

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

## 1 NAME

HISTORIC

Wilson-Miller Farm

AND/OR COMMON

## 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

West of Millers Sawmill Road

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Sharpsburg

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6

STATE

Maryland

VICINITY OF

24

CODE

COUNTY

Washington

CODE

043

## 3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

## 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Wolfgang Mueller

STREET & NUMBER

10609 Woodsdale Drive

CITY, TOWN

Silver Spring

VICINITY OF

Maryland

STATE

20901

## 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Washington County Courthouse

Liber #: 567  
Folio #: 367

STREET & NUMBER

West Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown

Maryland

STATE

21740

## 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

WA-II-332

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED < 50%	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED    DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

This farmstead is located at the end of a long private lane which leads north from Millers Sawmill Road southwest of Sharpsburg in Washington County, Maryland. The house is situated near the bottom of a slope among limestone hills and faces south. The lane that now approaches the buildings leads to them from the north. Northwest of the house is a frame bank barn which faces east.

The house is a two-story, two-part, eight-bay log building sheathed with wood siding. It rests on fieldstone foundations which become nearly a full story in height at the north elevation. The building is divided nearly in half by a vertical seam in the foundations and an interior log wall marking the jointure of the two sections of the house. The westernmost, and presumably older, part is sheathed with siding with a heavy bead at the bottom edge. The other section displays German siding. A recessed double porch included under the main roof span extends along the south elevation of the east section of the building.

All windows have narrow frames, many of which contain two-over-two pane sash which appear to be replacements. Beneath the double porch, windows retain nine-over-six pane sash. Six-over-six sash remain in windows of the north foundation wall. Most windows at the two main stories are flanked with pairs of shutters with movable louvers.

Entrances have framing similar to that of the windows. The original front entrance appears to be located in the first bay from the west end of the south elevation. Here a six-pane door is hung beneath a four-light transom. Other doors are located at both levels of the double porch. An exterior stair under the double porch gives access to the upper level of the porch as well as to the cellar. One door is also present in the north elevation at the west end, and doors lead to the cellar through the foundations in the east and north walls.

The roof is sheathed with standing seam tin and extends beyond the end walls. There are three brick chimneys, each painted red. Two are located inside the end walls and the third extends from the interior of the west section near its center.

The interior of the house shows 18th century work in parts of the west section with evidence of major renovations during the third quarter of the 19th century and again during the late 19th or early 20th century. The west section has a three-room first floor plan which would appear to be Germanic in origin with a large central fireplace facing into what was probably a kitchen (the east room of the west section). Behind or west of this large room are two smaller rooms, one of which has been partitioned for a modern bath. The southwest room has a fireplace with a mantel which would appear to date from the third quarter of the 19th century as does the other woodwork in this portion of the house. An unusual feature is the enclosed stair with its bottom step cut at angles to accommodate entrances from two rooms on opposite sides of the stair.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1.

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Wilson-Miller Farm  
Washington County

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland

ITEM NUMBER

7

PAGE 1

It is in the basement and attic that evidence of the original construction of the west portion of the house remain. The cellar displays a form of insulation which is found frequently in 18th century houses in Washington County. It consists of massive planks set side by side above the summer beam, upon which rests a layer of rocks and mortar. Above this is the first story flooring. In the attic is a type of roofing system often associated with 18th century construction, but which does occur in the early 19th century in the Cumberland Valley. This consists of pairs of major supporting rafters linked by massive purlins upon which rest smaller rafters. This roofing system is evident only in the west portion of the attic.

The age of the eastern section of the house is difficult to assess because of alterations. Most of the first story is sheathed with modern paneling while the second story has woodwork which would appear to date from the late 19th or early 20th century. The general form of this portion of the house, as well as remaining nine-over-six light windows, would suggest a construction date during the third quarter of the 19th century.

Northeast of the house is a one-story, stone springhouse with a wood shingle roof. A frame bank barn typical of the 19th century also stands on the property. A small, intermittent stream passed near the springhouse and east of the main dwelling. Evidence remains of a wagon road which led along the stream toward Millers Sawmill, the C & O Canal and the Potomac River. Several hundred feet south of the buildings are ruins of a small dwelling. All that remained when the site was visited in 1976 were stone foundations and a brick flue.

The main buildings in the complex appear to be in good condition and are located on a tract containing ~~2.2~~<sup>4</sup> acres. It includes parts of the land grants "Resurvey on the Addition to Piles Delight" and "Antietam Bottom."

