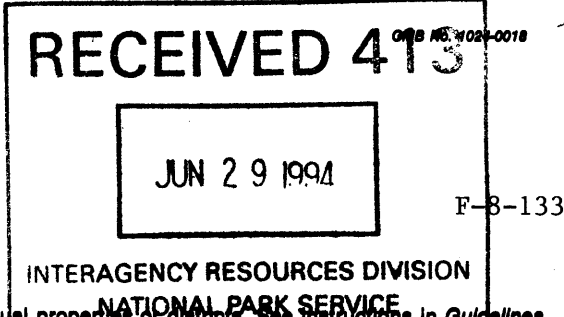


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form



F-8-133

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 18). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name HARRIS FARM  
other names/site number Walkersville Heritage Farm Park

2. Location

street & number Devilbiss Bridge Road N/A not for publication  
city, town Walkersville X vicinity  
state Maryland code MD county Frederick code 021 zip code 21793

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	10	2 buildings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	2	sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site		1 structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure		objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	12	3 Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A  
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.  
Signature of certifying official STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER Date 6/23/94  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.  
Signature of commenting or other official Date  
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:  
 entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.  
 determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.  
 determined not eligible for the National Register.  
 removed from the National Register.  
 other, (explain):  
for Signature of the Keeper Date of Action Entered in National Register 7/29/94

**6. Function or Use**

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Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

DOMESTIC/secondary structure

AGRICULTURE/animal facility

AGRICULTURE/outbuilding

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/outdoor recreation

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

GREEK REVIVAL

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation LIMESTONE, CONCRETE

walls BRICK, WEATHERBOARD

CONCRETE, STONE

roof TIN

other WOOD

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

The Harris farm is a complex of nineteenth- and twentieth-century domestic and agricultural buildings located on a relatively flat plain outside the center of Walkersville, Frederick County, Maryland. The three-story house, built in 1855, has a five-bay main block with a long perpendicular three-story rear wing containing a recessed double porch. Both the interior and exterior detailing is predominantly late Greek Revival, although a few Italianate elements are present. The house is built upon a wooded terrace that separates the house yard from the rest of the farm. A brick and wood pale fence parallels the main road to the south and the secondary farm lane to the west. Domestic buildings include a brick, one-story combination smoke house and kitchen with a loft above, a vertical-sided wooden well house, and a partially collapsed stone building. The agricultural complex consists of a bank barn with an ornamental ventilator pattern worked into the brick ends, and an attached granary; a second frame barn that shares an animal yard with the bank barn; a row of frame outbuildings including a converted garage, a workshop, and a chicken house; a drive-through double corn crib; and a frame pig pen with modern concrete stalls dated 1914. The twentieth-century buildings consist of a frame poultry house, a dairy barn with milk house and two silos, and an octagonal chicken coop. A lime kiln remains on the edge of the property.

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally  statewide  locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  A  B  C  D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

ARCHITECTURE  
AGRICULTURE

1855-1941

1855  
1941

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

The Harris farm complex is significant as an excellent example of rural domestic and agricultural architecture in Frederick County. It is also representative of agricultural development in Frederick County from the mid-nineteenth century through the beginning of World War II.

The house embodies distinctive characteristics of rural farmhouses of the mid-nineteenth century as found in the region. These buildings are generally brick, Greek Revival houses, and often incorporate a rear wing. The main block, with a perpendicular rear wing containing a recessed double porch, can be seen in many farmhouses in northern and central Maryland. The addition of the full third story, however, allows the house to stand out among others of the same type. Several three-story houses do exist in the area, but the third floor is rarely carried into the wing. The Routzahn home farm on Gas House Pike (F-8-30) is another variant, with a brick, common bond, five-bay main block with three-story service wing. Other distinctive characteristics of the house are its size and proportions, inclusion of frieze windows, recessed double porch, and symmetrical main facade. The original interior trim and mantels, baseboards, doors and curving open string staircase, all Greek Revival, survive with few changes. These characteristics clearly illustrate the late Greek Revival style with the inclusion of a few Victorian elements. Few other houses in the region retain the high degree of integrity of design, materials, workmanship and setting.

The Harris farm also stands as a significant and intact collection of domestic and agricultural outbuildings. The farm is typical of a large, mid-nineteenth century, grain and livestock farm in Frederick County. Original outbuildings, such as the brick

See continuation sheet No. 24

## 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 # \_\_\_\_\_

 See continuation sheet No. 30

## Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**Acreage of property 50 acres

USGS Quads: Walkersville, MD and Woodsboro, MD

## UTM References

A	1,8	29,8	3,9,0	4,3	7,4	6,3,0
	Zone	Easting		Northing		
C	1,8	29,7	4,7,0	4,3	7,4	4,9,0

B	1,8	29,8	3,5,0	4,3	7,4	2,3,0
	Zone	Easting		Northing		
D	1,8	29,7	7,8,0	4,3	7,4	8,0,0

 See continuation sheet

## Verbal Boundary Description

 See continuation sheet No. 32

## Boundary Justification

 See continuation sheet No. 32**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title	Maryland Historical Trust Staff		
organization	Maryland Historical Trust	date	October 1992
street & number	100 Community Place	telephone	(410) 514-7600
city or town	Crownsville	state	Maryland zip code 21032

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The Harris farm is located on the north side of Devilbiss Bridge Road, between Glade Road and the Woodsboro Pike, in Walkersville, Frederick County, Maryland. The house, built in 1855, sits frontally to the road. It is the main building of a large farm complex consisting of seven nineteenth-century buildings, four twentieth-century buildings, various landscape features and a lime kiln on the edge of the property.

House, brick, 1855, 1 contributing building

The house is L-shaped, three stories high, five bays with a gable roof and has an original rear wing containing a recessed double porch. It is of brick construction with a cut limestone foundation. The front facade is laid in stretcher bond and the remaining walls are variant ratios of American common bond; all painted grey. All first and second story windows are 6/6 sash and have shutter pintels. The third story frieze windows are a variety of casement and double hung sashes. The roof is covered with standing seam tin and tapered rakeboards are located at each gable end; however, the overhanging cornice is covered with modern siding. Three-light cellar windows, with stone sills and metal horizontal bars, are located on each facade.

The house is characterized, with few exceptions, by late Greek Revival trim on the exterior and interior. This generally consists of some combination of an elongated ovolo and beveled astragal.

The principal facade of the house faces south towards what once would have been a large circular drive. It is symmetrical, consisting of a central double door, sheltered by a one-story porch, and a pair of flanking windows. The second-story fenestration follows the same pattern. Windows on both levels have Italianate projecting lintels consisting of a fillet, ovolo, and bead.

The main entrance is embellished by late Greek Revival trim. The door is framed with paneled soffit and jamb, flanking sidelights and an eight-light transom. The paneled double doors each have three recessed fields with applied molding. The second-

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story doorway is similar to that on the first floor, but is modified by an eight-light transom with shorter panes capped by a dentil course.

The one-story porch is original to the house and is only one bay wide. Two pairs of columns support the flat roof structure while a matching pair of pilasters flank each side of the doorway. All rest on simple blocks, are chamfered two-thirds of the way up, and terminate in a capital consisting of an incised band and tablet. A Greek Revival balustrade runs around the perimeter. The roof of the porch is covered with standing seam tin and there is no evidence of a second-story balustrade.

