NPS Form 10-900
(Oct. 1990)

OMB No. 10024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Leitersburg Historic District

other names WA-I-174

2. Location

street & number Leitersburg-Smithsburg Rd., Leiter St., Leiter's Mill Rd., Ringgold St. ☐ not for publication

city or town Leitersburg ☐ vicinity

state Maryland code MD county Washington code 043 zip code 21742

3. 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature of certifying official/Title — Date 11-5-03

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature of certifying official/Title — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. 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 of the Keeper — Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private
- ☒ public-local
- ☐ public-State
- ☐ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- ☐ building(s)
- ☒ district
- ☐ site
- ☐ structure
- ☐ object

Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
147	72	buildings
5		sites
3		structures
		objects
155	72	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/ single dwelling
Domestic/ secondary structure
Domestic/ hotel
Commerce/Trade/specialty store
Transportation/repair facility
Religious/ religious facility
Education/ educational facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/ single dwelling
Domestic/ secondary structure
Domestic/ multiple dwelling
Religion/ religious facility
Commerce/Trade/ specialty store

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: Regional vernacular types
COLONIAL: Georgian
EARLY REPUBLIC: Federal
MID-19TH CENTURY: Greek Revival
LATE VICTORIAN
LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Foursquare, Bungalow

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone, brick, concrete
walls Brick, stone, wood, concrete block
roof Asphalt, metal, slate
other iron

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

Description Summary:

Leitersburg is an early 19th century village located in the northeast corner of Washington County, Maryland, about 3 miles south of the Pennsylvania state line. The village square is centered on the intersection of the old Nicholson's Gap Road, which runs gently downhill from northeast to southwest, and the Smithsburg-Leitersburg-Greencastle (PA) road which runs downhill from the southeast to the Antietam Creek several hundred yards to the northwest. This square retains three original early 19th century brick buildings; a tavern, general store, and dwelling; as well as a late 19th century wooden frame grocery store/ meeting hall. Most of the 30 original log buildings, somewhat altered, remain. These are typically simple, vernacular buildings. Several examples of brick, stone, and wood frame buildings are found in the village, as well as historic institutions including churches and a 1914 school. The tree-shaded town retains its approximate 1815-1926 appearance and its rural setting amidst 200-year-old farms.

General Description:

The Leitersburg Historic District consists of 53 original lots plus 6 lots added in the early 19th century. Several adjacent 19th and early 20th century buildings that were an integral part of the town during the period of significance are also included within the district.

The town is laid out along the northeast-southwest Nicholson's Gap Road, later renamed the Leitersburg Turnpike (but called Main Street in the village), and recently renamed again, to Leiter St., and the southeast-northwest Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road (Church St.) and Leitersburg-Greencastle Road (Water, and later Antietam Street). This last road, now called Leiter's Mill Road, runs downhill several hundred yards northwest of the square, crossing the Antietam Creek over an 1839 two-arch stone bridge. Buildings are set well back from the intersection, creating a broad paved square. MD Rt 60, built in the early 1950s, removed the pressure of modern traffic from the town, helping to preserve Leitersburg's historic appearance.

A system of back alleys serves the rear of the lots. Large trees throughout the town were recently supplemented by a planting project of small flowering street trees to enhance the village. The only section of Leitersburg that was not developed in the historic period was the southeast side of Main, now Leiter, Street. In 1947, modern bungalows and "Cape Cod" style houses were built on this stretch of seven lots, and these houses are not included within the district because their construction date falls outside the period of significance. The development of Leitersburg was substantially complete by ca. 1926, and its historic character was established at that date.

With its location on the busy Nicholson's Gap Road, which ran from Hagerstown, MD, to York, PA, and the cross road which connected Greencastle, PA, with Baltimore, Leitersburg thrived commercially. Many buildings served as hotels and stores. Andrew Leiter's circa 1812 one-story stone tavern (21400 Leiter St.) was rebuilt as a spacious 2-story brick structure in the 1830s. Ground's Store (21500 Leitersburg- Smithsburg Road) was built as an impressive two-story 6-bay-long brick building whose façade was laid in a distinctive diapered, or diamond, pattern, unique in this region. Burkhart's Hotel (21324 Leiter St.) was built in stone and log, Samuel Lyday's hotel (21536 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road) was built in brick, and Lahm's Hotel (21413 Leiter St.) was constructed in log with one stone end wall.

Wagonmakers, blacksmiths, tailors, weavers, and shoemakers worked out of their homes. The houses that were built for these working-class residents were primarily of practical log construction. These houses were intended to be covered and protected from the elements with clapboarding, but they were often whitewashed as

a temporary measure until finances allowed for proper siding. They ranged in size from one-story two-room cabins (21319 Leiter St.) to two-story Georgian-plan buildings extended by additions (21413 Leiter St.). Even the smallest structure was later enlarged with additions or raised in height. Every building stood on a stone foundation, usually with a cellar, and was heated by an exterior stone chimney (21412 & 21413 Leiter St.) or an interior brick chimney.

As the town prospered several houses of more expensive stone or brick construction appeared. Dr. James Johnson's house at 21428 Leiter St. is a two-story stone house with a brick addition. The 1846 brick Leiter House at 21318 Leiter St. is the single representative of high-style Greek Revival interior detailing in the village.

Although many of the ancillary buildings to these houses have disappeared, examples of each type of outbuilding are extant in the Leitersburg Historic District. Modern sheds that have replaced their historical counterparts occupy similar locations on the lots and serve comparable functions.

Mid 19th through early 20th century buildings were more often constructed in brick or frame construction. Victorian details such as bay windows and jigsawn porch trim proliferated. Several examples of the early 20th century Foursquare style represent the last significant building period in town. Three early 20th century houses, 21608, 21610, and 21616 Leiter St., were constructed in a simple rectangular shape with few embellishments to provide basic housing, following the tradition of Leitersburg's early log houses. The 1926 centennial addition to St. Paul's Lutheran Church provides an end point to Leitersburg's architectural development.

Several original sections of sidewalk are paved with large flat slabs of limestone. Stone walls, dry-laid along alleys and finished with crenellated caps when bordering yards, are found throughout the village.

With the exception of the Leitersburg Hotel, commercial structures in Leitersburg have been adapted for residential use. Although their use has changed they have been maintained and except for modern claddings these buildings survive in their original form.

Historic Properties in Leitersburg

Leitersburg's axis rotates about 30 degrees from the cardinal compass points. For ease of description, what is truly south/southeast will be referred to as south, etc. Lot owners cited in 1830 and 1898 are from Herbert C Bell's description in his History of the Leitersburg District. 1877 owners are indicated on the 1877 Atlas.

Lot #1: 21400 Leiter St. — Contributing:2
Leitersburg Hotel — Non-contr.: 0
Circa 1812 and circa 1835

Founder Andrew Leiter's one-story stone tavern stood on this site. It was later rebuilt in its present two-story brick form running parallel to Leiter St. The deep stone cellar under the west end of the building is almost certainly a remnant of the original structure. The six-bay-long south façade is laid in Flemish bond. The other sides are laid in 5:1 common bond. Several of the tavern's numerous doors have been blocked up over the years: two on the west end, one on the east end, and the former main entrance in the third bay from the west on the façade. The entrance is currently in the façade's westernmost bay. Original brick windowheads feature long narrow bricks standing four courses tall. 2/2 windows light the building. Elaborate brackets with drop spindles support the eaves. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. A porch covers the façade's three easternmost bays. An interior brick chimney appears at either end.

The central staircase was removed in the mid-20th century and an exterior stair built at the east end. The building retains its historic appearance despite these changes.

A one-story western brick section used for storage and a brick livery stable at the southeast corner of the lot were demolished in the 1980s. A small timber-framed shed still stands at the northeast end of the lot.

This tavern holds the second oldest liquor license in Washington Co. This is a substantial and well-finished early commercial building.

1811: Andrew Leiter Hotel 1818: Henry Barnhart 1877:D.S. Hartle Hotel 1830: Cross Keys

Lot #2(south half): 21402 Leiter's Mill Road
Grange Store
1921
Contributing: 1
Non-contr.: 0

This building has a wood frame structure faced in all-stretcher bond red brick. Gray brick jack arches accent the windowheads above 2/2 sash. The structure stands two stories tall under a gable roof that parallels Leiter St. A frame addition covers the east end. The main façade is six bays long with doors in the second, fourth, and sixth bays from the west. An entrance into the stone cellar opens from the west end. An interior brick flue appears at either end. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

A circa 1900 photo shows a small frame building at this site. In 1921 the Leitersburg Grange bought the lot and built this structure with a store on the first floor and a meeting room on the second floor. The store was operated by Charles Lehman and later Arthur and Mary Newcomer, and it also served as a post office during World War II. The building is currently divided into apartments.

This is one of the last commercial structures built in the historic period in Leitersburg.

1818: Lot bought by Samuel Houser and John Light
1877: G. W. Pole

Lot # 2 (north half): 21416 Leiter's Mill Road
Early 19th century
Contributing: 1
Non-contr.: 1

Three one-room sections make up this house: a log section, a frame section, and a rear enclosed frame porch. The 1 ½ story house has a three-bay western façade with a central entrance and stair. A porch shelters this side. Dormers appear on this façade while small windows light the half-story at the rear. This aluminum-sided house has 2/2 windows. Standing seam metal covers the gable roof and an interior brick chimney rises at either end. The house stands on a stone cellar.

A small modern wood frame shed stands behind the house. A cistern supplies water to the house.

This building is a fine example of a workman's cottage.

1818: Lot bought by Samuel Houser and John Light
1877: G. W. Pole

Lot #3 (south half): 21414 Leiter's Mill Road
Circa 1815
Contributing: 1
Non-contr.: 1

This small two-story house is set well back from the street, as if a larger front section was planned but never built. The metal-covered gable roof runs perpendicular to the road. Therefore the single bay western gable end faces the street, and the house runs two bays long into the depth of the lot. The first floor is of stone construction, which is exposed on the east end. The house was raised to two full stories in frame construction and covered with German siding, probably in the late 19th century. The house stands on a partial stone cellar and has a two-story porch covering its south side. Entrances are located on the west end and in the eastern bay of the south side. The windows hold 6/6 sash.

Stone foundations for two small additions which were removed in the 1980s stand above ground level at the east end. A small concrete block shed stands east of the house. Two cisterns are located on the property.

This is an unusual example of a clapboarded stone house.

1815: Lot bought by Jacob Houser 1830: Samuel Light, shoemaker
1877: G. W. Pole 1898: Freeland W. Anderson

Lot # 3 (north half): 21412 Leiter's Mill Road — Contributing: 0
Mid 20th century — Non-contr.: 2
This building is a small modern frame cottage. A deteriorated wood frame shed stands at the rear of the lot.

Lot #4: 21410 Leiter's Mill Road — Contributing: 3
Circa 1818 — Non-contr.: 0
This two-story log house measures three bays long by two bays deep. A porch shelters the center-entrance west façade and an enclosed porch provides additional space along the east side. Asphalt shingles cover the gable roof. The house stands on a stone cellar. The walls have been covered with aluminum siding and the windows have been replaced with modern aluminum windows.

A timber-framed stable stands at the rear of the lot, and a small frame outhouse is located behind the house.

Despite alterations by modern materials, this remains a good example of a moderate-sized early log house with outbuildings.

The 1877 resident may have been John Gagle, a Civil War veteran.

1815: Lot bought by Jacob Kessinger 1818: Lot bought by Barnhart B. Light
1877: J. H. Gagle

Lot #5: 21406 Leiter's Mill Road — Contributing: 1 (site)
Circa 1818 (burned 1980s) — Non-contr.: 2
A 1½ story log house stood on this site until it was abandoned, burned, and razed in the 1980s. The two-room building's gable end faced the road to the west. The house was set back from the lot in the manner of 21414 Leiter's Mill Road nearby. A stone cellar underpinned the building.

A modern split-level house and a garage have been built on this site.

1815: Lot bought by Jacob Kessinger 1818: Lot bought by William Gabby
1877: F. K. Ziegler

Lots #6-10 (north of 21406 Leiter's Mill Road) — Contributing: 1 (site)
Early 19th century — Non-contr.: 0
The buildings on these five lots were demolished during the construction of MD Rt. 60 in the early 1950s. Lot #10 may retain archaeological potential. Daniel and Catherine (Leiter) Lowman moved here after they lost 21412 Leiter St. in 1819 after Andrew Leiter's death. Their daughter Barbara married William Johnson, and this couple inherited the house.

Lot #11: 21380 Leiter's Mill Road — Contributing: 1
Before 1817 — Non-contr.: 0
The four-bay western façade of this 1½ story log house includes a porch, a central cellar entrance, and a main entrance in the second bay from the south. An interior brick chimney rises from either end of the metal-clad gable roof. 2/2 sash windows light the house, which is covered with aluminum siding.

This is the first in a row of four cottages which stand along the road's steep drop to the Antietam Creek to the north.
1817: Lot bought by John Garvin for $200 (house probably in existence)
1877: G.W. Pole

Lot #12: 21378 Leiter's Mill Road — Contributing: 2
Circa 1818 — Non-contr. : 0
This 1½ story log house has been enlarged by partial enclosure of the west façade's porch and a one-story addition along the east side. A shed dormer increases space on the west side of the asphalt-shingled gable roof. Entrances open into the northern bay of the three-bay western facade and into the south end of the rear addition. A modern exterior brick chimney appears at either gable end. Although the house has been covered with aluminum siding the original architraves have been preserved. The building stands on a stone cellar.

A frame shed stands at the back of the lot. A stone wall borders the front of this property and its neighbor to the south.
1818: Lot bought by Henry Myer — 1877: L. Leiter

Lot #13: 21376 Leiter's Mill Road — Contributing: 3
Early 19th century — Non-contr.: 0
The third of four small 1½ story log houses, this three-bay-long cottage sits high on a hill above the road. A porch covers the main, or west, façade, and a one-story addition covers the back. A door is centered in the façade. The house has 2/2 sash windows. An interior brick chimney is located at either end. The gable roof is covered with metal and the walls are sheathed in aluminum siding.

A small frame barn stands at the back of the lot. A "cave" or root cellar is incorporated in the stone wall southeast of the house.
1877: G.W. Pole

Lot #14: 21374 Leiter's Mill Road — Contributing: 3
Circa 1815 — Non-contr.: 1
This log house is built into the hill so the stone cellar is fully exposed on the west façade and forms the first floor level on that side. An enclosed porch covers this side. The two-bay-square house retains 2/2 sash windows and pedimented windowheads. Aluminum German siding covers the house which has a metal gabled roof. An interior brick chimney is located at the south end. A small one-bay one-story addition is attached to the south end of the east side.

Two small frame outbuildings, a shed and an outhouse, stand in the back yard. A concrete block garage is located at the northwest end of the lot.

The increase in value of this house from 1815 to 1816 indicates that either the house was built during that time, or that the buyer realized the lot's higher value due to the proximity to the town spring.
1815: Lot bought by Casper Fulk ($50) — 1816: George Kessinger ($120)
1877: G. W. Pole

Town Spring (north edge of Lot #14) — Contributing: 1(structure)
1815 — Non-contr.: 0

The town spring is located here. Rubble stone fills the opening of the unused spring.

Leitersburg-Greencastle Road at Antietam Creek — Contributing: 1 (structure)
Leitersburg Stone-arch Bridge; Strite's Mill Bridge — Non-contr.: 0
1839
John Weaver built this two-arch stone bridge. It crosses the Antietam Creek at the site of an early ford. Leiter's late 18th century mill on the north bank of the creek was owned by the Strites in the mid-19th century. This is one of over 20 similar bridges in the county. It is significant for the lateral curve in the roadbed. The bridge is well-preserved and is a good example of its type.

21385 Leiter's Mill Road — Contributing:4
1910 — Non-contr.: 1
This stone two-story house is covered by a hipped roof punctuated by hipped dormers. The east-facing main façade has a central entrance sheltered by a deep porch. The masonry forms arched windowheads. Brick chimneys appear at the north and south sides.

A small barn and two small sheds, all of frame construction, and a small concrete block building stand in the back yard.

This "foursquare" style house was built in 1910 by Fred Miner. Along with 21506 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road, it represents the last significant building period in Leitersburg. The house is located across from the group of four small log houses. It does not appear to be located on an original town lot.

Lot #15: 21500 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road — Contributing: 3
Ground's Store — Non-contr.: 0
Circa 1820
This two-story brick general store is one of the finest early commercial buildings in Washington County. The six-bay west façade is laid in diapered, or diamond-patterned brickwork. Zig-zag lines of stretchers contain sections of all-header bond. Brick jack arches form the windowheads. Doors occupy the first, third, and fifth bays on the main façade.

The two-bay-deep building has an original three-bay ell extending to the east. Extending farther to the east of the ell is a one-story four-bay long brick section used for storage. It appears to date from the mid-19th century.

The store stands on a stone foundation with two partial cellars. A two-story galleried porch runs along the back. Doors occupy the first, third, and fifth bays on the main façade. The building retains most of its original 9/6 sash windows as well as interior features such as mantels and woodwork.

