West Virginia

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Mary Park Wilson House is located off West Virginia Secondary Route #51/2 just one-half mile south of the intersection with West Virginia State Route #51 at Gerrardstown. Situated on a 220 acre farm at the end of a long lane, the setting is peaceful and country with North Mountain as background.

The dwelling house is Federal and consists of a three bay, two story central block with a three bay, two story wing of slightly lower elevation. The main part measures fifty-two feet by twenty-one feet and the wing with two-tiered recessed porch is thirty-six by twenty-one feet. The house is built of coursed rubble creekstone, the colors of brown to cream, with inside end chimneys and gable roofs. Particularly because of the color, it has a very distinctive appearance. The entrance door is eight-panelled with a four-light transom. Main section windows have 12/12 large double hung sash. Those in the wing are 6/6. Original exterior shutters are on most of the windows.

The main part of the house has a central hall plan, one large room each side, and the wing is two rooms wide. The beautiful open-well stair of four flights has two square-in-section spindles per step, and the newel posts are small with neck moldings. The upper newels end in ornamental drops in the ceiling and the handrail glides in easements to each newel. Step risers are marbelized as is the baseboard on the ground floor. The parlor mantel is a typical fully developed period Federal mantel with a molded edge shelf with projections over panelled end blocks supported by marbelized columnettes. Bed moldings are fairly elaborate and the frieze is panelled. All the mantels are very similar to this one but not quite as fancy. All four fireboxes in the main section have a marble surround. The kitchen (wing) firebox has a plain surround.

Interior trim is symmetrically molded with rondel corner blocks. Chair rail is in every room. Ground floor windows have panelled jambs and doors are grained eight-panel doors with period hardware. All floors are original. The house is architecturally intact. There are no outbuildings included.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates 1825

Builder/Architect William Wilson

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Mary Park Wilson House is historically significant for its associations with the Wilson family and, more recently, with attorney Archibald McDougall. It is architecturally significant as being an excellent example of classical American Federal architecture.

The house was built by William Wilson in 1825. Wilson wrote his will in 1826 and to Mary his wife left "the new stone house on the plantation whereon I now live..." He also left her seven servants, rents and profits from his Gerrardstown properties, half the household furniture of their home "Prospect Hill" (National Register 1983), and the dividends from bank stock. The will was probated in 1831. "Prospect Hill" went to his son John Park Wilson. Bequeathed to the other four children or their heirs were various tracts of land, bank stock, and servants. Mary Park Wilson died at age eighty in 1838.

William Wilson was a wealthy man. In 1830, he owned a total of 1699 acres of Berkeley County land. He was a money lender, a merchant, and sold supplies to settlers going west through Mills Gap. He built "Prospect Hill" in 1792 and purchased the adjacent land in 1794. It was on this land that he built the stone house for his wife.

In 1877, the "Stone House Farm," as it was then called, was sold by the heirs of John Park Wilson to Richard Shroades. Shroades' ancestors had come to Berkeley County from England ca. 1770. Shroades' son and grandson, who farmed together went into debt during the depression years and lost the estate (500 acres) to the Federal Land Bank of Baltimore in 1943. It was purchased in 1952 by Archibald McDougall.

McDougall was an attorney who had an international career. He was a representative of the United States Legislative Counsel's Office in Washington, D.C., in 1928. He was a legal advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs in Iraq and professor of International Law at Baghdad 1936-40. He was a delegate to the League of Nations, General Assembly, at Geneva in 1936 and was a legal counselor to the British Embassy at Cairo in 1946-49. He was admitted to the United States Supreme Court Bar in 1973. At his death, January 1984, his estate which he had named

9. Major Bibliographical References

Martinsburg Gazette, September 12, 1838; Martinsburg Statesman, September 12, 1876; The Martinsburg Evening Journal, January 14, 1984.
Berkeley County Land Books, Deed Books, and Will Books, Berkeley County Courthouse, Martinsburg, W.Va.
Land Grant & Survey Records, Richmond, Va., copies Courthouse Berkeley Co.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1 acre

Quadrangle name Inwood

Quadrangle scale 1 : 24,000

UMT References

A 17 749100 4361800
Zone Easting Northing

B
Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification Beginning at the fork of the lane 120' southeast of the house, thence along the lane northwest 280', thence along a fence row northeast 200', thence southeast 270', thence along the driveway southwest 220' to the beginning (See map).