The west elevation is six bays long; four correspond to the original ell extension and two to the gable end of the main body of the house. The wing parallels the farm drive that leads from Devilbiss Bridge Road back to the farm buildings. Serving as the secondary facade, this side of the house was afforded special architectural treatment with a side entrance porch and a date stone.

The west gable end of the main block is two bays wide. A date stone in the gable proclaims "1855 H[enry] R[oss] & C[larissa] H[arris]." A recessed chimney with a corbelled cap is centered on this wall. All three stories have identical wooden lintels embellished with horizontal grooves and bulls-eye cornerblocks. This pattern is repeated on all other sides of the house. A few windows on the west, north, and east walls have replacement lintels of unembellished lumber with plain cornerblocks.

A door in the first bay of the wing, near the juncture with the main block, is covered by a porch that matches the one on the principal facade. The door and panelled jambs have late Greek Revival trim; the door has a bevelled-glass window with two panels below, and a four light transom. A chimney rises from the roof ridge between the third and fourth bays.

The gable end of the service wing faces north. The first story is now partially obstructed by a later woodshed that connects the service wing to a detached kitchen/smoke house. The second and third stories are blank. A recessed chimney rises from the center

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of the wall.

The east side of the house reveals clearly the "L" formed by the service wing and main block. The east gable end of the main block is identical to the west gable but does not include the datestone. The east elevation of the wing consists of five bays, three of which correspond to the two story integrated porch and its third floor overhang. Aluminum siding has been applied to the overhang. The same basic three floor fenestration pattern already discussed continues on this elevation. However, on the first floor, doors are placed at the first and fifth bays. The former is now closed off; the latter exits from the kitchen onto a separate concrete porch, two bays in width, which has been partially enclosed. The steps have the name and dates of one tenant, "Duvall 1933-19\_\_," incised on the side. At the second story, a door in the third bay gives access to the porch which is enclosed with a simple wood balustrade.

The back, or north, side of the main block is three bays long, and forms the southern bracket of the recessed porch. A door in the third bay of both the first and second story opens onto the porch. The first-story door is the more ornate of the two, having six recessed panels with Greek Revival molding; the second-story door has four plain panels. One cellar window and a modern bulkhead pierce the foundation. A bricked-in chute near the juncture with the service wing is partially obscured by the porch flooring.

The interior of the house is a central passage, single-pile plan with a rear perpendicular wing of two rooms. The second and third floor plan roughly corresponds to that of the first floor. Most architectural elements in the house are late Greek Revival, with a few examples of early Victorian molding interspersed. While the trim on the second and third floors is the same from room to room, the first-floor trim has various degrees of embellishment.

The central stair hall contains an open string stair with a turned newel post in the northwest corner of the hall. The hexagonal balusters are tapered into the Greek Revival, mushroom-shaped grip of the handrail. The stair stringers are embellished with jig-sawn scrolled trim. An offset door in the north end of

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the hall opens onto the recessed porch in the rear. The molded baseboards are true to the period and are among the most ornate in the house, having a composite profile of Grecian ovolo, ogee, bevelled astragal, ovolo, and squared edge. The stair hall displays remnants of stencilled wallpaper; the whitewashed plaster underneath indicates that the paper may be original.

Before the stair reaches the second floor, it splits at a landing between the two floors. Four steps turn south to the door opening on to the recessed porch. Five steps turn north and continue to the second floor. The wallpaper, baseboards, and stringer trim are continued all the way up to the third floor.

The largest room, or parlor, lies to the east of the stair hall. Each of its six windows is elaborately enframed by a late Greek Revival architrave joined at the corners by turned bulls-eye blocks. The area below each window has painted, molded panels. A fireplace with a simple Victorian mantel is centered on the east gable wall. The mantel consists of a plain shelf supported by two scrolled brackets. The fascia has a flat, jig-sawn ornament applied to the center and the bottom edge of the fascia board is slightly arched. Flat pilasters frame the fireplace surround. The hearth is brick. The baseboards are an elaborate variation on the Grecian ovolo and bevelled astragal profile. Inverted T-shaped strips of wood are nailed at eye level between the windows; these are commonly found in houses of the period in Frederick County and are associated with a type of lighting fixture.

The room to the west of the stairhall is finished with transitional late Greek Revival/early Victorian details. The windows have wide architraves in a bold cove and bead pattern with bulls-eye cornerblocks. The fireplace is centered on the west gable wall. The shelf has a Greek Revival profile, consisting of ovolo and cove molding. The fascia is plain. The plain pilasters have a Grecian ovolo and cove capital. The baseboards are rabbeted. The window trim is wood grained, as are the interior doors, baseboards, and mantel.

This room is slightly smaller than its counterpart, however, a wide set of double doors on the north wall opens into an identically finished room in the service wing. The double doors

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are grained on the south side, and are divided into eight panels and framed with ornate architraves.

The second room, commonly believed to be the dining room, has a fireplace on the north wall, and an outside door on each of the east and west walls. The east door is now sealed and converted to a china cabinet. A smaller, adjacent door opens onto a storage cupboard built beneath the hall stairs; the door is grained but does not match that in the rest of the room.

A door located in the western edge of the rear wall in this room opens onto a small passage. It serves as a secondary circulation space for the service parts of the house, as it contains the service stair and opens onto the kitchen and includes a pantry below the stair. The service staircase rises in a straight flight to the rear of the second floor.

The kitchen is characterized by the large fireplace on the north wall. It was later sealed and covered by wainscoting. The windows have simple ovolo and bevelled astragal window trim. The baseboard is a flat piece of lumber. The exterior door on the east wall has unembellished panels. A door on the south wall provides access to the cellar by a winder stair. The cellar door may be reused: the cellar-side has the thumb latch and the raised panels.

The second story plan consists of the central stair landing, a chamber to the east, a chamber to the west, and three chambers plus a modern bathroom in the service wing. Unless otherwise noted, the same Greek Revival trim is used throughout.

The landing has double doors on the south wall that open on to the front porch. Two six-panelled doors on each side of the hall lead to chambers both of which are similarly finished. Each room has a fireplace along its gable wall. Both mantels are plain with the shelf supported by triangular wood brackets. The fascia is also plain. The pilasters have an incised band that invokes a capital and an incised block for a base. The window and door architraves have a Grecian ovolo, bevelled astragal, and bead trim, but no cornerblocks. The baseboards are identical to those found in the parlor below.

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A small passage connects the west chamber to the first (north) chamber in the service wing. To the west of the passage is a small closet, to the east is twentieth-century bathroom with the floor raised over the plumbing lines, and to the north is the north chamber.

The north chamber is smaller than the dining room which is below it; the modern bathroom, passage, and closets consume part of the space. A fireplace is on the north wall, and is tied into the dining room stack. A shallow closet is positioned to the west of the fireplace. A door in the east wall opens onto the back stairhall.

The back landing contains the service stairs that run from the first to third floors. On the second floor, the top (east end) of the stairs opens onto the recessed porch. To the south, one door opens into the modern bathroom, and another opens into the north chamber. To the north, one door opens into the northeast chamber and another opens into the northwest chamber.

The northeast chamber has a fireplace on the north wall that ties into the kitchen stack, and two windows on the east side. The northwest room over the kitchen is unheated, and has two windows. The simple trim in both rooms is similar to that in the kitchen.