Two small outbuildings, a brick shed and a frame outhouse, are located behind the building.

This store was operated by Grimes & Fletcher, Fletcher & Stonebraker, Byer & Lantz, and Fletcher & Lantz, successively. Josephus Ground operated the store from 1853 until his death in 1909. According to Mindy Marsden's recent research into the store's surviving inventory and daybooks from the 1820s and 1830s, the store allowed residents to barter items such as animal hides, sewn clothing, and whiskey from local distilleries in exchange for merchandise. Therefore the store was the lifeblood of the village.
1830: Fletcher and Stonebraker — 1877: Lantz Bros. (Josephus Ground)

Lot #16: 21502 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road — Contributing: 3
Early 19th century — Non-contr.: 1

This is one of two large Georgian-plan log houses in Leitersburg. The five-bay structure is enlarged by a shed – roofed section along the east, or back, side, which may have been originally a two-story porch. A porch runs along the rear of this addition. Two bay windows at the north end are situated on either side of the entrance to the stone cellar. An interior brick chimney is located at either end of the house. A central door on the second floor level indicates that a two-story porch once existed on the main façade. The aluminum-sided house has 9/6 sash windows and a metal roof.

A one-story three-bay section attached to the south end once might have been a separate dwelling. Two small frame outbuildings, a wash house and an outhouse, are located close to the southeast corner of the house. A small modern frame shed stands at the back of the lot.

This especially large house located prominently adjacent to Ground's Store probably served as a hotel in the 19th century. The porches would have given access to lodging rooms as at 21324 and 21413 Leiter St.
1815: Lot bought by Jacob Kessinger. 1817: Lot bought by Samuel Myers
1877: "Howard Hall Co."

Lot #17: 21504 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road — Contributing: 1
Circa 1815 — Non-contr.: 1

Originally a 1½ story log house, this building was raised to two stories in the late 19th century. The three-bay west façade has a central entrance sheltered by a porch. This side is covered by modern exterior plywood, while the other sides are covered with asbestos shingles. The house stands on a stone cellar and is covered by a metal roof. It has 2/2 sash windows. A small one-story section heated by a central brick chimney was added to the north end of the rear at an undetermined date. A frame shed stands at the back of the lot.

In the late 19th century this was the home and office of Dr Charles W. Harper.
1815: Lot bought by Jacob Kessinger 1830: 1½ story log house was standing
1877 & 1898: Dr. Charles W. Harper

Lot #18: 21506 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road — Contributing: 2
1915 — Non-contr.: 0

This two-story hip-roofed brick house is distinguished by a deep front porch and hipped dormers. The central western entrance is flanked by a bay window to the right. Another bay window is found at the east end of the north elevation. An additional brick section and porch cover the rear. A chimney is situated at the south end. Iron cresting tops the original slate roof. The house stands on a stone cellar. Most of the original interior woodwork is intact.

A rusticated concrete block garage stands at the back of the lot.

This is an especially well-designed and well-finished house that remains in original condition. This house was built by the Bell family to replace an earlier log structure. Along with the similar 21385 Leiter's Mill Rd., it represents the last significant building period in Leitersburg.
1815: Lot bought by Jacob Kessinger 1818: Lot bought by George Kessinger
1877: G.W.Pole

Lot #19: 21508 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road — Contributing: 1
Late 19th century — Non-contr.: 1

This two-story frame house has an original front porch on the main west façade. A small addition extends from the rear. Aluminum siding covers the walls and asphalt shingles cover the roof. The windows have been replaced

with modern aluminum sash. A bay window is located on the north elevation and a brick chimney is located at the south end. The house stands on a stone cellar. The interior recently has been extensively altered.

A modern frame shed stands in the back yard.

This house may replace an earlier structure on this lot.

1816: Lot bought by John Reynolds 1877: Mrs. Bell

Lot #20 (and #21): 21512 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road Contributing: 1
Circa 1828 Non-contr.: 1

This two-story log house features a side-hall plan. The main entrance is at the south end of the three-bay western façade. The brick chimney is located at the north gable end. Although the house is covered with aluminum siding the distinctive pedimented windowheads were preserved. The building stands on a stone cellar and is covered by an asphalt-shingled roof. The house is located directly opposite St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

A two-story rear addition was built in stages, partly in the early 20th century.

Joseph Leiter (1805-1862), known as Joseph "The Builder", lived in this house. He apprenticed under carpenter George Zeigler and married his daughter Ann. Leiter raised orphan David Barnhart who also became a prominent builder. Leiter's carpentry business was so successful that he employed "four to six men all the year round." (Bell) In 1846 Leiter built his own new house, 21318 Leiter St.

This is a typical example of the moderate-sized two-story log house found in Leitersburg.

The current property includes Lot #21. In 1877 D.S. Hartle's ice house was located at the rear of this lot, apparently to supply ice to his Leitersburg Hotel. A modern garage now stands on this lot.

1828: Lot bought by Joseph Leiter 1877: Mrs. Legett

Lot #22: 21516 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road Contributing: 3
Built before 1830 Non-contr.: 1

The division between the two parts of this 1½ story log house has been obscured by the covering of German-style aluminum siding. Modern aluminum windows have replaced the originals. The front door is located in the second bay from the south on the western four-bay façade. A porch protects this entrance and another porch covers the back of the house. An interior brick chimney rises at the north end. The house stands on a stone foundation and is covered by an asphalt-shingled gable roof.

A modern garage is located at the south side of the lot. A frame shed and outhouse stand in the back yard.

An original stretch of limestone slabs forms the sidewalk.

1830: Mrs. Ann Leiter 1877: Samuel McDowell

Lot # 23: 21520 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road Contributing: 5
Mid-19th century Non-contr.: 0

A stone cellar underpins this log structure. The two story house has a three-bay western façade with a central entry covered by a semi-enclosed porch. The building has 2/2 windows, German aluminum siding, and an asphalt roof. A two-story addition adjoins the rear.

An early 20th century wooden frame garage is located on the south side of the lot. A small timber-framed barn and two frame buildings, a shed and an outhouse, are located at the back of the lot.

Frank Bell occupied this house.

1877: H. Creps

Lot #23 or #24: 21522 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road Contributing: 0

A mobile home is located at this address. Non-contr.: 1

Lot #24: 21524 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road Contributing: 3
Circa 1818 Non-contr.: 0
A one-story early addition adjoins the south end of this two-story log house, and another early addition extends from the north end of the rear. The original house is three bays long, the front addition is two bays long, and the rear addition is three bays long. The house faces west and has a central entrance as well as a door in the addition's northern bay. A porch shelters both doors. Two small single story additions fill in the southeast rear corner of the L-shaped house. The house stands on a stone cellar. It is sheathed in aluminum siding and covered by an asphalt-shingled gable roof. The pedimented windowheads have been preserved.

A mid-20th century frame garage partially clad in brick stands at the south side of the lot. A frame outhouse is located in the yard.

An original section of stone sidewalk paves the front of the lot.

1818: Lot bought by George Shiess. 1830: Elizabeth Repp
1877: J. Lowman 1898: Daniel J. D. Hicks

Lot #25: 21526 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road Contributing: 1
Mid-19th century Non-contr.: 0
This two-story wooden frame house stands on a stone cellar. Its central door in the three-bay western façade is covered by a porch. Distinctive early 20th century single-pane windows topped by a strip of beveled glass flank the entry. Other windows are 2/2 sash. An addition and porch covers the back of the house. The walls are sheathed in aluminum siding and asphalt shingles cover the gable roof.

In 1835 the United Brethren Church was built on the south end of this lot. The congregation had disbanded by the end of the 19th century and the building was later removed.
1877: Mrs. Summers

Lot #26 (and #27): 21412 Leiter St. Contributing: 3
Wolfinger- Zeigler House Non-contr.: 0
1816
This two-story house faces Leiter St. to the south. It was built in three parts: the central three-bay log section with original rear one-story kitchen; the two-bay timber-framed one-story section to the east, built in the mid-19th century (raised to two stories in frame in the early 20th century); and the two-bay frame section to the west, added in the late 19th century.

The log section has a western entrance leading to a side-hall double parlor plan like that of 21512 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road. A porch shelters the doorway. The adjacent bay window replaced two 9/6 windows in the 1910s. Although the house is covered with aluminum siding, this has been removed from the kitchen where the original beaded siding is visible. The kitchen has 9/6 sash windows framed by ovolo-trimmed architraves. A large exterior stone chimney serves a cooking fireplace.

A stone cellar underpins the original section of the house. The interior brick chimney at the east end serves a fireplace on either level. The interior retains woodwork, six-panel doors, and unusual cut-out tulip step ends. In the west addition, pedimented architraves are finished in original faux wood graining. An interior brick stove flue is located at either end of the house. Asphalt shingles cover the roof.

A timber framed barn borders the alley along the west side of the lot. Behind the barn stands an early 20th century frame out house.

This house was built in 1816 by Daniel and Catharine (Leiter) Lowman. The lot adjoins Catharine's father Andrew Leiter's tavern. The Lowmans lost the property after Andrew died, insolvent, in 1818. It was bought by Sarah Wolfinger, widow of early entrepreneur Michael Wolfinger, and remained in the family until 1954.

This was the boyhood home of Catharine's son Henry Yesler, who was later a founder of Seattle, Washington.

This house displays many original features as well as a succession of building periods.

1815: Lot bought by Jacob Kessinger 1816: Lot bought by Daniel Lowman,distiller
1830: Mrs. Sarah Wolfinger 1877: Daniel S. Wolfinger
1898: Charles Clayton and Laura (Wolfinger) Ziegler: Charles was a "cable-wire fence contractor"

Lot #28: 21416 Leiter St. Contributing: 3
Circa 1815 Non-contr.: 0

A front porch covers the south façade of this two-story three-bay log house. The central door is flanked by early 20th century windows, each of which includes a large single pane topped by an etched glass panel. Other windows are 2/2 sash with pedimented windowheads. A two story ell with a porch, followed by a one-story kitchen, extends to the rear. German siding sheathes the walls. The house stands on a stone cellar. A distinctive cross-gable faced with scalloped shingles accents the front of the asphalt-shingled gable roof.

A rusticated concrete block garage is located east of the house, and a small frame shed stands at the back of the lot.

1815: Lot bought by Isaac Clymer 1830: Isaac Clymer, cooper
1877: Daniel S. Wolfinger

Lot #29: 21418 Leiter St. Contributing: 1
Circa 1815 Non-contr.: 2

This 1½ story log house was raised to two full stories in the 1980s. The two-bay house stands on a stone foundation and is covered with vinyl siding. The building faces south, and an addition extends from the rear. Asphalt shingles cover the gable roof. A workshop and garage are located in the middle of the lot.

1815: Lot bought by Lewis Weaver 1830: Mrs. Kessinger, a widow
1877: C. Kessinger

Lot #30: 21420 Leiter St. Contributing: 2
Circa 1818 Non-contr.: 0

Originally 1½ stories in height, this house was later raised to a full two stories and covered with German siding. A porch covers the central doorway in the south façade. A one-story kitchen addition adjoins the north elevation. A frame garage stands at the east side of the lot.

1817: Lot bought by Henry Barnhart 1818: Lot bought by Henry Shamhart
1877: U. Bigham 1898: Mrs. John Wolf

Lot # 31: 21422 Leiter St. Contributing: 1
Circa 1817 Non-contr.: 1

The original character of this two-story log house has been completely altered by modern materials such as aluminum siding and replacement windows. The large exterior stone chimney at the east end was recently destroyed. The overall shape of the house is the only element that remains to contribute to the streetscape.

A modern shed stands in the back yard.

1817: Lot bought by Henry Barnhart
1898: Mrs. John Harbaugh

1877: L. Koppisch

Lot # 32: 21428 Leiter St.
Before 1830

Contributing: 3
Non-contr.: 0

This two-story three-bay stone house received a two-story two-bay brick addition at its west end in the mid-19th century. Each part of the house has an interior brick chimney at its east end. On the west façade, each part also has an entrance at the east end. A porch shelters this façade. The house stands on a stone cellar and is covered by an asphalt-shingled gable roof. 6/6 sash windows are set in original architraves.

A frame summer kitchen with an attached rusticated concrete block garage sits behind the house. A small timber-framed barn is located at the back of the lot.

Dr. James Johnson, who occupied this site in 1830, almost certainly built this house. Jacob B. Mentzer, a teacher and farmer, later lived here. This is one of the finest early houses in Leitersburg,and unusual for the tone and brick construction. Although the interior was altered in the mid-19th century, the house retains its original exterior appearance.

This is the last original lot on the north side of Leiter St.

1830: Dr. James Johnson

1877 & 1898: Jacob B. Mentzer

21438 Leiter St.

Contributing: 0
Non-contr.: 1

This property was historically part of Jacob B. Mentzer's farm at the edge of Leitersburg, extending several hundred yards to the group of buildings surrounding the "Y" where the road splits; the current Leiter St. (Old Leitersburg Pike) headed to Waynesboro, and Ringgold St. headed to its namesake.

A modern rancher is located here.

21448 Leiter St.
Early 19th century

Contributing: 2
Non-contr.: 0

This two-story house was built in stages, and part of the building is log. Part of the rear ell is stone. The five-bay structure faces south, and has two front entrances. A porch with decorative brackets crosses the main façade. The building retains its original architraves. An interior brick chimney appears in the west end. Asbestos siding covers the house and standing seam metal covers the roof.

A late 19th century timber framed stable stands at the east end of the lot

A stone wall borders the property. Vertical-set stones form a crenellated cap.

1877: J. Nigh

21506 Leiter St.
1848

Contributing: 2
Non-contr.: 1

As Leiter St. turns northeast, this 1½-story house faces east. The building's core is a two-room log structure set on a stone cellar. This was Toll Gate # 2 on the Leitersburg Turnpike. Additions cover the front and back of the house, forming a bungalow appearance. A porch covers the south end of the gable-roofed house. Vinyl siding covers the house and asphalt shingles cover the roof.

A late 19th century timber-framed wash house stands west of the porch. A concrete block garage is located at the back of the property. The driveway at the west end of the lot is a remnant of an old road which ran north to farms along the Antietam Creek.

This house displays elements of two main building periods: mid 19th century log vernacular and early 20th century bungalow.

The toll house was first operated by Jacob Garver, then by his widow Elizabeth, and finally by his daughter Eliza Garver. Jacob Garver came from a family of 17 children and he was the father of 19 children.
1877: Toll House

21510 Leiter St. Contributing: 3
Circa 1869 Non-contr.: 1
This one-story frame house faces east at the corner of MD Rt. 418, part of the modern bypass of Leitersburg. A porch covers the front of the three-bay house. The building has been somewhat altered by modern materials. A concrete block garage stands south of the house and two small frame outbuildings, a shed and an outhouse are located at the back of the lot.

According to tax assessment records, this house was built in 1869.

The 1877 Atlas shows three houses in this area. Looking at this house and its first neighbor north of Rt. 418, it is unclear which of these houses match the three 1877 buildings. The three houses were owned by W. Burkhart, J. Hays, and G. Wise.

MD Rt. 418 leading to Ringgold, part of the modern road system bypassing Leitersburg, separates the following houses from the main village:

21604 Leiter St. Non-contr.: 1
A mobile home stands on this property.

21606 Leiter St. Contributing: 3
Late 19th century Non-contr.: 0
This two-story frame house faces east. The central entrance is sheltered by a porch which also wraps around the north end of the house. A two story ell extends to the rear, and a one-story section runs along the north side. Brick chimneys are located at the north end of the main house and at the west end of the ell. Although the house has aluminum siding and modern replacement windows, several original pedimented windowheads have been preserved. The slate roof is pierced by iron snowbirds.

Two small frame outbuildings, a summer kitchen and a shed, are located along the north side of the property.

21608 Leiter St. Contributing: 2
1919 Non-contr.: 0
The gable end of this two-story frame house faces the road to the east. An enclosed porch covers this façade. Asbestos shingles cover the house and asphalt shingles cover the roof. Metal awnings shade the 1/1 windows. The building stands on a stone cellar. A small frame shed is located on the lot.

This house represents a basic housing form from the early 20th century.

21610 Leiter St. Contributing: 1
1920 Non-contr.: 1

This two-story house faces east. A porch covers the three bay façade, which has a central entrance. Asphalt shingles cover the roof and asphalt brick-patterned sheets sheathe the walls. Metal awnings shade the 2/2 windows. The house is underpinned by a stone cellar.

A modern frame garage stands on the property.

This is the second in a row of three similar early 20th century frame houses.

21616 Leiter St. Contributing: 1
1934 Non-contr.: 0

This frame house resembles its neighbor to the south. It stands two stories tall under a gable roof. Brick-patterned asphalt siding covers the walls and asphalt shingles cover the roof. The east-facing structure includes front and back porches. Pedimented windowheads top the 2/2 sash windows. A series of three single-story additions step down the hill at the rear of the house.

This is the latest structure included in the Leitersburg Historic District. Although it is believed to date from 1934, it resembles its late 19th and early 20th century neighbors.