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

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Frances D. Ruth, Administrator

organization Berkeley County Historic Landmarks Commission date September 30, 1984

street & number Route #2, Box 320 telephone (304) 754-7097

city or town Martinsburg state W.Va.

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

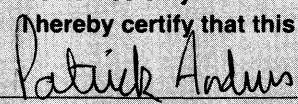
As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

title State Historic Preservation Officer date May 2, 1985

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

 date 7/8/85
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

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Continuation sheet Mary Park Wilson House Item number #8

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"Oban Hall" after the Oban Valley in Scotland (the area of his ancestral home), was auctioned with 220 acres and was purchased by the Wagners. The Wagners, recognizing the importance of the estate, have contacted the Berkeley County Historic Landmarks Commission for guidance in restoration.

The Mary Park Wilson House is architecturally significant as a classical example of rural American Federal architecture. The interior is distinctive for its elegance and finish. Features contributory include the gracious, open-well stairway with marbelized risers, and the marbelized trim adds nicely to the effect in the ground floor rooms. The mantels are the main feature in each room and they are significant examples of American Federal at its best. The bed moldings are fully developed as are the shelf projections. The panelled window jambs and rondel trim add to the effect. The grained eight-panel doors also contribute. The rooms, which have high ceilings, are very spacious and impressive. The exterior is distinctive because of the creek stone building medium, which is unusual in the county, and because of the proportions of the house. The original shutters are still in place with original hardware. It's an interesting house for period study.

The Mary Park Wilson House was built by William Wilson and is an expression of his wealth and taste. It represents a major contribution to Berkeley County historic architecture and represents rural American Federal design at its finest.

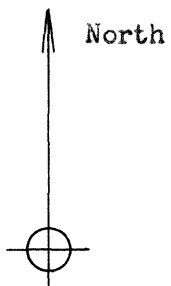
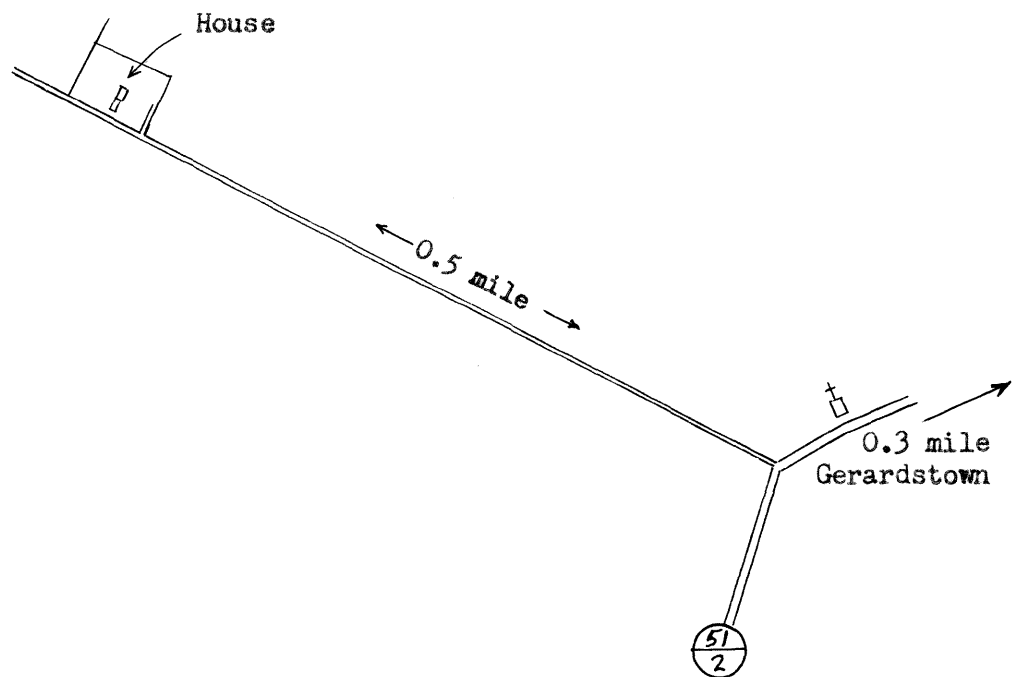
MARY PARK WILSON HOUSE

G-87

Inwood quadrangle

Berkeley County, West Virginia

Area 1 acre



SCALE 1 : 7,920

Copied September 1984 from
photo AGS-90-34, 23 Apr 1938
by Galtjo L. Geertsema