The chambers on the third floor are all unheated, simply finished rooms. The windows have the same type of detailing found in the kitchen and second-floor chambers. The baseboards are plain and the four-panel doors are not grained. As presaged by the frieze windows, all the chambers on the third floor have lower ceiling heights than in the rest of the house. The low pitch of the gable roof creates a gambrel effect ceiling.

The east chamber has two types of frieze windows. The reasons for the different window types are not clear, but may indicate an aesthetic distinction between the primary and side facades. Iron rings are imbedded in the north and south walls.

The west chamber is similar but incorporates a wooden rail with hooks imbedded in the east wall. A door on the north wall connects the west chamber to the service wing's south chamber.

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The south chamber in the service wing is a large room that extends over the side porch. A coat rail is positioned in the south wall and hooks hang from the ceiling. Plaster failure reveals mill-sawn lath.

The third-floor service stair landing has a small, plain room, with a window, built in to the east end. Two rooms lie to the north of the landing. The northeast chamber over the kitchen has two windows; the northwest chamber has one window and a trap door to the roof rafters.

The cellar is fully excavated under the main block and wing, and may be entered either through the kitchen or through an exterior bulkhead at the northeast corner of the house. The cellar plan corresponds to the first floor plan, with the exception that the cellar under the parlor is actually the size of the parlor and stair hall. Mill-sawn joists support the first-story flooring.

The room under the parlor is the only part of the cellar that is whitewashed. A hewn beam with chamfered corners runs under the parlor/stair hall wall to provide additional support for the upstairs masonry walls.

A sub-cellar leads further underground from an opening in the north wall. Steps lead down to a room, approximately six by ten feet, reinforced with stone walls and a vaulted brick ceiling. The wood stays used as bracing are still visible in the walls. Iron hooks are imbedded in the vault. A chute rises up from the east side; its opening now blocked by the flooring of the recessed porch.

Thick stone walls support the masonry upper stories and divide the rest of the cellar into three rooms. Beaded board and batten doors and heavy stone stills separate the rooms. The room under the kitchen has a brick, recessed arched in the north wall under the kitchen fireplace. Shelves are built into the opening. A hewn sill reinforces the floor where the winder stair descends from the kitchen to cellar.

Twentieth century exterior alterations to the house include the removal of shutters, the replacement of rotted lintels, new

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concrete porch steps, a glass-enclosed porch off the kitchen, aluminum siding above the recessed porch and under the eaves. Interior alterations include a remodelled kitchen and a modern bathroom. The original trim and mantels, baseboards, interior doors and staircase survive with few changes and minimal deterioration.

Kitchen and smoke house, c. 1855, 1 contributing building

Located immediately to the rear of the kitchen wing of the main house, is a detached brick summer kitchen. This building is oriented on the same axis as the kitchen wing and is set flush with the west wall. It measures 28 feet long and 16 feet deep, one story high with a pitched gable roof that is cantilevered out an additional six feet along the west facade.

This building served two primary functions: a summer kitchen with a large cooking fireplace and an oven comprised the south 16 feet of the building; a 9 by 14½ foot room at the north end was used as a smoke house. A steep ladder/stair against the south gable wall of the kitchen provides access to a servants' chamber above. A door in the north wall of that chamber opens into a smoke chamber located above the smoke room on the first floor. The smoke chamber does not have a solid floor; spaces were left between the floorboards to allow smoke to circulate from the room below.

The exterior fenestration reflects this dual function. On the east facade protected by the overjetted roof, a door in the south bay and a window in the center bay serve the kitchen; a batten door with heavy iron strap hinges and latch in the north bay provides access to the smoke room. In the north gable, the only opening is a pierced diamond pattern that permits smoke to escape from the upper chamber, and also mirrors the decorative brick patterns on the barn across the farmyard. On the west facade, there are two 6/6 windows lighting the kitchen and no openings in the north end, reflecting the location of the smoke room.

Bank barn and granary, c. 1855, 1 contributing building

Approximately 100 feet to the rear or north of the summer kitchen is a large and highly decorative overshot forebay or bank

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barn. This building is sited on a perpendicular axis to Devilbiss Bridge Road, and the east facade of the barn is within two or three feet of being in line with the west facade of the main house and wing.

This building is almost certainly an original component of the farm, built in the same period as the house of 1855. The building measures 76 feet long (on the north-south axis) by 40 feet wide. It is of brick construction on a high stone foundation, and is a bank barn only in the technical sense, since the farmyard is perfectly level; thus an earth ramp with dry-kid stone retaining walls on the west facade substitutes for an embanked location. The east facade serves as the "downhill" side, with an overshot forebay to provide shelter for the cattle and horse stalls in the ground floor level. The most distinctive feature of the building is the elaborate pierced brickwork in the west facade and both gables, a feature found in some numbers in Frederick, Carroll and Washington counties.

The west facade is laid in five- and six-course common bond above a finely laid limestone ground story. A pair of large double barn doors in the center of this facade open onto the earthen ramp, and are indicative of the double aisle threshing floor inside on the main floor level. To either side of the central doors, the brickwork of the main story is pierced with a pair of square ventilator panels below and a pair of diamond patterns above. These are accomplished by omitting header brick in a carefully contrived pattern that requires uniform coursing and skillful masonry work. A small window opening at the south end of the ground story stonework is fitted with a wood frame and horizontal diamond-set bars, providing ventilation to the livestock pens in the ground story. A pair of openings at the north end of the cellar story open into the ground level of an original frame granary that projects at a right angle from the north end of the west facade, accessible from the ramp for the barn.

The south gable wall of the barn faces Devilbiss Bridge Road and is the most visible element of the building from the road, the house and much of the house yard. This facade is therefore especially decorative. The limestone ground story is carefully laid almost entirely with cut blocks, the southwest corner is

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highlighted with large quoin corner blocks and the southeast corner includes a handsome segmentally arched opening to the overshot forebay on the east facade. Openings on the ground story include a door near the center flanked by pairs of four-light windows to either side. One of the quoin blocks at the southwest corner is carefully inscribed with the initials "BW," believed to be the name of the barn builder.

The main body of the gable wall is constructed of brick finials laid in 5- to 6-course common bond. The decorative ventilator pattern is dramatic in this wall, consisting of three rows of four square ventilators flanked by a pair of diamonds on each side and surmounted by a four-pointed star in the upper gable. The gable eaves are trimmed with tapered and beaded rakeboards.

The east facade, as noted, serves the "downhill" role for this barn, with an overshot forebay protecting livestock pens on the ground story. The ground level is constructed in brick, the upper wall is heavy timber frame with vertical board siding.

On the ground level, there are six doors opening into two feeding aisles and four banks of livestock stalls in a typical stall-aisle-stall/stall-aisle-stall sequence. Four small unglazed window openings provided additional light and air to the ground story; two have been enlarged. The stable doors are slatted to increase ventilation, and several are divided or dutch doors, though no clear pattern of use is evident for either feature.

The main body of the barn is overjetted seven feet beyond the livestock doors, creating a sheltered area on the east side opening into a rectangular enclosed "pound" or browsing area. Two small doors in the east wall provide convenient access to the main floor of the barn; these are interspersed with six louvered ventilators. A pair of four-light windows at the south end of this facade provide light to a small enclosed granary in the southeast corner of the main floor of the barn.

The north gable is virtually identical to the south gable, except that the limestone foundation is not so finely laid, and the only openings on the ground story are a pair of window openings fitted with double frames with horizontal wood bars. The

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decorative brick ventilators are just as elaborate as on the south wall.