# 8. Significance

WA-II-332

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

**SIGNIFICANCE**

This farm complex, consisting of a large, two-part, two-story sided loghouse, barn and other outbuildings, would appear to date from both the 18th and 19th centuries. The buildings provide an example of regional vernacular architecture in a setting unchanged from that which Robert E. Lee and the Army of Northern Virginia saw on the retreat from the Battle of Antietam (1862). The property is significant for its contribution to commerce and industry since the Miller family (owners in late 19th and early 20th centuries), in addition to farming, operated a saw mill on the C & O Canal. The barn is said to have housed mules which pulled canal boats.

Architecturally, the house displays several generations of construction. The remaining 18th century features in the west section are unusual in the area. The massive roof framing system is particularly worthy of note. Apparently the original house underwent substantial modernization, probably at the time the east wing was added. Possibly at that time the chimney in the west end wall was added. The house appears to have been renovated again in the late 19th or early 20th century.

**HISTORY**

During the early 19th century this property was known as the "Wilson Farm." In June of 1812, Isaac Wilson purchased 172 acres from Adam Myers (Y/341). The Myers family owned a sizeable amount of land south and west of Sharpsburg. In his will dated September 14, 1785, Michael Meyer of Sharpsburg devised a farm to each of his four sons, one of whom was Adam. It is not known at present whether the dwelling was begun by Adam Myers or by Isaac Wilson. In 1848, Isaac Wilson and John Avey sold the farm to Jacob Miller (IN4/216). By this time, however, the property contained 236 acres. It was the Miller family who established Millers Sawmill located south of the complex, closer to the canal. It would appear that the now unused road leading south from the buildings was the principal access to the farm and led to the mill as well. The farm was owned by Francis Miller during the Civil War and it was through this property that Lee's army passed on its way to the Potomac after the Battle of Antietam. It is possible that the road leading south from the buildings was used as well as the surrounding fields. The farm and the sawmill were conveyed to Samuel H. Miller in 1883 (85/615). According to T.J.C. Williams' History of Washington County, published in 1906, Samuel H. Miller built an addition to the house measuring 60 feet in depth. It was added to a structure which, according to Williams was begun "more than a hundred years ago."<sup>1</sup> The property remained in the Miller family until 1949 (250/341).

<sup>1</sup>T.J.C. Williams, History of Washington County. Hagerstown, Md: Mail Publishing Co., (1906) 913.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

WA-II-332

Washington County Land Records.  
Washington County Probate Records.  
Williams, T. J. C. History of Washington County. Hagerstown, Md: Mail Publishing Co., 1906.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 41 acres

Quadrangle name Sheperdstown Quad

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A 

1	8	2	6	2	1	8	0	4	3	6	9	3	5	0
Zone		Easting						Northing						

B 

1	8	2	6	2	1	2	0	4	3	6	8	4	8	0
Zone		Easting						Northing						

C 

1	8	2	6	1	9	6	0	4	3	6	8	4	5	0
Zone		Easting						Northing						

D 

1	8	2	6	1	7	2	0	4	3	6	9	0	0	0
Zone		Easting						Northing						

E 

1	8	2	6	1	9	4	0	4	3	6	9	7	0	0
Zone		Easting						Northing						

F 

Zone		Easting						Northing						

G 

Zone		Easting						Northing						

H 

Zone		Easting						Northing						

Verbal boundary description and justification

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #3

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant

organization Washington County Historical Sites date November 1977  
Survey

street & number County Office Building, 33 West Washington Street telephone (301) 791-3065

city or town Hagerstown state Maryland 21740

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *J. M. H.* 8-20-79

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	date
Keeper of the National Register	date
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	date

FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**Wilson Miller Farm  
Washington County

