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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

APR 14 1989

NATIONAL REGISTER

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 16). 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 Shoemaker, Henry, Farmhouse
other names/site number F-4-16

2. Location

street & number 2136 Old National Pike N/A not for publication
city, town Middletown X vicinity
state Maryland code MD county Frederick code 021 zip code 21769

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	1	0 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	0	0 sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	0	0 structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	0	0 objects
		1	0 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 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official *[Signature]* Date 4-10-89
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
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:)

[Signature] *[Stamp]* 5/11/89

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

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Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

7. DescriptionArchitectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Federal

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Limestone

walls Brick

roof Asphalt

other Wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

The Henry Shoemaker Farmhouse is located along the north edge of US Route 40-A, the Old National Pike, about 3 miles west of Middletown near the crossroads community of Bolivar in Frederick County, Maryland. It is a two and one half story, five bay brick structure with a one story kitchen wing extending to the rear. It dates from approximately 1810-1815 and is set frontally to the road which was in the early nineteenth century a very busy and prominent thorofare. The main entrance is located in the central bay of the flemish bond facade. The barn and original outbuildings for the property are no longer present. A brick spring house and sheds similar to the original structures have been recreated by the current owners. The nominated property contains one contributing building.

See continuation sheet for
GENERAL DESCRIPTION

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)

Architecture
Military
Social History

Period of Significance

1810-1862

Significant Dates

c. 1810-15
Sept. 12-15, 1862
c. 1810-1850

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

Architect/Builder

N/A

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

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

The Henry Shoemaker farmhouse is significant for a combination of events and characteristics which give it a unique place in Maryland's nineteenth century history in the area of military history, transportation and architecture. The single most important event relating to the house was the Battle of South Mountain which occurred on September 14, 1862. Federal troops which as a result of the Battle came to be known as the "Iron Brigade" assembled on this farm and around its buildings prior to fighting their way up South Mountain. After the battle troops camped on the farm and the house served as a hospital. Long before the Civil War, the house stood by the bustle of the National Pike which passed by its front door. The house built about 1810 is clearly oriented to the highway and its activity and helps to convey the importance of this road in early nineteenth century Maryland. Architecturally, the house is representative of rural vernacular construction of the Piedmont and Cumberland Valley region of Maryland; it is a relatively early example of brick construction for this region.

Frederick County Land Records
Frederick County Probate Records
Nolan, Alan T., The Iron Brigade, Michigan Heritage Library
Seawright, Thomas B. The Old Pike Union Town, PA: the author, 1984
Williams, T.J.C. History of Frederick Co., Maryland, Baltimore:
Regional Publishing Co., 1967

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

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 1.583 acres
USGS quad Middletown, MD

UTM References

A Zone Easting Northing
C Zone Easting Northing

B Zone Easting Northing
D Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See Continuation Sheet No. 10.1

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The area within the nominated boundaries includes the house and immediate grounds to provide a setting that reflects the historic rural character of the property.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paula S. Reed, Ph.D., Architectural Historian
organization Preservation Associates, Inc. date September 1988
street & number 207 South Potomac Street telephone 301-791-7880
city or town Hagerstown state Maryland zip code 21740

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Built into sloping ground, a few feet from the highway, this house stands on a stone foundation. The house is a vernacular brick structure reflecting Georgian and Federal design elements and is characteristic of early nineteenth century brick rural domestic architecture of the Piedmont and Cumberland Valley sections of Maryland and Pennsylvania. The facade is symmetrically arranged with a central entrance. Sloping terrain at the front of the house allows for a full story cellar entrance at the west end of the front elevation. The present porch which extends across the front elevation replaces an earlier Victorian porch added to the house during the late nineteenth century. A significant and unusual feature of the facade is that flemish bonding is present only at the four eastern bays of the front elevation, with the portion of the facade wall between the west end bays and the end of the facade laid in American or common bond. In this particular building, this change in bonding patterns in the wall does not indicate that the wall was extended. Another significant feature of the facade is some remaining original painted finish of the house, common to the period but a rare survival, consisting of a painted surface in red iron oxide with the joints emphasized by white painted strike lines (see photo # 5). Jack or flat arches of brick are present above the openings. Most window and door frames are original,

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consisting of moderately wide members, secured at the corners with wooden pegs. A notable feature of the exterior is the pair of cast iron tie rod anchors, one on each gable. On the west gable, the anchor is in the form of a letter H and on the east gable, a letter S. These are the initials of the builder and first owner, Henry Shoemaker.