The interior of the ground story has never been modernized, probably due to the construction of the modern dairy barn nearby in the late 1920s. The original plan and a great deal of stall evidence remains in place. This plan essentially consists of an even subdivision of the space, half for cattle and half for horses; each half consisting of a center feeding aisle to service rows of livestock stalls. Steep ladder/stairs at the west end of each feeding aisle permitted easy access up to the main floor of the barn. One large grain box remains in place in the south aisle, and stall divisions and feed boxes have mostly survived in all but the northernmost bay. They are constructed of a mixture of straight sawn and circular sawn boards and with wire and machine nails, suggesting a late 19th century rebuilding of the stalls.

The main floor of the barn is divided into four principal bays defined by the three interior structural bents and two gable end bents constructed against the brick masonry end walls. The central two bays are the threshing floor, constructed with heavy two-inch thick plank flooring (butted together without splines or tongue-and-groove joints). Low partition walls on either side of the double threshing aisle are constructed of wide horizontal sheathing tightly fitted and nailed with machine nails.

The north and south bays are designed for hay storage, with rough one-inch plank flooring widely spaced to permit air circulation from below. A small enclosed granary is located in the southeast corner, with access through a door from the south threshing aisle. This area has a solid plank floor and is fitted with glazed windows rather than open ventilators. The framing system is typical heavy timber framing for this barn form.

Attached to the north end of the west facade of the bank barn is an original heavy timber frame granary. Set on a perpendicular axis from the barn, this building measures 40 feet wide by 20 feet long. Built level with the main floor of the bank barn, the ground slopes away from the west and northern edges of the granary creating a ground story beneath.

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The building is sheathed with vertical board and battens. The shed roof is covered with metal and the rafter ends are trimmed with plain board. The southern facade rests on a limestone foundation but the other two elevations are supported by wide vertical planks rising from the ground to the main floor. A double door on the south wall opens onto ramp for the barn, and a pair of small 6/6 windows provide light to the interior. The west facade has a single door on its northern edge at the main level of the granary. The vertical planking only covers half of the lower west wall providing an opening to the interior of the ground level. The northern facade is plain except for a pair of 6/6 windows on the ground level.

The interior of the ground level is of typical heavy frame construction consisting of numerous hewn members with a summer beam running through the center supported by large hewn posts. The south wall is limestone. Access from this level to the cellar story level of the bank barn is provided by a 6/6 window and a four light window in the stone foundation wall of the bank barn.

Barn, c. 1855, 1 contributing building

Directly to the north and east of the bank barn, and sited at a right angle, is a large heavy timber frame barn. It is located approximately 14 feet to the north or rear of the bank barn, and in line with that barn's east facade.

The building is contemporary with the bank barn; built circa 1855. The five bay barn measures 60 feet long by 30 feet wide. It is constructed of heavy frame timbers with primary members mortised and tenoned. The exterior facades are generally sheathed with straight cut vertical boards and bevelled battens; some areas have circular sawn boards and other siding replacements. The gable roof is metal covered although the original wood shingles are evident underneath.

The south facade opens into the animal yard. Original door openings appear to have been located on each end bay and a large central opening was once cut through the central bay. The top 1/3 of this opening was closed in during the 20th century and another identical opening was cut next to it on the east, probably

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providing access for equipment. As a result, the small door in the east bay no longer exists. Currently, two doors are located in the western bay of this facade. The north facade also originally had a large central opening but this has since been completely covered with siding. The east and west facades are identical; both are covered with vertical and batten siding.

The interior of the building has few changes although modern structural supports have been added and alterations were made to the entrances. It is divided into three bays, defined by two structural bents. Two hay storage areas were created in the western bay by low partition walls of wide horizontal planks nailed with a mixture of machine cut and wire nails. A door in each space leads into the farm yard. They are currently closed off.

The framing system is typical heavy timber framing for this period barn with the sills resting on a stone foundation. The sills in the center bay have been cut, probably when the doors were modified to allow easy access for heavy machinery. Fully mature, machine cut nails were found where original construction is evident; wire nails were used for modern alterations or bracing.

The two barns define the northern and western edges of an animal yard. Enclosed on the other side by a wooden rail fence, the yard is concrete with some grass areas. A concrete trough is located on the south end.

Dairy barn, milk house, and silos, c. 1932, 1 contributing building

A modern, twentieth-century dairy barn is located next to the bank barn, anchoring the northwest corner of the complex. It is a rectangularly-shaped, rock-faced, concrete block building with an attached milkhouse and two silos. A later addition was placed on the rear, or north end. The original structure is 3 bays by 7 bays long and the addition is 4 bays. This section is constructed of underrated concrete block. The high frame gambrel roof has flared eaves and is covered with standing seam tin.

Both gambrel ends are covered by horizontal German siding. The south end of the gambrel has centered double sliding doors and a flanking pair of 4/2 windows on the first floor and another set

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of centered double doors, flanked by a pair of double hung 6/6 windows, on the second floor. The top of the gable has central sliding doors used to pull hay into the loft. The windows in the oldest block section are metal frame 6 sash with the upper 4 sash forming a movable member. The side windows in the addition are 4/4 metal movable over two lights. The north end is similar to the south end, but with 6 light metal windows and 1 set of upper level doors. There are a pair of roof dormers on the west side and one on the east.

A milk house is attached to the southern edge of the west facade by a frame passage. While the milk house and barn are flush with each other, the passage is slightly recessed and appears to have been infilled at a later date. The milk house is one-story with a hip roof and two metal chimneys. The south facade has two crossback doors with multi-lights above; a large 6/6 window is located in the frame passage. The other facades have regular sized 6/6 windows. The east wall of the house has been unsympathetically reworked with plain concrete block which may or may not relate to the barn enlargement. Two silos are connected to the barn on the western side, behind the milkhouse. The silo closest to the front, southern end, probably dates to the original construction of the dairy barn while the second larger silo is connected to the addition. The interior of the dairy barn is divided into a large area for cattle on the first floor and a hay loft above.

Drive-through double crib, c. 1870, 1 contributing building

Located in a central position in the farm yard is a large frame double corn crib with central drive-through. The building measures 36 feet long and 28 feet wide, with a pair of 4 by 36 foot corn cribs flanking the 20 by 36 foot drive-through.

The building rests on five limestone foundation piers under each of the flanking cribs, and is sheathed on the exterior facade walls with bevel-edged 1x4½ inch horizontal siding. This siding is spaced with a 3/4 inch gap between each board, a method that permits air ventilation to the stored corn while visually resembling german siding from a distance. The north gable ends of the cribs are fitted with batten doors to permit easy access; the south gable ends have been re-sided with plain vertical boards.

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The upper gables of both ends are covered with vertical siding and are fitted with a small access door in the center of the gable. Twentieth century sliding doors have been added to either end of the central drive-through. The facade siding is secured with 19th century mature cut nails; the gable ends with wire nails.

The interior of the building shows little evidence of alteration. The building is constructed with a heavy timber frame that includes numerous hewn members recycled from an earlier structure. The interior side walls of the corn cribs are lined with 1x3 battens to contain the corn, but with 1/2 to 3/4 inch gaps left to provide ventilation. The upper walls are rigged up as moveable "doors" hung on a variety of strap hinges to permit loading the upper portion of the crib. Inscribed in red paint on the west interior wall are "E.H. 1928" and "H.M. 1928."

