

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Hard Bargain Farm

Other names/site number: Hard Bargain Farm Environmental Center PG: 83-2

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

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

2. Location

Street & number: 2001 Bryan Point Road

City or town: Accokeek State: MD County: Prince George's

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

	<u>8-14-14</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
<u>MD SHPO</u>	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property <input type="checkbox"/> meets <input type="checkbox"/> does not meet the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title :	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- 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

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>25</u>	<u>4</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>14</u>	<u>1</u>	structures
<u>7</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>47</u>	<u>5</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- DOMESTIC/single dwelling
- AGRICULTURE/agricultural outbuilding
- AGRICULTURE/storage
- AGRICULTURE/animal facility
- LANDSCAPE/garden
- LANDSCAPE/natural feature

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- EDUCATION/education-related
- RECREATION/outdoor recreation
- AGRICULTURE/storage
- AGRICULTURE/animal facility
- LANDSCAPE/garden
- LANDSCAPE/natural feature

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19th and 20th CENTURY REVIVALS/Colonial Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: wood, concrete, glass

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

Hard Bargain Farm (PG: 83-2), located in Accokeek, Maryland, was purchased in 1922 by Alice L.L. Ferguson as a country retreat. In 1961, her husband, Henry G. ("Fergie") Ferguson, began the process of deeding the property to the Alice Ferguson Foundation (AFF), which utilizes the property today as an environmental and cultural education center. Accessed via Bryan Point Road, HBF is comprised of 52.62 acres situated about 15 miles south of Washington, D.C.¹ The property is distinguished by its diversity of terrain, which includes steeply rolling hills, heavy forest growth, agricultural fields, and landscaped gardens. Further, overlooking the confluence of the Potomac River and Piscataway Creek, HBF has an unparalleled viewshed that includes Virginia's Mount Vernon Estate, Alexandria, Virginia, and downtown Washington, D.C. Alice Ferguson transformed the land through its renovation into a working farm, as well as through her integrated architecture and landscape designs, which incorporated aspects of the Country Place era of landscape architecture. In 1924, Alice Ferguson constructed a main farmhouse at the hilltop, which overlooks the viewshed and gardens. Through the 1930s, a number of agricultural and domestic outbuildings were constructed to support farm activities. Ferguson also constructed a number of elements reflecting the

¹ The Alice Ferguson Foundation currently owns 116.8 total acres, consisting of two main parcels, one 52.62 acre parcel located north and east of Bryan Point Road, and a 64.17 acre parcel located south and west of Bryan Point Road. The 52.62 acre parcel, encompassing the hilltop area, barnyard area, and lodge area, is that associated with Alice and Henry Ferguson's ownership, use, and design.

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influence of the Country Place era of landscape design, including a serpentine road to the hilltop farmhouse and a planned garden complex. Originally consisting of over 300 acres during the Ferguson's time, HBF's acreage has been reduced due to transfer of land along the Potomac River by the AFF to the National Park Service (NPS) in 1968, for the formation of Piscataway National Park. Through an agreement with NPS, the AFF continues to utilize this land for agricultural and educational purposes. HBF has integrity of materials, workmanship, and design, with extant buildings and landscape features designed and constructed by Alice Ferguson. Further, the property has strong integrity of setting and location, partially as a result of the covenants and ownership agreements made with NPS, which have helped to preserve the natural surroundings and viewshed. As a result, Hard Bargain Farm has exceptional integrity of association and feeling to Alice and Henry Ferguson's period of residence.

Narrative Description

Site

Hard Bargain Farm (HBF) is a 52.62 acre property located at 2001 Bryan Point Road in Accokeek, Maryland. Located in the southwest corner of Prince George's County, Accokeek's boundaries are generally Charles County to the south and west and Piscataway Creek and the Potomac River forming the northern border. The historically rural community grew to include farms and small crossroad settlements with modest single family dwellings by the early twentieth century. From the closing decades of the twentieth century to the present, the community has been in a gradual transition towards a more suburban character. While the newer residential areas are concentrated in subdivisions located along Route 210, the older residential areas are located west of Route 210 and include the Moyaone Reserve area and scattered housing along Livingston Road and Bryan Point Road.² The traditional center of the community is the intersection of Route 210 and Livingston Road, located approximately 2.5 miles east of Hard Bargain Farm.

Sited approximately 15 miles south of Washington, D.C., Hard Bargain Farm is distinguished by its unique location. The main farmhouse, constructed in 1923 and 1924 as the home of Alice and Henry ("Fergie") Ferguson and today serving as the headquarters building of the Alice Ferguson Foundation (AFF), is located at the property's highest point on a hill 150 feet above the Potomac River. This location provides the property with an unparalleled view of the Potomac River where it converges with Piscataway Creek. The viewshed includes not only the natural beauty of the river and the rolling, grassy landscape, but also provides a clear view of one of the nation's most significant national landmarks, George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate to the northwest. Additionally, Fort Washington is visible across Piscataway Creek to the northeast, and in the distance, Washington D.C.'s Washington Monument and the U.S. Capitol Building are visible to the north.

Primary access to the site is via Bryan Point Road, which travels along the property's west and south sides in a generally northwest to southeast direction. HBF has essentially three main areas: the hilltop area associated with the main farmhouse; a barnyard area centered at the main hay barn; and a lodge area, where the AFF's educational activities are focused.³ The hilltop area is located at the highest point of the property to the northeast, and includes the Fergusons' farmhouse, a garage, and several outbuildings. The barnyard area is located west of the hilltop, and the areas are separated by a steep downward slope. As the center of farming operations at HBF, the barnyard has a large collection of buildings including the main hay barn, a milking parlor, a granary, and a corn crib. The lodge area is located near the northwest corner of the AFF property, north of the barnyard area and separated by mature tree growth. This area is the center of the AFF's

² Located within the scenic easement area of Piscataway Park.

³ As described in *Land Use Plan: Hard Bargain Farm*, prepared by Rhodeside & Harwell, Incorporated; Coastal Resources, Inc.; and Richard Westmacott, for Alice Ferguson Foundation, December 2005.

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educational programs, and includes a lodge building and gazebo. A scattering of other structures, including a secondary dwelling and outbuildings, is located on the periphery of these defined areas.

HBF is home to a remarkable variety in topography and land features. The highest point of the property is the hilltop area. Here, the farmhouse sits on a small, plateaued site with a grassy, open field immediately to its south. The terrain drops off to the north of the farmhouse, where a terrace of landscaped lawn and gardens softens the descent to a lowlands area belonging to the National Park Service that borders the Potomac River. The property is heavily wooded in most areas outside of clearings for structures, but the expanse between the rear (north) elevation of the farmhouse and the Potomac River is generally cleared to take advantage of the spectacular viewshed across the river. Only low-profile plantings, shrubbery, and groupings of mature trees accent the view. The property also slopes down to the west of the hilltop area to reach the barnyard and lodge areas. Here, the terrain is moderately sloped. To the south of the hilltop and its small field area, the land descends sharply into a deep ravine. Aside from the main access road that curves up and around the ravine, this area is heavily forested; mature tree growth also surrounds the barnyard and lodge areas. This access road was created by Alice Ferguson circa 1930, as part of her landscape design for the property.

