

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 Antietam Village Historic District

other names/site number WA-II-031, 032, 033

2. Location

street & number Harper's Ferry Road not for publication N/A

city or town Antietam vicinity N/A

state Maryland code MD county Washington code 043 zip code 21872

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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 commenting official/Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<u>      </u> entered in the National Register	_____	_____
<u>      </u> <u>      </u> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<u>      </u> determined eligible for the National Register	_____	_____
<u>      </u> <u>      </u> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<u>      </u> determined not eligible for the National Register	_____	_____
<u>      </u> removed from the National Register	_____	_____
<u>      </u> other (explain): _____	_____	_____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property (Check only one box)

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

X private
X public-local
public-State
X public-Federal

building(s)
X district
site
structure
object

Contributing Noncontributing
25 3 buildings
sites
1 structures
1 objects
27 3 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
two

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
DOMESTIC/secondary structure
TRANSPORTATION/bridge
AGRICULTURE/agricultural outbuilding
INDUSTRY/manufacturing facility
COMMERCE/TRADE/store

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
DOMESTIC/secondary structure
TRANSPORTATION/bridge
AGRICULTURE/agricultural outbuilding
VACANT/not in use

Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN/Italianate
NO STYLE

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE/sandstone; BRICK
walls BRICK; STONE; WOOD/weatherboard
roof ASPHALT; SLATE
other

Refer to Continuation Sheet

Narrative Description

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

Refer to Continuation Sheets

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

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

**A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

**B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

**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.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

INDUSTRY

**Period of Significance**

c. 1763-c. 1930

**Significant Dates**

N/A

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**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 a 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

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Crampton, Henry, builder

Weaver, John, builder

**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 file (NPS):**

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

previously listed in the National Register

previously determined eligible by the National Register

designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

# \_\_\_\_\_

recorded by Historic American Engineering

Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

State Historic Preservation Office

Other state agency

Federal agency

Local government

University

Other

Name of repository:

\_\_\_\_\_

Antietam Village Historic District  
Name of Property

Washington County, MD  
County and State

WA-II-31,32,33

**10. Geographical Data**

acreage of Property 12 acres

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1 18	263700	4366800	3 18	264020	4366100
2 18	263900	4366820	4 18	263820	4366080

N/A 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 David L. Taylor, Principal

organization Taylor & Taylor Associates, Inc.

date June, 2001

street & number 9 Walnut Street

telephone 814-849-4900

city or town Brookville

state PA

zip code 15825

**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 the SHPO or FPO.)

name Multiple owners (refer to Continuation Sheet)

street & number \_\_\_\_\_

telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_

state \_\_\_\_\_

zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Paperwork Reduction Act 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.

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Antietam Village Historic District  
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7. Description

The Antietam Village Historic District is a primarily residential historic district containing twelve acres and lying along Antietam Creek in rural Washington County, Maryland, approximately seven miles southwest of the site of the Civil War-era Battle of Antietam (which took place closer to the community of Sharpsburg) and approximately twenty miles southwest of the county seat of Hagerstown. The Antietam Village Historic District retains integrity and contains a total of 32 resources, two of which (the Antietam Furnace Archaeological Site; NR 8/25/83) and the Antietam Iron Furnace (NR 6/26/75) were previously listed in the National Register and therefore are not included in the resource count which appears in Section 5 of the nomination documents. Of the 30 unregistered resources, in the district, 27 (90%) contribute to the character of the district and 3 (10%) are non-contributing. Non-contributing resources are buildings erected outside the c. 1763-c. 1930 Period of Significance of the district; the extent of alteration of some properties has resulted in a loss of historic architectural integrity and their classification as non-contributing resources. Of the 30 unregistered resources in the district, 25 are contributing buildings, three are non-contributing buildings, one--the Antietam Iron Works Bridge (Resource No. 27) is a contributing structure, and one--the "Indian deed" historical marker (Resource No. 28)--is a contributing object. Approximately eighty percent of the resources in the district pre-date 1900, approximately ten percent of the resources were constructed between 1900 and 1930, and the remaining approximately ten percent post-date 1930 and are non-contributing resources within the context of the nominated area. The predominating character of the district is that of a rural western Maryland hamlet which developed in association with an iron furnace adjacent to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal and in close proximity to the Potomac River.

The architecture of the Antietam Village Historic District consists principally of modest vernacular residences and one farmstead, along with two more pretentious homes representing a higher degree of sophistication than is seen in most of the architectural resources of the district. The vast majority of the district's architecture is of wood construction, including one identified log house (3817 Harper's Ferry Road; Resource No. 22); one late eighteenth-century house is of stone (3819 Harper's Ferry Road; Resource No. 21) and one property (the Antietam Iron Works Store, 3768 Harper's Ferry Road; Resource No. 29) is of brick. The bridge spanning Antietam Creek is of stone with a concrete deck or modern construction. Most of the homes retain front porches of varying scales and forms along with associated domestic outbuildings including sheds and garages. Larger dependencies are included in the resources count, while smaller outbuildings (sheds, small automobile garages, etc.) are treated as low-scale landscape features and are not represented in the count. The district retains integrity in each of its seven qualities: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

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The Antietam Village Historic District consists of two sections, one on either side of Antietam Creek; portions of the area southeast of Antietam Creek were previously listed in the National Register (one as an archaeological site with a restricted address [NR 8/25/83] and the other the Antietam Furnace (Resource No. 32, NR 6/26/75). The portion of the district north of the creek is considerably larger than that south of the waterway. The district lies on both sides of Harper's Ferry Road, which is so named because it leads from Sharpsburg, Maryland to Harper's Ferry, west Virginia, which is on the south bank of the Potomac River, approximately sixteen miles southeast of the district. Harper's Ferry Road is asphalt-paved. There are no sidewalks or other pedestrian amenities in the district.

The building lots of the Antietam Village Historic District are irregular in plan, and reflect the historic subdivision of land many generations prior to the onset of uniform subdivision requirements. The topography rises considerably from Antietam Creek to the north and only slightly from the creek southward. Property setback lines are irregular throughout the district.