An interesting feature of this building is the pair of wooden roller capstans secured to the underside of two tie beams. These were used to hoist wagon boxes off the undercarriage during hay season, to be replaced with hay wagon beds.

The roof is moderate in pitch and consists of heavy 2x6 inch common rafters supported by one set of purlins and joined at the ridge with mitre joints to a 1x6 ridge board. The roof is covered with corrugated metal; the eaves are trimmed with a plain board nailed to the rafter ends. Dating evidence is limited. This building type can be found throughout the 19th century, but the use of mature machine nails suggests a range of circa 1855, when this farm was laid out, to circa 1885, when wire nails began to replace cut nails. The heavy timber frame construction combined with the use of a ridge board are suggestive of the decade following the Civil War.

Domestic building, 19th century, 1 contributing site

The ruins of a stone domestic building, possibly an ice house, is located northwest of the kitchen and well house. The building appears to have been constructed at ground level, apparently without a deep pit. Debris in the house, however, may cover a depression. The stone walls are quite thick; the only opening is located on southern end. The timber roof has collapsed.

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Tool shop, 19th century, 1 contributing building

The tool shop is a small one-story, heavy timber frame structure resting on a stone foundation. It has a standing-seam roof. The front (east) facade and its double doors are comprised of extremely wide boards with battens. The other three facades are also board and batten. Each corner post and a few other structural supports are hand-hewn and obviously re-used. It appears that a rectangular opening was created in the center of the west facade by cutting away one of the vertical boards.

Hog house, late 19th century and 1914, 1 contributing building

Located on the eastern half of the farmyard is a large frame hog house with concrete hog pens on the eastern side. The main portion of the building rests on a rubble stone foundation and is sheathed on the exterior with beaded vertical siding on north, south and west sides. The south and west elevations are characterized by a series of doors; three small rectangular doors are located near the top of the west facade and two doors are located at ground level on the south facade. One of these doors is a full door providing easy access to the interior while the other door is similar in size to the others. The east facade is sided with reused whitewashed planks. The siding is secured with wire nails. The shed roof is covered with metal sheeting.

This roof extends out over the enclosed pen to the east side of the building. A concrete wall once surrounded the pen, now only the southern end stands. A date, which appears to be 1914, is stamped into the wall. The yard is divided into three concrete stall with access from the interior through three low doors and three concrete steps.

The interior of the building shows a heavy frame construction using a mixture of timbers reused from an earlier structure. The stone foundation suggests that an earlier building once stood at this location. The concrete hog pens were probably added after construction of the building.

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Garage, late 19th century, 1 contributing building

This is a one-story, heavy timber frame structure with a standing seam gabled roof situated atop a stone foundation. The gabled front faces the farm lane. All four facades are covered with board and batten siding; the building has a box cornice and rakeboards. The upper gable of the front is covered with wide, horizontal boards; much of the lower wall is taken up with sliding doors although the portion above the doors is vertical board sheathing. The section of the south facade not adjoining the chicken coop contains one nine-light window. The interior consisted of an open floor plan, hewn posts. Machine cuts nails were used although some wire nails were evident suggesting more recent work on the building.

Well house, 20th century, 1 contributing building

Located approximately five feet northeast of the summer kitchen/smokehouse is a square frame structure on a concrete foundation. The building, originally used as a well house, dates to the late 19th century. It measures approximately 9 feet by 9 feet. The exterior is sheathed with vertical double beaded siding fastened with wire nails. The pyramidal metal roof, with a wind turbine, extends over a plain wooden box cornice. Centered on the west facade is a wooden door composed of the same beaded boards; the three other facades are virtually identical with a single four light window in the center. Two original hinges exist next to modern hinges; the handle is modern.

The interior of the structure is panelled with modern boards covering insulation. The interior of the door is also insulated. The ceiling, covered with wide straight sawn boards, slopes with the pitch of the roof. The floor is constructed with wide plank flooring approximately one foot above the cement foundation. The well once existed in the center of the of this floor, now only a hole remains. All visible nails on the interior are wire nails.

Landscape features, c. 1855, 1 contributing site

The house faces south towards the road and is built upon a landscaped terrace that slopes down to the house yard.

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Strategically placed trees define the raised terrace. Although not original to the property, the trees are historic and may have replaced an earlier generation of trees at the same location. The south, west, and a portion of the north boundaries of the house yard are delineated by a period fence constructed of brick piers and wood palings fitted into a brick foundation; each brick pier is capped by a small concrete pyramid resting on a square stone slab. The section along Devilbiss Bridge Road has been replicated using modern materials.

A circular drive originally led to the front door. A pair of massive posts with gate pintels are located in the fence on axis with the front door. A gateway on the west side of the fence is a modification; the original secondary gate was on the north side, as evidenced by the massive brick piers and gate pintels that match those of the south gate.

Located to the east of the service wing and kitchen, a flat, open stretch of ground probably served as the garden and domestic yard. This area is defined by the house, stone domestic building to the west and north, and the raised terrace and trees to the south and east.

The agricultural complex is clearly separated from the domestic complex but is integrated through a series of lanes, fences and gates. Each building is easily reached from each other, the kitchen area and the main road.

An intact lime kiln remains along the western edge of the property. The mouth of the kiln follows alongside the old road bed. The kiln is built into an embankment and can also be reached from the top.

Poultry house, 20th century, 1 non-contributing building

A low, one-story, rectangular frame chicken coop is located next to the farm lane. This building is one of a group of three buildings that create the western edge of the farm yard. It abuts a larger frame garage. All four facades are sheathed with double beaded vertical siding and the shed roof is covered with a standing-seam roof with exposed rafter ends. The structure rests

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on a 1½ foot high concrete foundation, and only has openings on the front (east) facade. A single door covered with the same vertical boards is located in the southern most bay. The remainder of the facade has three sets of paired square windows, one above the other. Each six light window slides to the side. The floor is concrete slab. A two-level "chicken dorm" is along the north wall. The interior framing is made up of circular sawn timbers, the exterior sheathing is secured with wire nails. This structure relates to the development of the agricultural complex but lacks sufficient integrity to be considered a contributing resource.

Chicken coop, 20th century, 1 non-contributing building

Located on the eastern edge of the farmyard is a small, one-story, frame, round chicken brooding house. The walls are beaded vertical siding banded together by iron rods that encircle the structure at the top and bottom. Openings consisted of three evenly spaced windows with 6/6 wooden sashes; portions of each window are missing. The door opening faces north. The 8 sided roof is covered with asphalt and has a center pipe chimney at the top. The interior is floored with wood boarding. This structure relates to the development of the agricultural complex but lacks sufficient integrity to be considered a contributing resource.

Water tower, late 20th century, 1 non-contributing structure

Late 20th century water tower.

