| United States Department of the Interior National Park Service | RECEIVED 2280 FFR - 0 2002 NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NATIONAL PARK SERVICE RATIONAL PARK SERVICE |
|--|---|
| 1. Name of Property | |
| historic name : Richard Beard House | |
| other names/site number : N/A | |
| 2. Location | |
| street & number : HC 64, Box 147/off County Ro | ad 31 on Kule Beard Boad N/A not for publication |
| city or town : Hillsboro | ad 31 on Kyle Beard Road N/A not for publication X vicinity |
| | Pocahontas code: 075 zip code: 24946 |
| <u>state. west virginia</u> <u>code. w v</u> <u>county.</u> | <u>rocanonitas</u> <u>coue. 075</u> <u>zip coue. 24940</u> |
| certify that this <u>A</u> nominationrequest for determ standards for registering properties in the National | Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural Part 60. In my opinion, the property <u>k</u> meets <u>does</u> and that this property be considered significant _ |
| Susanmyrerce | 2/4/02 |
| Signature of certifying official | Date / |
| State or Federal agency and bureau | Date |
| In my opinion, the propertymeetsdoes not m sheet for additional comments.) | neet the National Register criteria. (See continuation |
| Signature of commenting or other official | Date |
| | |

State or Federal agency and bureau

Date

| Richard Beard House | <u>Pocahontas County, West Virginia</u> |
|---|--|
| 4. National Park Service Certification 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:) | Signature of Keeper Plate of Action ASAM Beal 3/20/02 |
| | |

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

.

Richard Beard House

Pocahontas County, West Virginia

| 5. Classification | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Ownership of Property | Category of Property | No. of Resources | s within Property |
| <u>X</u> private | \underline{X} building(s) | contributing | noncontributing |
| _ public-local | district | 2 | buildings |
| public-State | site | | sites |
| public-Federal | structure | | structures |
| | object | | objects |
| | | 2 | <u>0</u> Total |

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: $\underline{0}$

6. Functions or Use

Historic Functions :

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling

Current Functions:

WORK IN PROGRESS: Commerce: Trade/Bed & Breakfast

7. Description Architectural Classification: Late Victorian: Queen Anne

Materials:

Foundation: <u>Sandstone/Block</u> Walls: <u>Wood/Clapboard</u> Roof: <u>Asphalt Shingle</u> Other: <u>N/A</u>

<u>Richard Beard House</u>

Pocahontas County, West Virginia

8. Statement of Significance

- 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.
- **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.)

- N/A A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- <u>N/A</u> **B** removed from its original location.
- <u>N/A</u> C a birthplace or a grave.
- $\underline{N/A}$ **D** a cemetery.
- <u>N/A</u> **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- <u>N/A</u> \mathbf{F} a commemorative property.
- N/A G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance: <u>Architecture</u>

Period of Significance: <u>ca. 1890 - 1932</u>

Significant Dates: 1890;1932

Cultural Affiliation: $\underline{N/A}$

Significant Person: <u>N/A</u>

<u>Richard Beard House</u>

Pocahontas County, West Virginia

Architect/Builder: Littlepage, Howard & Dassenville; Builders

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS): Primary location of additional data: _ preliminary determination of individual listing __ State Historic Preservation Office (36 CFR 67) has been requested __ Other State agency ___ previously listed in the National Register _ Federal agency __ previously determined eligible by the National Register _ Local government designated a National Historic Landmark ___ University X recorded by Historic American Buildings X Other: Specify repository: Pocahontas County HLC Survey # <u>D-0026</u> recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

10. Geographical Data:

Acreage of property : <u>Approximately 1.6 acres</u>

Quadrangle: Denmar, West Virginia

UTM References: <u>17/566878/4215617</u> Zone/Easting/Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (See continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification (See continuation sheet)

<u>Richard Beard House</u>

Pocahontas County, West Virginia

11. Form Prepared By:

name/title:Michael Gioulis, Historic Preservation Consultantorganization:Same as abovedate:October 1, 2001street & number:612 Main Streettelephone:(304) 765-5716city or town:Suttonstate:WVzip code:26601

Property Owner:

name: <u>Richard Spreen</u>

street & number: <u>9986 N.W. 15th Court</u>

city or town: <u>Coral Springs</u> state: <u>FL</u>

telephone: (954) 752-6189

zip code: <u>33071</u>

| Richard Beard House | <u>Pocahontas County, West Virginia</u> |
|---------------------|---|
| Section 7 | Page 2 |
| | |

The Richard Beard House is located in Hillsboro, a small community southwest of Marlinton, Pocahontas County, the county seat. It is located adjacent to Kyle Beard Road, off of County Route 31 which runs parallel to the Greenbrier River. The house is located on 1.6 acres adjoining wide flat valleys, at the end of a long gravel driveway, atop a hill in the center of a well-mowed lawn. There are several large perimeter trees and one outbuilding, a spring house.