The front door opens into a central entrance and stairway passage. In keeping with the vernacular character of this building, the interior elements, principally the woodwork are simple and reflect both Georgian and Federal stylistic influence. The house does not fall neatly into either style, but does show very simplified characteristics of both, which is consistent with vernacular building practices in the area. The passageway is trimmed with a beaded baseboard and chairrail trimmed with an astragal at the top. Extending between the door architraves is a peg rail with beaded edges and hand turned pegs. The peg rail is repeated in all rooms at the first and second floors. Door architraves are wide and trimmed with Grecian Ogee molding. The doors have six raised panels, a carry-over feature from the eighteenth century. The back door, leading outside is of board and batten construction. The stair case is sheathed with vertical beaded tongue and grooved paneling. There is no

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decorative application at the ends of the risers. A tall, narrow turned newel post supports a round handrail which is also anchored by square balusters.

To the right or east of the passageway is a large room, a parlor which extends the full width of the house. The focal point of this room, the fireplace is located off-center in the east wall, indicating that the room may once have been partitioned. This fireplace is trimmed with a very simply designed Federal style mantelpiece. It is flanked with flat pilasters with molded trim and has a projecting but unadorned central tablet. The chairrail, baseboards, peg rail and door architraves are similar to those present in the passage. An unusual feature of this house are the nailer strips set into the exterior walls of all of the rooms. These nailers are shaped like an inverted T. Most of them have beaded edges. Their use was to hold nails or spikes upon which objects such as lamps were hung.

To the left or west of the passageway are two rooms of approximately equal size. The front or south room has a fireplace with the most elaborate mantelpiece in the house. It is similar to the mantel in the east room, but has fluted

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pilasters and a tablet. The chairrail and other trims are consistent throughout the house.

In the northwest corner of the first floor is a room without a fireplace which now serves as a kitchen. Behind it is what was the original service or kitchen wing which has a large walkin fireplace, originally set in a packed earth floor. The chairrail and baseboard in this room are consistent with others in the house.

The second floor originally consisted of three rooms, all of which opened into a landing at the head of the stairs. One bedroom, the most highly finished contains a fireplace and extends the length of the three east bays of the front elevation. Set into the masonry of the front wall are the wooden nails pieces. Also present are the peg rails already described and a mantelpiece, similar in character to others in the house, although without decorative fluting. A second large bedroom extended the full width of the house at the west end. It has no fireplace but did have a stove pipe opening for heating exhaust. This large room was partitioned into two rooms in the late nineteenth century. A third small bedroom is located in the northeast corner of the second floor. Like the other rooms in

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the house it has a pegrail and similar woodwork trim. It does not, however, have a fireplace.

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Object Identification, Photograph #13
Artifacts found on Henry Shoemaker property

Excavated from dining room floor

- A. U.S. staff buttons
- B. State coat of arms Wisconsin state button
- C. U.S. Infantry button small and large with the letter I in the shield
- D. Non-military button used by Confederate Army
- E. 1858 Flying Eagle Penny
- F. Toe plate made from brass
- G. Brass piece from saddle
- H. Brass carbine buckle
- I. Brass part for knapsack
- J. Brass button loops
- K. Medicine bottle
- L. Bullet

Located from different parts of the yard around the house

- 1. Heel plate
- 2. U.S. spur
- 3. Artillery shell fragment
- 4. Brass part to bottom of a flag staff
- 5. Claypipe
- 6. Bullets

Source Books

- "Civil War Collector's Encyclopedia" Francis Lord
- "Excavated Artifacts From Battlefields and Campsites of the Civil War 1861-1865" Stanley S. Phillips

