G-V-A-150

Jonas C. Petersheim Farm

**Architectural Survey File**

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site (mht.maryland.gov) for details about how to make an appointment.

All material is property of the Maryland Historical Trust.

*Last Updated: 02-07-2013*
The Jonas C. Petersheim farm is located at the end of a long unpaved farm lane. The house, constructed in 1908 (Petersheim personal communication 1/11/2005; USGS 1899, 1908), is oriented to face north. The original farmhouse is two-stories and has an asymmetrical three-bay front and two-bay gable end. The house is wood frame originally clad in horizontal wood siding. Asbestos shingle siding has been applied over all exterior portions of the house since 1981. The house rests on a poured concrete foundation. The side-gable roof is clad with corrugated metal. Two interior brick chimneys project from the roof ridge. The windows on the first-story front are wood-frame, six-over-six-light, double-hung sash units with wide wood casings. All other windows are one-over-one-light replacement units. The slightly off-center door on the front (north) elevation contains a three-panel wood door with three lights. The screen door has a wood frame with ornamental brackets and spindle frieze. An open porch replaced since 1981 spans the north elevation. The shed roof is supported on square wood posts. Two bays of the porch along the rear (south) elevation have been enclosed since 1981.
A large bank barn measuring 40 x 80 feet and constructed in 1903 is located west of the original farmhouse (Petersheim personal communication 1/11/2005). The timber-framed bank barn rests on a stone foundation. The main members of the timber framing are 8x8-inch members supported by 6x6-inch main braces. The main timbers are in the outer walls and 40-foot long horizontal members. The horizontal member is a solid piece that stretches the width of the barn from just above the door height and is mortise and tenoned into the framing of the exterior walls. The horizontal member is supported by upright members that are mortised and tenoned into the horizontal member. The upright members support the roof purlin. The roof purlin is supported by additional bracing that extends from the outer wall and on top of the horizontal member to the vertical member just below the purlin. Smaller braces link the upright member to the roof purlin. The roof rafters are two pieces. The upper rafters are tenoned together at the roof ridge. There is no ridge pole, but a pulley system to move hay extends the length of the roof ridge. The roof was originally sheathed with wood shingles. The roof has corrugated metal laid over the roof shingles. The timber framing also has pieces that are rounded logs and hand hewn, which Mr. Petersheim reported came from the log barn located on the property when the Petersheim family bought it in 1901 (Petersheim personal communication 1/11/2005; Garrett County Land Records EZT 39:532-533).

Originally the vertical wood siding was applied from the eave to the foundation. The barn was not built with a forebay. Mr. John Petersheim added the concrete-block walls on all four elevations on top of the stone foundation. The concrete-block walls have two-light windows. He also strengthened the floor of the barn. These improvements were made to comply with county regulations for dairying. Mr. Petersheim retired from the dairy business in 1999. The bank is located on the north elevation and the doorway has sliding metal doors. A wood plank bridge spans the space between the barn door and the earth bank. The purpose of the trough before the doorway is to protect the lower walls of the barn from the effects of freeze-thaw.

A one-story, one-bay by two-bay, concrete-block milkhouse is located just north of the northwest corner of the bank barn. The gable roof is sheathed with corrugated metal. The door is located in the south elevation near the barn.

Two concrete-panel silos with exterior metal reinforcing hoops are located near the west end of the bank barn. The earliest silo was put up in 1972 (Petersheim 1/11/2005).

Other buildings on the property include the 1960s one-story house set on a raised basement located north of the original farmhouse. Two old wood-frame sheds and two chicken coops are located east of the house. The farmyard is completed with a one-story, concrete-block workshop with metal sliding door and gable roof, and a four-bay, wood-frame equipment shed with corrugated metal roof and three sides. The equipment shed has a horizontal wood-frame corncrib in the south edge. Two other shed-roofed wood corncribs stand in the yard.