Also of note is an area of National Park Service-owned land occupying the lowland areas to the north of the hilltop and bordering the Potomac River. Gifted to the National Park Service (NPS) by the AFF in 1968, the area is now outside of the boundaries of Hard Bargain Farm, yet remains significant to the mission of AFF and the natural setting of the Ferguson's property. Owned by the Fergusons from 1922 until it was deeded to the AFF in 1961, this land was used for farming and was also the site of significant archaeological excavations. Today, through an agreement with NPS, the land continues to be used by the AFF for farming and environmental education activities. On NPS-owned land, agricultural fields are located to the northeast and marshy wetlands are located to the northwest, currently used for habitat interpretation and education programs.

Water features are an important component of the site, for both their visual effect and their influence on the property's setting. In addition to the Potomac River and Piscataway Creek, which form an important part of the viewshed where they converge to the north of the property, Accokeek Creek flows from southeast to northwest across Hard Bargain Farm to meet the Potomac River on the NPS-owned property. The creek has a multitude of tributaries that branch from its primary course, and forested wetlands along its length transition to tidal wetlands as it approaches the river.

Property Features

Circulation and Parking

The property includes access and circulation routes, including primary access roads, trails, pedestrian pathways, and parking areas. With the exception of modern parking areas associated with AFF activities, the main roads and pathways were cleared and constructed under the design and direction of Alice Ferguson in the 1920s and 1930s by local workers. The primary entrance to Hard Bargain Farm is located at the southeast corner of the property, accessed via Bryan Point Road through a set of original concrete masonry entry posts. The long, winding unpaved driveway curves around a deep ravine leading to the main farmhouse. This road continues west to access the barnyard area and the lodge area. A second entrance enters the property to the west from Bryan Point Road, leading directly to the lodge area. That dirt road branches east to reach the hilltop area, bypassing the route around the ravine. Several secondary roads connect the two entrances, and a number of narrow, unpaved roads connect to the agricultural fields and the Potomac River. Pedestrian-oriented paths and trails connect the hilltop area with the barnyard and lodge areas and the fields. A parking area is located immediately to the west of the primary entrance, near the amphitheater. A second parking area

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is located within a grassy area immediately to the northeast of the farmhouse. The barnyard and lodge areas also have designated unpaved parking areas.

Gardens and Art Features

Landscape and garden features are a significant component of Hard Bargain Farm. Conceived and implemented by Alice Ferguson in the 1920s and 1930s, the designed landscape features begin with the entrance road around the ravine and continue with a concentration north of the farmhouse, on the downward sloping lawn and terrace between the hilltop and the Potomac River. Alice's landscape and garden work was designed to take advantage of the spectacular viewshed provided by the rolling hills and river beyond, complementing the property's natural features while also bringing a sense of order to the landscape. In this way, the gardens represent the influence of the Country Place era (circa 1890 – circa 1940) of American landscape architecture. Although some plant types have been replaced over time, the significant characteristics of Alice's landscape design remain intact, including the relationship between Hard Bargain Farm's buildings and their setting, the entrance road around the ravine, garden layout, general plant species and profile, and garden features such as arbors and sculptures. The gardens exhibit the relatively informal, romantic nature of the Picturesque, as well as areas of more formal design.

Alice Ferguson's first landscape and gardening projects involved simple improvements that could be undertaken simultaneously with building construction and renovations on the property. These included draping the farmhouse with rose arbors and wisteria vines, and formalizing the entrances with bordering boxwood plantings. By 1929, the garden paths were laid out with concrete curbs. An oval perennial garden is located northeast of the farmhouse, and includes plantings such as peonies and primroses. One of the most significant features in the gardens is the low, concrete balustrade, which runs parallel to the rear elevation of the farmhouse. Designed and constructed under Alice's direction circa 1931, the balustrade softens the steep downward slope of the north lawn and frames the view of the Potomac River. A set of concrete steps enters through the center of the balustrade, accessing the rear entrance to the farmhouse. Other hardscape features include an armillary (circa 1927), a large concrete water feature (circa 1929), a metal grape arbor (circa 1931), and a concrete faun head (date unknown). Later additions include grave stones for Alice and Henry Ferguson, with a concrete bench placed nearby.

The gardens also feature the work of the Fergusons' friend, Lenore Thomas (Straus), a local New Deal artist in the 1930s. Her contributions include a glazed blue, fired brick sculpture of a rhinoceros (circa 1935) that is located near the southeast corner of the farmhouse at the edge of the hilltop's south field. Additionally, she created stone sculptures at the front gate, dated circa 1938, that depict Alice and Fergie. The east figure shows Alice holding a skull, and the west figure has Fergie holding a volley ball, references to their archeological and recreational pastimes during the 1930s and 1940s at HBF.

Built Resources

HBF includes a number of built resources, including the main farmhouse, hay barn, and various domestic and farm outbuildings. An inventory of the property includes 45 resources; five are considered non-contributing resources due to their date of construction or significant alteration.

Hilltop Area

The hilltop area focuses on the main farmhouse, which is located at the highest point of the property overlooking the agricultural fields and the Potomac River beyond. Today, the house serves as the administrative offices and limited display area for the cultural collections and archives of the AFF. Located immediately to the east of the main farmhouse is a cluster of outbuildings, including Fergie's office,

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constructed in 1937. A five-car garage (circa 1930) is situated slightly southeast of the other outbuildings, with a shop (circa 1930) located immediately adjacent to its rear (east) elevation. Several additional outbuildings are located on the periphery of this hilltop nucleus. A farm manager's house (circa 1926) is set slightly southwest of the farmhouse, downhill in a cleared area adjacent to a forested area to the south. The house has its own set of outbuildings, including a garage. Located downhill north of the farm manager's house is a shed (circa 1930, moved in 1995) currently utilized for a photographic exhibit. A pump house (circa 1930) is located at the edge of the forested land bordering the open field to the south of the farmhouse.

Hilltop Area: Farmhouse

The farmhouse at HBF is located at the highest point of the property, situated on the footprint of the property's earlier farmhouse. The current farmhouse was constructed in 1924 under the design and direction of Alice Ferguson, and served as the Fergusons' dwelling at HBF throughout their years there. Today, it serves as a center for conferences, offices, and cultural collections of the AFF.

The farmhouse is a two-story, five-bay wide, three-bay deep, wood-frame dwelling that is a vernacular interpretation of the Colonial Revival style. The U-shaped dwelling consists of the central, rectangular main block, framed to each side by a one-story, one-bay-wide, four-bay-deep wing. The U-shape is created as each wing is set beyond the plane of the main block's façade (south elevation). Set on a poured concrete foundation, the dwelling is clad in German wood siding that is painted white. A shallow-pitched, side-gabled roof of asphalt shingles is accented with overhanging eaves, raking wood boards, and cornice returns. Each wing is topped by an asymmetrically pitched, side-gabled roof. Exterior brick chimneys frame the main block at its side (east and west) elevations. A matching exterior brick chimney rises at the west side of the façade, and each wing is pierced by a central interior brick chimney. The dwelling is fenestrated with elongated, paired eight-light, wood-casement windows, set within narrow, square-edged wood surrounds.

Centrally located at the south façade is the primary entrance to the farmhouse. The single-leaf entrance is marked by a paneled wood door with eight lights. The entrance is accentuated with a simple, Colonial Revival-style surround, composed of a one-story, one-bay entry porch, with a front-gabled roof with triangular soffit. Square wood columns support the entry porch. The entrance is flanked to each side by a paired casement window. These three openings are grouped at the center of the elevation, and three paired windows are placed symmetrically above at the second story. The outer bays of the first and second stories are also marked by paired casement windows. The north facade faces the hilltop's gardens and the Potomac River viewshed, and also functions as a primary elevation. A single-leaf entrance is centered on the elevation, and its paneled wood door with eight lights matches that at the south façade. It is sheltered beneath a prominent, front-gabled entry porch with triangular soffit and square wood column supports. Two windows are grouped to each side of the center bay at the first story and five windows are symmetrically arranged across the second story.

