United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service  

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 Nelson, Henry, House  
and or common  

2. Location  
North side of Gas House Pike, about 1600 feet west of Linganore Creek & about 1.3 miles east of McKaig. not for publication  
street & number  
city, town New London  
state Maryland  

3. Classification  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Present Use</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>district</td>
<td>public</td>
<td>occupied</td>
<td>agriculture</td>
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<tr>
<td>building(s)</td>
<td>private</td>
<td>unoccupied</td>
<td>commercial</td>
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<tr>
<td>structure</td>
<td>both</td>
<td>work in progress</td>
<td>educational</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>site</td>
<td>Public Acquisition</td>
<td>in process</td>
<td>entertainment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>object</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>government</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Owner of Property  
name Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Robey  
street & number Route 1, Box 133  
city, town Mount Airy  
state Maryland  

5. Location of Legal Description  
courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse  
street & number North Court Street  
city, town Frederick  
state Maryland  

6. Representation in Existing Surveys  

has this property been determined eligible? yes no  
date federal state county local  

depository for survey records  
city, town state
Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Henry Nelson House is an early 19th century course stone rubble house which is 2½ stories high with a tin covered gable roof, three-bay symmetrical facade (east side), interior brick end chimneys, and a corbeled brick cornice. The house sits on the side of a hill with the full east wall of the basement exposed. A frame one story porch (probably circa 1920) extends along the facade and south side. A one story gable roofed frame garage shown attached to the porch in the accompanying photograph has since been removed. A small one story masonry block extension erected in the 1960s projects from the west side into the hill and contains the bathroom and kitchen.

The principal windows of the structure have double-hung wooden sashes with six-over-six lights and are mounted in narrow frames which appear to be original. A few of the windows retain exterior shutters. The gables have two four-light casement windows in each.

The principal entrance to the house is through a narrow doorway in the central bay of the facade. The doorway has two three-panel doors beneath a four-light rectangular transom and appears to be original. The only other entrance is in the east foundation wall and has a replacement door.

On the interior the room arrangement is two rooms on each floor separated by a central stairway on the first floor and a narrow stairs and hall on the second. The decorative detailing is simple and consists primarily of narrow, beaded trim around the doorways and windows; plain chair rail on the first floor; four mantelpieces of which the one in the first floor south room with its simple trim is the most elaborate. Both second floor rooms have a strip of wooden pegs on the interior wall. The second floor interior walls appear to be plaster over vertical boards. The south room on the second floor originally was two rooms divided probably by a vertical board wall which was removed several years ago.

Two interesting interior features found in the Henry Nelson house and in other houses of this period in the New Market area are drawers built into the walls under the windows and T-shaped wooden pieces mounted into the wall. The drawers in this house are under the east and west windows of the north room, have wooden peg knobs, and are framed as part of the chairrail. The T-shaped pieces are located one in each of the first floor rooms in the east wall. These pieces are devoid of decoration and their purpose is unknown (one suggestion is for hanging pictures).

The principal rooms of the house are intact and well-maintained. The basement, which contains a large fireplace and is speculated as the original kitchen, and the attic also appear to be basically unchanged except for the additions of insulation and shelving for storage.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1.
Henry Nelson House
Frederick County
Maryland

Also located on the property are a barn, log springhouse, and a small log house. The barn is a 19th century (possibly mid-century) heavy framed structure with vertical board siding beneath recently applied vinyl siding to which a one story clapboard addition was attached about forty years ago and a one story masonry block wing added probably more recently. The springhouse is a low rectangular structure with a tin roof and may be contemporary with the main house. The small log house appears to date from the first half of the present century and is 1½ stories with a three bay symmetrical facade.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries of this property were determined by visual and natural features (a tree lined hilltop to the west, a hilltop and two creeks along the east) and man-made lines of convenience (Gas House Pike on the south and existing property lines also on the south and to the north). The house and outbuildings create a farm setting which stands essentially in the bowl formed by the surrounding hills.
SIGNIFICANCE

The Henry Nelson house is architecturally significant as an excellent example of the late 18th and early 19th century English influenced vernacular architecture found in the New Market area of Frederick County. Whereas most of the southeastern Frederick County was predominantly German in early settlement, the New Market region attracted a fairly large English population. The house, constructed of stone, has some rather unusual features for this area, a closed stair between two rooms that rises directly to the second floor from the front entrance, and built-in drawers under the east and west windows in both rooms of the first level. The house remains basically unaltered; major changes have been limited to later additions (for kitchen and porch) that have not interfered with earlier construction. The building also has agricultural significance being the house for a farm property that has been part of an operating farm since 1763.

HISTORY

The property on which this house was built was originally granted to Henry Hall on July 4, 1763 as a 5,415-acre land grant named Middle Plantation 1,208 acres of the tract was resurveyed in May 1785 for Thomas Maynard and renamed Nathan's Undertaking.

Fifteen years later, in 1800, Maynard's son, Thomas Maynard, Jr., sold 372 acres of Nathan's Undertaking and 68 acres of Middle Plantation to Henry Nelson for 1,760 pounds (Deed W 19/479). The stone house may have been standing on the property at the time of this purchase, or it was built on it soon after, since an "H. Nelson" house appears on the Varle map of 1808.

Upon Henry Nelson's death in 1825, he left the "remainder of Nathan's Undertaking whereon I now dwell" to his son, Nathan Nelson (Will HS3/371).