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland

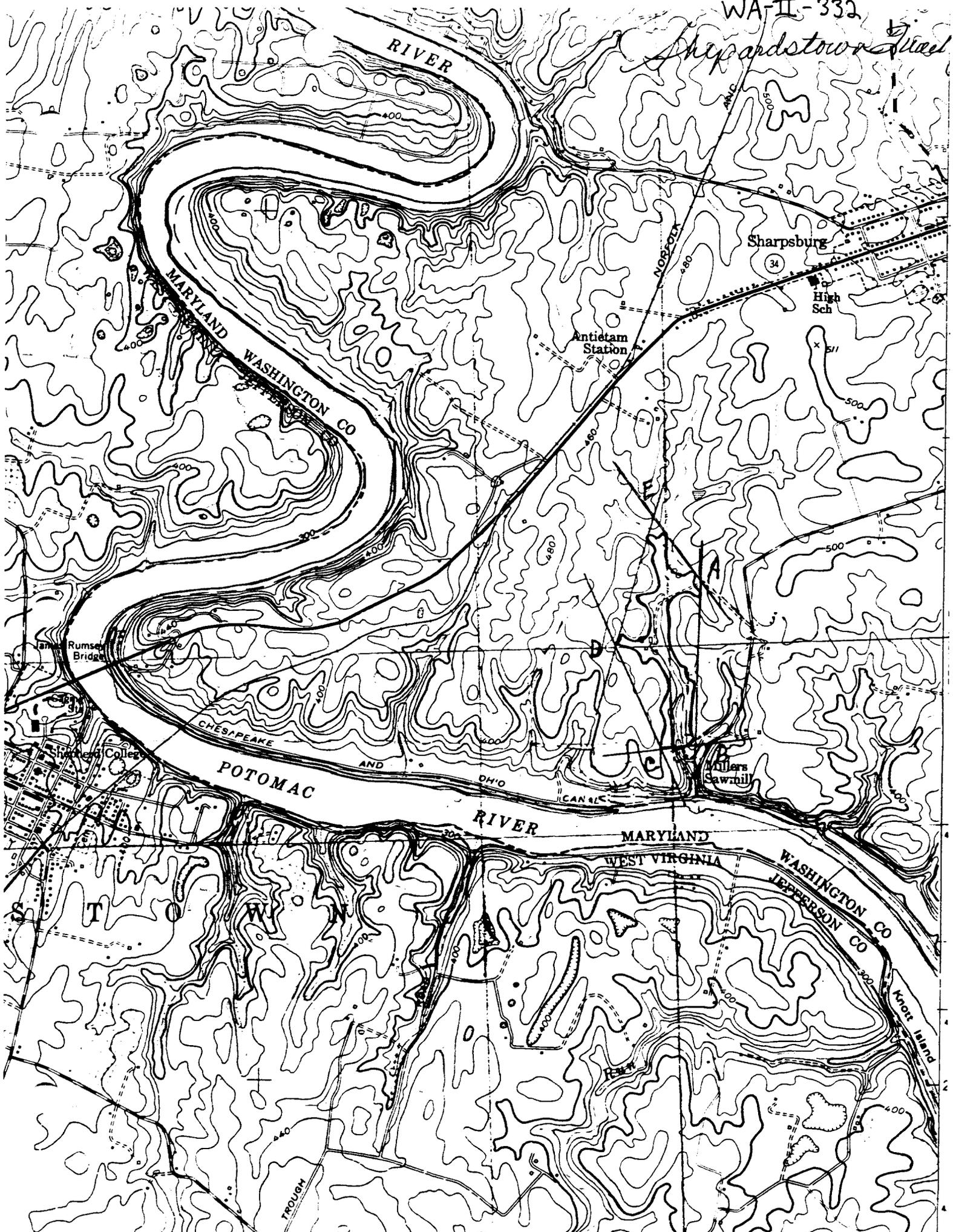
ITEM NUMBER

10 PAGE 3

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The 41 acres surrounding the Wilson Miller Farm constitutes a narrow, long, irregularly shaped boundary based on topographical features. The boundary on the west, north and east constitutes a line demarking the 400' elevation on the surrounding hill. The southern boundary is continuous with the present property boundary which constitutes a convenient definition of the Wilson Miller Farm, exempting the village of Miller's Saw mill. The southern boundary is approximately 800 feet long connecting the points of 400 foot elevation of a point approximately 1,000 feet north of the C & O Canal (exempting the village of Miller's Saw Mill).