The side (east and west) elevations are dominated by the one-story, four-bay-deep wings. Both wings were included on Alice Ferguson's original plans for the dwelling, but the east wing was not completed until circa 1927. This wing replaced an open, one-story, full-depth porch originally constructed at the elevation. Each wing has elongated window openings, and the east wing is also marked by a ribbon of six-light wood casement windows at the rear elevation. Both wing structures incorporate a screened porch, located at the southwest corner of the west wing and at the southeast corner of the east wing. A small, enclosed, wood-frame porch topped by a shed roof extends from the rear elevation of the east wing. It is fenestrated with ribbons of full-length casement windows. The second story of the main block at both the east and west elevations are fenestrated with elongated window openings; small, lunette windows flank each side of the chimney stack at the upper gable end.

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The interior of the farmhouse is currently used as office and conference space for the Alice Ferguson Foundation, but it maintains the original floorplan that existed during the Fergusons' occupancy. Much of the Fergusons' original furniture, art and ornaments are displayed throughout the first floor. Few updates have been made, and are limited to spaces such as bathrooms, where fixtures and tiling have been updated and replaced when necessary. There is little interior ornamentation, and finishes are limited to wood plank flooring, plastered walls and ceiling, and simple wood trim and baseboards consistent with the period during which the house was constructed. The primary entrance at the south elevation opens to a foyer and stair hall at the first floor. A living room and dining room is located immediately to the north, overlooking the landscaped gardens and Potomac River. Office space is contained in the west wing and the kitchen is located in the east wing. Secondary spaces include a full bathroom, pantry, and a laundry room. The second floor is reached by way of a wooden dogleg stair located at the west side of the foyer. It holds three bedrooms (now used as office space), two full bathrooms, and a large closet that opens into the stair hall.

Hilltop Area: Farmhouse Outbuildings

Clustered to the east of the farmhouse are five small one-room outbuildings. Each complements the architecture of the farmhouse in its form and materials. This grouping of outbuildings includes Henry Ferguson's office and four sheds. Today, the office functions as a meeting space and the sheds continue to serve as storage areas. Constructed in 1937, Fergie's office is a modest, one-story, wood-frame building. Set on a brick pier foundation, the structure is clad in German wood siding that is painted white, and is capped by a side-gabled roof of asphalt shingles. The roofline is accented with overhanging eaves and has exposed wood rafter beams. An exterior-end brick chimney rises at the north elevation. Entrance is centered at the façade (west elevation), and is marked by a single-leaf paneled wood door that is sheltered by a one-story, one-bay pedimented front entry with square wood columns. Window openings hold single and paired 6/6, double-hung, wood-sash windows. The interior has wood strip floors and plastered walls and ceiling with no trim.

Constructed circa 1930, the shed buildings are located immediately south of Henry Ferguson's office. Each wood-frame structure is clad in German wood siding that is painted white, and is capped by a gabled roof of asphalt shingles that has overhanging eaves and exposed rafter beams. All of the outbuildings on the property typically have minimal fenestration including single-leaf entries either left open or marked by paneled wood doors, and a variety of window openings including single and paired double-hung, wood-sash windows, and wood fixed, casement, and awning windows.

Located southeast of this cluster of outbuildings is a one-story, five-bay garage, constructed circa 1930. Originally the garage for the farmhouse, the building is today used for storage and maintenance. The one-story building is composed of three parts: a raised, three-bay wide central section flanked to each side by a short, one-bay wide wing. The central section is topped by a steeply pitched side-gabled roof, and the wings are capped by shallow-pitched, side-gabled roofs. The roof is covered in asphalt shingles and completed with overhanging eaves and exposed rafter ends. The original folk art weather vane is centered on the roof ridge. The building is set on a solid, concrete slab foundation, and the wood-frame structure is clad in German wood siding that is painted white. Five large, sliding vertical wood board doors with paired, eight-light fixed wood windows mark the façade (west elevation).

Set immediately to the rear of the garage is a one-story, two-bay, rectangular shop building that was constructed circa 1930. It is clad in board-and-batten wood siding and is topped by a front-gabled roof of standing-seam metal.

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Hilltop Area: Farm Manager's House and Outbuildings

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Constructed circa 1926 for Hard Bargain Farm's farm manager, the dwelling continues to function as a permanent residence. The one-story, L-shaped, wood-frame building was designed by Alice Ferguson, and complements the main farmhouse with its vernacular interpretation of the Colonial Revival style. The building consists of a one-story, rectangular, side-gabled main block, augmented by a one-story, front-gabled projecting bay at the north end of its façade (east elevation). Set on a concrete foundation, the wood-frame structure is clad in German wood siding that is painted white. The roofline is covered in asphalt shingles and is accented with overhanging eaves, raking wood boards, and returns. Two center interior brick chimneys rise from the main block, and an exterior brick chimney is located at the façade of the front-gabled ell. Centered at the façade is the primary entrance, framed within a Colonial Revival-style surround with decorative pediment. It is sheltered beneath a front-gabled entry porch with square wood column supports. Fenestration includes 1/1 and 6/6, double-hung, wood-sash and wood casement windows. The dwelling includes an enclosed porch and a screened porch, which extends from the south (side) elevation of the main block. The interior of the farm manager's house has the same simple detailing as the main farmhouse, with plastered walls and ceilings, narrow wood plank floors, and simple wood trim. It contains a kitchen, dining room, living room, three bedrooms, a bath, and a full basement.

Constructed circa 1926, several outbuildings are associated with the farm manager's house, each of which echoes the form and material treatment of the outbuildings associated with the farmhouse. For example, a one-story, one-bay garage located slightly southeast of the dwelling is clad in German wood siding and is capped by a front-gabled roof of asphalt shingles. A single-leaf, vertical board wood door pierces its façade (east elevation). Other associated outbuildings include four, one-room outbuildings located west of the farm manager's house. Each is clad in wood siding and topped by gable or shed roofs of asphalt shingles or standing-seam metal.

Barnyard Area

The barnyard area is located southwest of the hilltop and farmhouse, and includes a large hay barn, a milking house, and a series of smaller barns and supporting structures. Today, the buildings continue to be used for the Alice Ferguson Foundation's agricultural operations.

The barnyard complex centers on the hay barn, constructed circa 1925. The two-story, wood-frame structure is set on a concrete block foundation, and the wood-frame structure is clad in German wood siding and has a gambrel roof covered in asphalt shingles. The roofline is completed with overhanging eaves and exposed rafter ends, and a centered, front-gabled cupola. Fenestration includes wood Dutch doors and four- and six-light wood windows set within square-edged wood surrounds. Adjacent to the hay barn to the northwest is a large milking parlor and office, each constructed circa 1925. Set on a solid concrete foundation, the wood-frame milking parlor is clad in wood weatherboard siding and is capped by a gabled roof of asphalt shingles with overhanging eaves. The milking house office is a one-story, concrete block structure with a wood-frame, gabled-roof that is covered in standing-seam metal.