The buildings on this site include: the Beard House (contributing), and a spring house (contributing) located at the bottom of the hill on the south side of the house, close to the gravel driveway. In total, there are two contributing buildings located on this site.

Residence ca. 1890/1932 Contributing Building

The Beard House is a two-story, frame, Queen Anne style house with a side facing T-plan and a one-story front porch running one half the width of the house. There is a three-sided, hipped roof bay on the first floor adjacent to the front porch. There is a matching three-sided bay on the first floor, south elevation. The roof is finished with asphalt shingles and the exterior walls have clapboard siding with cornerboards. There are two interior corbeled brick chimneys. Most of the windows in the house are two over two double-hung wood sash, and both of the three-sided projecting bays have central two over two windows flanked by narrow one over one windows. Above these bays, the second floor windows are paired one over one windows that are the same size as the ones in the bays. These second floor windows are flanked by shutters. There is no evidence of shutters being used on the first floor. The attic windows are fixed pane two over two. The house has some of the original ashlar cut sandstone block foundation extant and there is a concrete block foundation under the north elevation and under the enclosed side porch. The front porch has a shed roof with square posts supporting a hidden beam and exposed rafter tails. There are scrolled brackets from the posts to the beam. These are decorative original elements. The posts are a combination of original and new plain wood studs. There are also some posts found in a barn on the property which are from the original porch that are being used to replace the plain wood stud supports. These original posts will be used as templates for new posts where originals do not exist. They are square at the top with two horizontally routed lines spaced approximately three inches apart forming a square box around a centrally routed circle. This bullseye decorative element is repeated in other locations on the house as well. The center of the porch post is slightly chamfered, returning to the square configuration at the bottom where it meets the porch floor. The porch floor is tongue and groove wood, and there is a vertical wood skirt covering some sections beneath the porch.

There is a partially enclosed porch on the south side elevation. This enclosure encompasses approximately one-third of the porch leaving the remaining portion open. There is a fully enclosed porch on the northwest corner of the house in a corner formed by the kitchen and the main block of the house. The sides are enclosed with horizontal clapboard siding in a narrower pattern than the main house. The porch shed roof has an asphalt shingle roof. The windows are vertical one over one fixed pane with one window on the west elevation and five on the north elevation. The north elevation has a central projecting end

| Richard Beard House | <u>Pocahontas County, West Virginia</u> |
|---------------------|---|
| Section 7 | Page 3 |

gable with paired two over two windows on the first floor and one centrally located two over two window on the second floor and in the attic area.

This large, compound plan, side facing T is approximately 43 feet wide and 49 feet long, consisting of three bays on the front elevation and three bays on the side elevation. A compound plan house combines the squares and rectangles of simple plans into the most common shapes of the letters L, T, or U. The front room with the three-sided bay, and the original kitchen area in the rear of the house, make up the top section of this side facing T. The entrance hall and the room to the right of the entrance, having the three sided bay on the side elevation, form the perpendicular foot of the "T".

The central entrance door on the first floor has a simple surround and bullseye blocks in the upper corners. The entrance door is flanked by horizontally divided sidelights with panels below and a transom with divided lights above. The house contains many decorative wood elements on the exterior. These include scrolled brackets on the porch, porch posts, window trim and hoods, brackets and wood panels on the bays, door surrounds, exposed rafter tails and brackets on the gables and roof fascias. The front porch also has exposed rafter tails. The bullseye pattern found in the upper corner of the entrance surround is repeated in several other locations on the exterior as well as on the interior. This pattern consists of a central routed circle with routed vertical lines defining a square block around the circle. This can be found in the corners of the door surrounds, in the porch posts, and in the rake boards on the gable ends, both in the main roof area and the porch roof of the original sections. The bullseye patterns in the rake boards of the gable ends are paired with a plain panel in between, a variation of triglyphs and metopes.