*Shepardstown Road*



FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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Wilson Miller Farm  
Washington County

CONTINUATION SHEET

Maryland

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PAGE

UTM's

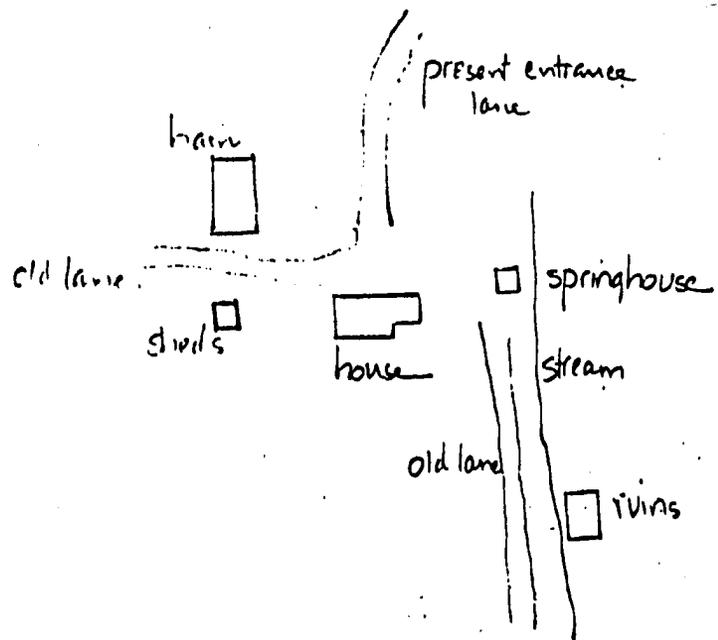
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C. 18/261960/4368450