Located slightly to the northeast of the hay barn are a tool museum, root cellar, corn crib, and granary. Located to the southwest is a loafing shed and pig pen. A cluster of buildings is situated to the northwest of the milking parlor and office and includes a bull pen, blacksmith shop, tractor shed, sawmill, equipment shed, and pole barn. Situated midway between the hilltop farm manager's house and the barnyard complex is another cluster of agricultural outbuildings, including a smokehouse, rabbit hutch, chicken house, storage shed, feed shed. With the exception of the pole barn (constructed in 2000), and the tool museum (constructed circa 1930 as a sweet potato shed, but enlarged in 2001 to house a collection of antique tools for the Alice Ferguson Foundation's educational program), all of these outbuildings were constructed between

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circa 1925 and circa 1930. Functioning agricultural buildings through to the present, the unadorned, simple buildings are typically of either wood-frame or concrete block construction, topped by gable or shed roofs clad in either asphalt shingles or standing-seam metal. A variety of fenestration includes double-hung, wood-sash windows, and fixed wood-sash, awning, and casement windows.

Lodge Area

The lodge area is located northwest of the hilltop area at the bottom of the hill, and includes a lodge at the northwest corner of the property with a gazebo situated to its southeast. Constructed in 1975, the large, two-story lodge holds environmental and ecological education classes for school children. Set on a parged concrete foundation, the structure is clad in wood shingles and is capped by a gabled roof of asphalt shingles. Fenestration includes single and paired 1/1, synthetic windows. The wooden gazebo, also constructed circa 1975, has a large, attached wood deck, and is used as outdoor classroom space.

Miscellaneous Structures

Log Cabin

The log cabin is located downhill north of the farm manager's house. Constructed circa 1923, the building served as a temporary residence for Alice and Henry Ferguson before the completion of the farmhouse in 1924. Later, it was remodeled by Alice to serve as her studio space. It is located on the site of a slave cabin, which collapsed during restoration efforts by the Fergusons. The one-story, three-bay log cabin has a one-story addition at its west (side) elevation, constructed in 1970. Set on a solid concrete foundation, the cabin is timber frame and log construction. It has a side-gabled roof of asphalt shingles with overhanging eaves and wood shingles at the upper gable ends. A brick chimney with a wide base rises from the east elevation. Centered at the façade (south elevation), the single-leaf entrance is marked by a wood vertical board door. The entrance is flanked to each side by paired, eight-light wood casement windows. The rear (north) elevation is identical to the façade. The interior of the cabin features exposed wood beams and wood plank flooring.

Cottage

Constructed circa 1945, this one-story, three-bay cottage is located immediately north of the west entrance to Hard Bargain Farm. The building originally served as a tenant house, and was later used as a nursery school in the early 1950s. The wood-frame structure is clad in wood weatherboard siding and is topped by a side-gabled roof of asphalt shingles, with overhanging eaves and exposed rafter ends. A central interior brick chimney pierces the roofline. Centered on the façade (south elevation), the single-leaf primary entrance holds a paneled wood door. Additional fenestration includes single and paired, double-hung, wood-sash windows. A wood-frame, screened porch topped by a side-gable roof extends from the east (side) elevation.

Amphitheater

Constructed circa 1930, the amphitheater is located in a ravine immediately south of the northeast entrance to the property. It is accessed via a short gravel road from the entry road. Used by the Fergusons for amateur plays among their friends, the amphitheater continues its use for musical and theatrical productions sponsored by the Alice Ferguson Foundation. Constructed from an abandoned gravel pit, extensive landscaping has cleared the wooded area immediately surrounding the modest amphitheater. The structure has a wood plank stage and wood deck covering.

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Pump House

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The pump house, constructed circa 1930, is set into the side of a hill located south of the farmhouse across the grassy field. The one-story concrete block structure has been parged and is capped by a gabled roof that is covered in asphalt shingles and has exposed rafter ends. Wood siding clads the upper gable ends. Fenestration includes a centered, paneled wood door at the façade, and large, two-light, fixed wood windows.

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	Building	Location	Date*	C/NC
1.	Hard Bargain Farm (Site and Landscape)		1922	C
2.	Hard Bargain Farmhouse	Hilltop	1924, addition 1927	C
3.	Fuel Tank Shed	Hilltop	rebuilt 2001	NC
4.	Shed	Hilltop	circa 1930	C
5.	Storage Shed 1	Hilltop	1935	C
6.	Fergie's Office	Hilltop	1937	C
7.	Garden Shed	Hilltop	circa 1930	C
8.	Five-Car Garage	Hilltop	circa 1930	C
9.	Shop	Hilltop	circa 1930, addition 1999	C
10.	Storage Shed 2	Hilltop	circa 1930	C
11.	Pump House	Hilltop	circa 1930	C
12.	Photo Exhibit Shed	Hilltop	circa 1930, moved circa 1995	NC
13.	Log Cabin	Hilltop	circa 1925, addition 1970, restored 1983	C
14.	Farm Manager's House	Hilltop	circa 1926, addition 1930	C
15.	Farm Manager's Garage	Hilltop	circa 1926	C
16.	Farm Manager's Shed	Hilltop	circa 1926	C
17.	Storage Shed 3	Hilltop	circa 1930	C
18.	Feed House	Hilltop	circa 1930	C
19.	Storage Shed 4	Hilltop	circa 1930	C
20.	Chicken House 1	Hilltop	circa 1930	C
21.	Rabbit Hutch	Hilltop	1996	NC
22.	Chicken House 2	Hilltop	circa 1930	C
23.	Art Piece – Blue Rhinoceros	Hilltop	circa 1935	C
24.	Garden Feature – Front Gate Sculptures	Hilltop	circa 1938	C
25.	Garden Feature – Balustrade	Hilltop	circa 1931	C
26.	Garden Feature – Armillary	Hilltop	circa 1927	C
27.	Garden Feature – Concrete Water Feature	Hilltop	circa 1929	C
28.	Garden Feature – Metal Grape Arbor	Hilltop	circa 1931	C
29.	Garden Feature – Concrete Faun Head	Hilltop	circa 1930	C
30.	Tool Museum	Barnyard	circa 1930, addition 2001	C
31.	Root Cellar	Barnyard	circa 1930	C
32.	Granary	Barnyard	circa 1925	C

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33.	Hammermill/Corn Crib	Barnyard	circa 1930	C
34.	Barn	Barnyard	circa 1925	C
35.	Milking House	Barnyard	circa 1925	C
36.	Milking House Office	Barnyard	circa 1925	C
37.	Shelling Room	Barnyard	circa 1930	C
38.	Pig House	Barnyard	circa 1930	C
39.	Small Animal Shelter	Barnyard	circa 1930	C
40.	Bull Pen	Barnyard	circa 1930	C
41.	Farm Shop	Barnyard	circa 1930	C
42.	Spring House	Barnyard	circa 1930	C
43.	Machine Shed 1	Barnyard	circa 1930	C
44.	Machine Shed 2	Barnyard	circa 1930	C
45.	Sawmill Shed	Barnyard	circa 1930	C
46.	Pole Building	Barnyard	2000	NC
47.	Lodge	Lower Gate Area	circa 1975, addition 1985	NC
48.	Gazebo	Lower Gate Area	circa 1975	
49.	Cottage	Lower Gate Area	circa 1945	C
50.	Cottage Shed	Lower Gate Area	circa 1945	C
51.	Entry Gate	Main Entrance	circa 1930	C
52.	Amphitheater	Main Entrance	circa 1930	C