The buildings in the district are rectilinear in form and generally vary in height between one and one-half and two and one-half stories. Most buildings are roofed with laterally-oriented gable roofs, clad in standing-seam metal or in asphalt shingles. Some historic chimneys have been retained, while others have been removed in the course of retrofitting heating systems and replacing roofs. Fenestration is flat-topped exclusively, with little ornamentation; some multi-light historic sash has been retained. The majority of the buildings in the district rest on substantial foundations of coursed limestone.

As noted above, the architectural character of the Antietam Village Historic District is primarily vernacular, executed without reference to any particular building style. Some traditional house types are found in the district, including side-passage single-pile homes and single-pen log houses to which have been appended later additions. The properties designed with the most sophistication include vernacular adaptations of Gothic Revival-style homes at 3905, 3815, and 3800 Harper's Ferry Road (Resource Nos. 1, 21, and 26, respectively). These three are modest rectangular houses with laterally-oriented gable roofs with center gables on the facade ornamented with uncharacteristic lacy bargeboard.

Near the center of the district is the 1832 Antietam Iron Works bridge, built by master builder John Weaver under a contract with the County Commissioners of Washington County. Weaver constructed the four-arch span of coursed limestone—the same material that was used in the local production of iron and for most building foundations throughout the district. One of the longest stone bridges crossing the Antietam, its arches are faced with upright cut stones. Like other Washington County bridges, the Antietam Iron Works Bridge rests on rounded piers. It is low in

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profile and arches only slightly as it spans the creek at its greatest width between the Iron Works and the associated village. The Antietam Iron Works Bridge is little altered from its original character, except for routine maintenance and the re-surfacing of its deck in conjunction with the maintenance of Harper's Ferry Road. The bridge is adjacent to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park.

As noted in the introductory paragraph, the Antietam Village Historic District retains historic and architectural integrity. Although modest in its scale and detailing, the overall character of the district is intact and represents the early growth and maturity of this hamlet throughout its century and one-half-long Period of Significance. Limited demolition has occurred and only a very small number of newer buildings—garages and one mobile home—have been built within the boundaries of the nominated area. Alterations to buildings within the district include the application of non-historic siding and the installation of replacement windows. These alterations are dispersed throughout the district and do not detract significantly from the ability of the nominated area to reflect its appearance throughout the Period of Significance.

Viewed in its entirety, Antietam Village Historic District is an architecturally-cohesive settlement which grew up in the economic shadow of a late eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century iron furnace whose surviving mid-nineteenth-century stack (Resource No. 31) itself remains an important physical reminder of the industrial significance of the village.

The following properties lie within the Antietam Village Historic District. The numbering corresponds to the district map which was submitted with the nomination documents. All properties are assumed to contribute to the character of the district except those after whose description an "NC" appears; these properties are non-contributing to the character of the district, either because they date from outside the Period of Significance of the district or because their extent of alteration has significantly compromised their individual physical character in relationship to the district. Most dates of construction are approximate, and are based upon visual inspection, oral history interviewing, and/or property tax data; dates which appear in italics are confirmed.

1. **3905 Harper's Ferry Road:** 2½-story late nineteenth-century Gothic Revival-style wood frame farm house which is the anchor to a small farmstead including Resource Nos. 2-9. The house rests on a raised foundation of limestone and includes open porches on the five-bay facade and north elevation, with modest columns and turned balusters; hipped roof with center gables with elaborate bargeboard, similar to that found on Resource Nos. 9 and 14; windows flat-topped with simple surrounds and exterior operable louvered shutters. A limestone retaining wall along the roadway is a contributing feature to the overall character of the property. (c. 1880)

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2. **3912 Harper's Ferry Road:** 1-story vernacular agricultural outbuilding with vertical board cladding and laterally-oriented gable roof (c. 1900)
3. **3912 Harper's Ferry Road:** 2-story central aisle barn of wood construction with gable roof and gable-end orientation to the street; exterior clad in vertical boards (c. 1900)
4. **3912 Harper's Ferry Road:** 1-story, small-scale agricultural outbuilding with gable roof with parged exterior surfaces (c.1920)
5. **3912 Harper's Ferry Road:** 1-story concrete block agricultural outbuilding with shed roof sloping downward from front to rear (c. 1930)
6. **3912 Harper's Ferry Road:** Large wood barn with gable roof, oriented laterally to the barnyard, with a parged foundation and narrow vertical board siding; painted onto the south facade is a sign bearing the legend, "Potomac View Farm-F. M. Stottlemeyer." (c. 1900)
7. **3912 Harper's Ferry Road:** 1-story vernacular agricultural outbuilding of wood construction with some exterior surfaces parged and others clad in vertical boards; gable roof with gable-end orientation to the barnyard between this building and the public road (c. 1900)
8. **3912 Harper's Ferry Road:** 1-story vernacular agricultural outbuilding of rock-faced concrete block construction, perhaps used as a milkhouse due to its proximity to the public road; laterally-oriented gable roof; flat-topped fenestration (c. 1930)
9. **3912 Harper's Ferry Road:** Coursed limestone well with gable-roofed superstructure(c. 1900)
10. **Rear, 3905 Harper's Ferry Road:** One-story vernacular outbuilding, with laterally-oriented gable roof, set on a partly raised foundation of coursed limestone; asphalt-shingled roof surfaces; fenestration flat-topped; modest in its overall proportions and detailing. (c. 1890)
11. **Side, 3912 Harper's Ferry Road:** 1-story privy of wood construction with vertical board exterior finish and front-to-rear sloping shed roof (c. 1900)
12. **3912 Harper's Ferry Road:** 1-story vernacular cottage of wood construction, with shiplap siding and laterally-oriented gable roof; additions at rear; open veranda extends across facade and a portion of north elevation, supported by turned posts and trimmed with a turned balustrade; a large stone chimney is on the gable end on the north elevation. A limestone retaining wall along the roadway is a contributing feature to the overall character of the property. (c. 1850)
13. **3839 Harper's Ferry Road:** 2-story vernacular residence of wood construction, set on a foundation of stone and capped with a laterally-oriented gable roof clad in asphalt shingles; three-bay facade with offset entry door; one-story porch with hipped roof on facade. (c. 1880)

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14. **Rear, 3883 Harper's Ferry Road:** 1-story agricultural outbuilding of indeterminate use; wood construction, with gable roof and vertical board exterior finish; (c. 1900)
15. **3833 Harper's Ferry Road:** 1½-story vernacular residence of wood construction, with laterally-oriented metal roof; appears to be of a "saddlebag" plan, with a large central chimney of brick; windows flat-topped, with some multi-light sash retained; 1-story shed-roofed porch on facade; 1-story dependency of wood construction at rear of house. (c. 1856)
16. **3831 Harper's Ferry Road:** 2-story vernacular residence of wood construction, set on a stone foundation and capped with a laterally-oriented gable roof; windows flat-topped, devoid of notable ornamentation. (c. 1852)
17. **3827 Harper's Ferry Road:** one-story mobile home, built outside the Period of Significance of the district (c. 1985; NC)
18. **3823 Harper's Ferry Road:** 2-story vernacular residence of wood construction, with stone foundation and laterally-oriented gable roof of standing-seam metal; 3-bay facade with center gable; windows flat-topped, with no notable ornament; non-historic siding; 1-story porch on facade with replacement supports; east of the house are several outbuildings of indeterminate age and use. A limestone retaining wall along the roadway is a contributing feature to the overall character of the property. (c. 1881)
19. **Rear, 3823 Harper's Valley Road:** 1-story two-bay automobile garage with gable roof and gable-end orientation to the street; of modern construction built outside the Period of Significance of the District (c. 1980; NC)
20. **3819 Harper's Ferry Road:** 2½-story stuccoed stone house, with laterally-oriented gable roof, three-bay facade and massing suggesting side-passage interior plan; interior gable-end brick chimney on north side; 1-story shed-roof porch on facade; all windows are flat-topped with some historic six-over-six sash remaining. (c. 1763)
21. **3815 Harper's Ferry Road:** 2½-story residence of wood construction, Gothic Revival in style, with laterally-oriented gable roof and shingled centered gable on facade with unusually elaborate bargeboard similar to that found on Resource Nos. 1 and 14; three-bay facade with centered door suggesting a central-passage interior plan; windows flat-topped with non-historic paneled exterior shutters; one-story porch extends across the facade. The property is sited atop a bank overlooking Harper's Ferry Road and a high coursed rubble limestone retaining wall along the roadway is a contributing feature to the overall character of the property. (c. 1870)
22. **3817 Harper's Ferry Road:** 2-story log and wood frame vernacular residential building with parged exterior surface; laterally-oriented gable roof of standing-seam metal; four-bay facade, with flat-topped windows, 2/2, without notable ornament; one-story shed roof porch extends across facade with simple support posts and modest balusters. (c. 1845)
23. **3817 Harper's Ferry Road:** One-story vernacular dependency of indeterminate use; gable roof with gable-end orientation to the street and shed-roofed addition on the west side (c. 1900)

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24. **3813 Harper's Ferry Road:** 1-story vernacular residence of wood construction, set on a stone foundation and capped with a laterally-oriented gable roof clad in corrugated metal sheeting; 4-bay facade; fenestration employs flat-topped openings devoid of notable ornament; 1-story shed-roofed open porch extends across the facade, supported by plain wood posts and trimmed with a sawn wood balustrade oral sources indicate this *to* have been the work of a local; carpenter/housebuilder (1904; Henry Crampton, builder)
25. **Side, 3800 Harper's Ferry Road:** 2-story modern automobile garage of masonry construction, with laterally-oriented gable roof; built into the side hill of this residential lot and dating from outside the Period of Significance of the district (c. 1980; NC)
26. **3800 Harper's Ferry Road:** 2½-story Gothic Revival-style residence of wood construction, clad in shiplap siding and capped with a laterally-oriented gable roof of standing-seam metal highlighted by a center gable with elaborate bargeboard reminiscent of that found on Resource Nos. 1 and 9; partial return of the cornice on the gable ends; three-bay facade with centered entry, suggesting a central passage interior plan; ell wing at rear with 1-story open porch on the west side; windows flat-topped, 2/2, with modest surrounds and heads; sited atop a hill overlooking the former Iron Works site and Antietam Creek (c. 1870)
27. **Antietam Iron Works Bridge:** Three-arch limestone bridge which carries Harper's Ferry Road across Antietam Creek; the bridge has masonry parapet side walls and a deck surfaced with modern materials (1832; John Weaver, builder)
28. **State Roads Commission Historical Marker:** cast metal marker commemorating the 1727 transfer of land from Native Americans to Israel Friend. The object is of a stylized rectangular form with a curvilinear upper edge with the State seal of Maryland in the center. The marker is set on an attenuated metal post and bears the following legend, all cast in upper-case letters:

**AN INDIAN DEED**

Israel Friend in 1727 secured a deed from the Indian chiefs of the five nations beginning "at the mouth of the Andietum [sic] Creek thence up the Potomack [sic] River 200 shoots as fur [sic] as an arrow can be slung out of a bow" thence "100 shoots right back from the river" then squared till it interceeds with the creek"

STATE ROADS COMMISSION

29. **3768 Harper's Ferry Road (Antietam Iron Works Store):** 2½-story brick store building with three bay facade and a three-bay brick addition appended to its west gable end; built into a side hill site, with a foundation

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- of coursed rubble stone which rises to a full story on the facade; the brickwork on the facade is laid in Flemish bond, while that on the secondary elevations is of common bond. (c. 1820)
30. **side, 3768 Harper's Ferry Road:** 1½-story vernacular dependency of brick construction, with broadly sloped laterally-oriented gable roof (c. 1850)
31. **3768 Harper's Ferry Road (Furnace Stack, Antietam Iron Works):** coursed limestone furnace stack with battered walls and three hearth openings on the north elevation (c. 1845; listed individually in the National Register as "Antietam Iron Furnace;" NR 6/26/75)
32. **Antietam Furnace Archaeological Site:** overgrown and untended area along Antietam Creek where the Antietam grist mill and hammer mill were located. All that remains visible are some sections of stone foundations. (late eighteenth century and after; listed individually in the National Register on 8/25/83)

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8. Significance

The Antietam Village Historic District is significant under National Register Criterion A for *industry* and Criterion C for *architecture*. Evaluating the fabric of the district under these Criteria, the district's properties reflect primarily vernacular design in the rural reaches of western Maryland throughout the Period of Significance, which begins c. 1763, the approximate date of construction of the district's earliest extant buildings (Resource No. 21), and ends c. 1930, the approximate date of construction of the latest of the district's historic resources (Resource Nos. 5 and 8). The district's significance under Criterion A derives from its position as an important early center of iron-making in western Maryland, within the historic context of which are the extant stack of the Antietam Iron Works, an early store building, and homes associated with workers and supervisors at the furnace. The district is also significant as the site both of advance to and retreat from the Civil War battle of Sharpsburg (a/k/a Antietam) which occurred a short distance to the northeast. With respect to Criterion C, the district contains locally-distinctive examples of vernacular architecture which, although executed without reference to formal design tenets, nonetheless represent the manifestation of local building traditions in this section of Washington County. The district's Criterion C significance is heightened by the presence in the district of the Antietam Iron Works Bridge, an 1832 stone structure built by master builder John Weaver. The Antietam Village Historic District retains its historic rural character along with the physical integrity necessary to reflect its physical appearance during its Period of Significance.

The village of Antietam, located at the confluence of Antietam Creek and the Potomac River, was the site of extensive iron-working facilities during most of the one hundred twenty-five years following 1765. In that year, Joseph Chapline—the founder of Sharpsburg and the owner of the Antietam land—established the Antietam Iron Works along with Samuel Beall, Jr., David Ross, and Richard Henderson. Henderson and Ross built the first furnace and forge on the site (often referred to as "Frederick Forge" in contemporary accounts) which were likely in operation by 1775. Ore and wood for charcoal were obtained from the owners' extensive land holdings in the South Mountain area, to the northwest. Pig iron was the principal early product of the furnace and it was produced by the various forges operating at that time in Western Maryland. Just prior to the Revolutionary War, the ownership of the Antietam Iron Works shifted to brothers Samuel and Daniel Hughes, who gained control of this furnace and several other iron operations in the Antietam valley.

Under the direct supervision of Samuel Hughes, the Antietam furnace began producing cannon for the Baltimore Town Committee of Correspondence, for the Continental Marine Committee and, through an Act of Congress, directly for the Continental Army. Hughes' cannon-making suffered an inauspicious beginning: four of the first five

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iron cannon cast by Hughes' operations exploded in the course of test-firing, killing George Matthews, a founder and would-be cannon maker from the Kingsbury Ironworks. Despite this, Hughes settled down to producing quantities of nine-, twelve- and eighteen-pounders and ammunition. His reputation spread to General George Washington, who wrote the Board of War Headquarters on April 2, 1779, "Upon consulting General Knox, it is our opinion that the contract with Mr. Hughes for the thirty eighteen-pounders should be renewed, as the cannon are absolutely necessary and it does not appear that they can be procured from any works so soon as from his . . ." Antietam cannon were used to fortify Whetstone Point in Baltimore, and the Continental frigate *Virginia* was armed with 24 twelve-pounders and 6 four-pounders from the Antietam works. Cannon were cast, bored, and proved by Hughes at the Antietam Iron Works. They were then transported by wagon to Baltimore for delivery. The price varied from £36 10s to £40 per ton of finished cannon.

At the end of the Revolutionary War, Samuel Hughes terminated his iron-making operations in Washington County. He relocated to the Susquehanna River area and in 1786 entered the iron-smelting and cannon-casting business at Principio with what he called Cecil furnace. After Samuel Hughes' departure from Washington County, the furnace at Antietam may have been inactive for a time; Dennis Griffith's 1794 map of Maryland shows only a forge on the site at the mouth of Antietam Creek. In 1805, the entire ironworks, grist mills, stock, slaves, and property (between 7,000 and 8,000 acres) was advertised for sale. An 1808 map shows the site to have a furnace, forge and grist mill. In the nineteenth century, the original furnace and forge operation continued, perhaps as late as the 1850s. It was joined by a number of other, related enterprises, all utilizing the power of Antietam Creek. In 1831, a nail factory was established with twenty-five nail-making machines, followed by a small rolling mill which consisted of two heating furnaces and two trains of rolls. These enterprises employed over two hundred fifty people, including some sixty slaves.

The role of African-Americans in the heritage of ironmaking in western Maryland cannot be overlooked. Jean Libby, in a study of African influences on charcoal ironmaking technology in western Maryland, described the traditions which were likely brought to American by slaves:

The making of iron in West Africa is a sacred science of great ritual and power. It is an indigenous and ancient process which propelled subsistence agricultural groups into civilizations using tools of iron . . . The chaos of the slave trade and colonialism caused technological regression of iron smelting in Africa. Many who were captured and brought as slaves to the Americas carried this knowledge with them. By the middle of the eighteenth century, the predominant labor group at southern iron furnaces were Africans and African-Americans.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Libby, Jean. "Workers of Catocin Furnace and Antietam Ironworks," n. p.

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It is more than likely that some of the knowledge gained in West African ironmaking was passed on to the furnaces of western Maryland.

In 1828, during the heyday of the Antietam Iron Works, President John Quincy Adams turned the first shovel of earth in the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, which stretched from Georgetown, near the national capitol, westward to Cumberland, in Allegany County, Maryland. The Canal passed just west of the Antietam Village Historic District, and carried goods and settlers westward to Cumberland, where they embarked overland on the National Road. The construction of the Canal involved thousands of laborers and was plagued with misfortune, ranging from legal maneuvering by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad over the rights-of-way, to illness, including cholera, which claimed more than five hundred canal workers who died in close proximity to the junction of Antietam Creek and the Potomac River.

They were buried near to the district since Hagerstown officials denied permission for the burials out of fear of the disease.

The nail works at Antietam, owned by John M. Brien, burned in April, 1841. It was rebuilt and increased in size, and continued to operate until about 1853, when Brien sold the ironworks to William B. Clark for \$54,500. A second charcoal furnace, fifty feet high and fifteen feet wide at the boshes, was erected at Antietam in 1845; it is likely this furnace which remains within the district. In a twenty-week period in 1857, this furnace is reported to have produced 1,465 tons of iron, a capacity significantly greater than that of the first furnace at Antietam two generations earlier. During the years

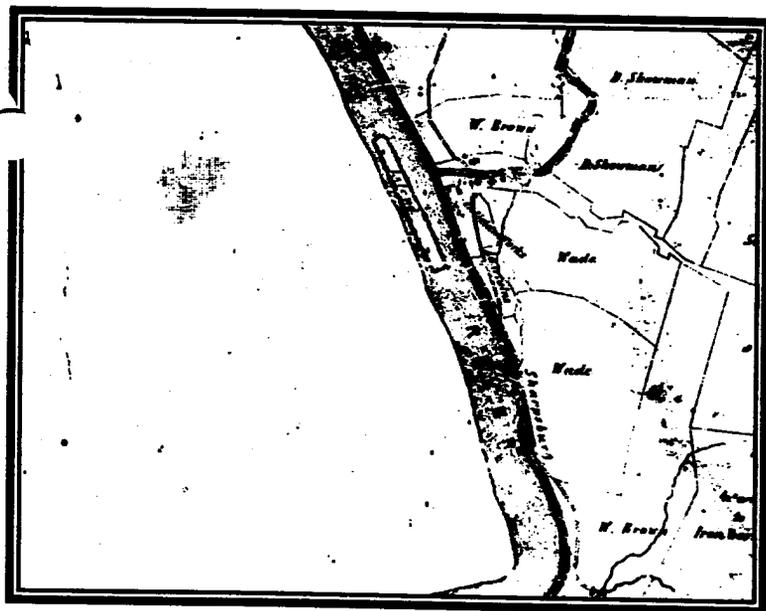


Figure 1 Thomas Taggart's 1859 map includes the area of the historic district which he identified as "Antietam Works."

preceding the Civil War, the entire works, in addition to the furnaces, included a sawmill which produced shingles, a nail factory which produced four hundred to five hundred bags of nails and spikes per week, a forge with six heating fires and a twenty-one-ton hammer, a rolling mill which produced plates, rods, nail stock and bar iron, three puddling furnaces and an air furnace which produced finished iron, and a grist mill. Antietam Creek had a head of water with at least twenty feet of fall, and all these enterprises were operated by no fewer than nine water wheels. During the late 1850s and early 1860s, the Antietam Ironworks was owned by John Horine—who had other iron manufacturing

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interests--and the heirs of William B. Clark. The works apparently suffered some damage during the Civil War, but afterwards it was rebuilt and acquired by the Ahl family of Newville, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. They traded as J. S. Ahl and Company, and are depicted as such on a nineteenth-century historic atlas map.<sup>2</sup> The Ahls converted the furnace to coke fuel and operated it until about 1880. In 1873, a flood broke the dam, and among the subsequent improvements was construction of an improved hot-air oven. During this period, the furnace was smelting ore mined near Harper's Ferry, transported to Antietam on the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal, and likely from the canal to the furnace by means of a tramway or railroad which appears on the aforementioned atlas map.

In 1862, during the Civil War, General Burnside's forces passed through the village en route to the area near Sharpsburg where the battle occurred which came to bear the name Antietam. An undated drawing depicts the furnace at this time, suggesting that by then it was in a dilapidated condition. Local tradition holds that a house located atop the hill overlooking Antietam Creek (Resource No. 22) served as a field hospital during the battle.<sup>3</sup>

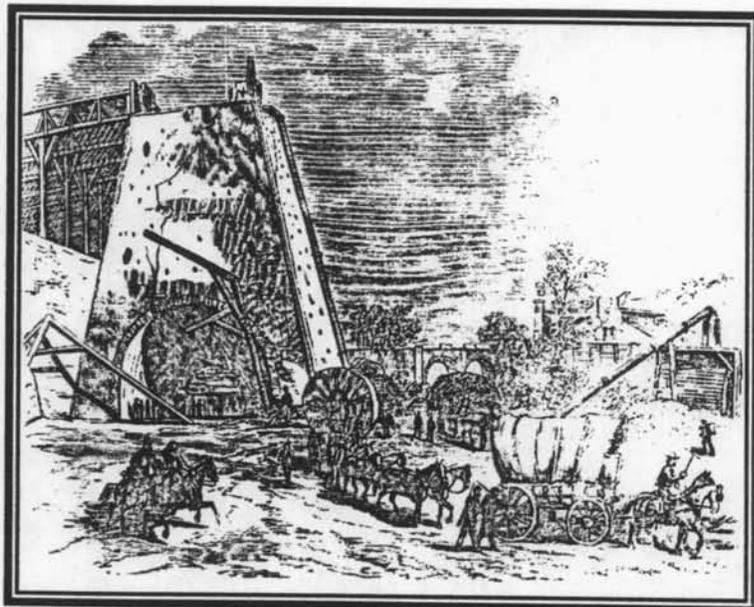


Figure 2 This drawing, entitled "Supply Train for Burnside's Corps Passing the Antietam Iron Works," appeared in an unidentified contemporary publication. [from the collection of the Western Maryland Room, Washington County Free Library, Hagerstown]

The Ahl family operated the iron works until 1882, when John Ahl died. The operation was sold to Messrs. Hunt and Derland for \$100,000 and the newspaper from the county seat, Hagerstown, reported high hopes for the furnace, noting that

among other prospects discussed are the erection of an additional furnace and the construction of a branch railroad from the works to connect with the Shenandoah Valley at Sharpsburg Station. Should all these improvements be inaugurated by the new proprietors, there will be abundant labor for all our working men, and the old prestige of Antietam Iron Works when the hands employed were numbered by the hundreds will be restored. There is no reason why this state of affairs should not exist where ore is abundant and an excellent quality of iron is

<sup>2</sup>An Illustrated Atlas of Washington County, Maryland. Philadelphia: Lake, Griffing, & Co., 1877.

<sup>3</sup>Oral history interview with owner, May, 2001.

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manufactured at comparatively little cost.

Such development never occurred, and the furnace and most of the closely-associated properties fell into further disrepair. The machinery was dismantled and the other mill buildings disappeared from the cultural landscape, leaving only the furnace stack, the store building, the bridge, some foundations, and a handful of houses to reflect the heyday of this major western Maryland industry along the banks of Antietam Creek.

The Antietam Village Historic District is significant as the site of substantial iron-working enterprise which spanned the period from the colonial years through much of the nineteenth century. Although company records from the various Antietam operations have never been found, numerous references to the Antietam works exist in general local and regional history books, in histories of iron in the colonies, and in some primary documents from the Revolutionary period. With reference to the Revolutionary War era, the district was home to one of the operations conducted by the Hughes Bros., who were major suppliers of weaponry to the Continental forces.

In addition to the significance of the district for its industrial associations, the Antietam Village

Historic is also significant as a rural western Maryland village containing vernacular architecture dating from the late eighteenth century into the early years of the twentieth century. Within the village is domestic architecture associated with the iron works, a small farmstead (Resource Nos. 1-10), a c. 1763 stuccoed stone house (Resource No. 20) which, according to local tradition, was used as a boarding house for ironworks laborers, and a stuccoed log house (Resource No. 22) reputed to have served as a field hospital following the Battle of Antietam. In addition to the domestic architecture, a vernacular brick store building is also in the district; this building was owned by the Iron Works until 1888 when it was sold to Peter Otzelberger, whose descendants retain ownership at the time of the preparation of the nomi-

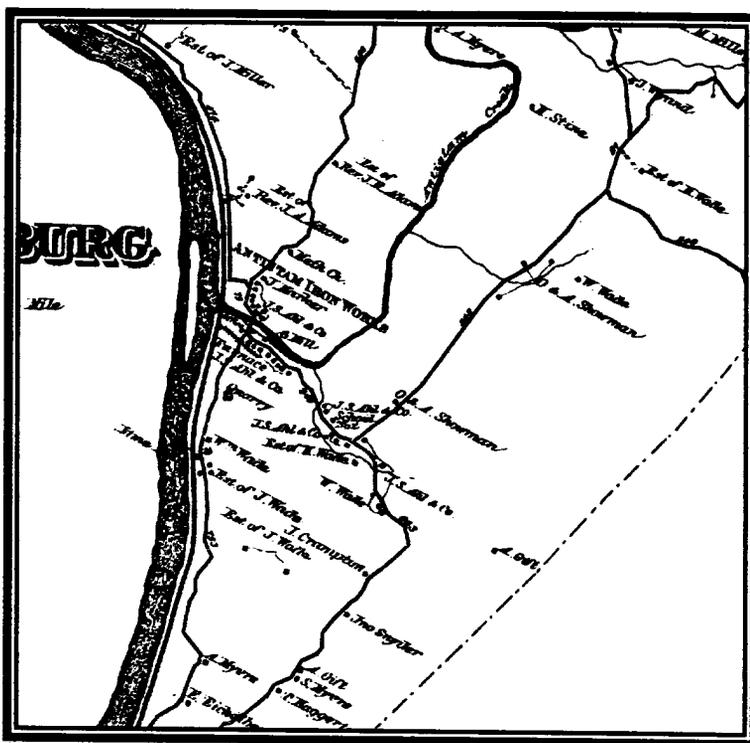


Figure 3 The 1877 county atlas published by Lake, Griffing, & Company, contained this map of the area which would become the Antietam Village Historic District. Much of the real estate is shown to be in the ownership of the Ahls, who ran the Iron Works at that time.

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nation documents. The 1877 atlas indicates that all of the property in the village at that time owned by J. S. Ahl & Company, who operated the furnace and grist mill, suggesting that Antietam Village was truly a company town (Figure 3).

The village has home to the workers and managers who depended upon the furnace and iron-works for their livelihood and to the few merchants who served the hamlet. The community appears to have never enjoyed a particularly elevated standard of living, judging from the modest vernacular domestic architecture which characterizes Antietam Village and from the fact that the immediate village area did not even contain a church; the closest house of worship is on Harper's Ferry Road between Antietam and Sharpsburg.



Figure 4 In 1872 the publication *Picturesque America* featured this drawing entitled, "Old Bridge and Mill, Antietam-Antietam Rolling Mill-Burnside Bridge" (not shown). The drawing indicates the high level of industrial activity which was present at the site at that time; only the bridge and the stack of the furnace are extant.

Under Criterion C, the Antietam Village Historic District is also significant for its close association with master builder John Weaver, who built the stone bridge known as the Antietam Iron Works Bridge (Resource No. 27), which carries Harper's Ferry Road across the Antietam near its juncture with the Potomac River. The Washington County Commissioners who were in charge of construction of the bridge were John Grove, John Miller, and Daniel Piper. Filed with the land records of Washington County is an agreement between the Commissioners and John Weaver which stipulates that the bridge would contain two arches of thirty-five feet and two arches of thirty feet and would be built to a uniform width of sixteen feet. The contract price for Weaver's work was \$4,250. Weaver was a recognized master builder and between 1832 and 1840 was engaged by the County to build several other bridges over Antietam Creek as well as one at Hess' Mill bridge, spanning the Little Antietam. The Antietam Iron Works Bridge and the bridge at Hess' Mill were the first two bridges which Weaver erected for the

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County.<sup>4</sup> The Antietam structure is important as a leading example of the type of bridge design which was favored in Washington County from 1819 to the 1860s. Some Washington County stone-arch bridges have been lost, but many are extant, carrying traffic on a daily basis. The Antietam Iron Works Bridge is additionally significant for the role it played during the Civil War battle of Antietam. According to Helen Ashe Hays in her book, **The Antietam and its Bridges**, Confederate troops crossed the Antietam Iron Works Bridge on their way to reinforce General Lee at Sharpsburg and retreated southward over the same road.

In addition to the architectural and historical importance of the Antietam Iron Works Bridge, the area at the mouth of the Antietam is associated with a number of historical events. A state historical marker at the south end of the bridge commemorates a 1727 land transaction between pioneer settler Israel Friend and the chiefs of five nations of Native Americans. The tract began at the mouth of the Antietam Creek and led up the Potomac River "200 shoots as fur [sic] as an arrow can be slung out of a bow" then "200 shoots right back from the river then squared till it intercedes with the creek." This site is marked by a Maryland State Roads Commission commemorative plaque (Reference No. 28). The junction of the Potomac and Antietam is said to have been the site of a violent battle between the Catawba and Delaware Indians in 1736.

Viewing the Antietam Village Historic District in the context of comparable nearby districts, this district is considerably smaller in size than the two nearest districts, at Sharpsburg and at Harper's Ferry, West Virginia, both of which contain a defined commercial area along with residential neighborhoods. These districts also contain more formally-derived architecture, which the Antietam Village district lacks. Contextually, Antietam Village, Sharpsburg, and Harper's Ferry all have close ties to the Civil War—Harper's Ferry with the beginning of the War and Sharpsburg and Antietam Village with the battle of Antietam. Elsewhere in Washington County, the districts in the county seat of Hagerstown are far larger and more diverse than Antietam Village and contain architecture of a far grander scale. Like Antietam Village, the historic areas in the villages of Tilghmanton and Fairplay, between Sharpsburg and Hagerstown, are nearly exclusively residential in character and with homes of a scale of those found in the Antietam Village district.

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<sup>4</sup>Michael, Mary, **The Story of Washington County**. Williamsport, Maryland: 1993, p. 90.

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<b>MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA</b>	
<b>Geographic Organization</b>	Western Maryland
<b>Chronological Developmental Period(s)</b>	Rural Agrarian Intensification, A. D. 1680-1815 Agricultural-Industrial Transition A. D. 1815-1870
<b>Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s)</b>	Economic Transportation Architecture, Landscape Architecture, & Community Planning
<b>Resource Type</b>	Category: District Historic Environment: Village, Rural
<b>Historic Function(s) and Use(s)</b>	DOMESTIC/single dwelling DOMESTIC/secondary structure TRANSPORTATION/bridge COMMERCE/TRADE/store INDUSTRY/manufacturing facility AGRICULTURE/agricultural outbuilding
<b>Known Design Sources</b>	None

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10. Geographical Data

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Beginning at the northeast corner of the intersection of Canal Road and Harper's Ferry Road, then southerly along the west curblineline of Harper's Ferry Road c. 1,050' to a point; then south c. 360', crossing Antietam Creek, to a point opposite an extension of Harper's Ferry Road; then easterly c. 100' to the east curblineline of Limekiln Road; then south c. 300' to the rear property line of the property at 3768 Harper's Ferry Road (Resource No. 29); then easterly along the rear property lines of Resource Nos. 29, 30, and 31 c. 510' to the eastern property line of Resource No., 31; then northerly along the east property line of Resource No. 31 c. 600', crossing Harper's Ferry Road and Antietam Creek, to the north bank of Antietam Creek; then westerly c. 300' to the east property line of 3800 Harper's Ferry Road (Resource No. 26); then northerly along the east property line of 3800 Harper's Ferry Road c. 300' to the northeast corner of the property line of 3800 Harper's Ferry Road; then northwesterly c. 1,050' along the rear property lines of the properties fronting on Harper's Ferry Road to the northeast corner of the property at 3905 Harper's Ferry Road (Resource No. 1), then westerly along the northern property line of 3905 Harper's Ferry Road c. 300' to the east curblineline of Harper's Ferry Road; then northerly along the east curblineline of Harper's Ferry Road c. 300' to a point c. 20' north of the corner of Resource No. 2; then westerly c. 450' to a point; then southerly c. 600' to the north curblineline of Canal Road; then easterly along the north curblineline of Canal Road c. 450' to the place of beginning.

**JUSTIFICATION**

The boundaries of this nomination were selected to include the unincorporated village of Antietam and the remnants of the Antietam Iron Works associated therewith, including domestic architecture dating from the 1760s through the early twentieth century, and also including a historic 1832 limestone bridge spanning Antietam Creek which bisects the district. The boundaries were selected in order to include as much of the village as retains integrity of character and which dates from the Period of Significance, and to exclude areas which date from outside the Period of Significance or which have been significantly altered. The boundaries incorporate those properties which reflect the growth and prosperity of the village during its years of leadership in the iron industry and in the decades which followed.

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**Property Owners (as of July, 2001)**

Street Address	Owner Name & Address (Sharpsburg, MD 21782, unless otherwise noted)
1. 3905 Harper's Ferry Road	Robert L. & Anne B. Edelin, 3905 Harper's Ferry Road
2. 3912 Harper's Ferry Road	U. S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, P. O. Box 4
3. 3839 Harper's Ferry Road	M. Joanna Morrison, <i>et. al.</i> , 3905 Harper's Ferry Road
4. 3833 Harper's Ferry Road	Dennis W. & Tena M. Myers, 315 Jefferson Street, Hagerstown, MD 21740
5. 3831 Harper's Ferry Road	Charles E. Burgan, 3831 Harper's Ferry Road
6. 3829 Harper's Ferry Road	Scott William Cawood, 3829 Harper's Ferry Road
7. 3827 Harper's Ferry Road	Todd L. & Penny L. Marshal 3827 Harper's Ferry Road
8. 3823 Harper's Ferry Road	Lloyd Harvey Crampton, 3823 Harper's Ferry Road
9. 3819 Harper's Ferry Road	Joyce M. & Jerry L. Crampton, 3819 Harper's Ferry Road
10. 3815 Harper's Ferry Road	Floyd R. Burgan, 3815 Harper's Ferry Road
11. 3817 Harper's Ferry Road	Joseph Paul & Michelle M. Richards 3817 Harper's Ferry Road
12. 3813 Harper's Ferry Road	Joseph Paul & Michelle M. Richards, 3813 Harper's Ferry Road
13. 3800 Harper's Ferry Road	Heath Walter Mentzer, 7609 Sharpsburg Pike, Boonsboro, MD 21713-2437
14. Antietam Iron Works Bridge:	County of Washington, County Administration Building, West Washington Street Hagerstown, MD
15. 3768 Harper's Ferry Road	Jerry Donald Otzelberger, 3704 Harper's Ferry Road, Sharpsburg MD 21782-1809

**ANTIETAM VILLAGE HISTORIC DISTRICT**  
Antietam, Washington County, Maryland

Prepared by  
**TAYLOR & TAYLOR ASSOCIATES, INC.**  
Historic Preservation & Community Development Specialists  
9 Walnut Street  
Brookville, PA 15825  
814-849-4900  
July, 2001

**DISTRICT MAP**

Scale: 1" = ± 300

Legend:

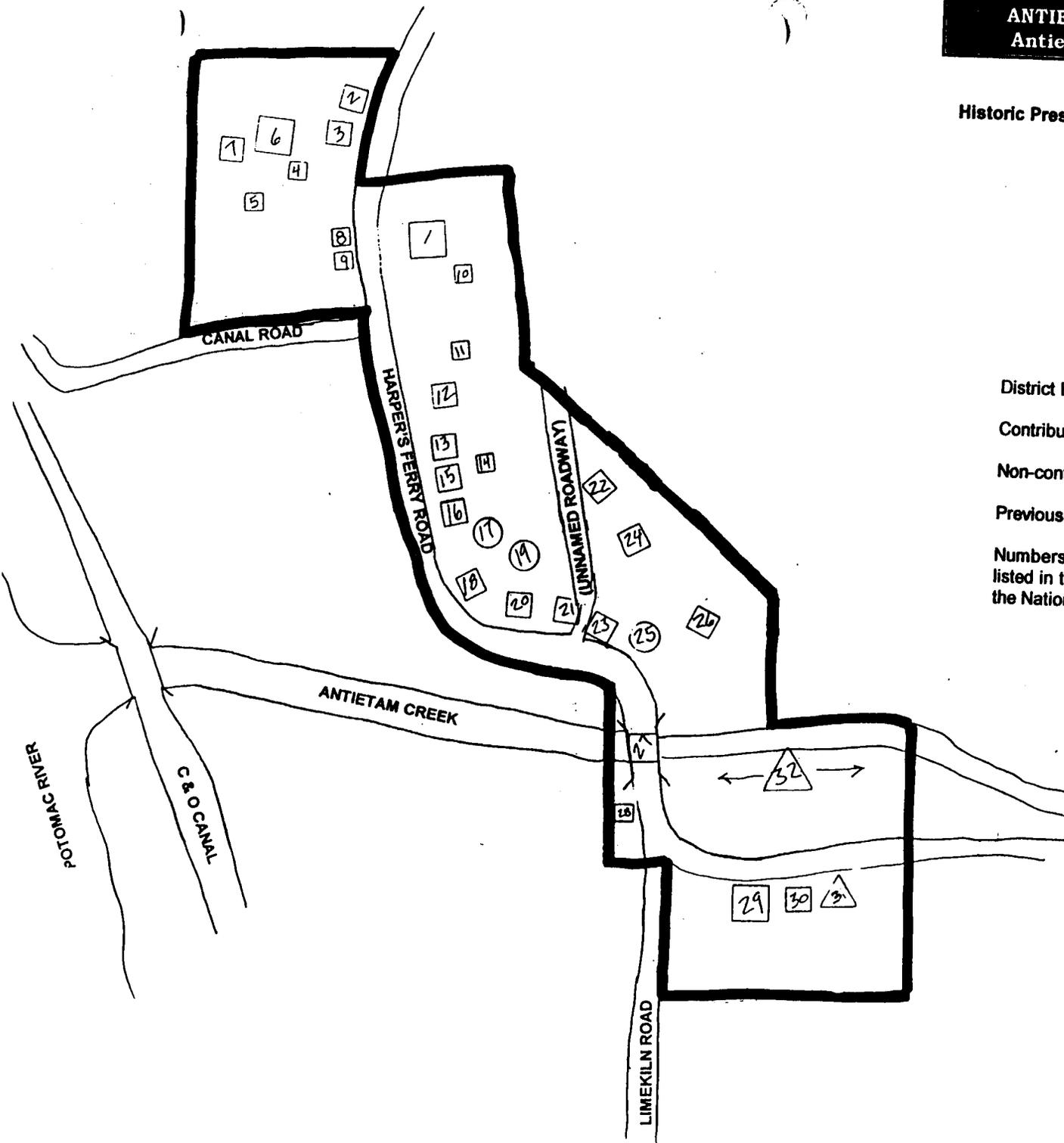
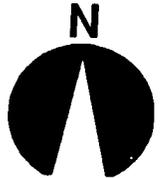
District Boundary: 

Contributing Resources 

Non-contributing Resources 

Previously-Listed Resources 

Numbers correspond to the individual properties which are listed in the Resource Inventory prepared in conjunction with the National Register documents.



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