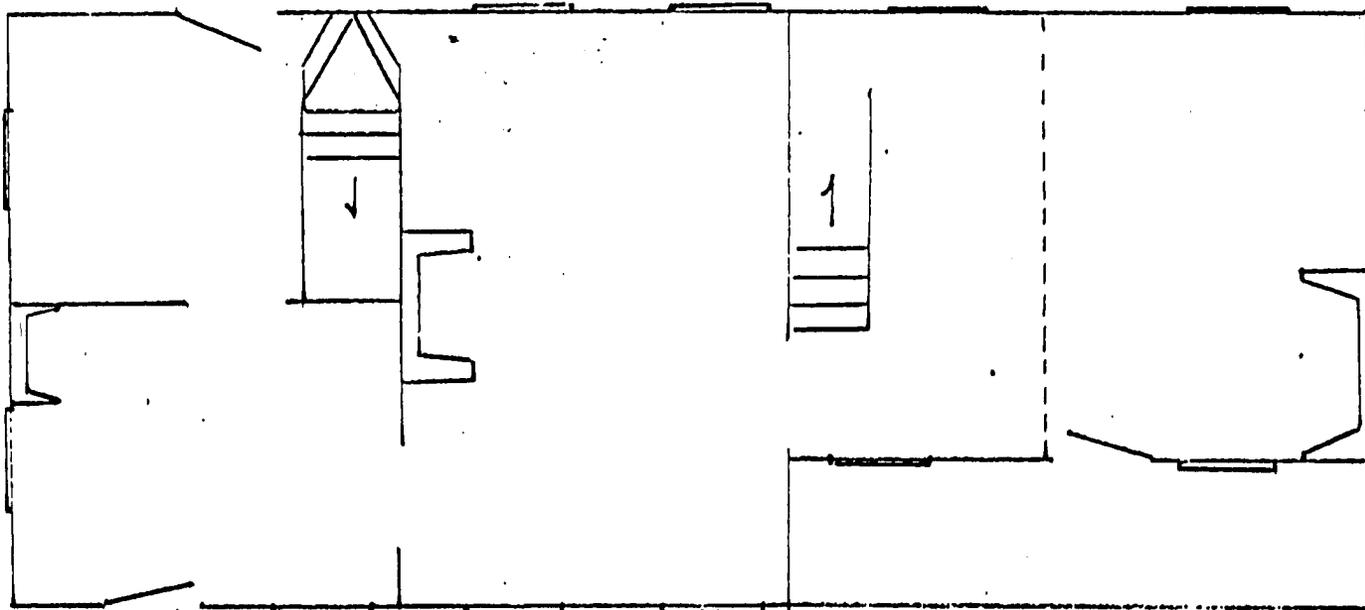
D. 18/261720/4369000

E. 18/261940/4369700

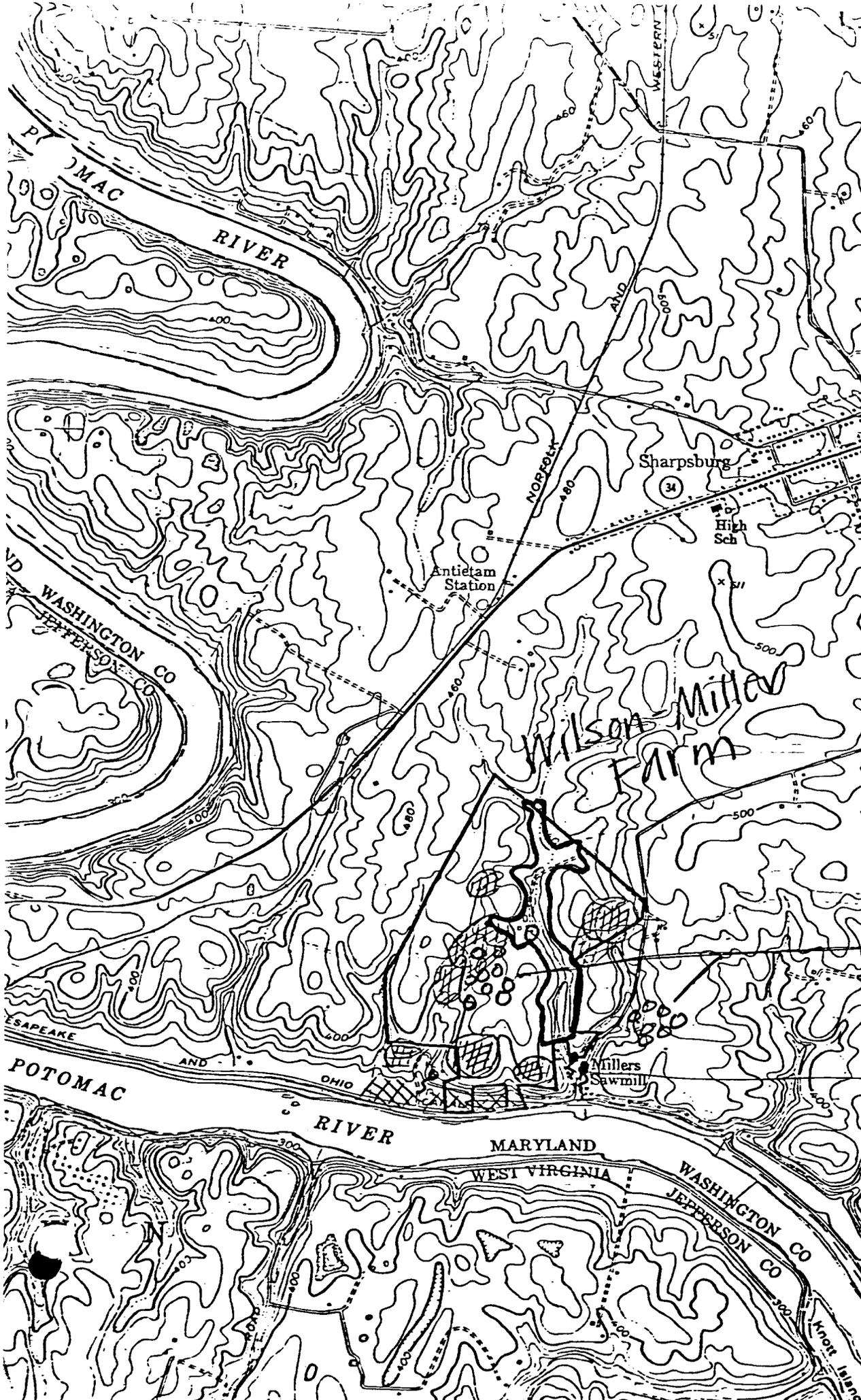


WA-II-332 Approximate floor plan

Wilson-Miller Farm  
Washington County, Md.



WA-II-332



Sheperdstown  
quad  
WA-II-332

KEEDYSVILLE 3.7 MI.  
BOONSBORO JUNC. ALT. U.S. 401 6.9 MI

27°30'

4371

4370

(KEEDYSVILLE)  
5482 T MW

4368

4367

red  
green line -  
final NR  
boundary.