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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 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.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- ART
- ARCHITECTURE
- ARCHEOLOGY
- CONSERVATION
- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
- SOCIAL HISTORY
- SCIENCE
-

Period of Significance

1922-1961

Significant Dates

1922
1954
1961

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Alice L.L. Ferguson; Henry G. Ferguson

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Alice L.L. Ferguson (designer)
Jack Pierce (builder)

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Hard Bargain Farm is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria B and C, and is locally significant as the country retreat of Alice L.L. and Henry G. Ferguson. The property represents the Fergusons' progressive influence and creativity in the areas of Social History, Art, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Archaeology, and Science. The period of significance extends from 1922 to 1961, encompassing Alice Ferguson's purchase of Hard Bargain Farm to its stewardship by the Alice Ferguson Foundation. Alice Ferguson was an acclaimed early-twentieth-century artist and amateur archaeologist, who conceived and implemented the building and landscape designs at Hard Bargain Farm in the Country Place style. She led excavations on the Potomac River shoreline of her property that significantly advanced scholarly understanding of local prehistory and history, work that resulted in the landmark designation of Accokeek Creek Archaeological Site. Henry Ferguson, known as Fergie, was a prominent geologist with the United States Geological Survey, recognized for his pioneering study of mineral deposits in Nevada and for his contributions to the Military Geology Unit during World War II. The Fergusons supported the local community of Accokeek, establishing Hard Bargain Farm as a working farm that provided food and jobs for local residents during the devastating years of the Great Depression and World War II. Their dedication to Accokeek prompted the couple to undertake a series of real estate ventures that served as the basis and inspiration for community conservation activities focused on the Maryland side of the Potomac River. These philanthropic activities have ensured the protection of the riverfront and its significant viewshed. In 1954, Fergie helped to establish the Alice Ferguson Foundation, a non-profit organization chartered to benefit local educational programs. Today, the Alice Ferguson Foundation continues to honor the Fergusons' legacy, educating and advocating Hard Bargain Farm's unique environmental and cultural importance to Accokeek and Prince George's County. The Fergusons were associated with this property during the most productive years of their lives, contributing significantly to social history, the arts, archaeology, science, and conservation that had local and national influences.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

Introductory History to Alice L.L. and Henry G. Ferguson and Hard Bargain Farm

In the early part of the twentieth century, Henry and Alice Ferguson were a young, progressive couple living in Washington, D.C. Alice, an artist, and Fergie, a geologist with the United States Geological Survey (USGS), had met and married in 1914. Following a year-long honeymoon in South America, the couple settled into a newly constructed house at 2330 California Street, N.W. The fashionable Washington, D.C. house was designed by local architect, Merrill T. Vaughn.⁴ In the early 1920s, the Fergusons began a search for a property outside D.C. to serve as a weekend country retreat. Both Alice and Fergie had a love for the outdoors and recreation, which took them on excursions into the undeveloped areas surrounding the city.⁵ The result of

⁴ The three-story brick dwelling sat on two lots, and the property was demolished circa 1976 according to DC building permits, replaced by larger new building.

⁵ Alice was a member of the Powhatan Club, an athletic club located near the Great Falls on the Potomac River. Fergie was a member of a similar group for men, the Midriver Club.

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their jaunts was the discovery of Hard Bargain Farm in Accokeek, Maryland, which Alice purchased on January 5, 1922, from Harry K. and Beatrice L. Bliss.⁶ The 138.39-acre tract can be traced to a deed from Charles Calvert to James Neale in 1707, and has been referenced as "Hard Bargain" in deed records as early as 1822. The most recent transaction before the Fergusons' purchase was from Albert M. and Cora D. Clagett to Harry Bliss in April 1919 after several generations in the Clagett family. At the time of Fergusons' purchase, the property included a one-and-one-half-story, wood-frame farmhouse and several agricultural outbuildings, including a barn, slave cabin, and tobacco barn.⁷

Alice Ferguson immediately began to restore the deteriorated property, beginning with improvements to make it habitable, and later transforming it back into a working farm. When the original slave cabin and farmhouse collapsed at the start of repair work, Alice designed a new cabin and farmhouse, and hired local builder Jack Pierce, to construct the new buildings.⁸ Alice, Fergie, and their two foster sons, Peter and Howard Fowler, lived in the newly constructed cabin while the farmhouse was built to her specifications. In 1927, Henry Xander, Sr., was hired as farm manager, and several outbuildings including a hay barn, granary, and corn crib were constructed. Xander taught Alice "the most obvious things about farming," and remained at Hard Bargain Farm throughout his life, residing at the newly constructed farm manager's cottage.⁹

With the property restored and the farm in working order, the couple began to enjoy both the unexpected challenges and the pleasures of country life. In addition to becoming a full-time project for Alice, Hard Bargain Farm was a gathering place for the Fergusons' large group of friends and their neighbors from the local Accokeek community. Alice and Fergie called their weekend visitors "The Gang." The gang gathered on weekends, drawn by the beautiful scenery, recreational activities, including what became their traditional Sunday volleyball game, and Fergie's infamous punch. The group's adventures were fondly recalled in later writings by Alice and Fergie. She noted that "The thing that makes the gang different is that none of them are invited; they all just come.... They all know each other very well by now, but very few have any idea of the last names of their fellow guests or know what they do during the week."¹⁰ The couple's casual recollections of these weekends with their friends have made it difficult to ascertain the identities of the full cast of characters, but the group is known to have included mainly Fergie's geological colleagues and the couple's local neighbors in addition to a circulating group of artists, professors, and social activists.

The most fascinating insights into daily life at the farm and the weekend excitement with the gang are found in the writings of the Fergusons themselves, which reveal the central importance of HBF to their lives. In addition to an assortment of missives related to her various pursuits, Alice wrote prolifically to her sister-in-law, Eleanor, and to Fergie when his work took him away from the farm. Hundreds of their letters remain archived at the AFF offices at the farmhouse, and they range in topic from daily struggles of running the farm to updates on their latest projects. In a letter to Eleanor dated July 10, 1946, for example, Alice relayed that Fergie had returned to Nevada and that "I am up to my neck at the farm building a house, mopping up the loose ends of the real estate business, riding a bulldozer through the new roads and trying to salvage the timber the bulldozer knocked into the ravines."¹¹ Alice shared some of her most memorable recollections of HBF in her book, *Adventures in Southern Maryland*, published in 1941. In 1966, Fergie recorded his own memories of their adventures, titled *Hard Bargain Adventures*. These publications provide valuable insight into

⁶ C.C. Magruder, *Chain of Title, Hard Bargain Farm*, April 23, 1936.

⁷ Rhodeside & Harwell, Incorporated, Coastal Resources, Inc., and Richard Westmacott, *Land Use Plan: Hard Bargain Farm* (prepared for Alice Ferguson Foundation, December 2005), 9.

⁸ As Alice expanded the property with farming activities and designed the necessary associated outbuildings, Pierce performed all future construction work.

⁹ Alice L.L. Ferguson, *Adventures in Southern Maryland: 1922-1940* (1941, reprint, Accokeek, MD: Alice Ferguson Foundation, 1957), 27.

¹⁰ Alice L.L. Ferguson, *Adventures in Southern Maryland*, 54.

¹¹ Archives, Alice Ferguson Foundation: letter from Alice to Eleanor, dated July 10, 1946.