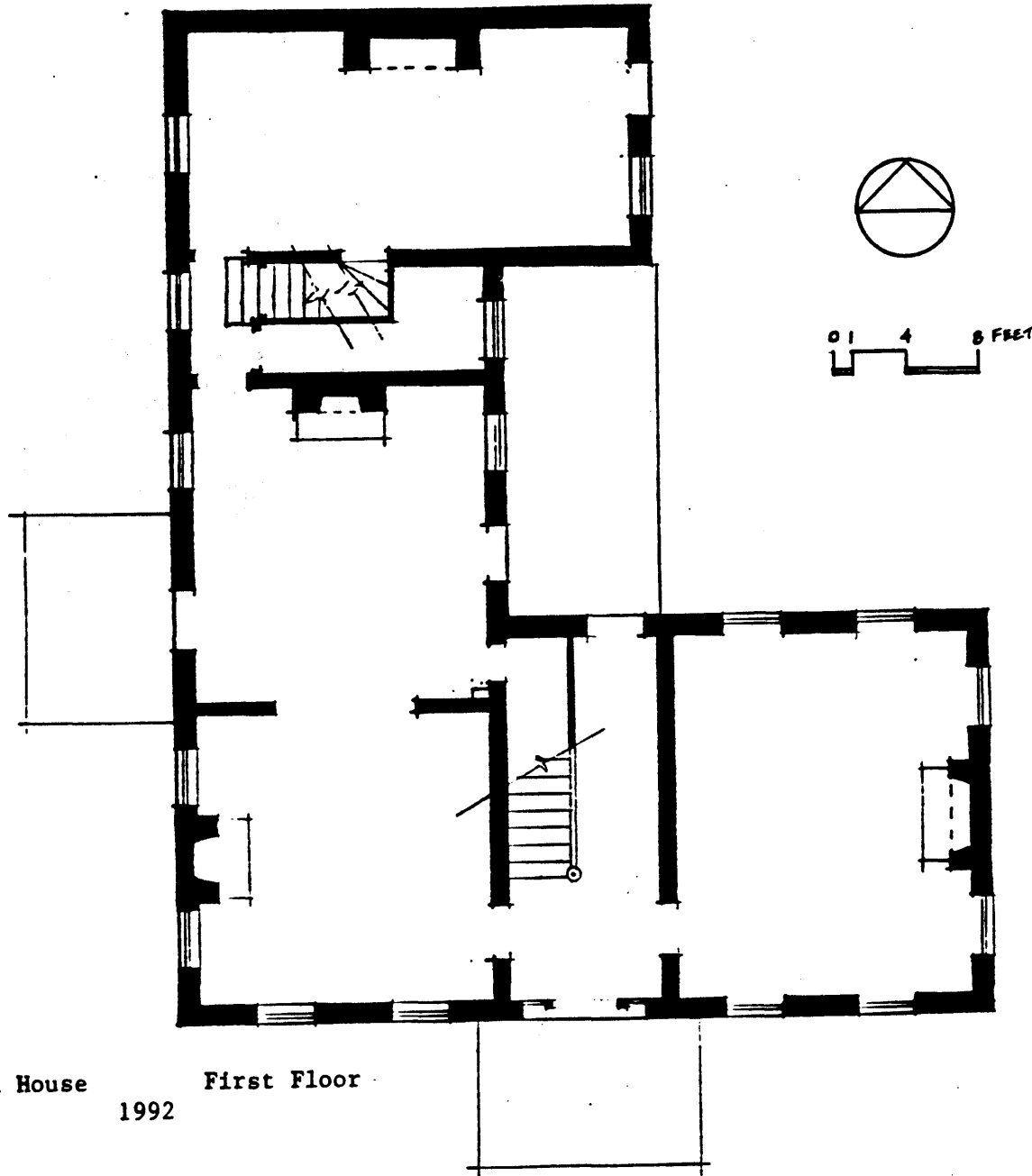
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Main House  
1992 First Floor

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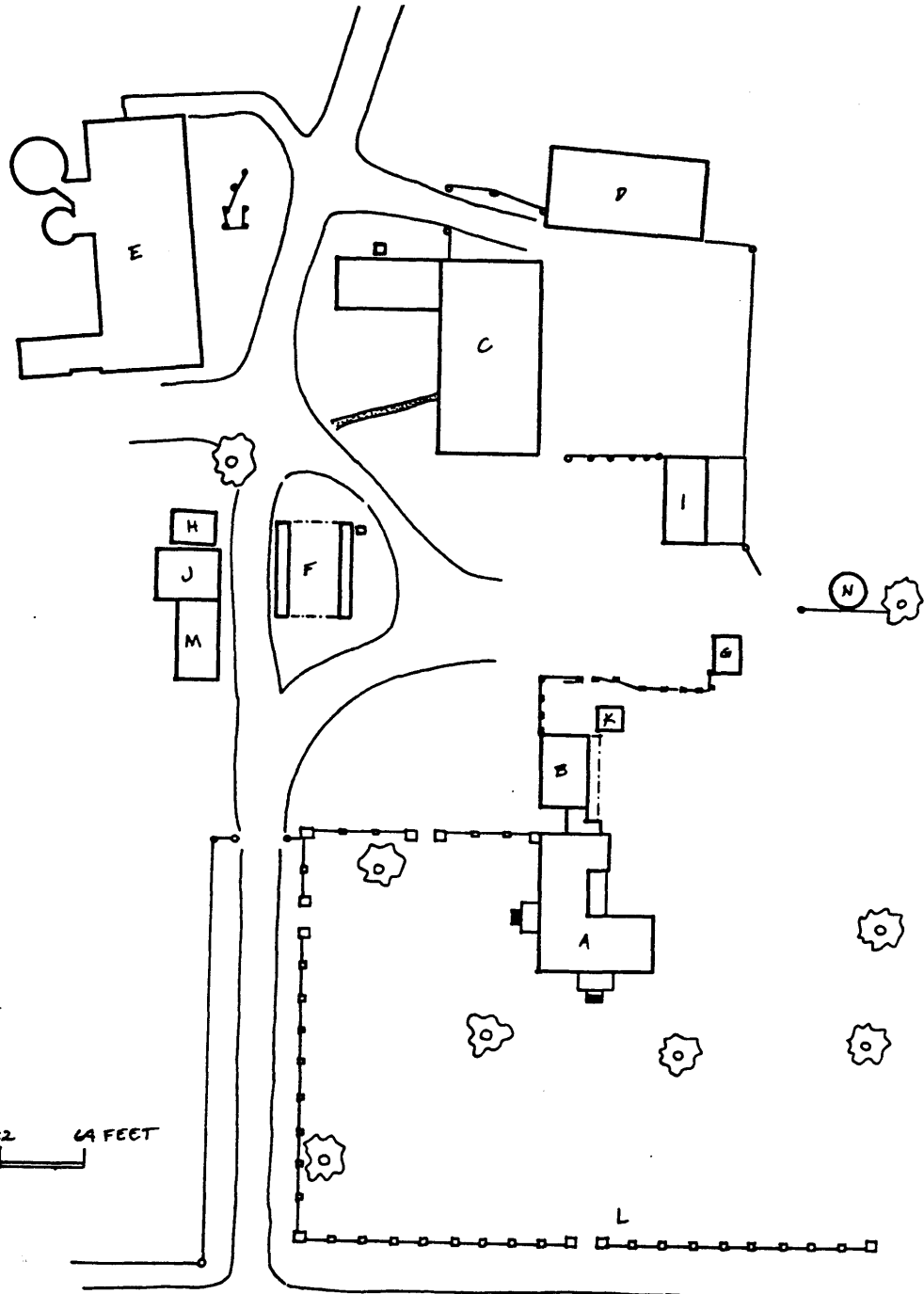
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Key to Resources

- A House
- B Kitchen and smoke house
- C Bank barn with ramp and granary
- D Barn
- E Dairy barn, milk house and silos
- F Drive-through double crib
- G Stone domestic building
- H Tool shop
- I Hog house
- J Garage
- K Well house
- L Fence
- M Poultry house
- N Chicken coop