The finishes in the two front rooms of the house are similar. The ceilings in both rooms are plaster and the walls are covered with wallpaper. The windows in both rooms are original with original Victorian sash locks, and the muntins are thick, representative of the 1890 time period. The entrance door into these rooms as well as the closet doors have excellent examples of "graining." This practice was used during this time period to replicate the grain of expensive wood by painting the grain onto less expensive wood such as Poplar. This graining occurs in many areas of the house and forms different patterns in different areas. All interior doors are wood four panel doors with transoms above. The floors in both of these front rooms are wide tongue and groove boards and they also have the graining described above. There are fireplaces in both front rooms with the original wooden mantels.

The hallway from the entrance to the rear section of the T has plaster walls and ceilings with the same wide tongue and groove floor boards. In this central entrance hall is the staircase to the second floor. The balusters on the staircase are hand made from alternating black walnut and chestnut wood with a carved, black walnut newel post. Both the balusters and the newel post are constructed with wooden pegs. The wide treads are constructed from black walnut as are the risers. A distinctive feature of the balustrade is the curve at the top on the second floor. The rail and balusters curve at the top of the staircase and continue into the second floor hallway, forming a rail around the stair opening.

In the rear section of the first floor of the house is the original kitchen area. The original stone fireplace is extant on the rear east wall and the floor is the same wide board tongue and groove original to the rest of the first floor. Originally in this area, there was an open porch on the north elevation off of the kitchen and an open porch on the south elevation. Over time, these porches have been enclosed.

| Richard Beard House | <u>Pocahontas County, West Virginia</u> |
|---------------------|---|
| Section 7 | Page 4 |
| | |

The second floor plan is the same as the first floor in the two front rooms on the west elevation. They also have the graining applied to the original four panel wood doors as well as to the paneled closet doors and the wide wood tongue and groove floors. Originally, the rooms in the rear of the second floor were divided into three small rooms with a private staircase leading directly to the outside. These rooms were for the hired help that many families kept to help run the immense farms in this fertile river valley. The small room at the top of the staircase previously described contained a door to the attic of the house. The attic area consists of a large room with high ceilings similar to the rooms in the main house, though less decorative.

Springhouse

ca. 1890

Contributing Building

The contributing, one-story, spring house, ca. 1890, dates to the time period of the house. The spring house is built over the reservoir created by the spring and is accessed through a hole in the concrete floor. This building has a metal shingle roof, and is constructed from large sandstone blocks. On the south elevation, there is a vertical board entrance door and on the west elevation is a small window.

Summary:

The Richard Beard House and the accompanying cellar house are in excellent condition. Both buildings retain their original character defining elements, and the house is the only original extant example of the work of the local builders Dassenville and Littlepage.

| Richard Beard House | Pocahontas County, West Virginia |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| Section 8 | Page 2 |

The Richard Beard House is significant under Criterion C, Architecture, for its late nineteenth century, Queen Anne style of architecture, an excellent example of the style in the area and in Pocahontas County. It is also the only remaining intact example of the builders Howard Littlepage and Dassenville, two local contractors with a distinctive building style. The period of significance, 1890 - 1932, refers to the construction date of the house and the period of time that Richard Beard lived in the house. The house remained in the Beard family until November of 2000, when it was purchased by Shannon and Susan Hanley. In May of 2001, the Hanley's sold the property to their daughter and her husband, Marcie and Richard Spreen, the present owners.

The Richard Beard House was built in 1890 by Mr. Dassenville and Howard Littlepage, two local builders from the area. Richard, or Dick, Beard was the son of James Henry Moffett Beard and grandson of Josiah Beard, the pioneer to first settle in Pocahontas County. Richard Beard contracted to have the house built on this portion of his father's homestead left to him in his father's will.

The Beard legacy began with Scotch-Irish pioneer John Beard who first settled in Pennsylvania with his parents after coming to the United States from the north of Ireland. After another move to Augusta County, Virginia, John Beard came to Greenbrier County as a bachelor and purchased land in 1770. He married Janet Wallace while living there, and they made their home in Renicks Valley. John and Janet Beard had many children during their marriage including one son, Josiah Beard. The Beards were a prominent farming family in the area, and when Josiah became an adult, he moved to Pocahontas County and purchased land of his own. Josiah Beard married Rachel Cameron Poage, after moving to Pocahontas County, and they had eleven children. Josiah and his family were prosperous farmers and acquired land throughout the years. Although farming was the main source of income for the Beard family, Josiah became the first Clerk of the County and served in that capacity during the formative period of the county's history.