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the Fergusons' experiences at Hard Bargain Farm, including their discovery and renovation of the property; the many activities undertaken while they lived there, including farming, landscaping, and archaeology projects; and their memories of varied members of the Accokeek community who contributed their own stories and personalities to HBF.

Alice died on June 6, 1951. Displaying her deep connection to the community, her private funeral services were held in Accokeek, and she was buried in the gardens at HBF. Fergie died at age 84 on November 29, 1966, and following his services at Christ Episcopal Church in Accokeek, he was buried next to Alice at HBF.

The Creative Life of Alice L.L. Ferguson

Alice Leczinska Lowe (1880-1951) was born on December 23, 1880, to Josephine Maria Leczinska Dyer Lowe (1843-1939) and Admiral John T. Lowe (1838-1930), a United States Navy Engineer based primarily in Washington, D.C. Alice had an older sister, Edith (1875-1966), with whom she remained close throughout their lives. The details of Alice's earliest life remain unclear, but it is known that she received arts training in Hartford, Connecticut, and also studied at the prestigious Corcoran School of Art in Washington, D.C. In the second decade of the twentieth century, a drawing she submitted to the school's annual student *concours* was selected for exhibition. Newspaper articles from the first and second decades of the twentieth century indicate that she was a member of several local arts clubs, including the Society of Washington Artists, Washington Handicraft Guild and the Arts Club of Washington, the last of which she served as an officer including president.¹² Well before her purchase of Hard Bargain Farm, Alice displayed a lifelong interest in athletics and the outdoors, and was a member of the Powhatan Club, an athletic club located near the Great Falls on the Potomac River.¹³ Society pages note Alice and her sister attending dances and other events, indicating that she was an active member of Washington society.

Alice pursued her varied interests with remarkable energy, and the purchase of HBF in 1922 inspired a new phase of intellectual, physical and artistic pursuit in her life. When the Fergusons began to spend their weekends in Maryland, the United States was experiencing a period of significant social change. Beginning in the late nineteenth century with the growth of industry and concurrent urbanization, and accelerated in the aftermath of World War I, the country was changing politically, socially, and intellectually. Women's lives in particular were transformed with new equalities and ideals giving them the freedom to pursue their own interests outside of the traditional domestic role. The life of Fergie and Alice and their experiences at Hard Bargain Farm are in many ways a microcosm of greater world events at that time, and Alice in particular represents the varied accomplishments of the modern woman in the first and second quarters of the twentieth century. She was very much a product of her time, and her accomplishments in areas as varied as art, architecture, archaeology, and historic preservation, speak to the social, creative, and intellectual movements of the period. Alice led the management of Hard Bargain Farm during her time there, and the property was transformed under her direction into a working farm and community, while also inspiring a new phase of artistic and intellectual pursuit in her life.

Social History: Alice Ferguson and the Accokeek Community

¹² On March 11, 1917, a column titled "Notes of Art and Artists" noted that "At the Arts Club of Washington, 2027 I Street, there is now an exhibition of handicrafts composed exclusively of work by Washington craftsmen... Alice L.L. Ferguson and S.S. Cannon both show vases attractively tinted in well chosen iridescent colors" ("Notes of Art and Artists," *The Sunday Star*, March 11, 1917). An edition of "Notes of Arts and Artists" from 1921 named Alice as executive secretary of the Washington Handicraft Guild, which the article noted "was formed this autumn with object of encouraging and promoting professional handicraft and stimulating interest in and appreciation of such work" ("Notes of Arts and Artists," *The Sunday Star*, December 4, 1921, pg. 44).

¹³ Fergie was member of a similar group for men, the Midriver Club.

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Through their decades at HBF, the Fergusons experienced the changing world of the twentieth century, from the Roaring Twenties to the Great Depression and through the Second World War. During each period, the couple responded to the changes in the world and within their community, and Alice in particular utilized the farm to benefit the greater community. She undertook a number of projects that involved the surrounding community in the work of the farm and, in turn, aided neighbors in times of need. Her first such project came as the result of a serious drought in 1930, which left many citizens of Accokeek with no food or work. Alice noted that "Our farm, like all farms, is a sponge that can absorb unlimited labor. This seemed a time when we should do all the fancy work we could think of and I brushed off my dreams and decided to make them realities."¹⁴ After securing a bank loan, Alice advertised the need for steady workers throughout the winter. She was shocked by the overwhelming response, stating that "the need was even more real than we had realized... It was pathetically little but it was the best we could do."¹⁵ The first project undertaken was the construction of a new entrance road from Bryan Point Road, twisting up through the wooded land and around the deep gully that sits between the road and the main house. Another group of men was hired to work with the farm manager to dig ditches and perform other rough labor work, and a third group worked to build a new wing to the farmhouse.¹⁶

Accokeek's citizens again found support at HBF during the early years of the Great Depression, when federal programs were not yet offered to help those affected. The federal government believed that emergency relief was a state and local responsibility, but local organizations did not have the resources to adequately serve the needy population. This situation was not remedied until the institution of President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal policies beginning in 1933. The success of Alice's labor relief program following the drought encouraged her to continue her projects throughout the Depression. Her projects in Accokeek included clearing forested land and improving roads, damming a brook at the bottom of the gully to form a swimming hole they nicknamed the "Frog Pond," and transforming an abandoned gravel pit in the woods into an amphitheater.¹⁷

Alice later wrote that "Everything built by our W.P.A. was permanent, everything was something that we really wanted and that we have enjoyed ever since. When the New Deal began to take shape we abandoned our amateur relief work. But we frequently chuckle and say that the W.P.A. was started right down here in our little corner of Maryland."¹⁸ Launched in 1935, the W.P.A. program did in fact operate much like Hard Bargain Farm's relief program, employing mostly unskilled men to carry out public works projects such as building and road construction. The W.P.A. would go on to become one of the most successful New Deal programs, employing millions of citizens and leaving its mark on the American landscape with innumerable bridges, roads, public buildings, and parks. At Hard Bargain Farm, the physical products of the community's labor remain today as reminders of Alice's contribution to relief work in her local community.

Outside events continued to intrude on the Fergusons' retreat at HBF. Fergie later recalled how the news of Pearl Harbor interrupted a sunny Sunday afternoon for the gang, who were "out in full force" to enjoy a game of volleyball on an unusually nice December day in 1941.¹⁹ Alice, who had stayed inside to listen to the radio, interrupted the game to announce the news of the Japanese attack that brought the United States into World War II. The gang finished their game then went inside to listen. Fergie wrote that "There was nothing more except a bunch of fill-in stuff, but everyone knew it was the end of the life we had been living."²⁰ Sadly,

¹⁴ Alice L.L. Ferguson, *Adventures in Southern Maryland*, 75.

¹⁵ Alice L.L. Ferguson, *Adventures in Southern Maryland*, 76.

¹⁶ Alice L.L. Ferguson, *Adventures in Southern Maryland*, 77.

¹⁷ Alice L.L. Ferguson, *Adventures in Southern Maryland*, 79.

¹⁸ Alice L.L. Ferguson, *Adventures in Southern Maryland*, 81.

¹⁹ Henry G. Ferguson, *Hard Bargain Adventures* (Accokeek, MD: Alice Ferguson Foundation, Inc., 1966), 9.

²⁰ Henry G. Ferguson, *Hard Bargain Adventures*, 9.

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this essentially marked the end of the gang, many of whom went into service, or among Fergie's USGS colleagues, were kept busy with strategic work to assist the military.

Alice's regular letters to Eleanor give fascinating insight into her daily struggles throughout the war effort, as she discusses the impact of crop failures and food rations at HBF. One such example is a letter dated May 5, 1942, where Alice writes "I have never realized before that we are in war. An army of 6 million and sugar rationing has brought it home with a crash."²¹ In July, she described the effects of the war on HBF, writing:

The farm is the noisiest place I know. Every day except Sunday sounds like an old fashioned 4th of July. The big guns...[sic]and rested at Dalgren (spelled Dahlgren) at midnight...[sic] planes are up all the time and all night there are usually about 8 searchlights on each plane. About 7 the machine gun and anti aircraft guns start to practice and they keep it up all day plus the big guns from time to time. A thunder storm came up Saturday and it was a long time before we distinguished the thunder. Our sleepy river has turned into a marvelous target.²²

Alice again resolved to utilize HBF as a community center, providing food surpluses and labor opportunities to Accokeek residents. She was particularly "determined that the farm, which had been to a large extent a pleasant playground, should really make a substantial contribution to the food supply of the nation. During the war years she devoted all her time and more than her strength to the task."²³ In addition to farming, Alice kept a large fruit and vegetable garden adjacent to the kitchen side of the farmhouse as a Victory Garden. To help with the enormous amount of hard work that these efforts required, she also "took everything in the way of labor that could be called labor and paid tremendous wages."²⁴

Art and Architecture: Alice's Career in Painting

Trained at the famed Corcoran School of Art in Washington, D.C., Alice found varied outlets for her creative energies throughout her life. She was an active member of the D.C. arts scene, and inspiration for her paintings came from both her travels and her daily life, especially after the purchase of HBF in 1922. She set up a studio in the living room of the farmhouse, and later, remodeled the property's log cabin into a studio. Some of Alice's best known paintings depict her life at Hard Bargain Farm, many inspired by photographs she took there.²⁵

Perhaps Alice's most well-regarded painting is *A Day at the Farm*, which was selected for inclusion in the Corcoran Gallery of Art's 1932-33 Biennial Exhibition of Contemporary American Painting. The work depicts members of "The Gang" enjoying their time outdoors at Hard Bargain Farm, the scene overlooking the Potomac River in the distance. In the foreground, a member of the gang sleeps on the balustrade Alice designed for the north lawn, while behind him, others are seen playing sports including polo and deck tennis. Another well-known work is her self-portrait *Tired*, which was exhibited at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in the 43rd Annual Exhibition of the Society of Washington Artists in 1934. The painting portrays Alice lounging on the farmhouse's living room sofa, wearing a white outfit and turquoise sandals, with her dog Caligula resting next to her on the floor.²⁶ Other works from the period include *The Frog Pond* (ca. 1935) depicting members

²¹ letter May 5, 1942 Alice to Eleanor

²² July 19, 1942, Alice to Eleanor

²³ Henry G. Ferguson, Foreword to *Adventures in Southern Maryland: 1922-1940*, by Alice L.L. Ferguson (reprint, Accokeek, MD: Alice Ferguson Foundation, 1957).

²⁴ Henry G. Ferguson, *Hard Bargain Adventures*, 11.

²⁵ Hundreds of the Fergusons' photographs from HBF remain archives at the AFF offices in the farmhouse.

²⁶ This painting is on exhibit today in the living room of the farmhouse.

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of the gang swimming at Hard Bargain Farm's dammed swimming hole, and *The Student* (circa 1935), a portrait of a bare-chested Fergie.

Another major subject of Alice's work was the southwest landscape she discovered on trips with Fergie during his geological fieldwork seasons. Representative works include paintings *Western Landscape: Mountains and Sun* (privately owned); *Saguaros*; *Western Mountains*; *Colorado Stream and Mountain*; and *The Mission* (privately owned). Knowledge of this period of Alice's work is continuously growing, as several paintings have been discovered in recent years. *Western Landscape: Mountains and Sun*, owned by a descendent of Fergie, was discovered in 2008, and *Saguaros* was purchased by AFF in 2011.²⁷ Labels on the back of *Saguaros* indicate that the painting had been submitted to exhibitions in New Orleans, Louisiana, and Palm Beach, Florida, in addition to the 40th Exhibition of the Society of Washington Artists in 1931. Writing in June 2008, Linda Crocker Simmons, Curator Emeritus at the Corcoran Gallery of Art and Curatorial Consultant for Art Collection at Hard Bargain Farm, noted of *Western Landscape: Mountains and Sun* that "This composition, the dynamics of its parts, and the luminous palette are all elements which distinguish Alice Ferguson's best work. This palette ranging from silver to slate blues as well as her signature purple, lilac, and tan earth tones is seen in other works but not often in such a lovely orchestration of tonalities."²⁸ This painting, and others of her oeuvre, represent the modernist approach of the era, and relate Alice's work to artists such as Georgia O'Keeffe.

Alice painted throughout her life, continuing to place her works in competitions and exhibitions, and remaining active in Washington, D.C.'s arts society. Representing the early modernist era of the twentieth century, Alice was a remarkable artist, as evidenced by her prestigious inclusion in the 1932-33 Biennial Exhibition of Contemporary American Painting at the Corcoran Gallery of Art. The continuing discovery of her work in recent years demonstrates that there is still much to learn about her life as an artist. It is hoped that additional works will be discovered in the future, furthering our understanding and appreciation of her work and the breadth of her talents. Possibly, her work will achieve wider recognition than it did in her own time, when most women artists worked in relative obscurity. In the 1960s, Alice's remaining artworks at the Fergusons' California Street house were brought to HBF, where they remain on display in the farmhouse, as contributions to the legacy of Alice and Fergie that the AFF preserves within their home.

Architecture and Landscape: Alice's Transformation of Hard Bargain Farm

Just as her experiences at Hard Bargain Farm served as the inspiration for many of Alice's artistic works, the farm itself was an outlet for her creative energies. Beginning with the purchase of the property in 1922, and continuing through the 1930s, she designed and oversaw construction of the main house and a number of complementary outbuildings. She also undertook a series of landscape improvements that enhanced the natural beauty of the site. Alice's architectural and landscape design are part of her creative and artistic legacy, and HBF is an excellent local example of an artist-designed estate and farm of the Country Place era in the United States.

²⁷ Many of Fergie's geological friends and colleagues from his southwestern expeditions spent time at HBF during their off seasons in Washington, D.C. The men assisted Alice with her farming and archaeological projects, and it is likely she made gifts of her paintings in return. In 2011, the AFF purchased the ca.1931 painting *Saguaros* from the descendants of Thomas Nolan, director of the USGS from 1956-1965. *The Mission* was purchased by a private collector through an online seller, and had originally belonged to Parker Davies Trask, another USGS colleague of Fergie's who had helped Alice with her archaeological excavations.

²⁸ Linda Crocker Simmons, "The Art of Alice L.L. Ferguson: The Discoveries Continue," *Hard Bargain News: Newsletter of the Alice Ferguson Foundation*, Vol. XXXI, No. 5 (December 2011): accessed May 2013, http://fergusonfoundation.org/affnews_archives/dec11_news.shtml.