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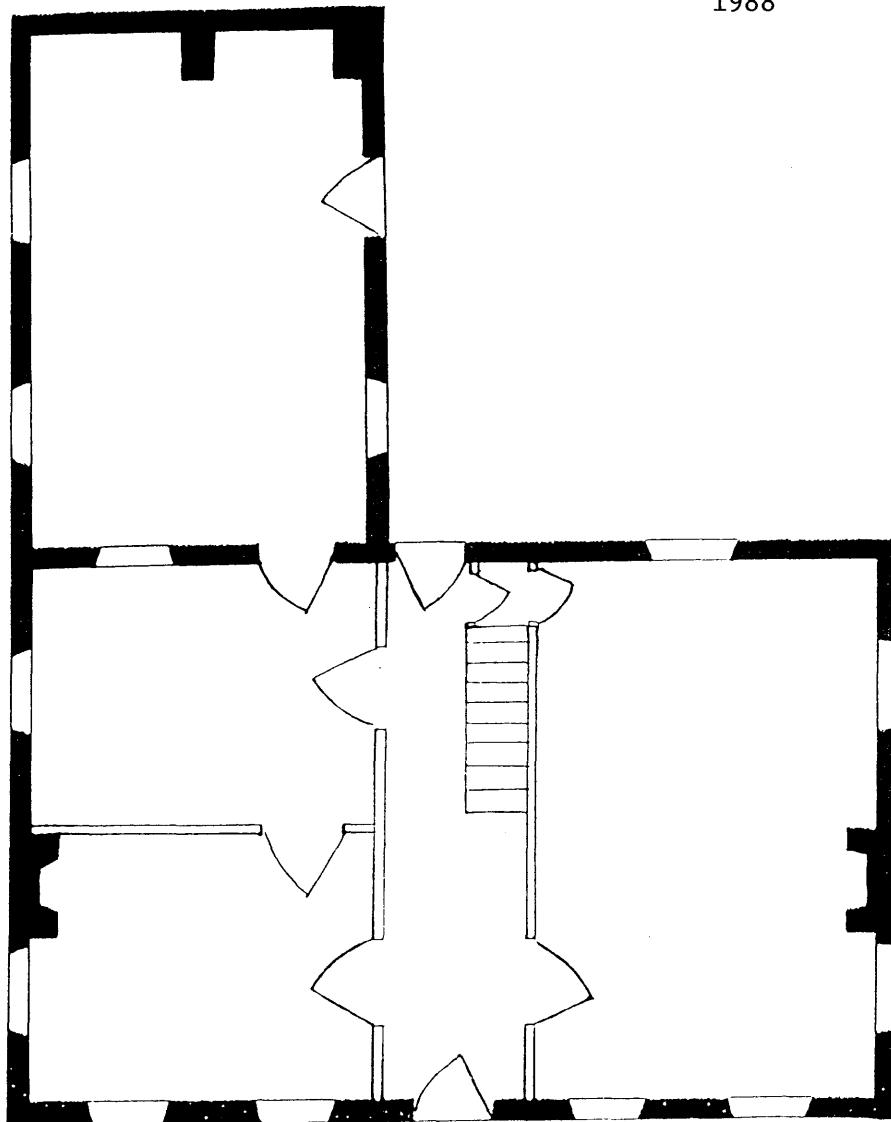
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sketch floor plan
first floor
not to scale