Rachel Beard lived to be sixty-seven but Josiah Beard lived an additional nineteen years, passing away at the age of eighty-six. After his death, the family farm was divided among the living children. James Henry Moffett Beard inherited his portion of the farm as well as his father's passion for farming. James Henry Moffett Beard, known as Moffett Beard, began his adult life farming and acquiring land as had his father before him. Moffett Beard married and had children of his own. In 1874, he acquired a 289 acre estate from Rob Rhea on the east side of Locust Creek, thus adding the acreage surrounding the Richard Beard house to his growing farm.

Moffett Beard died in 1889, leaving each of his children a portion of his estate. One of his sons, Richard M. Beard inherited the 289 acre parcel mentioned above and contracted to have a distinctive two-story Queen Anne style house built on the property. This is the house addressed in this report and it stands today virtually as it was built in 1890.

Although the Beard legacy has ended on this piece of farmland in Pocahontas County, the house remains as the only original one of its kind in this section of Pocahontas County. The distinctive elements of the house can be found in at least one other house in the county, the Jacob Moffett McNeel House located off of U.S. 219, south of Hillsboro. This house was built by the same builders that built the Richard Beard house, during the same time period, and is owned by the great grandson of Moffett Beard. The two houses are identical in plan with the same roofline. The distinctive double bullseye decorative variations of the

| | <u>Pocahontas County, West Virginia</u> |
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| Section 8 | Page 3 |

metopes and triglyphs present on the rake boards of the gable ends are evident in the McNeel house as well as the exposed rafter tails at the roofline of the house and the front porch. The three-sided bay on the first floor of the side elevation is extant, however, the bay on the front elevation has been removed and a picture window installed. The original clapboard siding has been covered with vinyl siding on the McNeel house, but the stone foundation is extant. There have been two large additions added, one on the east side elevation and one on the rear north elevation. The interior treatments are different in the two houses. The graining mentioned in the Dick Beard house is not present in the McNeel house. The interior woodwork has been painted in most cases and the ceilings have been lowered covering the original plaster ceilings. The interior doors are the same four panel doors with transoms above, as in the Richard Beard House, and the entrance door is the exact duplicate also, with the divided sidelights with panels below and divided transom above. The floorboards are the wide wood tongue and groove but have no evidence of the graining that occurs in the Richard Beard House. The central staircase, a focal point in the Richard Beard house, appears to be almost identical in the McNeel house including the placement of the pegs in the balusters and in the newel post. The newel post itself is larger and more elaborate in the McNeel house, however the distinctive curve in the balustrade at the top of the stairs is also evident here.

In 1986, a Reconnaissance Level Survey was conducted in this area of Pocahontas County. One hundred and fifty-six sites were identified including the Richard Beard House and the Moffett McNeel House. It was noted at that time that both Queen Anne style houses were built in the same year by Howard Littlepage and Dassenville.

In summary, the Richard Beard House is significant under Criterion C, architecture, as an excellent example of the Queen Anne style represented in the county. It is the only remaining original extant example of the style built during the same time period by builders Dassenville and Littlepage.

<u>Richard Beard House</u>

Pocahontas County, West Virginia

Section 9

Page 2

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Cole, J.R., History of Greenbrier County 1917, Lewisburg, WV. 1917.

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Interview with Katherine Beard by Ruth Morgan, October 21, 2001.

Interview with Moffett McNeal by Barbara Brimer and Jean Boger, 10/18/01.

- Pocahontas County Historic Landmark Commission & Pocahontas County Commission, "Reconnaissance Survey of Pocahontas County, WV. Summer 1986.
- Pocahontas County Historical Society, Inc., Marlinton, WV, <u>History of Pocahontas</u> <u>County, West Virginia 1981</u>, Taylor Publishing Company, Dallas, Texas. 1997. Pages 223 – 225.

"Pocahontas Times," 09/31/05; 7/18/29' 7/25/29; 06/04/31.

Price, William T., <u>Historical Sketches Pocahontas County, WV</u>, Price Brothers Publishers. 1901.

<u>Richard Beard House</u>

Pocahontas County, West Virginia

Section 10

Page 2

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The boundaries of the 1.6 acre portion of the Richard Beard House National Register nomination are shown on the enclosed site plan of the area. The computer generated site plan illustrates the boundaries and the location of both buildings associated with this nomination used as the verbal boundary description. As indicated on the site plan, three sides of the boundary are located by the fence line. The fourth side of the boundary is the driveway. The site plan is used as the verbal boundary description.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

The boundaries of the Richard Beard House National Register nomination correspond to a July 2000 survey. The nomination encompasses the 1.6 acre portion that contains the house and spring house. The north boundary is the fence; the east and west boundaries are also delineated by the fence line; the south boundary is the access road adjacent to the Kyle Beard Road.