terrace  
gravel  
deposits

Springhead

⊗ highest  
probable  
areas

Sharpsburg

High Sch

Antietam Station

Wilson Mill  
Farm

Millers  
Sawmill

POTOMAC  
RIVER

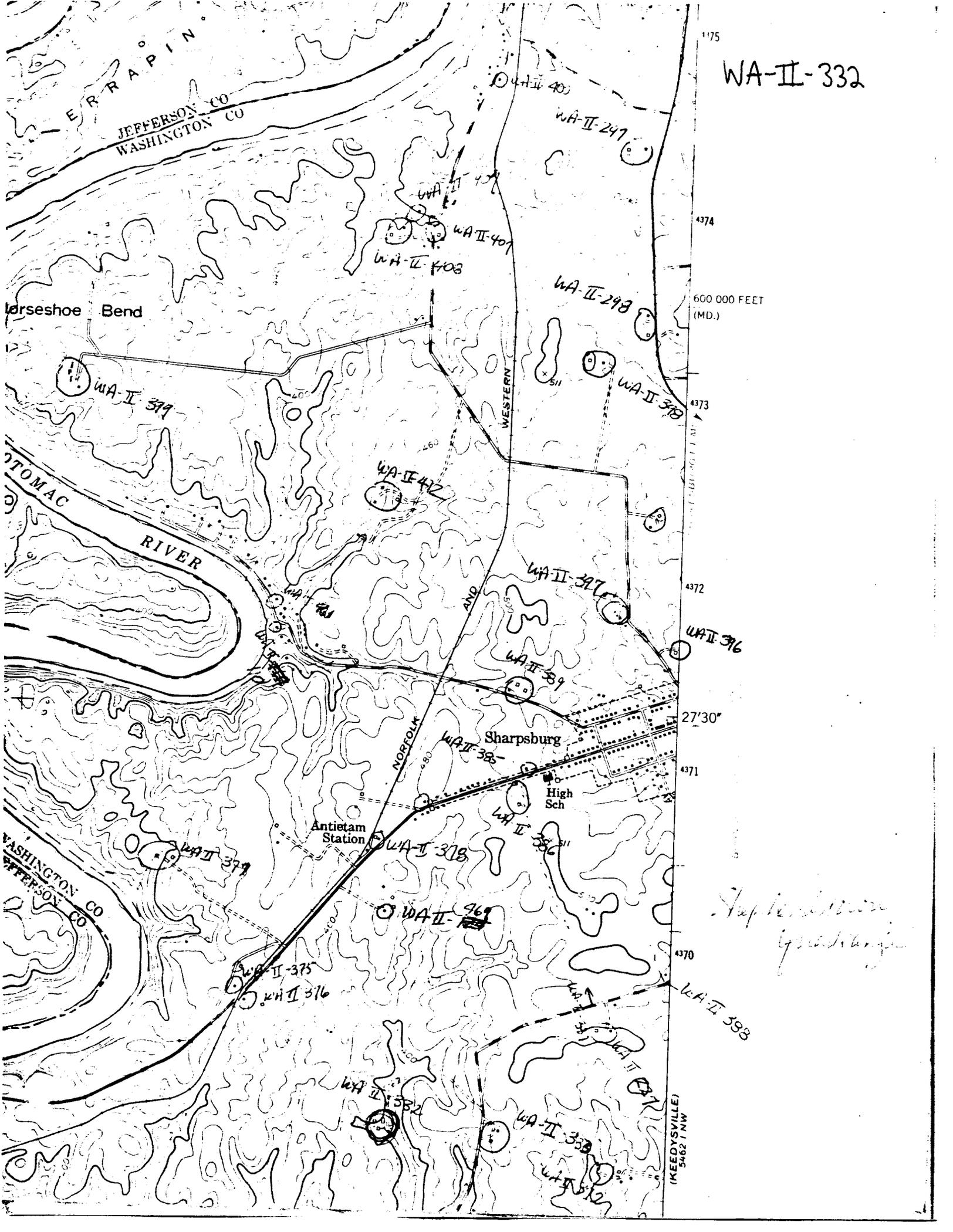
WASHINGTON CO  
JEFFERSON CO

POTOMAC  
RIVER

MARYLAND  
WEST VIRGINIA

WASHINGTON CO  
JEFFERSON CO

WA-II-332



*Antietam  
Graduation*



WA-II-332

S.W

March, 1916

Wilson - Miller farm

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



10/27/77

N.E.

11/16/76

Wilson. Miller Farm

PAUL STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-II-332

Stair, west section

Oct. 1977

Wilson-Miller farm

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-II-332

fireplace, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, S.E. Room

Oct. 1977

Wilson - Miller Farm

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-II-222

outbldg. S.E.

March, 1976

wilson - miller farm

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



28 New



WA-II-332

archaeology N.W.

March, 1976

wilson - miller farm

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-11-332

Baru, S.E.

March, 1976

wilson - miller farm

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-2-222

remains of dwelling, W.

MAR 16, 1976

Wilson-Miller Farm

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY