

1784

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

SEP 25 1989

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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 Butcher Hill Historic District other names/site number Ward House

2. Location

street & number not for publication city, town Beverly vicinity state West Virginia code WV county Randolph code 083 zip code 26253

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: private (checked), public-local, public-State, public-Federal. Category of Property: building(s), district (checked), site, structure, object. Number of Resources within Property: Contributing (1 building, 1 site, 1 structure, 3 Total), Noncontributing (0 buildings, 0 sites, 0 structures, 0 objects).

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

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 (checked) does not meet the National Register criteria. Signature of certifying official: [Signature] Date: 9/15/89

In my opinion, the property meets (checked) 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 (checked), determined eligible for the National Register, determined not eligible for the National Register, removed from the National Register, other (explain:). Signature of the Keeper: [Signature] Date of Action: 11/9/89

## 6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

Funerary: Cemetery

Defense: Fortifications

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

Funerary: Cemetery

## 7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian: Queen Anne

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone: sandstone

walls Wood Shingle

Aluminum

roof Stone: Slate

other Porch: wooden

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Butcher Hill Historic District is located on the north east edge of the boundaries of the Town of Beverly, Randolph County, West Virginia. It consists of the house itself, a "v" shaped trench from the Civil war in front of the house at the edge of a drop, and the Butcher Cemetery. The house sits on the highest portion of the hill that overlooks the town and a large field, which served as an encampment for troops during the Civil War. The extant trenches are on the south side of the house at the edge of the hill and overlooking the town and field. The trench system included additional works to the north and east following the contours of the hill, but these are no longer extant. They appear to have been removed when the house was constructed. The location of the eastern edge of removed trenches is defined by a stone retaining wall laid along the slope of the hill. The edge of the plateau, approximately 57 feet to the north of the house, defines the site and is the location of the former trenches. The site overlooks a field to the south and west; a ravine that contains a spring used by the encampment to the north; and Mt. Iser, the location of a Confederate Memorial Cemetery to the east. The Butcher cemetery is on the point of an adjacent hill to the south east.

The trenches are in a "v" shape with the point of the "v" to the south. The east leg is 88 feet long. The west leg is approximately 73 feet long and lies in an almost north south axis. The angle formed by the legs is approximately 41 degrees.

The trenches are 12 feet apart at the top of the excavations and are approximately 2 to 3 feet deep at the center. They are relatively free of vegetation inside the trench, with some small saplings and grasses. At the end of the east leg is a bush and about 10 feet away a large tree. Within the angle formed by the legs is a flat depression in the surface of the adjacent ground. This may have been the location of the gun emplacement mentioned in the battle reports. No excavations have been done to identify or locate artifacts.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**Section number 7 Page 2

---

As indicated above, the hill drops steeply at the location of the trenches in all directions except the east. The north south axis of the plateau is approximately 190 feet long. The east west axis is approximately 178 feet at the widest. Just to the south east of the drop from the trench are three small depressions approximately six feet in diameter. The owner reports these to be privy sites.

The house is a two-story frame structure with a hip main roof and rounded turrets on the north west corner and in the center of the south elevation. The house is sided with aluminum in the main body and fishscale wood shingles in the towers. The roof is patterned slate with metal in the towers. There are three porches on the house. One in the north east corner for the kitchen and rear stair hall, one in the south east corner for the main kitchen entrance and one in the south west corner that wraps partially around each of the south and west elevations. Each porch has tongue and groove painted wood floors and beaded board ceilings. The main entrance is on the west elevation.

Windows are two-over-two wood double hung. The roof has finials in each tower point and at the apex of the hip. There is also a metal ridge cap along the ridges. The porches have turned balustrades and turned decorative porch posts. The posts have Eastlake Style spindle brackets and there are similar Eastlake Style brackets on the overhanging soffit over the chamfers of the turrets. There are leaded and colored glass panels over the entrance door and over the center windows of each projecting bay.

On the interior the floors are tongue and groove random width hardwood throughout the house. The base molding is three piece. There is beaded board wainscoting in the kitchen with a heavy molded chair rail. The walls are plaster on lath with mostly paper finishes. All rooms have a wood picture rail. The ceilings are painted plaster. Doors are a combination of five panel and four panel with an elongated upper panel in each of the configurations. They have beveled recessed panels similar to some of the Italianate detailing of the late 1880's. They are unfinished wood with brass hardware and simple brass butts. There are pocket doors in the two parlors in the west side of the house. The doors and windows have wood trim consisting of fluted backbands with plinth blocks and bulls-eye corner blocks. The main parlor has a fireplace that appears to have been modified ca. 1930

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

---

with a blond brick mantel and shelf. The fireplace in the front drawing room is two-tiered with round supporting columns and a mirror on the upper shelf. This is original to the house.