(NPS Form 10-900)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEEP

Richard Beard House Section Number: **PHOTO** Pocahontas County, WV Page 1 of 2

| Name: | Richard Beard Home |
|---------------|---|
| Address: | HC 64, Box 147 |
| City: | Hillsboro |
| County: | Pocahontas |
| Photographer: | Barbara Brimer |
| Date: | October 2001 |
| Negatives: | West Virginia Division of Culture and History/State Historic Preservation Office |
| Photo 1 of 15 | Overview of house and spring house Camera looking northwest |
| Photo 2 of 15 | Front elevation Camera looking east |
| Photo 3 of 15 | Side elevation Camera looking north |
| Photo 4 of 15 | Side elevation Camera looking south |
| Photo 5 of 15 | Rear elevation Camera looking west |
| Photo 6 of 15 | First floor, room 101 Camera looking east |
| Photo 7 of 15 | First floor, room 103 Camera looking north |
| Photo 8 of 15 | Second floor, room 201, graining on door Camera looking east |

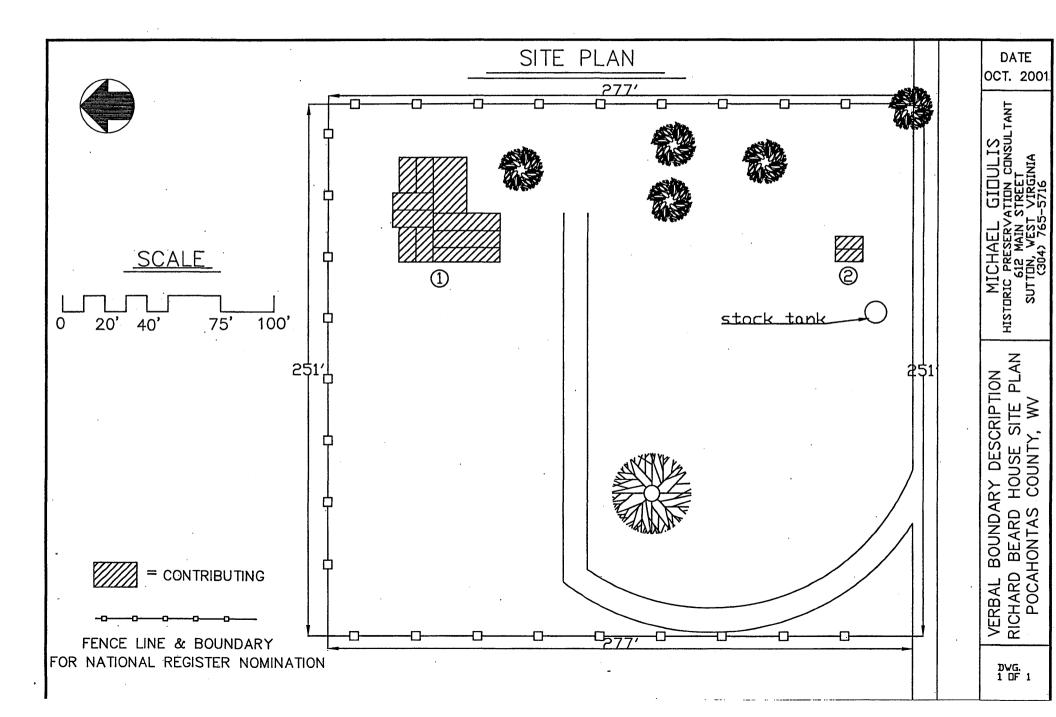
(NPS Form 10-900)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEEP

| Richard Beard House | Pocahontas County, WV |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Section Number: PHOTO | Page 2 of 2 |

| Photo 9 of 15 | Detail of metope & triglyph variation & brackets Camera looking north |
|----------------|--|
| Photo 10 of 15 | Detail of graining on interior door |
| Photo 11 of 15 | Detail of original sash lock |
| Photo 12 of 15 | Detail of newel post |
| Photo 13 of 15 | Detail of balustrade |
| Photo 14 of 15 | Detail of curve in balustrade on second floor |
| Photo 15 of 15 | Front & side elevations of springhouse Camera looking northeast |



HOTOGRAPH LOG