The property incorporated military lots 1136 and 1652 and was once part of the landholdings of J. McClure Mason, who may have an association with the Mason/Wilt cemetery on MIHP # G-V-A-148. In 1885, the Garrett County sheriff sold this Mason property at public auction. The land was purchased by Ambrose Mattingly of Preston County, West Virginia. In 1901, Mattingly sold the property to Jonas C. Petersheim (b. 1865-d. 1937), the fourth son of Christian and Lydia Petersheim. When Jonas Petersheim bought the property, it had a log dwelling, a log barn, and a portion of a springhouse standing on it (Petersheim 1/11/2005).

George Petersheim (b. 1763- d 1818), a German immigrant, migrated to the Mennonite community in Lancaster County, PA, in 1810. His grandson Christian Petersheim (b. 1826 in Sommerset Co., MD-d. 1897 in Preston County, WVA) moved to Aurora, WVA, in 1858. Christian Petersheim was instrumental in the development of the Amish community in Aurora, West Virginia. Mr. Jonas Petersheim was a minister of the Amish Mennonite church, which shared services between Gortner, MD, and Aurora, WVA, for many years during the early twentieth century.
Jonas Petersheim married Barbara Schlabach in 1889 and moved the family to Pleasant Valley in 1901. Eventually Gortner replaced Aurora, WVA, as the center of the Amish Mennonite community. The property remained in the Petersheim family. Jacob (b. 1892-d. 1961), the second son, continued to farm the property and the property remains in Petersheim ownership (Petersheim 1994).

The Petersheim farm is associated with broad patterns of agricultural history of the early and mid-twentieth century in southern Garrett County as practiced by the Mennonite and Amish community (Criterion A). The house and barn embody the distinctive characteristics of their types, periods, and methods of construction during the first decade of the twentieth century (Criterion C). The changes that have occurred to the buildings represent the evolution of building materials and agricultural needs adapted by the community to maintain the property in active agriculture.

References

Garrett County Land Records
Deeds.

Maryland Historical Trust
1981 MIHP Form G-V-A-150. On file at the MHT Library, Crownsville, MD.

Petersheim, Mr. John

Petersheim, Stephen
1994 "History of the Petersheims of Garrett County from Germany to Maryland." Published in The Casselman Chronicle, the Springs Historical Society of Casselman Valley, Volume 34 No. 2, pages 38-39.

Schlosnagle, Stephen

USGS
1908 Oakland 15 minute quadrangle map surveyed in 1899 and published in 1900 and 1908.

Katherine Grandine, M.A., R.
Christopher Goodwin &
JONAS C. PETERSHEIM FARM
GARRETT COUNTY, MARYLAND

January 2005
HD 94500
BARN. VIEW SW

2 of 2
The Jonas C. Petersheim Farm is a typical farm in this region with a 2-story, 3 bay by 2 bay frame house and frame bank barn. The 3-story, 3 bay by 2 bay frame house rests on a poured concrete foundation made from creek sand and small stones. The walls are covered with weatherboard siding with cornerboards.
INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME
HISTORIC
AND/OR COMMON
Jonas C. Petersheim Farm

2 LOCATION
STREET & NUMBER
Mason Rd., East side, approximately 1¼ mile S of Gortner
CITY, TOWN
Gortner
STATE
Maryland

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
6th

VICINITY OF

COUNTY
Garrett County

3 CLASSIFICATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>OWNERSHIP</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>PRESENT USE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>— DISTRICT</td>
<td>PUBLIC</td>
<td>□ OCCUPIED</td>
<td>□ AGRICULTURE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— BUILDING(S)</td>
<td>PRIVATE</td>
<td>□ UNOCCUPIED</td>
<td>□ COMMERCIAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— STRUCTURE</td>
<td>BOTH</td>
<td>□ WORK IN PROGRESS</td>
<td>□ EDUCATIONAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— SITE</td>
<td>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</td>
<td>ACCESSIBLE</td>
<td>□ ENTERTAINMENT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— OBJECT</td>
<td>IN PROCESS</td>
<td>□ YES: RESTRICTED</td>
<td>□ GOVERNMENT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— OBJECT</td>
<td>BEING CONSIDERED</td>
<td>□ YES: UNRESTRICTED</td>
<td>□ SCIENTIFIC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>□ NO</td>
<td>□ TRANSPORTATION</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
John J. Petersheim

STREET & NUMBER
Mason School Rd.