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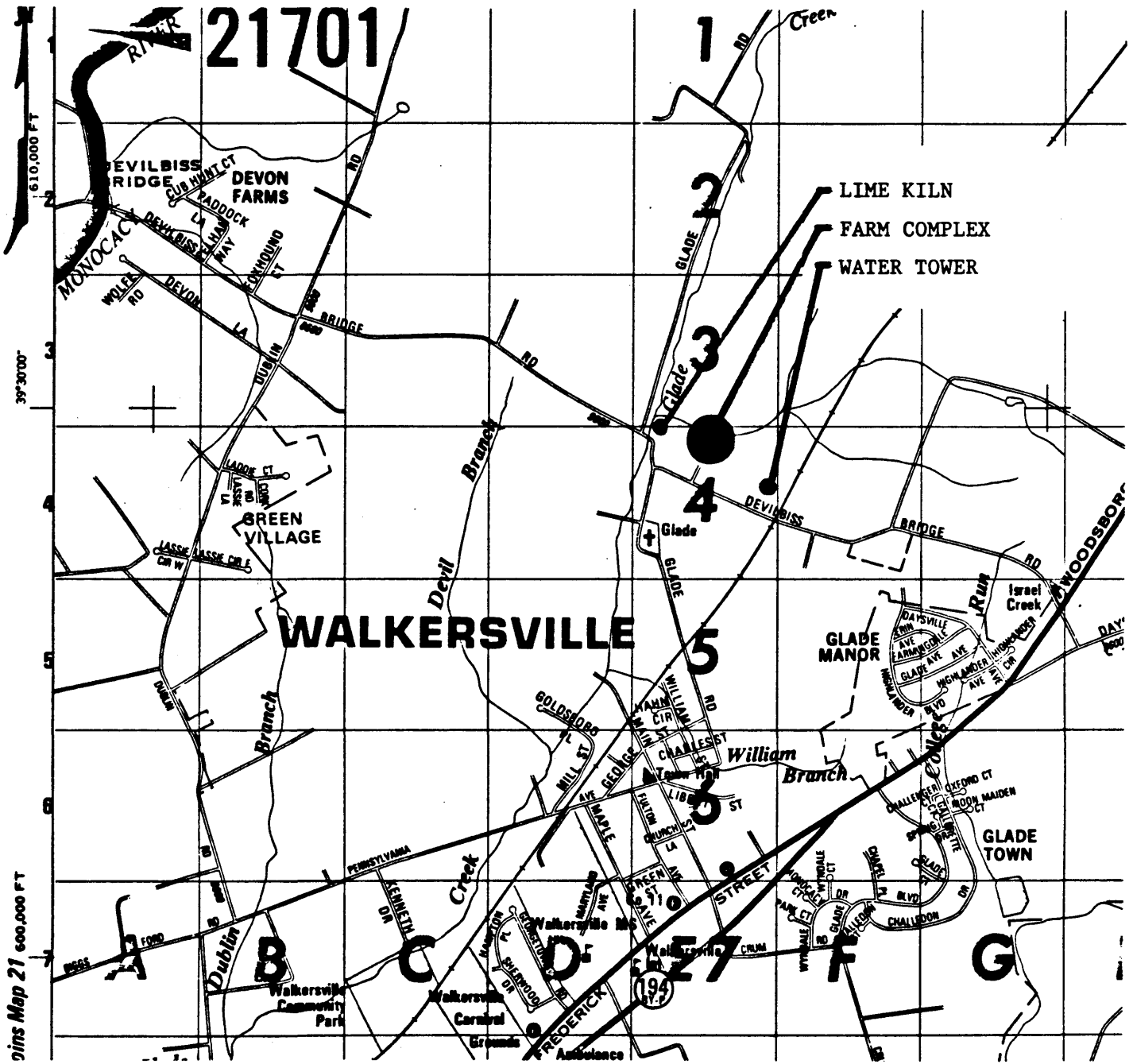
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SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY: (continued)

bank barn, with ventilator pattern, and the second equipment barn, illustrate the diversity of farm life during the 1850s and 1860s. The addition of other agricultural and domestic outbuildings represent the increased prosperity of farming in the region during the last years of the century. At the beginning of the twentieth century, Frederick County began to focus on dairy farming. Many farms altered existing barns to accommodate dairying activities. At the Harris farm, the dairy barn and milk house mark a transition in the dairying industry as health and sanitary regulations took effect. This barn, located adjacent to the original bank barn and granary, are pivotal in understanding the changes in agriculture throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Together with the secondary structures, they represent the agricultural development of the county to the start of World War II. Few other complexes in the Walkersville region remain with such a complete set of outbuildings. As it stands, this complex clearly exemplifies late nineteenth and early twentieth century farm life in Frederick County.

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HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Development Period(s):

Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870  
Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930  
Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture/Landscape Architecture/Community Planning  
Agriculture

Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

DOMESTIC/single dwelling  
DOMESTIC/secondary structure  
AGRICULTURE/animal facility  
AGRICULTURE/outbuilding

Known Design Source: none

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HISTORIC CONTEXT:

The Harris house was kept in the original family for seventy-seven years. The construction of the farm, including both the house and farm buildings, was in place and relatively unchanged by 1932. The farmhouse is significant as an example of rural domestic architecture in Frederick County, and as such the farm complex surrounding the house contributes to its integrity. The period of significance, therefore, is coterminous with Harris-Liggett ownership.

The area the Harris farm is located on was primarily a rural farming community during the nineteenth-century. Present day Walkersville is actually the amalgamation of two small villages, Georgetown and Walkersville, that were consolidated in the 1870s. The Frederick and Pennsylvania Railroad came through Walkersville in the 1870s, and the tracks ran along the eastern line of the Harris farm.<sup>1</sup> The railroad would have facilitated the shipment of produce and livestock to farther markets. The Harris and Barrick families settled in this region.

Henry Ross Harris (1820-1878) and Clarissa Barrick (1821-1901) were married in 1843 and had one child, Julia Amanda (1846-1921). They probably set up their independent household on this site in 1846; the first year that Henry Harris appears in the yearly tax assessments. Although the land records are silent on this point, it appears that the property passed to Henry and Clarissa from her relatives; the Barrick family name was prevalent in the Walkersville area through the first half of the nineteenth century.

When Henry Harris began farming in the 1850s, he met with limited success. The 1850 census shows that he engaged in diversified agriculture, and that his farm was valued at \$5,520. During the previous year Harris grew 600 bushels of wheat, 600 bushels of Indian corn, 150 bushels of Irish potatoes, twenty bushels of hay, and fruit trees that produced \$10 worth of orchard

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<sup>1</sup> Walkersville, Maryland: "The Tale of Two Villages." (Walkersville, 1977). C.O. Titus & Co., Atlas of Frederick County, Maryland. (Philadelphia, 1873).