1988



See Continuation Sheet No. 7.8

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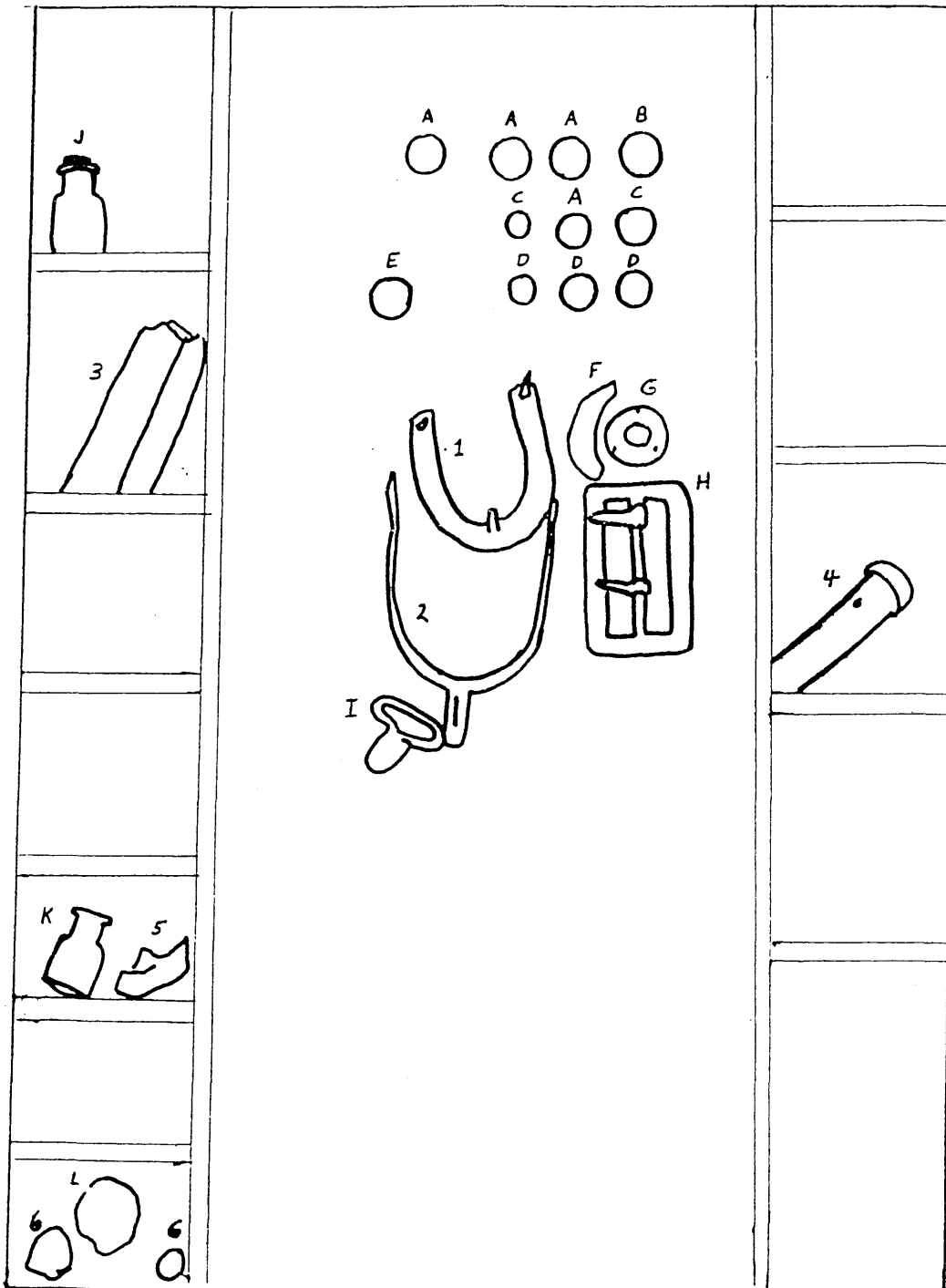
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artifact identification key, see photograph no. 17 and list on Continuation Sheet