CITY, TOWN
Gortner

STATE, zip code
Maryland

Telephone #: (301) 334-4543

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE
Garrett County Courthouse

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET & NUMBER
Third and Alder Streets

CITY, TOWN
Oakland

STATE
Maryland

Liber #: 238
Folio #: 482

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
None

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE
The Jonas C. Petersheim Farm lies in Pleasant Valley, 1½ miles SE of the amish community of Gortner. It is a typical farm in this region with a two-story, three bay by two bay frame house and frame bank barn.

The two-story, three bay by two bay frame house faces NE and has a slightly offset entrance to the north. It rests on a foundation made from creek sand and small stones. The walls are covered with weatherboard siding with cornerboards. Asbestos shingles have been added to the NW elevation. The gable roof is corrugated metal.

A one-story shed porch supported by four wooden posts runs across the facade. The roof is covered with wood shingles.

A one-story shed porch with a corrugated metal roof runs across the rear of the house, SW elevation and is enclosed at the south end. The rear porch covers four bays, including three entrances and one window. The entrances are placed at each end of the elevation and one in the center; the window is placed between the central and west entrance.

All windows are 6/6 sash except for two. There are two interior brick chimneys.

This site includes a board and batten springhouse, a frame bank barn, a modern house, and several sheds.
**PERIOD**

<p>| | | | | | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PREHISTORIC</td>
<td>ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC</td>
<td>COMMUNITY PLANNING</td>
<td>LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE</td>
<td>RELIGION</td>
<td>SCIENCE</td>
<td>SCULPTURE</td>
<td>SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1400-1499</td>
<td>ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC</td>
<td>CONSERVATION</td>
<td>LAW</td>
<td>LITERATURE</td>
<td>MUSIC</td>
<td>THEATER</td>
<td>TRANSPORTATION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1500-1599</td>
<td>AGRICULTURE</td>
<td>ECONOMICS</td>
<td>INDUSTRY</td>
<td>INVENTION</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>OTHER (SPECIFY)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1600-1699</td>
<td>ARCHITECTURE</td>
<td>EDUCATION</td>
<td>PHILOSOPHY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1700-1799</td>
<td>ART</td>
<td>ENGINEERING</td>
<td>POLITICS/GOVERNMENT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1800-1899</td>
<td>COMMERCE</td>
<td>EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900-</td>
<td>COMMUNICATIONS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW**

- ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
- ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
- AGRICULTURE
- ARCHITECTURE
- ART
- COMMERCE
- COMMUNICATIONS
- COMMUNITY PLANNING
- CONSERVATION
- ECONOMICS
- EDUCATION
- ENGINEERING
- EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
- INDUSTRY
- INVENTION
- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
- LAW
- LITERATURE
- MILITARY
- MUSIC
- PHILOSOPHY
- POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
- RELIGION
- SCIENCE
- SCULPTURE
- SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
- THEATER
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER (SPECIFY)

**SPECIFIC DATES**

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The asymmetrical fenestration of this three-bay house is unusual. As the interior was not examined, it is not known what this arrangement signifies.
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438
Table Rock: MD:WV
USGS 7.5 Minute Series
Scale 1:24,000
1948; photorevised 1974

G-V-A-150
Jonas C. Petersheim Farm
Mason Road, east side, approx.
1½ miles S of Gortner
G-V-A-150
Jonas C. Petersheim Farm
Garrett Co., MD
Valerie Cesna 10/24/80
Facade: NE elev.
G-V-A-150
Jonas C. Petersheim Farm
Garrett Co., MD
Valerie Cesna 10/24/80
Rear: SW elev.