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products. Harris owned three horses, eight milch cows, twenty sheep, and twenty swine. The value of his slaughtered animals was \$80. All but six acres of his 120-acre holding were improved. He also owned one slave, a nine year old girl.<sup>2</sup> By comparison, the range in values of other farms in the district was between \$5,000 and \$10,000; the Harris assets were below average as only five farms were listed below his in value while twenty-three farms were worth more. Only five years later, however, he built the present house and, probably, the kitchen, bank barn and equipment barn. All three buildings were larger and more elaborate than most of his neighbors'. The construction of a fourteen-room, three-story house with molded trim in every room was particularly ambitious for the middling farmer who built it. The size and pretense of the house reveals Henry Harris's aspirations for his farm and three-member family. The acreage did not increase between 1850 and 1860, indicating that he lived somewhere on the property before building his new house.<sup>3</sup>

In 1860, Harris's farm operations had declined and his farm was valued at only \$1,200. His only agricultural products were 744 bushels of wheat and ten bushels of Irish potatoes. Harris owned four horses, six milch cows, six cattle, and twenty swine, together valued at \$900. The value of his slaughtered animals was \$300. The slave was now eighteen years old.<sup>4</sup>

Documentary evidence reveals that only three family members and one slave lived at the Harris farm during the 1850s and 1860s. The number of rooms in the house is thus somewhat puzzling. Perhaps the servants' chambers in the service wing and the third-floor rooms were designed with servants in mind, but were used only

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<sup>2</sup> Hitzelberger, Bridge Over Time, pp. 309, 538-39, 473.

<sup>3</sup> See Frederick County Levy Court (Tax Collection Records); 1850 and 1860 U.S. Census; and Frederick County Marriage Licenses, Index.

<sup>4</sup> 1850 Census, Population schedules, Agricultural schedules, Slave schedules, Woodsboro District, No. 11, Frederick County, Maryland. Microfilm at the Maryland State Law Library.

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for storage during the early years of occupancy.

During the next decades, Harris's fortunes improved. Sometime between 1866 and 1876 Harris purchased an additional seventy acres which he added to his "Home Farm" tract. He also purchased a separate 150 acre tract from G.A. Winebrenner and a house in Walkersville. The 1876 tax assessment described his real property at the "Home Farm" as 190 acres of land worth \$10,450, containing a two-story brick house [the shorter third floor would have been considered the attic] valued at \$4,000, a brick barn valued at \$1,500, three tenant houses valued at \$100 each, and miscellaneous outbuildings valued at \$1,350. His livestock holdings had vastly grown: three horses, four colts, ten cows, one bull, sixty-three cattle, fifty-three hogs, one boar, eight sows, and forty-six pigs. Other valuables include a pianoforte and blacksmith tools.<sup>5</sup>

Henry Harris is described in a History of Frederick County as "a school teacher, a prominent and successful farmer and auctioneer, and one of the best known men in the county," and also owned the nearby lime kilns.<sup>6</sup> Harris was politically active as well. He ran for a seat in the State House of Delegates three times, twice successfully, although not consecutively. In 1861 Harris was elected as a Union candidate, was unsuccessful in his 1866 bid as the "Copperhead" candidate, and then was re-elected in 1869 as a "Rebel" or Democrat Conservative.<sup>7</sup>

The Harris family, which by 1870 included their young niece Annie Creager, continued to live on the farmstead. After her

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<sup>5</sup> 1866 Tax Assessment Record, Woodsboro District, Frederick County, Maryland. 1876 Tax Assessment Record, Assessor's Field Book, 11th District, Frederick County, Maryland.

<sup>6</sup> Williams, History of Frederick County, p. 1206. Frederick County Board of County Commissioners (Road Descriptions), Liber T.L.M. #2, November 9, 1870.

<sup>7</sup> Engelbrecht, Diary, Vol. 2, pp. 125, 326, 384. See also, "Maryland State Legislature," \_\_\_\_\_, Hall of Records, Annapolis.

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husband's death in 1878, Clarissa stayed on at the home farm.<sup>8</sup> By 1880 nine people appear to have been living on the Harris property. Clarissa Harris was joined by her divorced daughter, Julia Amanda Liggett and her two children - Clara, aged nine, and Harry, aged seven. In addition, the sixteen year old Annie Creager and thirty-six year old Matilda Creager lived with the Harrisses. Three non-relatives also lived in the household. James S. Plunkard was a white, thirty-six year old, single, laborer from Tennessee. Charles Plater was an illiterate, mulatto, nineteen year old who was both a servant and laborer. Martha Dorsey was a black, fifty-seven year old, illiterate servant.<sup>9</sup> It is unknown where these people stayed but, presumably, family members and favored servants lived in the house while the other occupied the tenant houses or other outbuildings.

In 1901, the Clarissa Harris bequeathed the property "on which I now live" to her daughter Julia Amanda Liggett.<sup>10</sup> Julia Amanda Harris had married Dr. John James Liggett in 1871, and they had two children, a son Henry Ross and a daughter Clara Elizabeth who married George W. Stauffer of Walkersville. In 1876, John Liggett moved to Ladiesburg, where he continued to his medical practice. It appears that the Liggetts were divorced before he moved to Ladiesburg.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> 1870 U.S. Census, Population Schedules, Woodsboro District, No. 11. Frederick County Wills, Liber JRR #1, Folio 323.

<sup>9</sup> 1880 U.S. Census, Population Schedules, Woodsboro District.

<sup>10</sup> Clarissa willed the in-town Walkersville property to J. Hanson Stauffer. Frederick County Wills, Liber CES #1, Folio 158.

<sup>11</sup> John Liggett was born in Ladiesburg, Maryland, graduated from the Medical Department of the University of Maryland in 1869, served briefly as the assistant surgeon in the U.S. Navy, and opened a medical practice in Walkersville during the years 1870 to 1874. (Frederick County Marriage Licenses, February 20, 1871. Williams, History of Frederick County, pp. 1387-89.)



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In 1905, Julia bequeathed the house and 190 acres of land known as the "home farm" to her son Henry Ross Harris Liggett.<sup>12</sup> Henry Liggett was a progressive agriculturist in the Walkersville District. He was assisted by Charles Milton Strine (born 1881) who farmed the "Henry H. Liggett place at Walkersville."<sup>13</sup>

Henry Liggett sold the farm to Charles D. Sager in 1932 for \$10. The following year, Charles and Rebecca Sager sold the farm to Jefferson Patterson, of Calvert County, for the same amount. The Pattersons, who owned several farms in the immediate vicinity, employed the Duvall family to work the farm as tenants. The Duvalls remained tenants throughout the mid-century. Mary Marvin Breckinridge Patterson inherited the "Liggett Farm" in 1982, and conveyed the farm to Marpat Foundation, Inc. in 1985. The Marpat Foundation, in turn, sold the "Liggett Farm" and a second piece of property to the Burgess and Commissioners of Walkersville in 1986 for \$346,000.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> Frederick County Wills, Liber WBC #1, Folio 198.

<sup>13</sup> Williams, History of Frederick County, pp. 1389.

<sup>14</sup> Frederick County Land Records, Liber 382, Folio 300 (April 7, 1932); Liber 388, Folio 488 (October 17, 1933); Liber 1186, Folios 405, 410 (December 14, 1982); Liber 1273, Folio 418 (March 4, 1985); Liber 1345, Folio 970 (June 25, 1986). Note also, the Duvall inscription on the kitchen stoop.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The boundaries consist of Glade Road on the west, Devilbiss Road on the south, the railway right-of-way on the east, and a line drawn from east to west, railway to Glade, fifty feet north and parallel to the south end of the dairy barn.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

The Harris farm stands in a historically rural setting. The farm was originally bounded on the south and west by existing roads creating the boundary edge on two sides. By 1870, the railroad track ran parallel to the house on the east creating a barrier and these tracks are now lined with trees. When approaching from the center of town, the road curves at the track and the entire complex is visible just beyond. The house and farm buildings are centered in the rural setting, surrounded by fields and trees. The boundaries are drawn to protect this setting.