21508 Ringgold St. Contributing: 1
1870 Non-contr.: 1

This house is located east of the "Y", or split between Leiter St. and Ringgold St. A stone wall bounds the property along Leiter St. to the north, and the house faces Ringgold St. to the south. This two-story log house stands on a stone cellar. A porch covers the main façade. A one-story kitchen section adjoins the east gable end. The walls are sheathed in German siding and the roof is covered with metal.

A modern garage stands east of the house.

According to tax assessment records, this house was built in 1870.

1877: J.W.Nufer (Niufer)

21518 Ringgold St. Contributing: 4
Late 19th century Non-contr.: 1

The south façade of this two-story frame house is covered by a porch. The gable-roofed house is covered with brick-patterned asphalt siding. The house has a brick chimney at either end. A summer kitchen is located behind the house . The lot includes a small frame garage and a shed. An unoccupied mobile home stands at the east end of the lot.

This house resembles its neighbors at the north end of Leiter St. Together they represent moderate-sized housing from the turn-of-the-century building period.

21531 Ringgold St. Contributing:3
Mid 19th century Non-contr.: 1

The two-story frame farmhouse located on this lot is part of a farm that originally included the barn standing on the neighboring property to the east, 21541 Ringgold St. The three-bay house faces north. The front porch has decorative brackets. A central entrance is flanked by long narrow windows with modern sash. A two-story ell extends to the rear. The house stands on a stone cellar. Aluminum siding covers the walls and asphalt shingles cover the roof.

A small frame summer kitchen and a modern garage stand behind the house. A concrete block building stands on an old stone foundation.

1877: S. Daywalt

21541 Ringgold St. Contributing: 1
Mid 19th century Non-contr.: 1
The timber framed bank barn on this property originally accompanied the farmhouse at 21531 Ringgold St. A small frame late 20th century house was built north of the barn when the farmstead was divided.

This is one of two such barns in Leitersburg. The lower stone level retains an original divided "Dutch" board and batten door with wrought iron strap hinges. The upper level has a west-facing forebay and the typical earthen ramp access on the east. Although the barn has been covered with vertical metal siding it retains its original form and many original materials. The structure is covered by a metal roof.

This barn, still in use with the adjoining farm, commands a panoramic view of the Cumberland Valley. This farm as well as the one at 21536 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road represent Leitersburg's agricultural heritage.
1877: S. Daywalt

?1505 Ringgold St. Contributing: 2
Late 19th century Non-contr.: 1
This log and frame house faces the "Y" to the north. The L-shaped structure stands two stories tall over a stone cellar. A porch wraps around the north and east sides of the house. The building has three brick chimneys: one at either end of the main structure and one at the south end of the ell. German siding covers the house and asphalt shingles cover the roof.

A small section connects the ell to a frame summer kitchen.

This house is one of a group of six that surround the "Y" around the toll house at the eastern end of Leitersburg. This group is a cluster of mid-19th century buildings, reflecting the importance of the toll road.
1877: D.F. Nigh

The south side of Leiter Street east of 21413 (Lot #59) was not laid out in lots, but traditionally was used for orchards and gardens to support the residents of Leitersburg. This part of town was developed in the late 1940s when Cape Cods and ranchers were built. Although these houses do not match the original architecture of the town they are compatible in scale and spacing, and the lots are well wooded and landscaped. The lots back up to the Ruritan Leitersburg Park adjoining the old Leitersburg School. This row of mid-20th-century infill terminates at 21505 Ringgold St., one of the cluster of houses at the "Y". These properties are as follows, starting adjacent to 21413 and running east:

21419 Leiter St. Non-contr.: 2
Brick Cape Cod style house, modern garage

21423 Leiter St. Non-contr.: 2
Frame cottage, modern garage

21431 Leiter St. Non-contr.: 1
1940s gas station completely remodeled as Leitersburg Fire Hall

21433 Leiter St. Non-contr.: 5
Two-story frame house, 4 sheds

21437 Leiter St. Non-contr.: 1
Ranch-style house

21441 Leiter St. Non-contr.: 3
One-story frame house, 2 concrete block garages

21449 Leiter St. Non-contr: 3
Brick gambrel-roofed house, 2 garages

Resuming historic lot numbers at the northwest corner of the square:

Lot #33: 21330 Leiter St. Contributing: 2
Circa 1840 Non-contr.: 0

This two-story brick house includes an ell. The distinctive masonry features Flemish bond brickwork and jack-arch windowheads. An early 20th century porch wraps around the south and east elevations. It has square posts standing on a low brick wall. The house stands on a stone cellar which is exposed at the back as the lot slopes downhill.

The main south façade facing the square measures three bays long with an entrance in the easternmost bay. This door leads to a side hall whose staircase features 19th century faux marbleized risers. The house's rear brick ell is as well-finished as the main house. A two-story galleried porch adjoins the west side. The house retains original 6/6 sash and three brick chimneys.

A brick smokehouse stands behind the dwelling.

This is one of the grandest houses built in Leitersburg. The large size, distinctive masonry, and other finishes lend it prominence. The house is in nearly perfect original condition

Tinsmith John Ziegler, regionally famed for his copper kettles, occupied the northwest corner of the square in 1830. A later occupant, Peter Middlekauff, a successful merchant and a Justice of the Peace, probably built this house after 1836.

1830: John Ziegler, tinsmith 1877: Peter Middlekauff

Lot #34: 21328 Leiter St. Contributing: 2 buildings, 1 structure (3 total)
Circa 1865 Non-contr.: 0

This small brick building served as the Leitersburg Branch of the Maryland Surety & Trust Co. in the 1920s and 1930s. It features a distinctive "false front" stepped gable facing the street to the south. Although the main façade's central entrance and flanking window openings have been enlarged to provide a recessed porch, the other windows, some with jack-arched windowheads, have been preserved. A brick chimney rises from either side of the three-bay-deep structure. The building, now used as a residence, stands on a stone cellar.

The Leitersburg World War I Memorial, a metal plaque mounted on a stone pillar, stands southeast of the building.

A frame garage is located at the back of the lot.

This building may have been operated as a general store in the 1860s by owner Peter Middlekauff, who was in business with his neighbor G.W.Pole. It is a well-preserved example of a mid-19th century commercial structure.

1877: Peter Middlekauff

Lot #35 (and #36): 21324 Leiter St. Contributing: 1
Circa 1815 Non-contr.: 0

German siding covers the original stone structure of this two-story building. Originally built by Andrew Leiter, it was shortly thereafter operated as a hotel. It now serves as a private residence. The main elevation faces the street to the south. Although the façade was originally five bays long, a Victorian two-story bay window now occupies the two westernmost bays. A porch covers the remaining three bays. Doors open into the central and easternmost bays, as well as in the southern bay of the west end. The building has 2/2 sash windows under pedimented windowheads, dating from the remodeling. The house stands on a stone cellar and it has an interior brick chimney at either end.

A two-story log ell was added in the early 19th century. This four-bay-long section has 9/6 sash and several entrances. Its eastern galleried porch provided access to the hotel rooms. The north end's exterior stone chimney rises two stories before terminating in a brick stack.

Christopher Burckhart (Jr.) operated a hotel here shortly after 1815. As the building is set at a slight angle to the street, it may predate the final alignment of the road. G.W. Pole, a merchant, may have used this building for commercial purposes in the mid-19th century. David Barnhart, a building contractor and undertaker, occupied this property in the late 19th century. He was also Leitersburg's postmaster. Barnhart may have remodeled the structure.

This building is noteworthy for its stone and log construction, as well as for its early and varied history as a commercial structure.

1815 & 1830: Christopher Burckhart (Jr.) 1877: G.W. Pole
1898: David Barnhart

Lot #37 (and #38): 21318 Leiter St. Contributing: 2
Leiter House Non-contr.: 0
1846

This two-story brick house is famed for its builder, Joseph Leiter, as well as his son, Levi Z. Leiter.

The hip-roofed building faces Leiter St. to the south. It consists of three parts: the main three-bay section, a rear ell, and a c.1900 addition to the east end. The original façade is laid in Flemish bond with jack arched windowheads. The second floor has 6/6 sash windows while 2/2 sash windows are found in the rest of the house. The house stands on a stone cellar which has access from the back as the lot drops downhill.

The main entrance in the easternmost bay of the original house opens into a hall featuring an exquisite spiral staircase. Nearly all of the original woodwork, doors, and mantels remain in the building. The house has Greek Revival corner-block trim.

A frame summer kitchen stands behind the house.

Joseph ("The Builder") Leiter, a nephew of Andrew Leiter, constructed this house in 1846. In that year he also served in the House of Delegates. He built many houses in the area and passed his skills on to David Barnhart, another successful carpenter. In about 1860 Leiter established a sash and door factory in Williamsport, MD; "one of the first industries of its kind in Washington County." (Bell) Joseph's son Levi Ziegler Leiter moved to Chicago and was a founder of Marshall Field's Department Store. Levi Leiter sold out his share and retired to Washington D.C, where he was a philanthropist and investor. His daughter Mary married Lord Curzon of England and became Vicereine of India at the turn of the century.

Joseph's son James Freeland Leiter, also a builder, lived in this house after his father's death in 1862. He was especially interested in family history and built the brick enclosure of the Leiter family cemetery, located north of

the village on the Leitersburg-Greencastle Road. He also supported Herbert C. Bell's documentation of Leitersburg's history.

This house served as a fine example of Joseph Leiter's building skills, and it was very fashionable at its time. The house is preserved in excellent original condition.

1846: Joseph Leiter 1877: James Freeland Leiter

Lot #39: 21314 Leiter St. Contributing: 1
Circa 1886 Non-contr.: 1

This two-story frame dwelling is set back from Leiter St. to the south. A low stone retaining wall borders the small yard. The three-bay house includes a rear ell with a two-story porch. The aluminum-sided structure has an asphalt-shingled gable roof and a stone cellar. A modern concrete block garage is located behind the house.

Joseph Leiter's carpentry shop stood on this site from the 1840s through the 1870s. The 1886 house includes an innovative plumbing system which features a copper cistern in the attic to collect water, which is gravity-fed through the house.

1817: Lot bought by Joseph Gabby 1877: J.F. Leiter

Lot #40 (northeast quarter): 21501 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road Contributing: 1
Late 19th century Non-contr.: 0

Although a commercial enterprise has undoubtedly occupied this corner of the square since Leitersburg's early days, the current two-story general store was built in the late 19th century.

Six bays long by two bays deep, this frame building faces east. A porch shelters the main façade. Doors occupy the first, third, and fifth bays from the south, as well as the north end's eastern bay. Large shop windows flank the northernmost door on the building's front. An interior brick flue appears at the north end.

The store retains its original German siding and 2/2 sash windows, topped with molded windowheads and flanked by louvered shutters. The building is covered by a metal gabled roof and stands on a stone foundation.

The Redmen Club began holding meetings on the second floor in 1895. Virgil Miller operated his confectionary here from the late 19th century until the 1920s, when the Hartles bought the store. This was also a gas station in the mid-20th century.

Despite deterioration due to neglect in recent years, this building remains in original condition and stands as an excellent example of late Victorian commercial architecture.

1877: G.W. Pole

Lot #40 (southeast quarter): 21503 Leiter St. Contributing: 1
Early 19th century Non-contr.: 0

Because a hill rises behind this house, its stone first floor level is completely exposed at the front and underground at the back. The second story is of frame construction. The two-bay gable end faces the Leitersburg Square to the east, and the house runs three bays deep into the hill. The first story's main façade is faced with modern brick, while the sides are stuccoed. The front door is flanked by a modern window to the north. Other windows are 6/6 sash. Aluminum siding covers the frame section, and the roof is covered with metal. Two dormers appear on each side of the roof.

This building probably served a commercial purpose beginning in the early 19th century.

1877: G.W. Pole

Lot # 41: 21505 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road Contributing: 1

Mid 19th century Non-contr.: 1

This two-story brick house is located at the southwest corner of the Leitersburg Square. The east-facing building stands on a stone foundation. The back of the first floor is also stone, indicating that this is a re-working of an earlier structure. The brickwork on the south elevation is rough, as if it was constructed against a building on Lot #42 which was later removed.

Two doors open into the center of the four-bay-long house. A porch shelters the front and an enclosed porch adjoins the back. The north end has an interior brick chimney and an exterior cellar entrance. The roof is covered with metal, the masonry is laid in 5:1 bond, and the windows hold 6/6 sash under wooden lintels.

A modern concrete block garage at the rear replaces a small timber-framed barn which burned a few years ago.

This residence probably originated as a commercial building.

1877: G.W. Pole

Lot #42: Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road Contributing: 1 (site)
Before 1830 (site) Non-contr.: 0

This site was long used as a blacksmith's house and shop. The buildings were demolished in the 20th century to use the site for a parking lot for St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

1830: John Beckman, blacksmith 1877 & 1898: Wilfred L. Flory, blacksmith

Lot #43: 21511 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road Contributing:2
Before 1830 Non-contr: 2

This two-story log house faces east. A porch shelters the four-bay-long front and an enclosed porch covers the back. Front doors occupy the first and third bays from the south. The northern door is surrounded by sidelights and a transom. Metal covers the gable roof and grey brick-patterned asphalt sheets cover the walls. The house has 2/2 sash windows. It is underpinned by a stone cellar.

Three sheds, one frame and two concrete block, are located on the lot.

This lot served as the home and workshop for wagon-makers for a century. Upton Bell was renowned for his wagons built especially for heavy hauling, the mainstay of the Leitersburg Pike. This site and its neighboring blacksmith formed a small industry serving the freighting trade.

1830: Jacob Martz, wagon-maker 1844, 1877 & 1898: Upton Bell, wagon-maker

Lot #44 (and #45): 21513 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road Contributing: 1
St. Paul's Lutheran Church Non-contr.: 0
1826 and 1926

The steeple for this large brick church can be seen for miles around. The belltower entrance was completed in 1885, and the side walls were stuccoed. The octagonal belfry is capped by a steep slate roof. The east-facing building features tall Gothic-arched windows holding stained glass. Paired brackets support the eaves. The masonry includes decorative corbelling stepping down to inset panels. The 1826 cornerstone is set in the northeast corner.

In 1926 a multi-purpose brick addition was built to the north. Its east-facing elevation has stepped sections at either side of the central gable. The single-story structure stands on a raised cellar. Its datestone is set in the southeast corner.

Both parts of the church are painted white. The cemetery is located south and west of the church. The decorative iron fence enclosing the cemetery is punctuated by rusticated concrete block posts.

1826: St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Lot #46: 21515 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road — Contributing: 1
Before 1830 — Non-contr.: 1

This two-story log house has a frame ell. The east-facing building has a central entrance under a front porch. An interior brick chimney is located at the south end. The house is covered with aluminum siding and stands on a stone cellar. The original architraves and 2/2 sash have been preserved. An exterior stone chimney at the west end of the ell terminates in a brick stack. A modern concrete block garage is located at the back of the lot near the alley.

This house serves as an example of a moderate-sized dwelling owned by one of Leitersburg's early schoolteachers.

1830: John Beaver, schoolteacher
1877: B. Wampler
1898: James Slick

Lot #47 (part): 21517 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road — Contributing: 3
Before 1865 — Non-contr: 1

The central section of this three-part 1½-story house is a log structure. The two additions are of frame construction. The front addition's gable end faces the Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road to the east. This three-bay façade has a central entrance and a porch. The small rear addition has an enclosed porch on the south side. The metal-roofed house stands on a stone foundation and is sheathed in German siding.

Three frame outbuildings, a stable, an outhouse, and a modern shed, are located on the lot.

The original part of this house was probably built before Amanda Slick, wife of Robert Slick, bought the lot in 1865. This northern part of Lot #47 is an unusually narrow 25' wide.

1877: Robert Slick

Lot #47/48: 21519 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road — Contributing: 1
Before 1855 — Non-contr.: 0

This four-bay brick structure faces the road to the east. A porch shelters the front and a one-story addition covers the back. The main entrance is located in the second bay from the north. An interior brick chimney rises from either gable end. The house has an asphalt roof, 1/1 sash, and a stone foundation.

Joseph and Ann Leiter bought Lots # 47 and #48 from James and Nancy Weaver in 1836 for a low price, indicating that no structures had yet been built on these lots. This brick house is the middle of three buildings that were built by Leiter on these unequally-divided lots. Elizabeth Lyday, wife of Samuel Lyday, bought the house from the Leiters in 1855. Samuel had operated a hotel in Leitersburg (see 21536 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road) but in another deed from the 1850s he is described as "insolvent".

The house served as a parsonage for the United Brethren in Christ Church from 1871 to 1882.

1877: "Parsonage"

Lot #48: 21521 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road — Contributing: 1
Before 1851 — Non-contr.: 0

This two-story frame house has a one-story log section to the south. Each part has an entrance on the east-facing main elevation. The four-bay primary structure has an interior brick chimney at the north end. A one-story addition covers the rear. The house has an asphalt-shingled roof, pedimented window heads topping 1/1 sash, German siding, and a stone foundation.