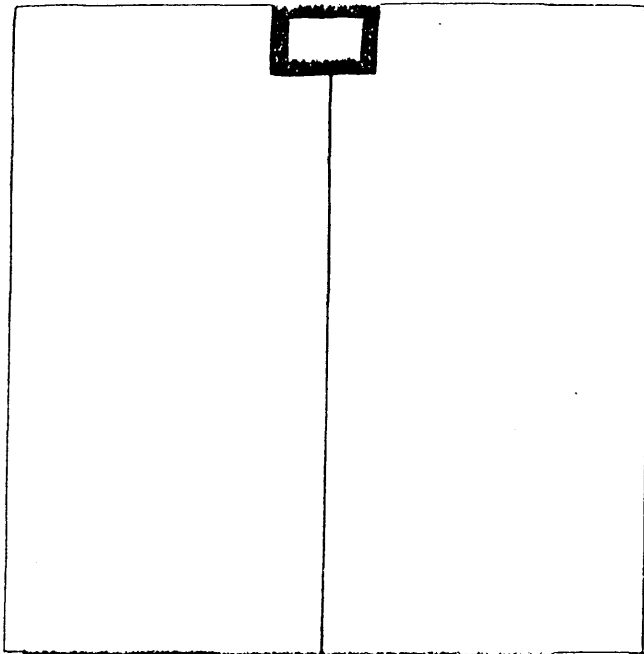
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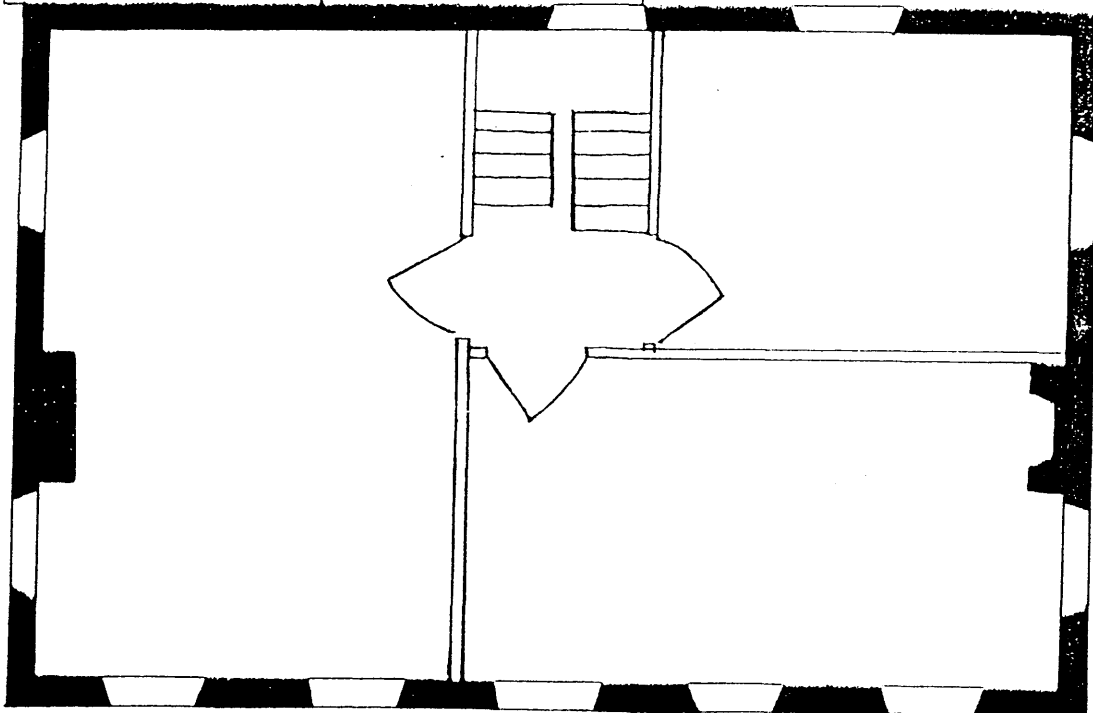


HENRY SHOEMAKER FARMHOUSE
FREDERICK CO., MD

SKETCH PLAN SECOND FLOOR

sketch floor plan
second floor
1988

not to scale



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HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
Agricultural - Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture
Military
Transportation

Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

Domestic/Single Dwelling
Defense/Military Facility

Known Design Source: None

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Historic Setting

Frederick County, Maryland, is located in the Piedmont section of Maryland, at its western edge against South Mountain which divides the Piedmont from the great Cumberland Valley and the mountains of western Maryland. The western Piedmont was initially settled in a gradual manner from the 1730s on, substantially by Germans who migrated south from Pennsylvania. The English tidewater influence in the western Piedmont section was relatively minor with the exception of a few large speculative landholdings. The majority of farms in eighteenth century Frederick County contained 100-300 acres, grew a variety of small grains, predominantly wheat, which were processed into flour and marketed in Baltimore.

Architectural development in the rural western Piedmont consisted predominantly of log domestic architecture during the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Some of the more well-to-do residents built with local stone and brick. However, before about 1820 the use of brick for rural house construction was restricted to the wealthiest land owners. After about 1820 the use of brick became increasingly more pervasive until brick farmhouses by mid-century were quite common.

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During the first decade of the nineteenth century private turnpikes between Baltimore and Cumberland were upgraded to become part of the National Road, America's first federal highway. The pike, which crossed Frederick County spurred economic development along it, particularly the establishment of inns, taverns, freight haulers and stage operators.

This economic growth along the pike is evidenced, in part by early use of brick and stone for inns and other travel related architecture. These buildings are easily recognized today for their juxtaposition with the pike, set parallel to the road and close to its edge.

By the mid nineteenth century the importance of the National Pike had begun to wane as the B&O Railroad and C&O Canal received an increased share of the shipping. Along the pike there was an economic decline with travel and commerce becoming much more localized. Thus, there is a clear period during which much of the old construction along the National Pike occurred in Frederick County: 1810-1840.

Also impacting on the western Piedmont section of Maryland was the American Civil War. Most significant was the Confederate

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Maryland Campaign in late summer of 1862 and the march to and from Gettysburg in the summer of 1863. In the Maryland campaign it was Lee's hope to enter Maryland and acquire food and supplies for his army from the rich farming region of the western Piedmont and the Cumberland Valley. He also expected much more support and sympathy for the southern cause than he actually found. The Federal Army met the Confederates in battle at South Mountain on September 14, 1862, and again at Antietam in the Cumberland Valley on September 17. The area fought over and its surrounds were essentially devastated by two large armies which were living off the land.

Resource History

The Henry Shoemaker house has important historical associations with the Battle of South Mountain, a Civil War engagement on September 14, 1862, which involved three gaps or crossing places over South Mountain. The battle immediately preceded The Battle of Antietam at Sharpsburg, about nine miles away. At the time of the battle the house and farm belonged to J. Philip Flook, and situated along the National Pike at the base of South Mountain below Turner's Gap, it played a significant role before and after the Battle. Federal troops were positioned

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on the farm and around the buildings before the engagement, and afterward, the house served as a field hospital. Growing and stored crops were taken for the army's horses, as well. J. Philip Flook filed a damage claim with the federal government for nine tons of hay, 20 bushels of corn, 20 bushels of green corn and three hives of bees and honey. These stores were taken by U.S. Troops marching from Washington to Antietam in September, 1862. The farm was also used as a campground for Federal troops after the Battle of Gettysburg. At that time 120 bushels of wheat and 33 cords of wood, taken from fences were used by the Fifth and Sixth Army Corps from the 10th-16th of July, 1863. The Federal government eventually paid the claim, but not until March, 1878, after J. Philip Flook's death.

Among the Federal troops who waited at the Shoemaker property prior to advancing up South Mountain against the confederates who held the summit, was the famed "Iron Brigade." The Iron Brigade consisting of about 2,500 men, was the only all western brigade in the Army of the Potomac and consisted of the Second, Sixth and Seventh Wisconsin and the Nineteenth Indiana regiments. Because of these units' ability to fight a literally up hill battle toward strong Confederate defensive positions at the summit, some historians believe that the term "Iron Brigade"

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was applied to this unit at the Battle of South Mountain. The leader of the Iron Brigade, Brigadier General John Gibbon, who distinguished himself at the Battle of South Mountain later became one of the most famous Federal generals of the Civil War.¹

Immediately after the Battle, the Henry Shoemaker house was used as a hospital. The current owners have found numerous artifacts from the time that the house and grounds were occupied by the military. From beneath the floor of the original kitchen were excavated the following: U.S. Staff Buttons, a button with the Wisconsin State coat of arms, U.S. Infantry buttons, coins, medicine bottles, bullets and brass pieces from saddles and equipment. Excavated from the yard near the house were a U.S. spur, an artillery shell fragment, bullets, a clay pipe and a fragment of a flag staff.