In 1875 Nathan Nelson, who served as a Frederick County Commissioner, died and was interred on the "home farm". In his will he left "the stone house farm lying on the west side of Linganore Creek" to his son, Henry (Will SGC1/621). Henry, however, had died two years earlier, willing his real estate to his surviving sons and daughters, who gained possession of the farm (Will SGC1/443).

The Nelson family owned the property until 1918. In 1927 Nettie Jones purchased the property from her parents. In the 1930s Miss Jones built

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #2.
a small log cabin on the property, which she used for many years as a summer camp for epileptic children. Upon her death the current owners, Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Robey, purchased the property.

The present farm property has been part of an operating farm since 1875, and remains as such today. Mr. Robey has been grazing cattle and raising crops on the property since he purchased the farm in 1977. He is presently establishing a dairy heifer operation.
Nelson, Henry, House  
Frederick County  
Maryland  

3 December 1980  
(R. L. Andrews)

Section 8  SIGNIFICANCE  revision

The Henry Nelson House is a two and a half story stone dwelling with a three bay symmetrical facade which is significant for its constructional qualities as possibly the best example (because of integrity) of a type of domestic architecture found in the New Market region of Frederick County. The distinctive characteristics embodied in these structures and intact in the Henry Nelson House are a closed stairway sandwiched between two rooms, drawers built into the window sills (here in both first floor rooms), and a wooden cross built into the outside walls of the first floor rooms (no explanation for these crosses is known). The closed stairway is usually centrally located and just inside the front entrance. Of all the known examples of the houses containing these features, the Henry Nelson House is the one which best retains its integrity.
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundaries of the nominated property are a combination of man-made and natural features and consist of, as delineated on the attached map labeled "Boundary Survey of the Robert H. Robey, Jr. Property" and drawn to a scale of 1"=266', on the west and north existing property lines which includes a tree lined hill top; on the east a feeder creek, L Linganore Creek, and the ridge line of a hill directly east of the house which is indicated on the U.S.G.S. quadrangle as being 400' elevation; and on the south by existing property lines, Gas House Pike, and a line northeasterly from the eastern point of the northern boundary of the triangular neighboring property on the south to the westerly point of the Linganore Creek.
10. Geographical Data

| UMT References | A  | Zone | 1 | 18 | | 3 | 0 | 13 | 4 | 14 | 10 | 4 | 13 | 6 | 17 | 4 | 14 | 10 | B  | Zone | 1 | 18 | | 3 | 0 | 13 | 4 | 16 | 10 | 4 | 13 | 6 | 16 | 9 | 17 | 10 |
|----------------|----|------|---|----||    |     | 3 | 0 | 12 | 8 | 13 | 10 | 4 | 13 | 6 | 16 | 7 | 17 | 10 | D  | Zone | 1 | 18 | | 3 | 0 | 12 | 7 | 16 | 10 | 4 | 13 | 6 | 17 | 1 | 10 | 10 |
|                | C  | Zone | 1 | 18 | | 3 | 0 | 12 | 8 | 13 | 10 | 4 | 13 | 6 | 16 | 7 | 17 | 10 |                |    |     | 3 | 0 | 12 | 7 | 16 | 10 | 4 | 13 | 6 | 17 | 1 | 10 | 10 |
|                | E  | Zone | 1 | 18 | | 3 | 0 | 13 | 1 | 7 | 10 | 4 | 13 | 6 | 16 | 4 | 13 | 10 |                |    |     | 3 | 0 | 12 | 7 | 16 | 10 | 4 | 13 | 6 | 17 | 1 | 10 | 10 |
|                | G  | Zone |    |    | |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |                |    |     | 3 | 0 | 12 | 7 | 16 | 10 | 4 | 13 | 6 | 17 | 1 | 10 | 10 |

Verbal boundary description and justification

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #3.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>state</th>
<th>code</th>
<th>county</th>
<th>code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Cherilyn Widell, Robert H. Robey  
organization: Frederick County Office of Historic Preservation  
date: May, 1980

street & number: 12 East Church St./RFD 1, Bx. 133  
television: (301) 663-8300 x 266

city or town: Frederick/Mt. Airy  
state: Maryland 21701/21771

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local [X]

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-655), 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: [Signature]  
date: 8-28-80

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date: [Date]

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: [Name]  
date: [Date]

Chief of Registration
Henry Nelson Hse
Frederick Co

source of photo is left: Robert Robey, owner

Aerial Photo of Farm Setting Last Summer
Spring House just to right of House
Crest line in woodlot behind the house
Barn and Cornfield to left of picture
Log Cabin beneath trees in foreground center
Building Farthest on left is an equipment shed

Building approximately 25 yrs old.
In this photo the dam has been removed.
Henry Nelson House
N/S GAS HOUSE PIKE
SOUTH ELEVATION
HENRY NELSON HOUSE
N/S GAS HOUSE PIKE, FREDERICK COUNTY, MD
SOUTHEAST ELEVATION

CREW 5/78
F-527
F-8-14
Henry Nelson House
N/S GAS HOUSE PIKE, FREDERICK COUNTY
INTERIOR, MANTELPIECE DETAIL
Henry Nelson House
N/S Chas House Pike, Frederick County
Log Cabin, West Elevation
Henry Nelson House
N/S GAS HOUSE PK E
BARN COMPLEX
WEST ELEVATION
Henry Nelson House CEN 5/78
N/S Gas House Pike, Frederick County
Interior Detail
F-5-27
F-8-14
Henry Nelson House
N/3 Gas House Pike, Frederick County
Interior Détail
F-527
F-8714
CEW 5/78
Henry Nelson House  CEN 5/78  F-5-27  F.8-14
N/S Gas House Place, Frederick County
Detail, Drawer under window