Joseph Leiter sold this house to Frederick Koppisch in 1851. Koppisch was Leitersburg's postmaster, as was Jacob M. Stouffer who purchased this property after Koppisch's death in 1885.
1877: F. Koppisch & Post Office

Lot #49: 21523 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road — Contributing: 3
Late 19th century — Non-contr: 1
The decorative porch of this two-story frame house features turned posts, brackets, and a jigsawn quatrefoil frieze. This porch shelters the east-facing main façade, which has a central entrance flanked by windows. An interior brick chimney is located at the north end. The aluminum-sided house has a metal roof with snowbirds, 2/2 sash surrounded by original architraves, and a stone cellar.

Two frame sheds and a new frame garage stand at the back of the lot.
1877: G.W. Ziegler

Lot #50: 21525 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road — Contributing:2
Late 19th century — Non-contr.: 2
This two-story frame house faces the road to the east. The three-bay main elevation, with its central entrance, is sheltered by a porch. A one-story shed-roofed section was added along the back. An interior brick chimney is located at the north end. The house has a metal roof, German siding, 2/2 sash, and a stone cellar.

A concrete block and frame garage is located at the south side of the lot which is bordered by an alley. A multi-part frame shed sits at the back of the lot. A small frame outhouse stands behind the house.

Daniel S. Lowman, who occupied this house in the second half of the 19th century, was a tailor by trade. It is not known if he was the house's builder.
1877: Daniel S. Lowman

The following buildings are not located on original town lots, but form a contiguous section of Leitersburg at the south end of the Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road. Beginning on the west side of the road, south of the alley bordering Lot #50s south side:

21533 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road — Contributing: 2
Early 19th century — Non-contr: 1
This three-bay-long stone house faces east. The two-story dwelling includes a one-story stone kitchen at the rear. The west elevation of the kitchen is built in brick. A porch covers the kitchen's south side.
Each window of the main house is topped by two thin stones and a small keystone. Large stone blocks form quoins at the building's corners.

The northern door leads to a side stair hall. Interior brick chimneys appears at the south end of the main house and the west end of the kitchen. The house stands on a stone cellar and is covered by an asphalt-shingled gable roof.

A small brick outhouse is located south of the dwelling, and a concrete block shed stands at the back of the lot.

One of the few stone houses in the village, this is a substantial and well-finished building.
1877: Byres Estate

21543 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road — Contributing: 6
Early 19th century — Non-contr : 0

Although this appears to be a Victorian frame house, the northern two-thirds of the east-facing building is an early 19th century log structure. The southern two-story bay window is topped by a cross-gable roof whose end features a small Palladian window. A porch adjoins the bay window, sheltering the central entrance. The northern Victorian window features a band of beveled glass panes above a large single pane. Other windows are 1/1 sash flanked by louvered shutters. An interior brick chimney appears at either end of the house.

Scalloped shingles cover the gable ends and German siding sheathes the walls. The slate-roofed house stands on a stone cellar. A two-story porch adjoins the south elevation.

A single-story log building located south of the house is said to have been a school house. Doors open into the north and east elevations of the gable-roofed structure. The two-bay-long building stands on a stone foundation and has an interior brick chimney at the north end. The exposed log walls show whitewashed clay daubing over rough wooden chinking. Weatherboards cover the gable ends.

Two frame garages, one gambrel-roofed and the other gable-roofed, are located south of the school. Two small frame outbuildings, a shed and an outhouse, stand west of the house.

This is an excellent example of a Victorianized vernacular log house. Carpenter William Sheiss undoubtedly built the residence in the late 19th century as an example of his stylish construction skills.

The smaller log building is a rare survivor of its type.

1830: John Fry, weaver

1877 & 1898: William Sheiss, carpenter and contractor

21555 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road — Contributing: 0
Mid-20th century — Non-contr.: 2
A modern brick rancher and a concrete block garage are located on this property.

21561 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road — Contributing: 0
Mid-20th century — Non-contr.: 1
This modern garage has been remodeled as an apartment.

21563 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road — Contributing: 1
Mid-19th century — Non-contr.: 0
This one-story frame house faces the road to the east. A porch trimmed with decorative brackets wraps around the east and south sides. The four-bay main façade's entrance is located in the second bay from the south. Pedimented frames surround the windows. The house stands on a stone cellar. The roof is covered with metal and the walls are covered with asbestos siding.
1877: D. Haughersmith

21603 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road — Contributing: 3
Late 19th century — Non-contr: 0
This two-story frame house includes a rear ell. The three-bay front faces east and has a central entrance. The house has 1/1 windows. The roof is covered with metal and the walls are covered with aluminum siding.

A small summer kitchen adjoins the southwest end of the ell. Two small frame barns are located southwest of the house.
1877: O. Miner

Moving from south to north on the east side of the Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road:

21564 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road — Contributing: 4
Mid-19th century — Non-contr: 0

Across the road from #21563 stands this two-story frame house. The three-bay western façade has a bay window at the south end. A porch covers the north elevation, where the entrance is located. The rear ell can be entered from either side. The south side is sheltered by a two-story galleried porch. Interior brick chimneys are located at the south end of the main house and the east end of the ell. The south and west sides of the roof are covered with metal, while the other areas retain slate shingles. The house has 1/1 windows and is covered with aluminum siding.

Three small frame buildings, two sheds and a barn, are located on the property. Sections of original board siding cover parts of these buildings.

This property may have been operated as a small farm.

1877: William Miner

21554 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road — Non-contr.: 1
Mid-20th century

A one-story concrete block house stands on this property.

21536 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road — Contributing:6
Early 19th century — Non-contr.: 2

Standing at the south edge of Leitersburg is this prominent 2½-story brick residence which originally served as a hotel. As the land rises uphill to the rear of the building, the first floor level's west side is fully exposed while the east side is underground. Therefore the back of the second floor opens at ground level. The main façade's entrance occupies the second bay from the south. Another door is located in the west bay of the south end. Small sliding windows appear in the façade's half-story.

An interior brick chimney rises from either parapet gable end. Mouse-tooth coursing supports the eaves. The façade is laid in Flemish bond, while the rest of the house has 5:1 common bond. Jack-arched window heads are formed with long thin bricks. Metal covers the roof.

A rear brick ell stands on a stone foundation. A brick garage was recently built onto the ell.

A stone summer kitchen and two small outbuildings, a brick outhouse and a frame shed, are located south of the house. A timber-framed bank barn on a stone foundation indicates that this property was used as a farm at one time. Two modern frame and metal farm sheds and a frame outhouse stand southeast of the barn

This building was Samuel Lyday's Hotel in Leitersburg's early days. Lyday served in the Maryland House of Delegates in 1841. A later occupant, Jacob M. Stouffer, was Leitersburg's postmaster.

This building, with its fine masonry, was a grand hotel in its day. The property has an exceptional collection of outbuildings. The well-preserved bank barn is one of two representatives of its type in town. It is still used for agricultural purposes.

After 1830: Samuel Lyday — 1877: Jacob M. Stouffer

21530 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road — Contributing: 1
Leitersburg School — Non-contr.: 2
1914

This two-story brick school replaced an earlier school on this site in 1914. The imposing hip-roofed building is set back from the road on a hill, facing west. The central entrance tower is flanked by three-bay semi-projecting

sections with parapet gables. The narrow windows have stone lintels and sills. The building stands on a stone cellar and its roof is covered with slate. It measures four bays deep.

This building's role as a school was discontinued in the 1960s. The building retains fine original character despite alterations such as blocked windows. The structure and surrounding park are used for community functions by the Ruritans. The park runs northeast behind the village to the Leitersburg Fire Hall. A playground, pavilion, and a building housing restrooms are also located in the park.

Lot #40 (north-central quarter): Leiter Street (no address) Contributing: 1 (site)
1897 (demolished 1981) Non-contr.: 0
This two-story frame structure was built in 1897 as the meeting hall for the Golden Rod Council No. 42, Junior Order of United American Mechanics. It was razed in 1981.

Lot #40 (northwest quarter): 21327 Leiter St. Contributing: 1
late 19th century Non-contr.: 0
This two-story frame house faces Leiter St. to the north. The three-bay structure has a central entrance and 2/2 windows. The front porch includes decorative brackets and jigsawn trim. A single-story shed-roofed addition abuts the back of the house. Standing seam metal covers the roof and aluminum siding sheathes the house, which stands on a stone foundation. A stone retaining wall borders the front of the property.

This building represents the late 19th century building period in Leitersburg.
1877: G.W.Pole

Lot #51: 21325 Leiter St. Contributing: 2
1881 Non-contr.: 1
In 1881 St. Paul's Lutheran Church built this two-story brick house as its parsonage. The house is set back from the street with a rusticated concrete block wall bordering the yard. The three-bay north façade features a central entrance under a porch. The house has two bay windows, one at the east elevation and one at the west. A one-story brick kitchen ell centered at the rear is flanked by porches.

The walls are laid in 7:1 common bond masonry. The residence has 2/2 windows, an asphalt-shingled roof, and a stone cellar.

A frame summer kitchen is located south of the house, and a modern concrete block garage is found south of that.

Lot #51: 21321 Leiter St. Contributing: 1
Before 1830 Non-contr.: 0
This building began as a one-story log house. It was later raised to two stories. The house has a rear ell. The main north elevation has a central entrance and porch. The house stands on a stone cellar. The roof is covered with metal and the walls are sheathed in aluminum siding. 2/2 windows light the building.

Charles A. Fletcher, the merchant operating Ground's Store, lived in this house in 1830, and he may have built the structure. He served in the Maryland House of Delegates in 1844.
1830: Charles A. Fletcher, merchant 1877: Mrs. Fletcher

Lot #52: 21319 Leiter St. Contributing: 1
Before 1830 Non-contr.: 0

One of the few one-story log houses in Leitersburg, this building has an early 19th century rear ell. The main north-facing elevation measures three bays long. The front door occupies the westernmost bay. A porch covers this entrance and the adjacent window. A stone cellar underpins the original house. The ell's east side has a shallow pent eave. Each part of the structure has a tightwinder stair leading to separate attics.

The house retains 2/2 windows. German aluminum siding covers the building. The main roof is covered with asphalt shingles and the ell has a metal roof. The ell's exterior stone chimney was removed during a recent remodeling.

This is a somewhat altered example of a workman's small cottage.

1830: Adam Lantz, laborer
1877: Mrs. Poe
1898: Jacob Creager

Lot #53: 21317 Leiter St.
Contributing: 1
Non-contr.: 1
Mid-19th century

This two-story log and frame house measures five bays long. A porch covers the central entrance and flanking windows on the north-facing front. A shed-roofed one-story addition adjoins the rear. The house is covered with German siding except for modern exterior plywood on the façade's first floor. The building has a metal roof, 2/2 windows, and a stone foundation. An interior brick chimney is located at the west gable end.

A concrete block garage is located at the back of the lot.

1877: M.Poe

21315 Leiter St.
Non-contr.: 3

A mid-20th century Cape Cod style house with a garage and shed is located on this property.

21313 Leiter St.
Contributing: 1
Non-contr.: 0
St. James' Reformed Church
1878

The gable end of this brick church faces Leiter St. to the north. The façade's central entrance tower is topped by a frame belfry. The building runs four bays deep. Rounded brick arches top the windows, set between brick pilasters. The church is built in 6:1 bond with mouse-tooth coursing at the eaves. The slate roof has two rows of snowbirds on each side.

A small cemetery occupies the back of the lot.

From its founding in 1826 this congregation worshiped at the Lutheran Church and then the United Brethren Church until they built their own edifice in 1878. The building is currently used as the Leitersburg Teen Center.

21309 Leiter St.
Contributing: 5
Non-contr.: 0
1898

A western polygonal two-story tower distinguishes this frame Victorian house. Decorative elements of the north façade's porch include turned posts, jigsawn brackets, and a spindled frieze.The rear two-story ell has a galleried porch along the east side. The house has interior brick chimneys at the east end and at the south end of the ell. The building has an asphalt-shingled roof, German siding, 2/2 windows, and a stone cellar.

A small frame shed and summer kitchen stand behind the house. A rusticated concrete block garage and frame barn are located at the back of the lot.

This is an exceptionally stylish Victorian house.

21303 Leiter St. Non-contr.: 1
The modern brick Wayside Baptist Church is located on this property.

21301 Leiter St. Contributing: 1
19th century Non-contr.: 0
This two-story frame house was moved from one of the lots condemned to build MD Rt. 60 in the early 1950s.The house has a two-story bay window, including an entrance, at the east end of the north-facing front. A window is located to the west. A one-story addition adjoins the rear. The house has a metal roof, aluminum siding, and a concrete foundation.

21315 Leitersburg Pike Non-contr.: 1
Milmar Plastics, a small plastics manufacturer and distributer, is set well back from the road on this property.

21307 Leitersburg Pike Contributing: 5
Before 1830 Noncontr.: 1
The eastern three bays of this four-bay-long house form the original log structure. The last bay of the two-story north-facing house was added in frame construction in the early 19th century. A porch shelters the original structure's western entrance and adjoining window. A two story ell extends southward from the addition, and an enclosed porch covers the back of the original house. Asphalt shingles cover the gable roof and German siding sheathes the walls. The log house stands on a stone cellar.

A rusticated concrete block retaining wall borders the front yard. Two frame outbuildings, a shed and a workshop; a concrete block garage; and a brick barrel-vaulted "cave", or root cellar, are located south and east of the house. A small log building at the back of the lot was moved here in the mid-20th century from Red Run near Rouzerville, PA, where it was one of a row of tourist cabins.

Carpenter Samuel Leiter, son of Jacob Leiter (Jr.), built this house across the Leitersburg Pike from his childhood home. He apprenticed under George Zeigler. The house descended to his daughter Athalinda, who married Frank Swailes.

1830: Samuel Leiter, carpenter
1877: Catharine Leiter
1898: Frank Swailes

21314 Leitersburg Pike Contributing: 3
Late 18th century Noncontr.: 1
Three sections, at least one of which is log, make up this house. The eastern three-bay part of the south-facing residence appears to be the main log structure. This section and the western two-bay part stand two stories tall, while a rear kitchen ell is a single story in height. The metal-roofed house is covered in modern exterior plywood. The house has modern windows and stands on a stone cellar.

A frame shed and two garages with frame and concrete block sections are located behind the house. The property faces MD Rt. 60, the Leitersburg Pike, at the western edge of the village.

According to Herbert C. Bell, part of this house may have been built by Jacob Leiter after he purchased the tract "Resurvey on Well Taught" in 1762. George Poe operated his blacksmith shop on this site in 1830. Henry Gagle also built wagons here at that time. Poe's stone building was demolished in the mid-20th century, at about the time Rt. 60 was constructed.

1762: Jacob Leiter
1830:George Poe, blacksmith
1877 & 1898: Joseph Barkdoll

1764-1814: Jacob Leiter (Jr.)
1840s: Joseph Leiter (The Builder)

Lot #54 (no address)
West side of Leiter's Mill Rd., north of 21328 Leiter St.
Contributing: 1 (site)
Non-contr.: 0
This one-story log house was demolished during the construction of MD Rt. 60 in the early 1950s.
1830: Mrs. Barbara Leiter (Andrew's widow)
1877 & 1898: Samuel Miner, mason

Lots #55, 56, & 57: west side of Leiter's Mill Road north of the square
1950s: These buildings were demolished for construction of MD Rt. 60.
In 1830, Amos Dilworth operated a cooper shop on Lot #56, "in which he made barrels for Lewis Ziegler's distillery." (Bell)

Lot #58: 21312 Leiter St.
1841
Contributing: 1
Non-contr.: 1
An alley runs between this lot and Lot #39 to the east. The 1½-story brick residence is joined by a succession of frame additions to the rear: a shed-roofed section, a summer kitchen, and a small one-story garage. The main house has a central entrance covered by a modern porch in the three-bay front, which faces south. An interior brick chimney is located at the west end. The house is built in 5:1 common bond with wooden lintels spanning 2/2 sash windows. A four-pane window appears in each bay of the front's half-story. Asphalt shingles cover the roof, and the building stands on a stone foundation. The summer kitchen has a slate roof.

This structure was built in 1841 as the Leitersburg Methodist Episcopal Church. It was constructed by Alexander Hamilton and Henry Smith of Waynesboro, PA. The congregation disbanded before 1877.

This building serves as a good example of a small religious structure adapted for residential use.
1841: Methodist Episcopal Church
1877: David Barnhart

Lot #59: 21413 Leiter St.
Circa 1820
Contributing: 3
Non-contr.: 0
A two-story galleried porch shelters the north front of this two-part log house. The largest log house in Leitersburg, it originally served as a hotel. The five-bay Georgian façade has central entrances leading to a stair hall on both stories, as well as a door in the westernmost bay of the first floor. An interior brick chimney rises from either gable end. The stone cellar has a western exterior entrance. 9/6 sash windows are found on the first story of the main house, and 6/6 windows appear elsewhere.

The three-bay log ell extending from the west end of the rear has a slightly lower roof than the main house. Its south end is built of stone and has an exterior stone chimney. This chimney tapers gently 2 ½ stories to the eaves line where it terminates in a short stuccoed brick stack. The bake oven to the east has been removed, but its blocked arched opening is still visible. The pent eave on the ell's east side accommodates an original timber-framed second-story porch. Wide weatherboards sheathe the house in this sheltered area.

Corrugated metal covers the roof, and aluminum siding covers the walls. A frame summer kitchen and a frame outhouse stand behind the house.

John Lahm, born in 1781 in Germany, bought land in the Leitersburg area before the village was founded. He was a carpenter and farmer who built this structure and operated it as a hotel in Leitersburg's early days. By 1877 the hotel was discontinued and this building became a private residence.

The log ell of this building is either original or was added shortly after the initial construction. Both parts of the building were designed for its use as a hotel, as indicated by the many doors and porches providing access to various parts of the structure. This building is significant for its construction by a German immigrant, its large size for a log structure, its distinctive stone end wall and chimney, and its early commercial use.

1830: John Lahm
1877: Mrs. Hicks
1898: Mrs. Charles A. Armour

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **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)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property.
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Area of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

Community Planning and Development
Architecture
Commerce
Transportation

Period of Significance

1815-1926

Significant Dates

1815 town laid out

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Multiple unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Previous documentation on files (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 #_____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☒ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository: Washington Co. Planning Dept.

Summary Statement of Significance:

The Leitersburg Historic District is significant under National Register Criterion A for its association with the development of commerce and transportation in Washington County and the surrounding region in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Leitersburg was founded in 1815 by Andrew Leiter after the 1807 Greencastle-Baltimore Road was constructed to intersect the Nicholson's Gap Road on his property. The town developed with many hotels and commercial establishments to serve travelers on the two roads. The town also served as an exchange point between the many mills and distilleries located on the nearby Antietam Creek. The village continued to prosper when nine miles of the Nicholson's Gap Road was rebuilt as the Leitersburg Turnpike in 1847. The Leitersburg Historic District derives additional significance under National Register Criterion C as a well-preserved example of a type of crossroads community which characterized the region in the 19th century, and for its variety of historic architecture. Leitersburg's town plan, comprising a public square at the intersection of two major thoroughfares, typified communities in southern Pennsylvania and adjacent Maryland during the period. The village comprises a cohesive collection of architectural resources reflecting a wide variety of vernacular types and popular expressions dating from the early 19th century through the early 20th century. The majority of early buildings were of log construction. The 30 extant examples range from small workers' cottages to large houses which served as hotels. A pair of substantial brick buildings on Leitersburg's central square which operated as a store and a tavern are among the most distinctive early 19th century commercial buildings in the county. Stone and frame buildings representing the Federal and Victorian periods and the early 20th century are found in the village. The preservation of Leitersburg's 19th/early 20th century architectural character is a fortunate consequence of its having been bypassed by major transportation modes: the town's failure to secure a railroad line in the early 20th century slowed its growth, and the construction of Maryland Route 60 in the 1950s diverted motor traffic around Leitersburg.

The period of significance, 1815-1926, extends from the date the town was platted through the mid-1920s, during which period the town substantially achieved its existing form and appearance.

Resource History and Historic Context:

The Leitersburg area in northeast Washington County, Maryland, was first settled in 1738. The region was sparsely populated until after the French and Indian War in the early 1760s. This territory was part of Frederick County until the formation of Washington County in 1776. Under both jurisdictions it was part of the Antietam Hundred. Several election districts were created in 1838, and the Leitersburg area was designated Election District No. 9. The boundaries were reduced with the creation of the Ringgold District (No. 14) to the east in 1860 and the Chewsville District (No. 18) to the southwest in 1872. The Mason-Dixon Line forms the Leitersburg District's boundary to the north. South Mountain rises several miles to the east.

English settlers came to this area from eastern Maryland in the mid 18th century. The more numerous German inhabitants arrived from Pennsylvania, especially Lancaster County, throughout the late 18th and early 19th centuries. These families included the Zieglers, Leiters, Wolfingers, Mentzers, Strites, Bells, Hartles, and Lantzes.

George Poe first patented the tract "Well Taught", which included the future site of Leitersburg on the Antietam Creek, in 1749. In 1762 after the land was resurveyed as "Resurvey on Poe's Part of Well Taught", Jacob Leiter, a German settler from Lancaster Co., PA, bought 362 acres. Upon Jacob's death in 1764 his son Jacob Jr. acquired half of the tract. Historian Herbert C. Bell, writing in 1898, considered the house at the western edge of Leitersburg (21314 Leitersburg Pike) to be the old Leiter homestead, built by Jacob Leiter Sr. and occupied by his son Jacob Jr. from 1764 until his death in 1814.

The old Nicholson's Gap Road was the main route through this region in the late 18th century. It led from Baltimore, Maryland through what later became Rouzerville, Pennsylvania in the northeast, to Hagerstown 6 miles southwest of the present village of Leitersburg. The road was located on the northwest side of the Antietam Creek. In 1802 this road was resurveyed and realigned to the southeast side of the creek, which is the present route of the Leiterburg Pike and Leiter St. in the town. In 1807 a new public road was laid out from what is now Smithsburg, four miles to the southeast, to Greencastle, Pennsylvania, nine miles to the northwest. It was the Leiter family's good fortune that these two roads intersected on their Well Taught tract. Blacksmith Andrew Leiter bought the crossroads from his father in 1811. He built a stone tavern at the northeast corner by at least 1812, and laid out the public square and 53 town lots in 1815. He also built a two-story stone house on Lot #35 (21324 Leiter St.) which soon thereafter was operated by Christopher Burkhart as a hotel. Although the town prospered and about 30 lots were sold, Leiter was overextended financially and he died insolvent in 1818.

Sawmills and gristmills were established along the Antietam Creek as well as on the Little Antietam Creek, less than a mile south of the village site, as early as 1765. These facilities took advantage of the extensive supply of timber as well as the increasing harvest of grain from nearby farms. Distilleries also used these resources, providing farmers with a marketable export. As Herbert C. Bell states, "In proportion to its bulk whiskey was many times more valuable than flour, and as transportation was expensive and laborious it is not surprising that a large part of the cereal product of the District found its way to market through the still." Tanneries and hemp mills also proliferated. With improved roads on which to transport these goods, commerce grew dramatically in the early 19th century.

Leitersburg thrived between 1815 and 1830, the year for which author Bell provides a portrait of the village. Fletcher and Stonebraker's general store (21500 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Rd.) stood opposite Leiter's original tavern, now operated as the Cross Keys Hotel. The store not only sold goods, but accepted local products in payment in a bartering system. The store also served as a hotel, as did the buildings owned by John Lahm (21413 Leiter St.), the aforementioned Christopher Burkhart, and slightly later, Samuel Lyday (21536 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Rd.). Blacksmiths and wagonmakers occupied adjoining properties to provide service to the freighting trade: for example, George Poe and Henry Gagle (the old Leiter homestead, 21314 Leitersburg Pike), and John Beckman, later Wilfred L. Flory (Lot # 42); and Jacob Martz, later Upton Bell (Lot # 43, 21511 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Rd.). Small to moderate sized log buildings housed workmen occupied as tailors, shoemakers, weavers, tinsmiths, distillers, coopers, and carpenters. A teacher, undertaker, and doctor also lived in the village.

As Leitersburg prospered throughout the 19th century, several institutions were established. Although small country churches served the area from its earliest settlement, the first substantial religious edifice was St. Paul's Lutheran Church, built in the center of town in 1826. This building still dominates the village skyline. Later churches, the 1841 Methodist Episcopal Church (21312 Leiter St.) and the 1878 St. James Reformed Church (21313 Leiter St.), were adapted for residential and community use, respectively, when their congregations disbanded.

Small schools were located throughout the district. The 1914 Leitersburg School was in operation until about 1960, and it still serves for community functions.

Private clubs and lodges were established in the mid-19th century. The Red Men met at Virgil Miller's Confectionary (21501 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Rd.) and on this same lot (#40) the Golden Rod Council, No. 42, Junior Order United American Mechanics built their own meeting hall in 1897.

Further transportation improvements included the construction of a stone-arched bridge on the Leitersburg-Greencastle Road in 1839. In 1831 a road was constructed from Leitersburg to the State line, where it met the new road leading to Waynesboro. This road and the old Nicholson's Gap Road from Leitersburg to Hagerstown were rebuilt as the Hagerstown-Waynesboro Turnpike, popularly known as the Leitersburg Pike, in 1847.

Leitersburg's populace included Revolutionary War and War of 1812 veterans in the early days of the town. The Civil War affected the village not only through its young men's service as soldiers, but also through the passage of Confederate troops through the town, especially after the Battle of Gettysburg. Some residents moved their horses and livestock to Pennsylvania to prevent their expropriation by the enemy. In the early 20th century Leitersburg honored soldiers from World War I with a memorial on the square.

As opportunities were limited even in a commercially successful village like Leitersburg, some residents moved westward and became famous through their enterprise. Most notably Henry Yesler became a founder of Seattle, Washington in the 1850s, and Levi Z. Leiter was a founder of Marshall Field's Department Store in Chicago in the 1860s. They were both nationally known businessmen and millionaires. Leiter's daughter Mary, as wife of Lord Curzon, became Vicereine of India at the turn of the century and was one of the most famous women in the world.

In 1853 Leitersburg was incorporated as a municipality. Under this government, "the streets were improved, the sidewalks were curbed and paved..." (Bell), but the community sustained little interest, and within a few years the town government lapsed. Bell cites George C. Zeigler's informal enumeration of Leitersburg's population totaling 219 in 1829, 298 in 1850, 335 in 1870, and 308 in 1880.

Businesses continued to prosper through the late 1800s, but as railroad lines were routed through other towns, Leitersburg lost its original transportation advantage and stagnated in the 20th century. When the Leitersburg Pike was rebuilt yet again as a bypass around the town in the early 1950s, many businesses closed. A small store and deli continued to operate in Ground's Store until the mid-1990s. The Leitersburg Hotel, the town's founding establishment, has outlasted all the other commercial enterprises to become the last remaining business in the Leitersburg Historic District. The historical character of the town was preserved, however, by the reduction of modern commercial pressure due to the Leitersburg Pike bypass.

Architectural Significance

Leitersburg is a well-preserved early 19th century village. The expansive paved square with buildings set far back at the corners accommadated traffic flow at the intersection and expanded parking space for large wagons. This distinctive feature is found in few other villages, and it indicates that careful and optimistic planning went into the layout of the town. Sections of stone wall and stone or brick sidewalks also contribute to the historic streetscape.

Few original buildings have been removed from the Leitersburg Historic District, and areas of infill are not obtrusive. Although many buildings have been covered with modern materials, nearly all retain their

original fenestration patterns and a great number of houses exhibit original details such as window framing and sash.

Leitersburg's collection of early 19th century commercial buildings is especially significant. The Leitersburg Hotel, Ground's Store, and Lahm's. Lyday's, and Burkhart's hotels show a great range of commercial structures built in log, stone, and brick between 1815 and about 1835. Original features such as the network of doors and porches demonstrate the circulation patterns in the hotels. Later 19th century buildings such as Virgil Miller's Confectionery and the general store/bank at 21328 Leiter St. continued the commercial tradition.

The aforementioned examples of religious, educational, and social institutions represent many styles and form a network through the town. The stone arched bridge and World War I Memorial are two structures that add another dimension to the village.

About 35 vernacular log buildings are extant in the Leitersburg Historic District. The log shell is a versatile box that accommodates numerous modifications such as raising in height, changing of decorative elements such as siding and trim, and enlargement by additions, while retaining its sturdy structure and pleasing proportions. These houses range in size from small workers' cottages, such as the row of four houses on Leiter's Mill Road, and the Toll House, to moderate-sized two-story houses such as 21412 and 21416 Leiter Street and 21512 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Rd., to large structures used as inns such as Lahm's Hotel and 21502 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Rd. The smaller houses have a simple two or three room floor plan with a boxed tightwinder stair. The larger inns were designed in the Georgian plan with an elegant central stair flanked by pairs of parlors.

Throughout Leitersburg's history houses were expanded by enclosure of a rear porch or by the construction of additions. Where lot frontage allowed, houses were expanded with lateral sections such as 21516 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Rd. and 21317, 21412, and 21428 Leiter St. Many structures were extended deeper into the lot, such as 21416, 21606, 21616, and 21319 Leiter St. Single-story log houses were later raised to a full two stories in height, including 21504 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Rd. and 21420 and, in modern times, 21418 Leiter St.

The Federal Period is represented in the Leitersburg Historic District by three brick buildings on the square: The Leitersburg Hotel, Ground's Store, and Peter Middlekauff's residence, 21330 Leiter St. The Flemish bond masonry and tall jack-arched windowheads are typical of the period. Homes built with a Federal-influenced side hall, double parlor plan include the aforementioned Peter Middlekauff residence, 21412 Leiter St., and 21512 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Rd.

The 1846 Joseph Leiter House at 21318 Leiter St. was built with a Federal side-hall plan, but its corner-block interior trim and other woodwork reflects the Greek Revival style.

The residence at 21309 Leiter St. stands as the best representative of Victorian architecture in the Leitersburg Historic District. Its distinctive tower and "gingerbread" trim exemplify this style. Other buildings were "Victorianized " with bay windows (21412 and 21324 Leiter St.) and elaborate porch trim and large windows with beveled or etched glass (21526 and 21523 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Rd.) The log house at 21543 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Rd. was extended and finished in a well-detailed Victorian manner, and the stone Burkhart's Hotel (21324 Leiter St.) received a complete Victorian remodeling.

Early 20th century Foursquare houses exhibit fine period detail in their masonry and interior and exterior trim. The brick house at 21506 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Rd. and the stone-faced residence at 21385 Leiter's Mill Rd. are two well-detailed, well-preserved examples of this last significant building period in Leitersburg's history.

Examples of various types of outbuildings are found throughout the Leitersburg Historic District. The brick smokehouse at 21330 Leiter St. and the summer kitchen at 21428 Leiter St. are typical auxiliary structures. About a dozen outhouses, some still in use in recent years, are extant in the village. Without a public water (or sewer) system, cisterns store water for many houses. 21536 and 21543 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Rd. and 21307 Leitersburg Pike each display a fine collection of outbuildings.

Two farms with good examples of bank barns (21536 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Rd. and 21531/21431 Ringgold St.) stand at the edge of town, marking the transition to rural land.
Leitersburg is surrounded by historic farms, with three nearby properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places (Lantz-Ziegler House, Good-Hartle Farm, and Rockledge- pending), and many more farms eligible.

Although the builders of vernacular structures are usually anonymous, thanks to Herbert C. Bell several carpenters in Leitersburg have been identified. Joseph Leiter may have built 21512, 21517, 21519, and 21521 Leiter St., and he certainly built the grand Leiter House. Builder David Barnhart probably remodeled his own house, originally Burkhart's Hotel, and Samuel Leiter built 21307 Leitersburg Pike. George, Lewis, and Frederick Ziegler, Samuel Dayhoff, and William L. Shiess were also carpenters known to have worked in Leitersburg.

The Leitersburg Historic District exhibits a comprehensive variety of vernacular buildings as well as examples of the Georgian, Federal, Greek Revival, Victorian, and Foursquare styles. Leitersburg is a significantly intact early 19th century rural Washington County village.

Major Bibliographical References:

An Illustrated Atlas of Washington County, Maryland. Philadelphia, PA: Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson, 1877
Bell, Herbert C. History of Leitersburg District, Washington County, Maryland. Published by the Author 1898.
Maryland Historical Trust: Washington Co. Historic Sites Survey.
Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Western Maryland. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co., 1968.
Schooley, Patricia. Architectural and Historic Treasures of Washington County, Maryland. Keedysville, MD: Washington Co. Historical Trust, 2002
Washington Co. Free Library, Western Maryland Room: 1803 Tax Assessments
Washington Co., MD: Land Records; Wills
Williams, Thomas J. C. A History of Washington County, Maryland. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co., 1968.

Leitersburg Historic District (WA-1-174)
Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland
County and State

0. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 100 acres

UTM References Hagerstown and Smithsburg, MD-PA quads
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	See continuation sheet		
2			
3			
4			

☒ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Merry Stinson, Architectural Historian
Organization _____ date Nov. 1, 2002
street & number 21412 Leiter St. telephone (301) 791-1621
city or town Hagerstown state MD zip code 21742

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional Items
(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO)

name Multiple owners
street & number _____ telephone _____
city or town Leitersburg state MD zip code 21742

Paperwork Reduction Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et. seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

UTM References:

A: 18-275644-4397522
B: 18-275807-4397212
C: 18-275568-4396607
D: 18-275289-4396302
E: 18-274725-4396744
F: 18-274862-4397374

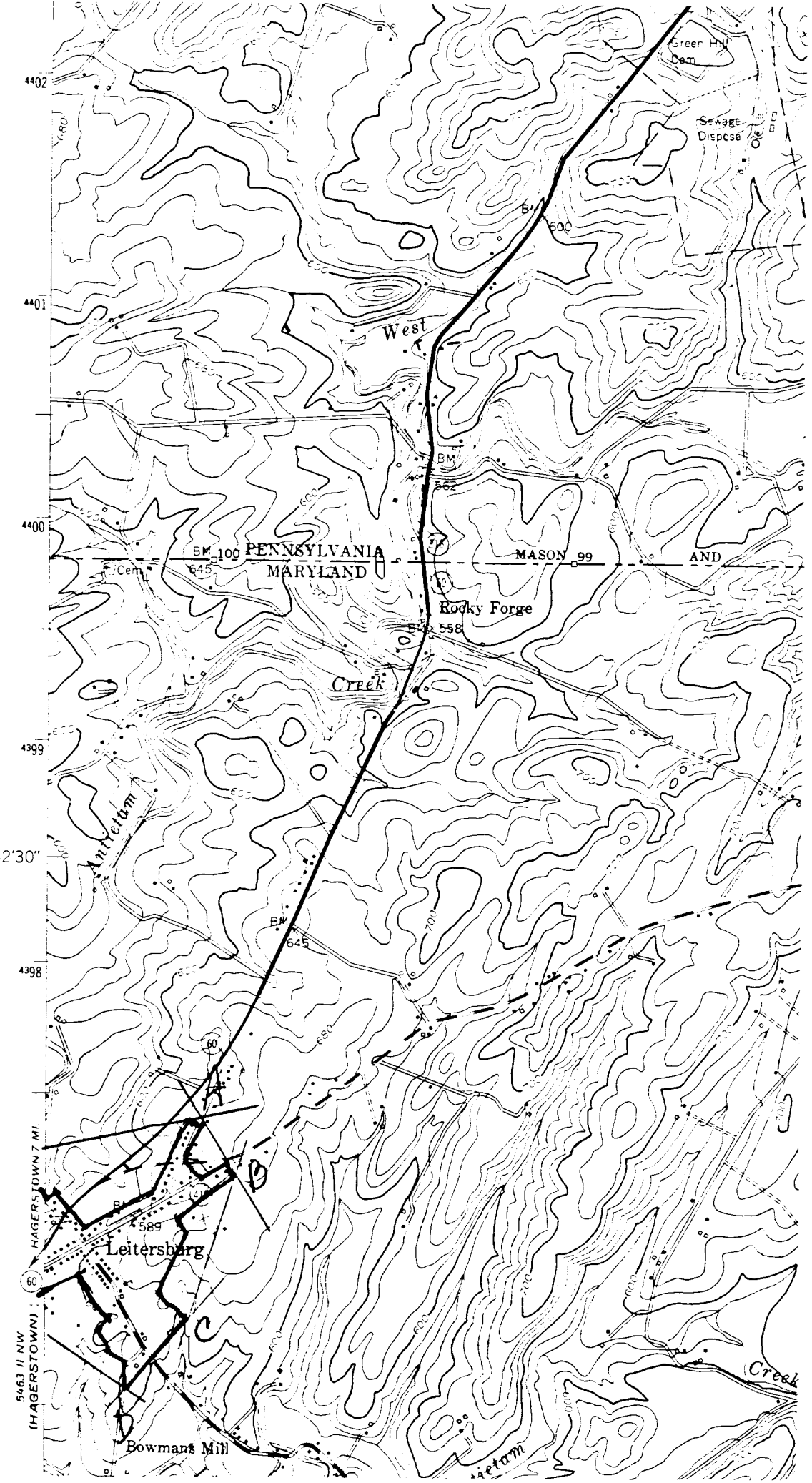
Verbal Boundary Description:

Boundaries are shown on the map which accompanies this nomination, drawn to a scale of 1"= 600', and labeled "Leitersburg Historic District National Register Boundary Map".

Boundary Justification:

The Leitersburg Historic District includes all lots that were laid out as part of the original town, as well as those properties immediately contiguous to the village which were an integral part of the town during the historic period, ending in 1926.

WA-I-174 Leitersburg Historic District
National Register Boundary Map
Washington Co., MD Tax Assessment Map #26
Scale: 1" = 600'
January 2003



WA-I-174

LEITERSBURG HISTORIC DISTRICT

WASHINGTON COUNTY, MD

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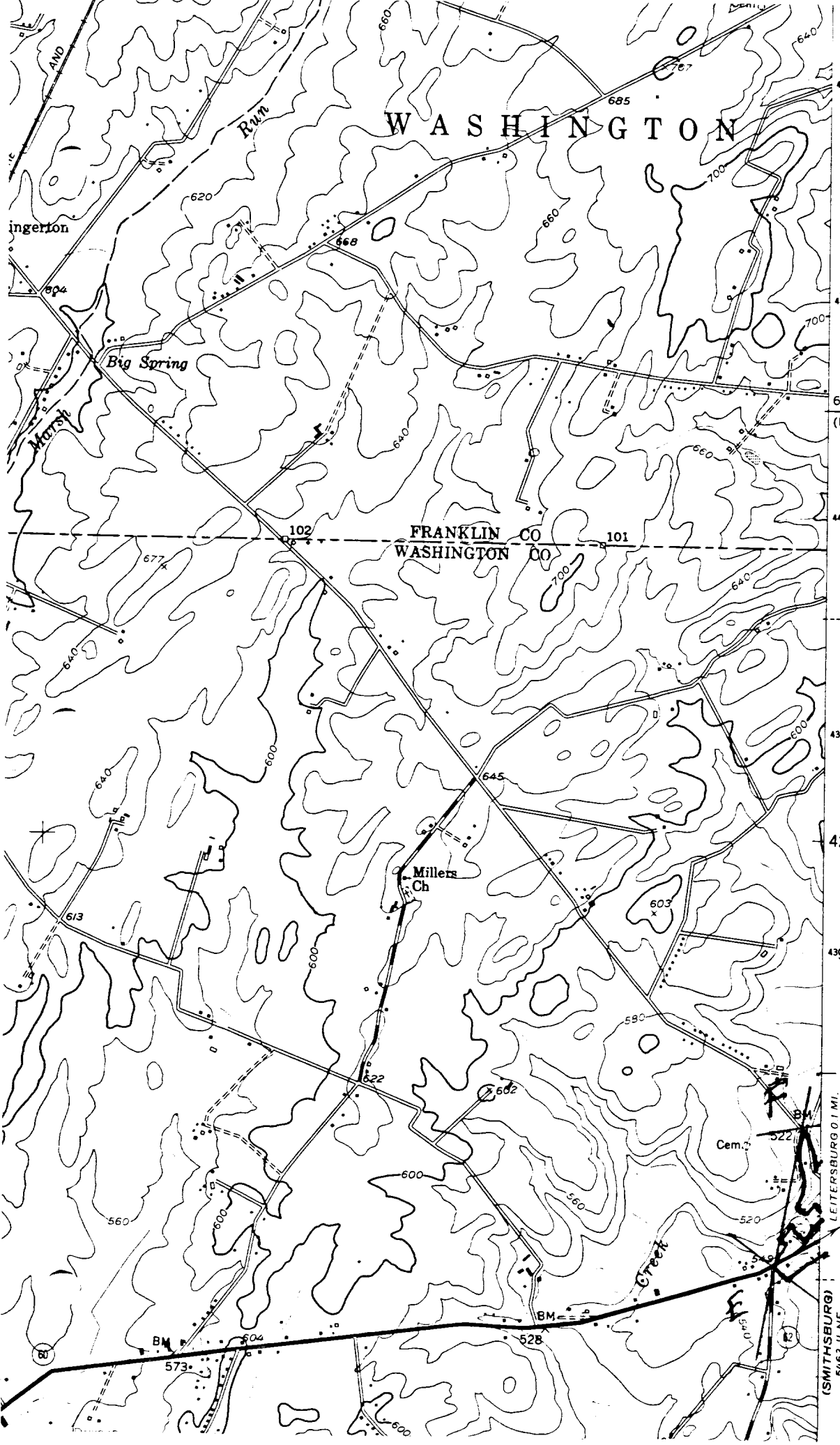
B: 18-275607-4397212

C: 18-275568-4396607

D: 18-275289-4396302



WA-I-174

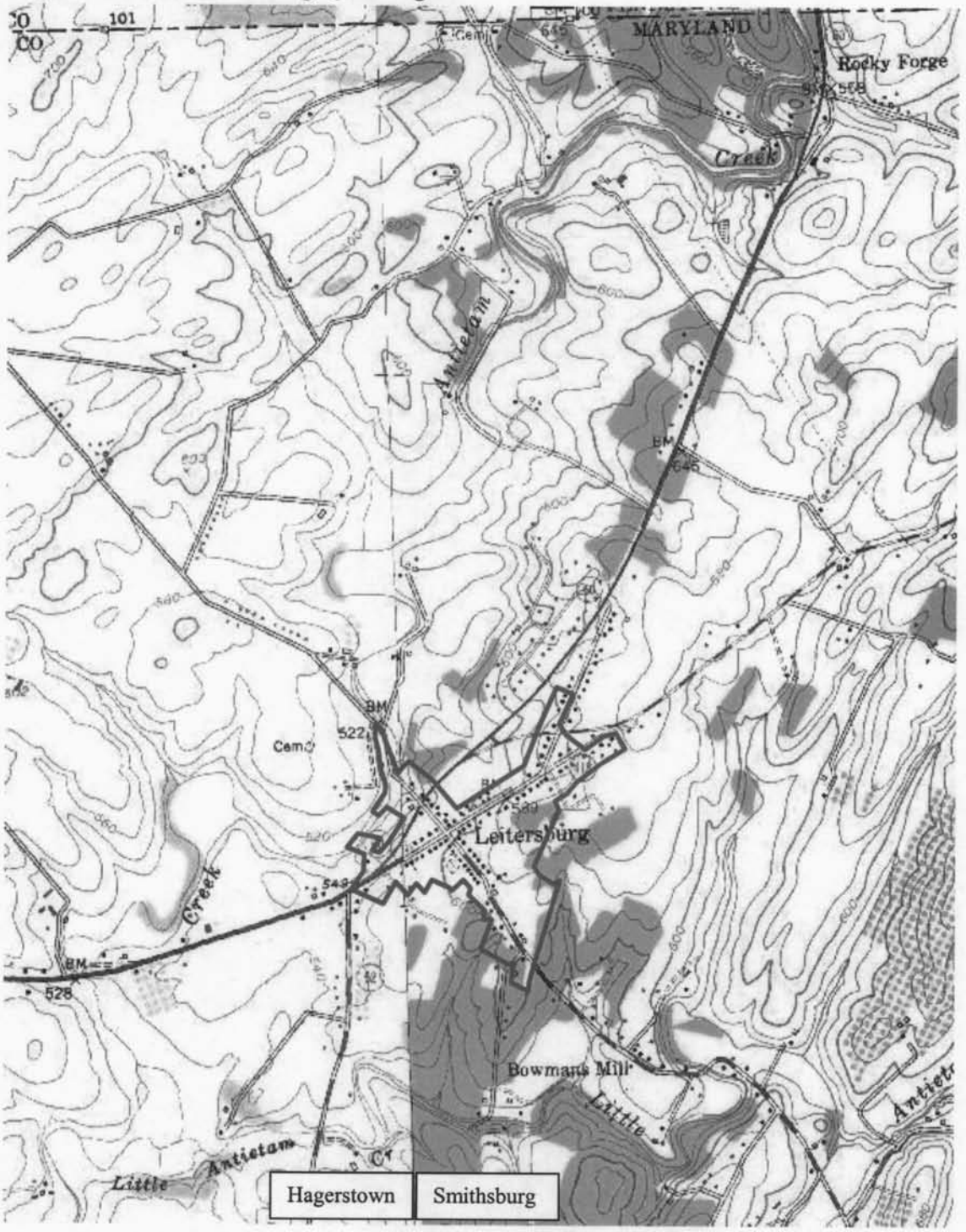
LEITERSBURG HISTORIC DISTRICT

WASHINGTON COUNTY, MD

E: 18-274725-4396744

F: 18-274862-4397374

WA-I-174
Leitersburg Historic District
Hagerstown and Smithsburg Quadrangles



Coors
Keno
PLAYED HERE
HOTEL - TAVERN

WA-I-174
Leitersburg Historic District
- 21400 Leiter St. (Lot #1)
- Leitersburg Hotel
WA MD
Merry Stinson 10/02
MD SHPO
- W&S elevs.
1 of 32

WA-I-174

Leitersburg Historic District

21414, 21416 Leiters Mill Rd.

(Lot #3S) : Lot #2N)

Mary [illegible] 10/02

MD SHPO

N & W elev

2 of 32

WA-I-174

Leitersburg Historic District

Lots: 21374, 21376, 21378, 21380

Leitersburg Rd. (Lots 13, 12, 11, 10)

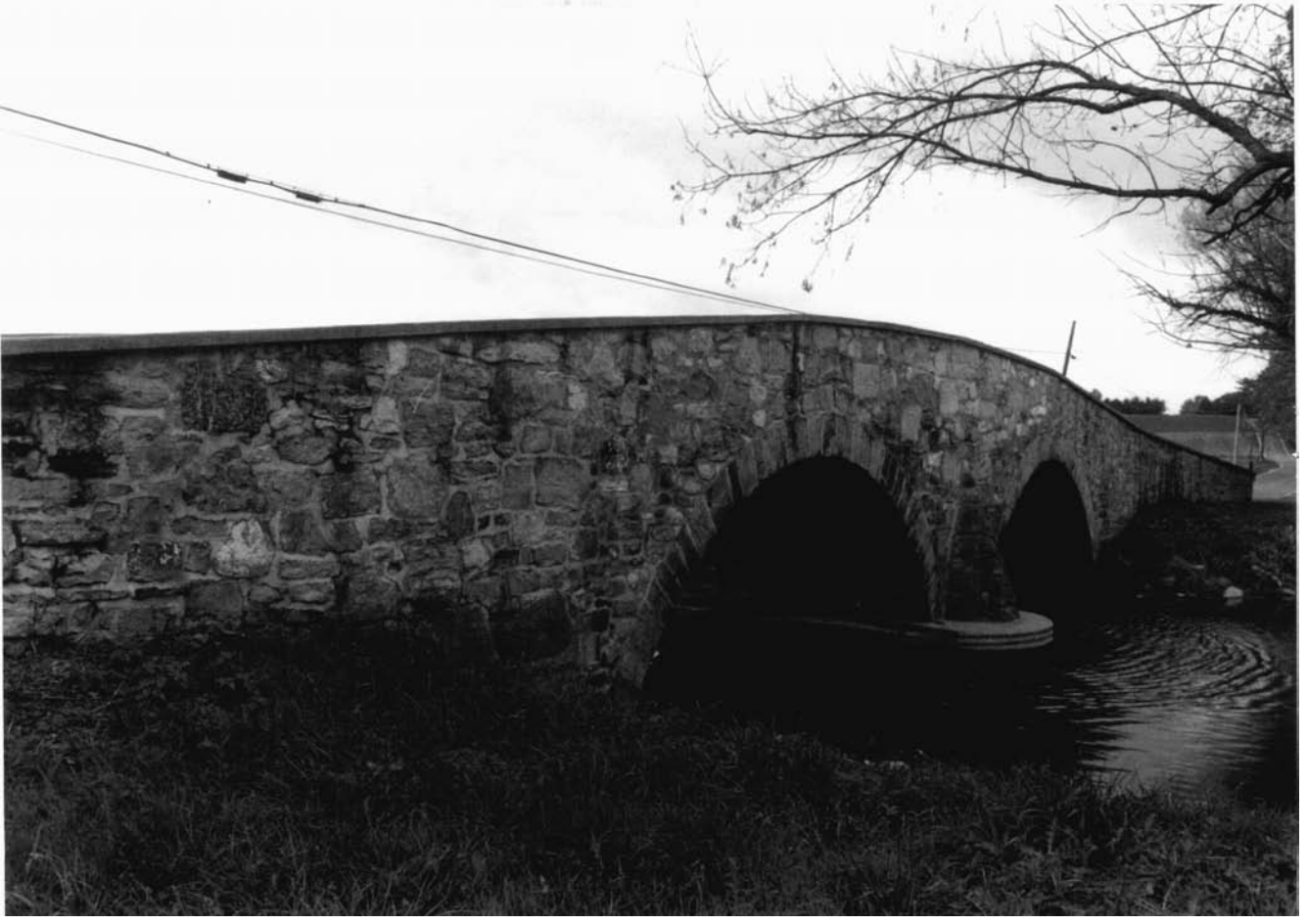
WA MD

Merry Stinson 10/02

MD SHPO

W & S elev.

3 of 32



WA - I 174

Leitersburg Historic District

Leiters Mill [illegible] Creek

Leitersburg Bridge

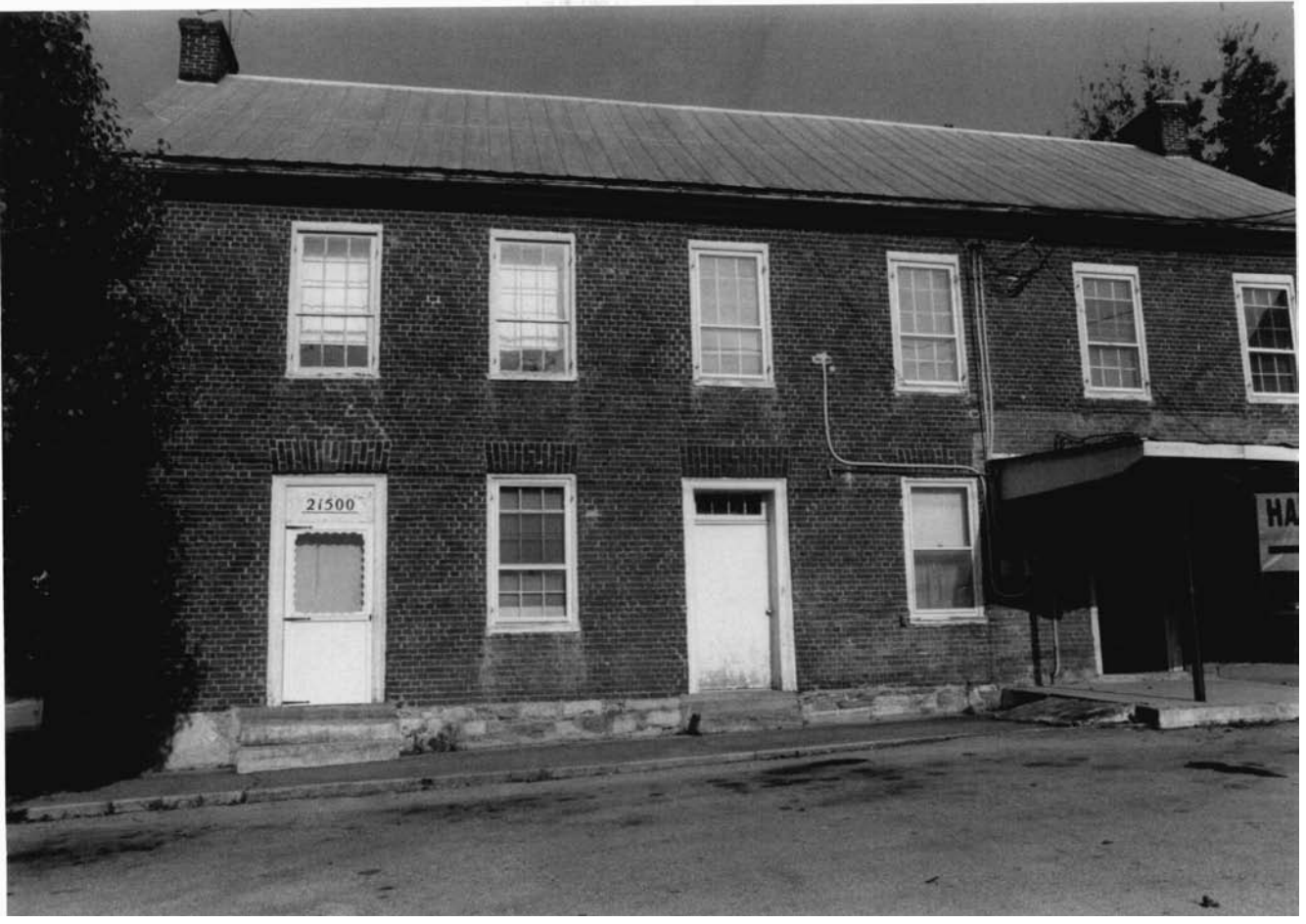
WA MD

Merry Stinson 10/02

MD SH-0

E elev.

1 of 3


21500

WA-I 174
Leitersburg Historic Distri

Grounds Store (Lot #15)
21500 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Rd

WA MD

Merry Stinson 10/02

MD SHPO

W. elev.
5 of 32

21512

WA-I-174

Leitersburg Historic District

21512 Leitersburg Smithsburg Rd.
(Lot #22)

WA MD

Merry Stinson 10/02

MD SHPO

W elev.

6 of 22

WA - I - 174

Leitersburg Historic District
21516 Leitersburg Smithsburg Rd.
(Lot #

WA MD

Merry Stinson 10/02

MD SHPO

Nicholas

1 of 32

WA-I-174
Leitersburg Historic District
21412 Leitersburg Pk. (Lot #26)

WA MD
Merry Stinson 10/02
MD SHPO
W&S elev.
6 of 32

WA-I-174

Leitersburg Historic District
21420 Leiter St. (Lot #30

WA MD

Merry Stinson 10/02

MD SHPO
S & E elev
9 of 32

WA - T - 174

Leesburg Historic District
21428 Leiter St. (Lot #32)

WH MD

Merry Stinson 10/02

MD SHPO
W.S. elev.
10 of 32

WA - I - 174
Leitersburg Historic District
21448 Leiter St.
WA MD
Merry Stinson 10/02
MD SHPO
Selev
11 of 32

WA-I-174
Leitersburg Historic District
21506 Leitersburg
WA MD
Mary Stinson 1982
MD SHPO
Select.

WA - I - 174
Leitersburg Historic District
21520 Ringgold St.
WA MD
Mary Stevens
MD SHPO
E & N Rev
14 + 32

WA- I - 174
Leitersburg Historic District
21608 21610 21616 Letter St.

WA MD
Merry Stinson 10/02
MD SHPO
[illegible]
[illegible]

WA - I - 174
Leitersburg Historic District
21328 Leiter St. (Lot #33)

WA MD
Murry Stinson 10/02

MD SHPO
S & E elev.
15 of 32

WA - I - 174

Leitersburg Historic District
21[illegible] Leiter St. (Lot [illegible])

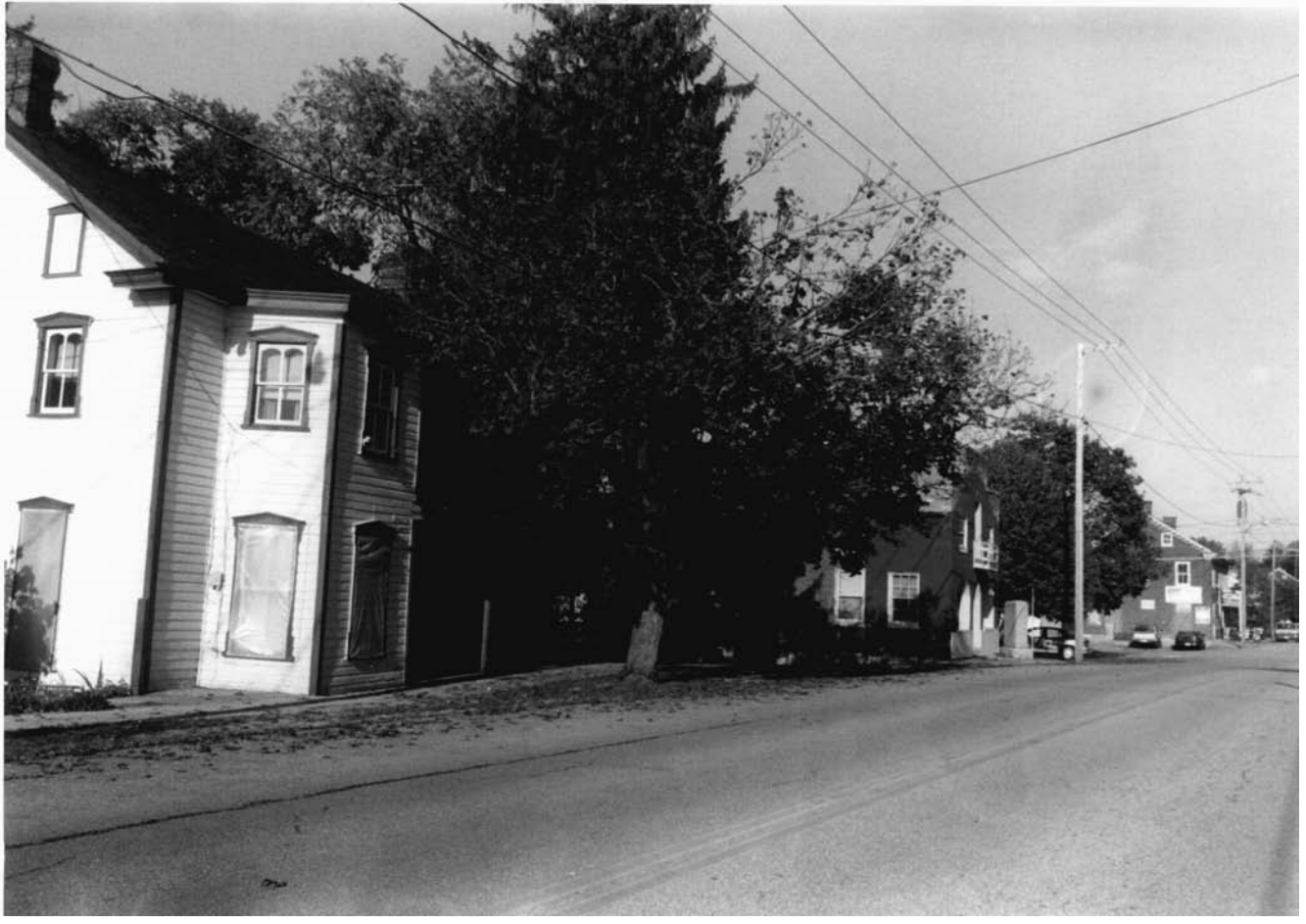
WA [illegible]

Merry Stinson 10/02

MD SHPO

W[illegible]

16 of 2



WA - I - 174

Leitersburg Historic District

21324 & 21328 A Leiter St. (Lot #35)

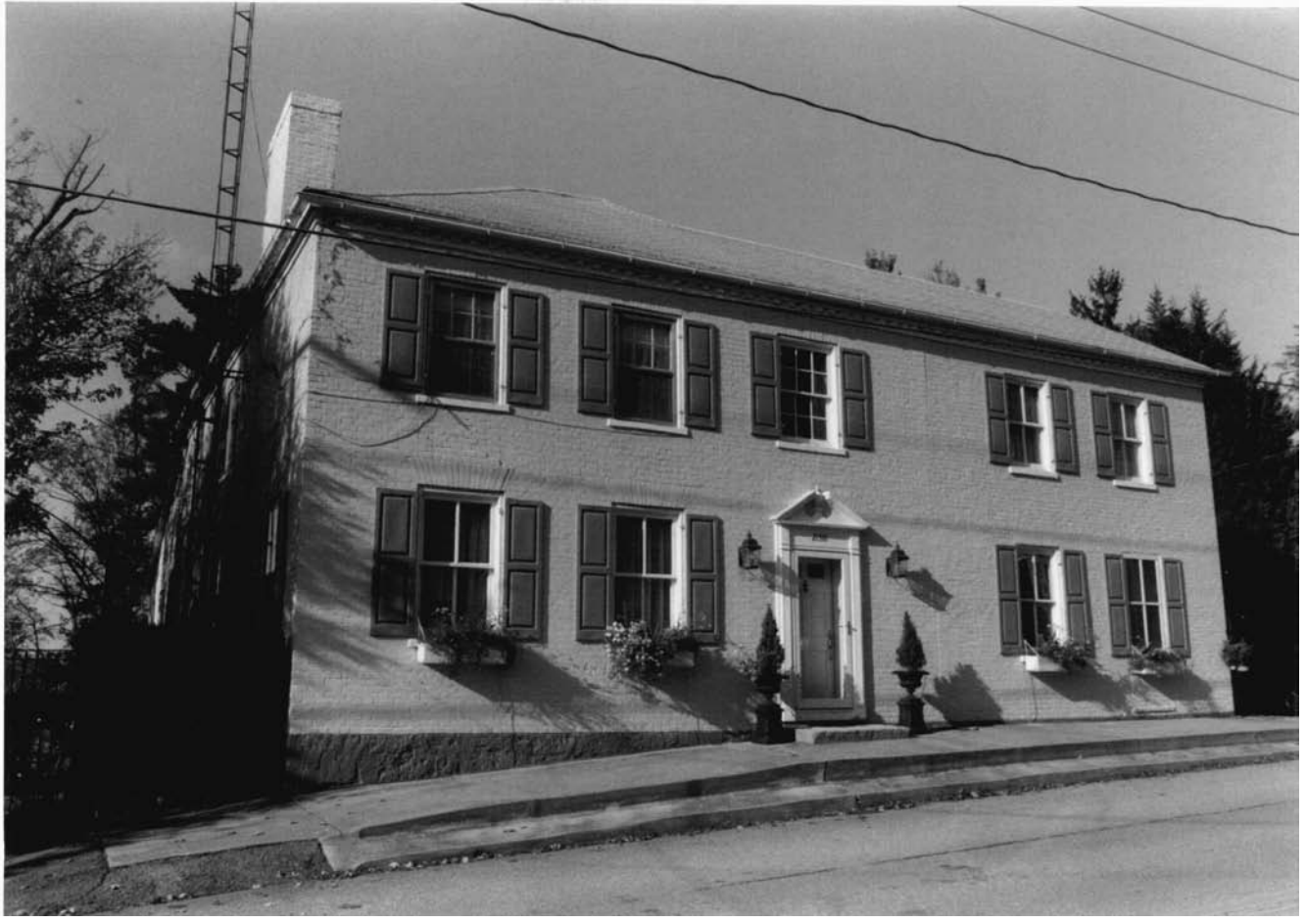
WA MD

Merry Stinson 10/02

MD SHPO

W [illegible]

17 of 32



WA - I - 174

Leitersburg Historic District

21318 Leiter St. (Lot #37)

Leiter House

WA MD

Merry Stinson [illegible]

MD SHPO

S elev.

18 of 32

WA-I-174

Leitersburg Historic District
21501, 21503, 21505 Leitersburg-
Smithsburg Rd. (Lots # 41 & 42)

WA MD

many

MD SHPO
N & E elev.
19 of 32

WA - I - 174

Leitersburg Historic District
21513 Leitersburg - Smith[illegible]
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
WA MD (Lots # 44 [illegible])

Merry Stinson 10/02

MD SHPO
Elev.
20 of 22

WA - I - 174

Leitersburg Historic District
21523, 21521, 21519, 21517, 21515,
and 21513 Leitersburg Smithsburg Rd.
↳ St. Paul's Lutheran Church
WA MD (Lots #49-44)
Merry Stinson 10/02
MD SHPO
22 of 32

WA-I-174

Leitersburg Historic District
21513 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Rd
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
WA MD (Lots #44 & 45)
Merry Stinson 10/02

MD SHPO
N & W elev
21 of 32

WA-I-174
Leitersburg Historic District

21533 Leitersburg Smithsburg Rd.

WA MD

Merry Stinson 10/02

MD SHPO
S & E elev.
23 of 22

WA - I - 174

Leitersburg Historic Distr...

21543 Leitersburg ... Smithsburg Rd.

WA MD

Merry Str... 10/82

MD SHPO

E&N elev.

24 of 32

WA - I - 174
Leitersburg Historic District
21536 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Rd.

WA MD
Mary Stinson 10/02

MD SHPO
W&S elev.
25 of 32

WA - I - 174

Leitersburg Historic District
21530 Leitersburg Smithsburg Rd.
Leitersburg School
WA MD

Merry Stinson 10/02

MD SHPO
W elev.
26 of 32

WA-I-174
Leitersburg Historic District
21313 Leitersburg St.

WA-I-174
Leitersburg Historic District
21309 Leitersburg St.

WA - 3 - 174

Leitersburg Historic District

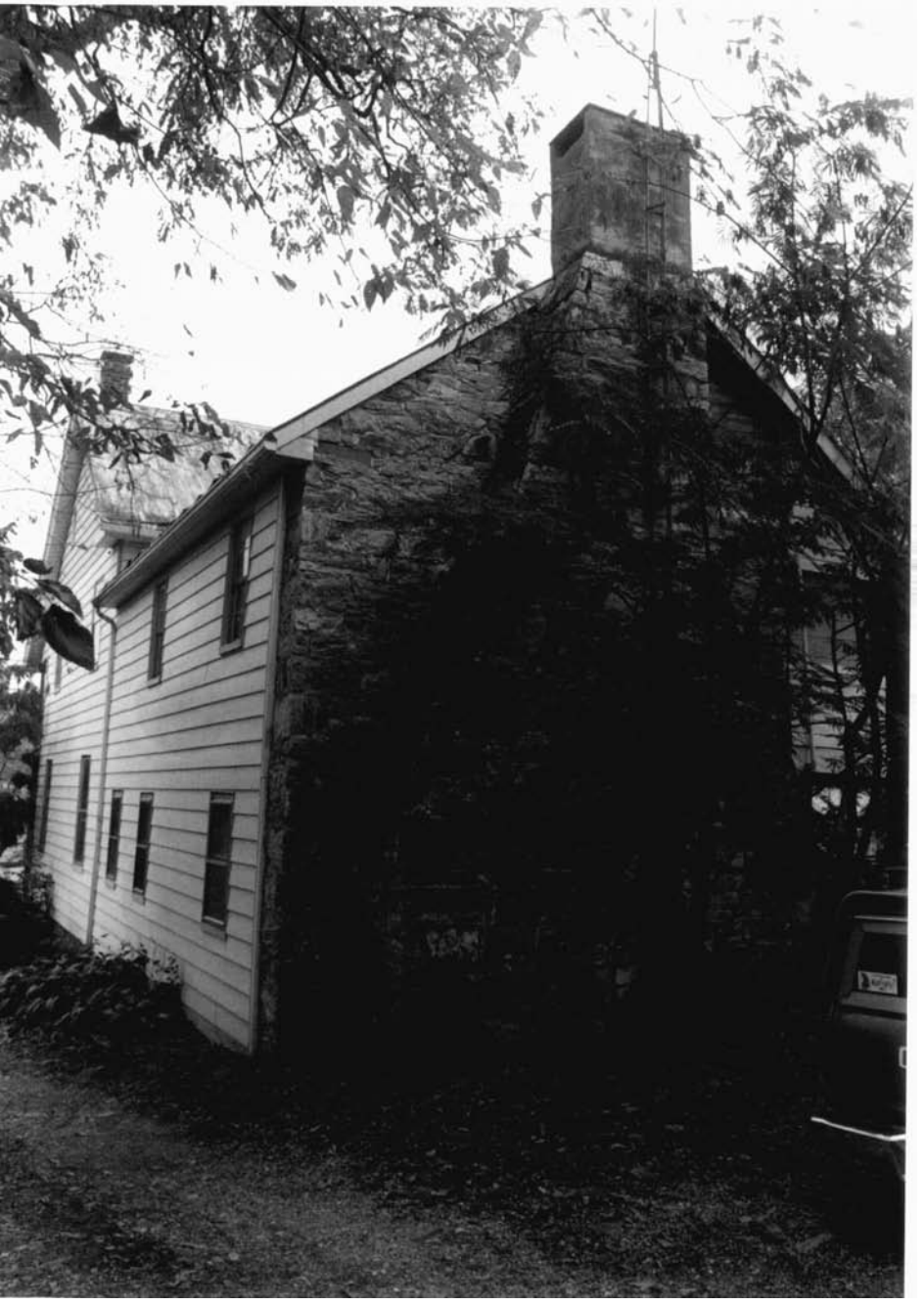
2132 Leiter St. (Lot #58)

WH MD

Morning Star 10/02

MD SHPO

S & E elev.



WA - I - 174

Leitersburg Historic District

21413 Leiter St. (Lot #59)

WA MD

Merry Stinson 10/02

MD SHPO

W & S elev.

31 of 32

2143

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

Property Name: Leitersburg Historic District Inventory Number: WA-I-174

Address: Historic district: X yes ___ no

City: Leitersburg Zip Code: County: Washington

USGS Quadrangle(s): Smithsburg

Property Owner: Tax Account ID Number:

Tax Map Parcel Number(s): Tax Map Number:

Project: Agency:

Agency Prepared By: Richard Wilson/HUD/CD

Preparer's Name: Date Prepared: 7/11/1980

Documentation is presented in: MHT files WA-I-174

Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: X Eligibility recommended ___ Eligibility not recommended

Criteria: X A ___ B X C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:

Name of the District/Property:

Inventory Number: Eligible: ___ yes Listed: ___ yes

Site visit by MHT Staff ___ yes X no Name: Date:

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

Historically significant for its role in local commercial development as a stage stop served by several hotels, this western Maryland village also has significance in architecture as an intact grouping of excellently preserved vernacular residences from the early 19th century through the late 19th century, exhibiting notable integrity of workmanship, design, feeling, and association.

The boundaries of the district have been revised in accordance with the agreement resulting from the discussion on October 21, 1980 with Richard Wilson of Washington County Housing and Community Development. The Leitersburg Historic District, for purposes of this determination of eligibility, extends along West Main Street beyond the area shown in the 1877 map to incorporate those late 19th century structures which contribute to the significance of the district, including the 1878 brick church. In addition, because of the wide visual separation of the houses north of Maryland Route 60 at the northern edge of the district, the northern boundary of the district is defined by the south side of Route 60.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended X **Eligibility not recommended** ___

Criteria: X A ___ B X C ___ D **Considerations:** ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

MHT Comments: The Leitersburg Historic District was Federally nominated for the National Register of Historic Places.

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	**Date**
Bruce MacDougal	Thursday, October 30, 1980
Reviewer, National Register Program	**Date**

ABSTRACT
WA-I-174
Leitersburg, Maryland
Multiple Owners

Established 1815

Leitersburg is important as a well preserved early 19th century village. Established in 1815 at the intersection of two major highways, it appears to have been a thriving stop over point with several hotels. The most significant feature of Leitersburg is its essentially unaltered appearance which preserves to a large extent its 19th century character.

Copy II

WA-I-174
District 9
Map 26
2201644304

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Leitersburg, Maryland

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Leitersburg

STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Washington

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☒ District ☐ Building	☐ Public	Public Acquisition:	☒ Occupied	Yes:
☐ Site ☐ Structure	☐ Private	☐ In Process	☐ Unoccupied	☒ Restricted
☐ Object	☒ Both	☐ Being Considered	☐ Preservation work in progress	☐ Unrestricted
				☐ No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Agricultural	☐ Government	☐ Park	☐ Transportation	☐ Comments
☒ Commercial	☐ Industrial	☒ Private Residence	☐ Other (Specify)	
☐ Educational	☐ Military	☒ Religious		
☐ Entertainment	☐ Museum	☐ Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Multiple Owners

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: | STATE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Washington County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER: West Washington Street

CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown | STATE: Maryland | 21740

Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: ☐ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: | STATE:

WA I-174

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	☐ Excellent	☐ Good	☐ Fair	☐ Deteriorated	☐ Ruins	☐ Unexposed
	(Check One)		(Check One)			
	☐ Altered	☐ Unaltered	☐ Moved	☐ Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (*If known*) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Leitersburg, Maryland, is a village located at the intersection of the Hagerstown-Waynesboro, Pa. road, Maryland route 60, and the Smithsburg-Leitersburg-Greencastle, Pa. road in Washington County. It is situated on an expanse of relatively level ground between the Antietam and Little Antietam Creeks. For the purposes of this survey, the village of Leitersburg containing approximately 50 dwellings, will be considered as a district.

The center of Leitersburg is a square from which streets extend to the northwest, southeast and southwest. The streets are broad and tree-lined with houses placed rather closely together. The village is residential with a few small businesses generally operated in dwellings. One Church is located on Church Street and there is a school building although it is no longer in use. Most of the dwellings in Leitersburg date from the early 19th century and appear to be of log construction sheathed with weatherboarding or other coverings. Several dwellings are built of brick. Use of stone as a building material in the village is minimal.

The following buildings were selected as characteristic of Leitersburg.

The dwelling designated as WA-I-174-A is located on the west side of Main Street, old route 60, just southwest of the square. Constructed of brick it is built in two sections as evidenced by a vertical joint in the front elevation separating two distinct types of masonry. The southwest three bays of the front or southeast elevation display Flemish bonding above foundations of large, carefully cut limestones. This portion of the house extends for three bays to the rear where the stone foundations become a full story in height. High flat arches are present over the windows which have narrow frames with rounded edges. The main entrance is in the northeast end bay of the southwest section. A hipped roof covers the earlier portion of the house while the addition has a gable roof. The eaves at the front elevation are finished with a brick cornice employing corbeling and a course of brick dentils. Large brick chimneys are located inside the southwest and northwest elevations. Interior features include a curved stair which is open to the attic and door trim finished with decorated corner blocks. The earlier part of the house would appear to date from the mid-19th century while the addition is said to have been built about 1900.

WA-I-174-B is located near the southeast edge of Leitersburg on the southeast side of Church Street, facing northeast. It is a stone dwelling, two stories high and three bays wide. A one and a half story ell extends to the rear. Roughly coursed, large limestones were used to construct the walls. Small, rough keystones are present above the first story windows. Narrow window frames are finished with a beaded inner edge. The main entrance is located in the northwest bay of the front elevation. A small brick flue is located inside the southeast gable end. A larger chimney, also of brick is located inside the end of the ell. The house would appear to have been built during the second quarter of the 19th century.

Just across Church Street from this house is a two and one half story brick school, WA-I-174-C, dated 1914. The structure is constructed of brick laid in all stretcher bond. Seven bays wide, its openings are clustered in

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

(Continued)

WA I-174

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

☐ Pre-Columbian	☐ 16th Century	☒ 18th Century	☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	☒ 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) *(If Applicable and Known)* Town Laid Out 1812

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

Aboriginal	☐ Education	☐ Political	☐ Urban Planning
☐ Prehistoric	☐ Engineering	☐ Religion/Philosophy	☐ Other *(Specify)*
☐ Historic	☐ Industry		
☐ Agriculture	☐ Invention	☐ Science	
☒ Architecture	☐ Landscape Architecture	☐ Sculpture	
☐ Art		☒ Social/Humanitarian	
☒ Commerce	☐ Literature		
☐ Communications	☐ Military	☐ Theater	
☐ Conservation	☐ Music	☒ Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Leitersburg is important as a well preserved early 19th century village. Established in 1815 at the intersection of two major highways, it appears to have been a thriving stop over point with several hotels. The most significant feature of Leitersburg is its essentially unaltered appearance which preserves to a large extent its 19th century character.

Attached is a copy of Chapter III of Herbert C. Bell's History of Leitersburg District, which deals with the growth and development of the village.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

WA-I-174

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bell, Herbert C., History of Leitersburg District, Leitersburg, Md: the author, 1908.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY							OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES					
CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE				LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"		°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"							
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"							
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"							

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant

ORGANIZATION
Washington County Historical Sites Survey

DATE
January 1976

STREET AND NUMBER:
Court House Annex

CITY OR TOWN:
Hagerstown

STATE
Maryland

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature

three groups. A large central projecting tower with a hipped roof includes the main entrance, a door topped with a round arched fan light beneath a band of stone trim. Pairs of projecting gables with steeply pitched stepped sides carry groups of windows. The windows are long and narrow with four over four pane double hung sashes beneath rock faced stone lintels. A belt course of projecting bricks encircles the building beneath the main story windows. The building is no longer in use as a school.

WA-I-174-D is a one and a half story, five bay log dwelling sheathed with white weatherboarding. A frame addition is attached to the rear elevation near its south end. Windows are relatively small with two over two pane sashes with arched upper lights. Pointed molded trim is attached to the architraves above the windows. Entrances are located in the second and third bays from the south end of the house. A two bay shed roofed entrance porch shelters the doors. The roof is covered with green asphalt shingles and extends beyond the end walls. Plain boxing finishes the eaves. Small brick chimneys with corbels at their tops are located inside each gable end. According to the owner, the house was built about 1826.

The Leitersburg Market, WA-I-174-E is located on the southeast corner of the square. It is a six bay, two story brick building with a three bay, two story ell extending to the rear. A one story, four bay brick structure is attached to the ell. Bricks in the front elevation are laid primarily in header bond with unusual diagonal placement of stretchers giving the front elevation decorative diamond patterns. Flat arches one and a half bricks high are present over first story openings. The northwest elevation displays Flemish bonding. The building is set on low stone foundations.

All windows have nine over six pane double hung sashes held within moderately wide frames finished with a large bead at the inside edge. Three entrances are located in the front or southwest elevation, while two are located in the north wall. Wide wooden frames hold doors with six slightly raised panels. The Market is located in the two south bays of the structure. It is said to have been built as a hotel. It may have been the only brick building standing in Leitersburg in 1830.

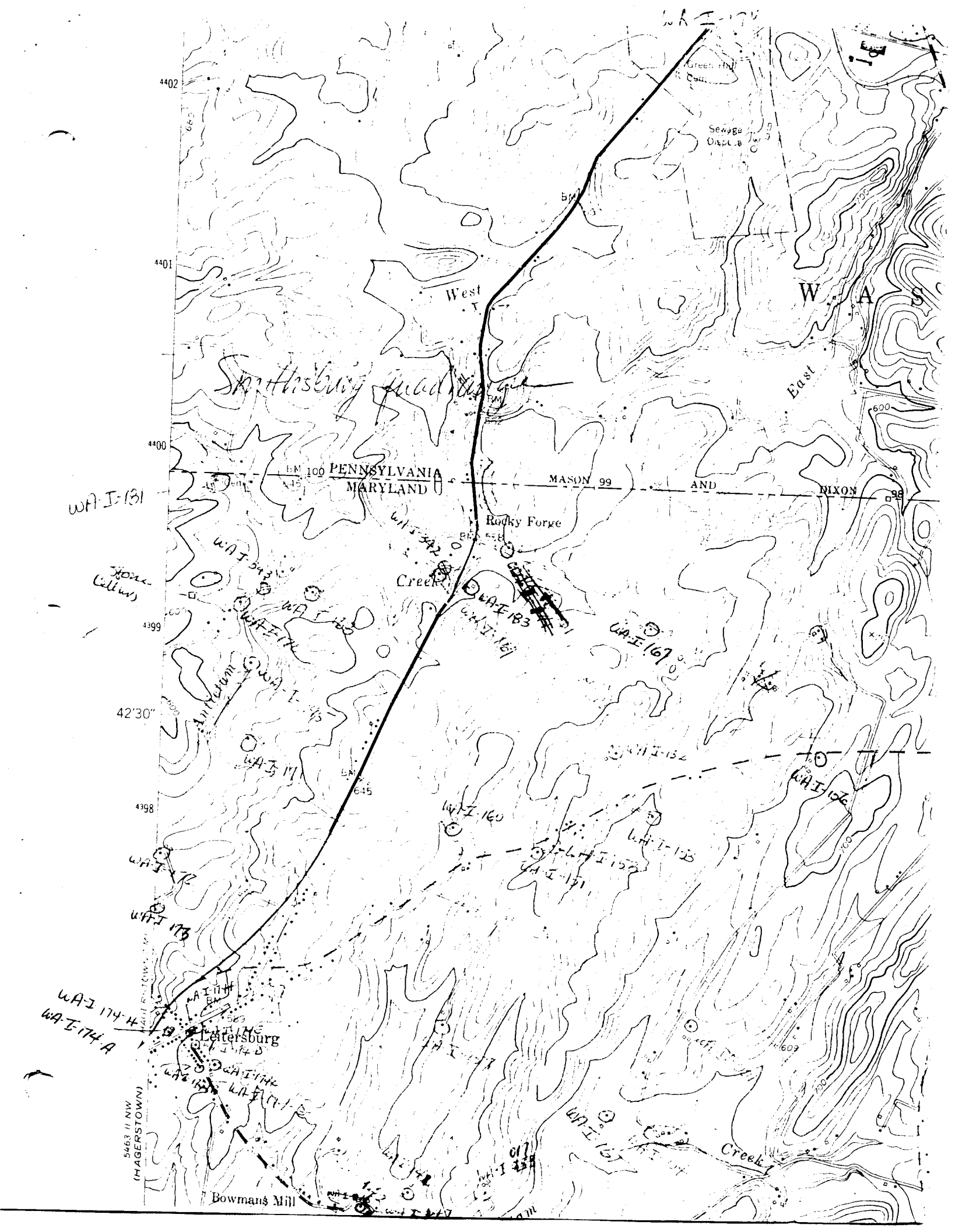
Just east of the Leitersburg Market is a large two story, five bay log house, WA-I-174-F. The structure is sheathed with weatherboarding. When visited in June, 1974, white aluminum siding was being applied. A two story, three bay ell extends to the rear of this house. The end wall of the ell is of stone construction with a large exterior stone chimney. One of the most notable features of this house is the double porch which extends along the entire front elevation.

At the southeast end of Leitersburg is a small log structure, WA-I-174-G, one story in height and two bays in length. Its hewn logs are joined with V-notching and chinked with sawed wooden pieces mortared with mud and lime. Now vacant, the structure is said by local residents to have been a school.

(Continued, Pg. 2)

The final example, WA-I-174-H, is a two story, four bay log dwelling sheathed with white German siding with dark green trim. It is located on the north side of main street northwest of public square. A projecting bay of frame construction is located toward the east end of the dwelling. Said to have been a hotel in the 19th century, it is now a private residence.

These eight buildings provide a picture of Leitersburg showing representative as well as several of the more unique structures. The town is quiet; its buildings are generally in good to excellent condition and its appearance remains largely unchanged since the early 20th century.



Smithsburg quadrangle
West
East
W A S
PENNSYLVANIA
MARYLAND
MASON 99 AND DIXON 98
Rocky Forge
Creek
Leitersburg
Bowmans Mill
Creek
Sewage Disposal
Antietam
42'30"
5463 II NW (HAGERSTOWN)
WA-I-131
WA-I-342
WA-I-183
WA-I-167
WA-I-160
WA-I-173
WA-I-174-A

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WA-I 174-A

N.W.

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LEITERSBURG MARKET
STOP

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LEITERSBURG
MARKET

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LYDIA STONER DICKEY
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