While the Henry Shoemaker farmstead reflects the impact that a single event, a Civil War battle, had on the quiet farming area of the Middletown Valley, the significance of its proximity to America's first Federal highway was also a force of great importance. Built between 1810 and 1815, the house dates from about the same time that an old turnpike was upgraded to link Baltimore with the National Pike which actually began at

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Cumberland. The Maryland legislature of 1804-5 had authorized the upgrading of turnpikes between Baltimore and Boonsboro. Once the National Pike was established, "it took a wagon about seven days to make the round trip from Hagerstown to Baltimore and return. A team consisted of four, five or six horses, and a load for a good team was 24 barrels of flour."² During the first half of the nineteenth century, the National Pike was a lifeline between the port of Baltimore and inland communities of the old west. It was a heavily traveled road, teeming with activity. "As many as twenty-four horse coaches have been counted in line at one time on the road, and large, broadwheeled wagons covered with white canvas stretched over bows, laden with merchandise were visible all the day long at every point and many times until late in the evening, besides innumerable caravans of horses, mules, cattle, hogs and sheep. It looked more like a leading avenue of a great city than a road through rural districts."³

These scenes passed by Henry Shoemaker's house daily. He built his house in such a manner that it was situated a short distance from and was oriented toward the road and its traffic. Along the 24-mile stretch of the National Pike between Hagerstown and Frederick, Maryland, there are 14 masonry houses remaining which are similarly aligned with the road and constructed about

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the same time (first quarter of the nineteenth century) as the Henry Shoemaker farmhouse. Of those fourteen houses, eight are brick and six are stone. Some retain more integrity than others, but all represent the heyday of the National Pike. Several are known to have been inns or "ordinaries," and the orientation to the road certainly suggests some occupation related to travel on the turnpike.

Henry Shoemaker was a farmer. He purchased his farm from his father in 1810 for £1100. The architectural features of the house indicate that it must have been built shortly after this purchase. In 1822, Henry Shoemaker died, leaving his widow and seven children. No records remain to tell the exact date or cause of Henry's death. However, an inventory of his personal property remains as well as an account of the sale of his property. Among the farm and household items one of the most highly valued was a "large broad wheel waggon" for \$75.00. This was the type of conveyance used to haul freight on the pike. Henry's widow, Magdalena, at the estate sale purchased many of the household items along with one sheep, two cows, two horses, and one ton of hay. Later, Magdalena Shoemaker, according to records sometime before 1837, married John Philip Flook and they

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occupied the farm until their deaths. It was John Philip Flook who owned the farm at the time of the Battles of South Mountain and Antietam.

The Henry Shoemaker house is also significant under criterion C as a notable architectural example representing vernacular expressions of the early nineteenth century. As a brick house, this building is among the older rural examples of its use. Brick construction did not become common in rural buildings of the Piedmont and Cumberland Valley until after 1820. Particularly significant architecturally are the interior features which remain intact, and which are quite rare among houses of the period. These include the use of a peg rail in all rooms. While it is not unusual to find peg rail used in service areas and bedrooms, it was installed originally in all rooms of Henry Shoemaker's house. No other such examples are known in the area. Another unusual feature of the interior are the perpendicular nailer blocks located in all of the front rooms of the house. Again, these are an extremely rare feature. The remaining interior woodwork is a conservative mix of Federal and Georgian period elements. This blending or blurring of stylistic definition is typical of the rural vernacular architecture of

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this time and place. In the Henry Shoemaker farmhouse, these features remain essentially without alteration, enhancing the historical significance of the property.

Resource Analysis

The Henry Shoemaker Farmhouse is a rural vernacular dwelling which represents the transition from the period of Rural Agrarian Intensification (1680-1815) and the Agricultural-Industrial Transition (1815-1870). Built about 1810, the house embodies a vernacular interpretation of Federal stylistic elements and contains distinctive interior features which are not common to the area. In addition to its architectural characteristics which were influenced by architectural developments of the period and by the socio-economic impact of the National Pike, the significance of this resource is provided by an event, the Battle of South Mountain, which briefly affected the use of the house, as a military camp site and hospital. This farmhouse is one of a small number of architecturally notable dwellings that have similar associations with the American Civil War, and with America's first national highway.

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End Notes

¹Interview with Dennis Frye, Historian, National Park Service, Harpers Ferry National Park, Harpers Ferry, WV.

²T.J.C. Williams History of Frederick County, Maryland. (Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co., 1967).

³Thomas B. Searight, The Old Pike (Uniontown, PA: the author, 1894), p. 16.

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boundaries, 1988