The first floor consists of an entrance/stair hall; drawing room to the east with a corner rounded addition corresponding to the turret; parlor; rear hall connecting the parlor to the dining room and rear stair hall; the dining room with a three-sided bay extension on the south; the kitchen in the south east corner with a pantry to the north east and the rear stair and porch to the north.

The second floor has the same number of rooms but they are all bedrooms with one bath over the kitchen/pantry. Detailing on both floors is similar. Many of the light fixtures are original to the house.

The basement is unfinished and the stone foundation is from adjacent quarries. The house sits on a raised ashlar stone foundation. The foundations are laid on bedrock, which is at the floor level of the basement.

The Butcher Cemetery lies on the top of a small rise at the edge of a peninsula to the south of the house. The cemetery is roughly rhombus shaped and is surrounded by a barbed wire fence attached to large trees. These trees were probably the original boundaries. The north side is 81 feet; the east 65 feet; the south 98 feet; and the west 59 feet. The entrance is on the center of the west side and all markers face west. There are 32 markers. Most of these are short marble slabs less than 24 inches tall. Several of these old markers no longer are legible. There are six larger markers. One is a large monument to the Butcher family. This is a simple slab, approximately 36 inches tall. There are two obelisks. One is small, in memory of Creed Warren, son of C. & M. Butcher. The other is an ornate obelisk approximately 8 feet tall. It is inscribed on all four sides on the base portion of the monument. On the west it says: "Eli Butcher, Born Aug. 15 1779, Died Dec 20 1862, Margaret, wife of, Eli Butcher, Born --- 1778, Died Nov 3 1867"; on the north: "Erected by F. Butcher, Leann, Wife of, F. Butcher, Born Mar. 23 1831, Died Sept 15 1863"; on the east: "Infant, Born March 29 1869, Died April 3 1869"; on the south: "John H U Butcher, Born Dec 10 1856, Died Jan 26 1886, Dandridge B, Butcher,

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number   7   Page   4  

---

Born May 18 1858, Died Aug 10 1866".

Other monuments in the cemetery are to: Fountain Butcher  
1827-1893; original of Margaret, wife of Eli Butcher; French  
W. Butcher; Hart Butcher Muir; Amanda; Creed; Laura; Plummer;  
Oscar B. Butcher; Adderson B. Burton.

Most of the stones are in good condition with some  
deterioration in the older marble slabs.

**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  
Politics/Government

Period of Significance

1861 - 1904

Significant Dates

1861, 1865  
1890

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

Ward, John Baylis

Architect/Builder

Bumgardner

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

The Butcher Hill Historic District is significant for its association with the Civil War, as the site of a major Federal encampment, entrenchment and artillery placement; with a major family in the region and county, the Wards; with the Butchers, a major family in the county's history; and as an example of Queen Anne Style architecture of a prominent architect in the state.

During the War between the States, Randolph County was of major importance due to its location and the Staunton to Parkersburg Turnpike. Most east west movements of troops on both sides of the rebellion occurred on the turnpike and control of it was hotly contested. The town of Beverly currently contains one Historic District listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Beverly, the county seat of Randolph County, created in 1797, lay on the Staunton to Parkersburg turnpike which was chartered in 1824. Throughout the War, Beverly was generally controlled and occupied by Federal troops, with occasional takeovers by the CSA. It acted as headquarters for many of the movements and scouting activities that occurred in Randolph, Pocahontas and southern counties of Western Virginia/West Virginia. The other major centers were Grafton and Philippi. A number of reports and records from the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion follow to illustrate the strategic location of the town:

October 29, 1864 federal forces under Lt. Col. Robert Youart were surprised and attacked in the early morning hours. After extensive hand to hand combat, the rebels were repelled.

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

- Bosworth, A.S., History of Randolph County, 1916
- Confer, Russell T., "Yellow Sorings to Beverly", unpublished manuscript
- Frame, Katherine Hart, The Harts of Randolph, 1976
- Maxwell, Hu, History of Randolph County, West Virginia, 1898
- The Official Atlas of the Civil War
- Reger, David B., WV Geological Survey, James D. Sisler, State Geologist, 1931
- Respass, Carolyn Collett, Beverly, West Virginia, A Pictorial History from 1753 to 1908, 1986
- Rice, Donald R., Randolph 200 - A Bicentennial History of Randolph County WV 1787 - 1987
- Sloan, James, Interview, April 1989
- Ward, Mary Genevieve, Interview, April 1989
- The War of The Rebellion; a compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, 1894

See continuation sheet

**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 # N/A
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # N/A

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

Specify repository: N/A

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property 9

**UTM References**

A 

1	7	5	9	9	7	6	0	4	2	9	9	7	2	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

C 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

B 

1	7													
Zone				Easting				Northing						

D 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

Beginning at a point where the boundary of the Simons and Ward properties intersects the old road to Mt. Iser Confederate Cemetery; thence following the boundary line in an easterly direction for approximately 425 feet to the intersection of the dirt access driveway to the Ward House; thence following the northern edge of the driveway in a south to southwest curve for approximately 600 feet to a point

See continuation sheet

**Boundary Justification**

The boundaries are determined by the geographic limitations of the district. On the north, east and south the boundary lines follow the contour of the hillside, which also determines the location of the trenches on the southwest point. To the south the boundary is extended to include the Butcher Cemetery, which is on a slight hillock to the south and east of the house. On the east the boundary is determined by the geography of the site

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Michael Gioulis, Historic Preservation Consultant

organization \_\_\_\_\_ date May 1989

street & number 612 Main Street telephone 304 765 5716

city or town Sutton state WV zip code 26601

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

---

January 11, 1865. This is perhaps the most significant event in direct relationship with Beverly and the Butcher Hill district. Confederate forces under General Rosser wearing US greatcoats entered the town from the south along the Staunton to Parkersburg Turnpike. They detoured at the southern end of town to the east and followed a small lane to arrive at the rear of the federal trenches, on Butcher Hill. After capturing the sentinels placed on the hill, the rebels captured the town and Col. Youart. The Federal forces captured were forced to march to Staunton in the snow with little or no protection from the cold. Various reports from the field indicate that the town was burned and a number of stores captured by the Confederates.

The attack occurred at 4 AM and at 10 AM Lt. Swain with the 8th Ohio Volunteer Cavalry reentered the Town but was repelled. The Confederate forces left and retreated to Staunton at 12 o'clock. Total prisoners captured were over 575.

Investigations into the cause of the successful capture indicated that the Federal forces were not prepared. There had been a ball in town the night before and most officers were staying in town. Youart believed that due to the cold, snow and swollen condition of the creeks and rivers, there was little chance of attack. The result of the investigation was the dismissal of Youart for "laxity of discipline, carelessness' and insufficiency of guard."

A map accompanying the report of Col. Nathan Wilkinson, 6th WV Infantry indicates the situation in the town that morning and the activities of the capture. This map clearly shows the trenches of the federal forces and the locations of the pickets. These trenches and sentinels no. 3 and 4 on the map correspond to the remaining trenches on the Ward House site.

July 12, 1861. General George B. McClellan conducted a major battle at Rich Mountain on the farm of John Hart where he defeated the Confederate forces under Garnett who surrendered 550 men in Beverly after failing to retreat. According to McClellan's report, this resulted in " the part of Western Virginia in my Department is free of presence of the enemy." He bivouacked on the Butcher Hill site and trenches were dug for his fortifications. These trenches are extant on the site.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

---

July 2-3, 1863, Colonel William L. Jackson with 1700 men and 2 artillery attacked Beverly and attempted to capture the Federal forces. He split his forces in three in an attempt to encircle the enemy. The attack signal was not obeyed resulting in failure. In his report Jackson states that his artillery was 1 mile from the enemy's and that the "enemy occupied a very strong position on Butcher's Hills in the rear of the Town...". Maj. D.B. Stewart's report also describes the artillery on Butcher's hill to the north east of town.

April 20-May 14, 1863 Imboden's raid into West Virginia. Brig. Gen. J.D. Imboden attacked Brig. Gen. Benjamin S. Roberts with 4000 men and drove them to Philippi. Roberts reached Buckhannon on the 26th. Imboden reports that Beverly was warned of the attack by J.F. Phares and he was opened upon about one mile above town by artillery. He states that they were "strongly posted" on a plateau and he could not attack in front. This is the Butcher Hill site.

There are numerous other reports indicating Beverly as the beginning point for scouting expeditions into various parts of the region. It is apparent from all of the reports and skirmishes that Beverly was a significant strategic location and the Butcher's Hill emplacements and artillery were important to the protection of the town and the Turnpike.

The Ward family associated with the House is that of John Baylis Ward. The Ward family has been in Randolph County since 1788 when Sylvester Ward was listed as trustee in the charter for the Town of Beverly, then the county seat. John Baylis was born in 1852 in Elkins Virginia (now West Virginia). His father was George Whitman Ward who was in the 18th Virginia Cavalry and captured during the Civil War and taken to Camp Chase. George lived in Elkins and operated a hostelry which was burned during the war. He is also associated with the See/Ward House, Mill Creek, listed on the National Register of Historic Places. George acquired that property in 1869. The Wards were prosperous farmers in the area and influenced the development of the county in the post Civil War era.

John Baylis became a prominent lawyer in the county. He is recorded as being admitted to the Bar in 1881. He was Clerk of the County Court before the Courthouse was moved in 1909. An interesting anecdote is associated with the Courthouse

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 4

---

move. The move occurred after a fire destroyed the 1892 structure in 1897. The records were moved to the 1808 building. Elkins offered to construct a new courthouse but the residents of Beverly wanted to maintain the County seat. Elkins planned to steal the records by force and establish the county seat. The plan was to set the house of JB Ward on fire and while the residents of Beverly were engaged, steal the records. Fortunately the plan was not carried out.

John Baylis married Angelia Scott, daughter of Andrew and Susan (Foggy) Scott in 1882. The house was begun in 1890 and the Wards occupied it in 1895 but it was not completed until 1904. The children of John Baylis Sr. were Durbin, William Mason, Wilson Palmer, Edgar Foggy, Susan Elizabeth, John Baylis Jr., and Mary Genevieve. At this time, 1989, Mary Genevieve is the only remaining child.

John Baylis Jr. lived in the house until his death in 1975 and remained a bachelor. He was significant in the county in mineral and resource extraction and assisted in the West Virginia Geological Survey printing of the County Report in 1931. In that report he is extensively listed for his mineral prospecting permits and resources mines. He also assisted the primary author of that volume in locating various sites in the county including a potential gold mine and a fossil reserve.

The Butcher Cemetery within the district is associated with the Butcher family which is one of the older families in the town. They settled in the county in the late 18 century. The Butchers were prominent in the county's history. Their contributions include Bernard L. Butcher who was a lawyer in town; the owner of The Randolph Tribune, the county's first newspaper; Prosecuting Attorney of Randolph County; director of the Business Men's Development Association whose President was Johnson N. Camden and who first opened up the development of the regions natural resources to out of state capital; and was a forestry juror at the 1893 Chicago World's Fair. Eli Baxter Butcher was Assessor. Eli Butcher was county Sheriff in 1822 and Assessor in 1815. Numerous other Butchers occupied public service positions in the County such as Sheriff, Assessor, and Justice of the Peace. Eli married Margaret Hart, daughter of Daniel and Margaret Bunn Hart.

Daniel is the son of John Hart, the signer of the Declaration of Independence. The Butchers are buried in the cemetery on

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

---

the grounds. There is a street in Beverly named after Fountain Butcher, the son of Eli Butcher.

The cemetery is also a good example of the local family cemetery on the family farm, once so prevalent throughout the state. It is located in a prominent and picturesque spot and contains the "roots" of the family in Randolph County.

The house is a good example of the Queen Anne style of Architecture that was popular in the county in the last quarter of the 19th Century during the timber and railroad boom period. It is the best surviving example of this style in the vicinity and it indicates the influence of the railroad and communications on bringing up to date fashions to the county from distant centers of culture such as Washington and New York. The house also exemplifies the proliferation of wood trim Stick Style ornamentation that occurred in the county and in most of West Virginia as a result of lumbering operations in the state. There is a large number of structures that relied on the hardwoods of Randolph and Pocahontas County forests for their decorative elements which were distributed in a pattern book fashion. The trim, woodwork, mantels and detailing in the house all reflect common design elements in Queen Anne structures throughout the State.

The house was designed by prominent Wheeling architect Bumgardner. He also designed other residences in Beverly and Elkins including the Beverly home of Doctor Humbolt Yokum, similar in style to the Ward House. The Ward Residence is in excellent condition and has lost very little architectural integrity.

The interior of the house is furnished in original period furnishings which include some rather unique and significant antiques. One is an interesting rug constructed by Angelia Ward's mother from remnants of Civil War bedcoverings and clothes. Another is the Chinese hand carved ornate desk and chair given to the residents by Gideon Camden, prominent West Virginia industrialist of the 19th Century.

There are two paintings of the house in different rooms. Both call the house "Edgewood". The oldest was done in 1955 by Elizabeth Ward.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

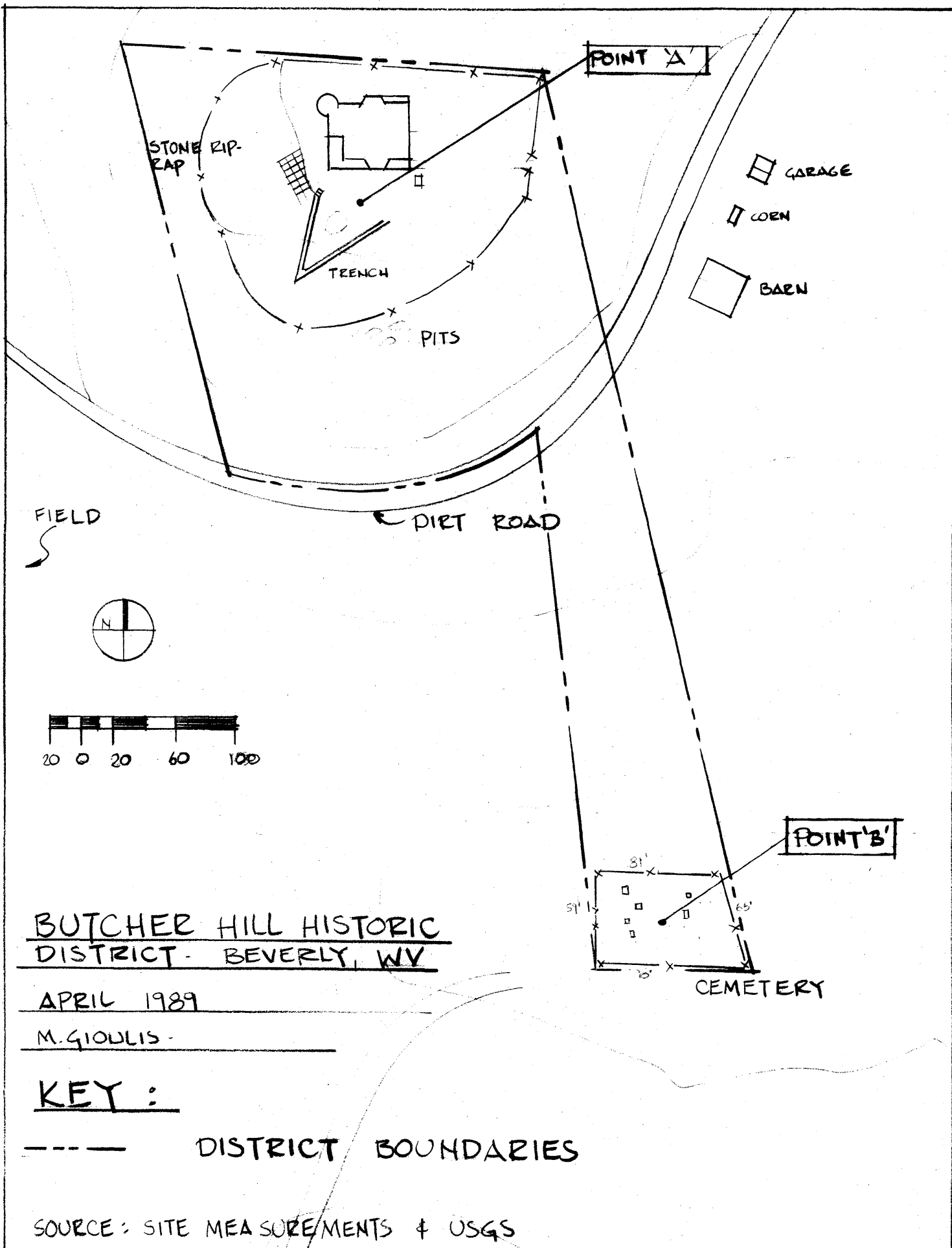
**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 2

---

directly north of the Butcher Cemetery; thence due south 300 feet to the southwestern corner of the Butcher Cemetery; thence east along the southern edge of the Cemetery 100 feet; thence northwest following the east boundary line of the Butcher Cemetery and its extension to the point of origin.

again. In this direction the site begins to rise to Mount Iser. The boundary line is delineated by the fence line of the Ward property and the beginning of the wooded portion of the site.



BUTCHER HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT - BEVERLY, WV

APRIL 1989

M. GIOULIS -

KEY :

----- DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

SOURCE : SITE MEASUREMENTS & USGS