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The Country Place (circa 1890-circa 1940) era evolved from a growing nostalgia for rural living in the United States that began in the late nineteenth century, occurring concurrently with rapid urbanization. This simultaneously inspired the growth of the professional landscape architecture field and interest among amateur practitioners and gardeners. In the early years of the landscape architecture profession, pioneers like Calvert Vaux and Frederick Law Olmsted emphasized allowing nature and the site itself to guide the design. In 1892, Samuel Parsons, Jr., Vaux's partner at Vaux and Company, published an article entitled "Small Country Places," in which he articulated this concept. Parsons explained: "...the importance of selecting properly the site, not only that the architect may exhibit his house to advantage, but that the house may be duly coordinated with the distinctively interesting and artistically important features of the place...every plot or territory of ground has characteristics peculiar to itself, and to no other plot of ground."²⁹ Landscape architects at this time were concerned less with specific plantings, and more with emphasizing the best features and views of the natural setting, a concept wholly embraced by Alice Ferguson at HBF.

By the turn of the twentieth century other landscape architects began to favor a more formal approach to garden design. From the beginning of the twentieth century until mid-century, landscape architects increasingly emphasized geometric and symmetrical plans, specified plantings, clipped hedges and artificial features such as water features or statues. Landscape architecture historian Robin Karson speaks to the reconciliation of these two landscape approaches in the Country Place era, stating:

Landscape practitioners became adept at integrating clearly defined outdoor spaces with the fundamental precepts of the Olmstedian Picturesque, finding ingenious means to combine outdoor rooms with borrowed views and other strongly articulated responses to the genius loci – a principle expressed by one of the era's great landscape architects, Beatrix Farrand, as "keeping step with the great stride of Nature."³⁰

As the concept of country living became fashionable among wealthier citizens, the ideals of the landscape profession were disseminated through a number of mass-circulation publications. Such publications included two influential magazines devoted to country life, each launched in 1902: *House and Garden* and *Country Life in America*. These magazines brought the ideals of the landscape architect to the public and educated urbanites in the art of gardening and landscaping. Magazines and books illustrated the popular design elements of this period, including a long drive, a terrace or veranda to view the gardens, a walled enclosure, a wooded landscape in the distance, a rock garden or a pond, separate gardens organized by species and often fountains or garden sculpture.

Designed by Alice Ferguson, HBF reflects the preferred aesthetics for country estates of this period, utilizing many features of residential landscape architecture popularized in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. While changes to the landscape at HBF have occurred over time, the property retains the primary characteristics of the original Alice Ferguson design, including elements of both formalism and the more romantic Picturesque. The beauty of HBF resonated with Alice from her first viewing of the property. Her description of her first glimpse of the farm wonderfully describes its natural beauty, and its immediate appeal to her:

One Christmas eve an agent took me over a dreadful road that wandered down to a farm of 130 acres. A tumble-down house and barn perched on the edge of a hill that fell away sharply to the flat fields along the Potomac. The view was breath taking. Upstream the

²⁹ Samuel Parsons, Jr., "Small Country Places," *Scribner's Magazine*, Volume 11 (1892): accessed May 2013, books.google.com.

³⁰ Robin S. Karson, *A Genius for Place: American Landscapes of the Country Place Era* (University of Massachusetts Press: 2007), 131.

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distant white city glimmered in the mist. From the city the river swept down past Fort Hunt and Fort Washington, was joined by Piscataway Creek, bent a little, swept on past Mount Vernon and on down into the mist again with the distant waters of Quantico just showing in the distance. Across the river the terraced hills of Virginia wave back and up toward the Blue Ridge. Over all was uninterrupted sky. It was not the place we had pictured, but it was a place where one could stretch and breathe.³¹

Alice's artist's eye recognized the magnificence of the site, and she was inspired to enhance its natural beauty through a series of architecture and landscape improvements. The improvements to the property progressed naturally, and as needed, but always it was Alice's vision and designs that drove the process and the gradual development of HBF.

In her 1941 book, *Adventures in Southern Maryland*, Alice described the evolution of the property. As noted previously, the first and most necessary improvements to the site included construction of adequate living quarters and improved accessibility to the property. She simultaneously undertook the construction of a cabin to serve as temporary living quarters and the surveying of a new road up the hill to the property. At the time of purchase, the property included a slave cabin that Alice intended to repair for use as living quarters while the main house was also under restoration. Local builder Jack Pierce, was hired to perform the work. Unfortunately, as Alice put it, his "first exploring poke brought the whole thing down."³² A new log cabin was built at the same location, using trees that had been cut down to clear the new road. Pieces of the old cabin were re-used in the new structure, including a fireplace built of bricks from the collapsed chimney, mantelpiece, and wooden latches.³³

Alice next turned her attention to the renovation of the main farmhouse. Unfortunately, the repairs to the farmhouse ended no better than those to the old slave cabin. Looking back on the incident in *Adventures in Southern Maryland*, Alice wrote, "Unfortunately he started with more energy than discretion and one afternoon telephoned that the whole house had tumbled down, except one chimney."³⁴ All that was left of the farm as they had purchased it were "the tobacco barn down on the flats and the scenery."³⁵ While this series of events was unfortunate, it afforded Alice the opportunity to design the property in her own vision.

Alice located the new farmhouse on the site of the historic house, taking advantage of the hilltop's natural vista towards the Potomac River, and centering the rest of the property at this focal point. This spoke to the continued influence of Picturesque ideals within landscape architecture, which advocated the importance of site selection in order to exhibit the house itself and complement the site's natural features. Alice wasted no time in designing the new farmhouse. She stated that after ordering Pierce to tear down the chimney and clean up the mess from the old house, "I spent most of the night over the drawing board. The next morning I arrived at the farm with the plans of the present house. It was planned as a nucleus for outdoor life. When it was finished it had a central section with two wings and twelve outside doors."³⁶ Alice's own description of her design, then, speaks to the purposeful integration of architecture with the setting at HBF.

The house was completed in 1924 to Alice's specifications, excepting the west wing, which was constructed in 1927. While specifically designed for its site, the farmhouse also reflects the broader architectural trends of its period. The completed building is an excellent example of a modest, Colonial Revival-influenced dwelling. Coupled with the longing for the nation's rural past that contributed to the rise of the Country Place era was

³¹ Alice L.L. Ferguson, *Adventures in Southern Maryland*, 13.

³² Alice L.L. Ferguson, *Adventures in Southern Maryland*, 16.

³³ Alice L.L. Ferguson, *Adventures in Southern Maryland*, 17.

³⁴ Alice L.L. Ferguson, *Adventures in Southern Maryland*, 18.

³⁵ Alice L.L. Ferguson, *Adventures in Southern Maryland*, 18.

³⁶ Alice L.L. Ferguson, *Adventures in Southern Maryland*, 19.

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a trend towards nostalgia for early colonial architecture. As a result, the Colonial Revival style rose in popularity through the first half of the twentieth century. Because it was a working farm, Alice also had to account for a number of agricultural and domestic outbuildings, and each structure, including a farm manager's house, a garage, and sheds, complement the architecture of the farmhouse in form, material, and location.

With living quarters and other necessities attended to, Alice could turn her attention to improving the landscape. Much of the landscaping work at HBF unfolded organically, benefitted by Alice's artistic eye and her awareness of the primary design elements popularized during the Country Place era. Copies of *Country Life in America* are found in the Fergusons' library at the farmhouse, and Alice was certainly aware of landscape trends, which she incorporated into her design. These include a long drive (which at HBF provides the first view of the Potomac River viewshed at the rise of the hilltop), a terrace overlooking the gardens, a distant wooded landscape, formal gardens organized by species, and artfully placed water features and garden sculptures. The construction of the entry drive occurred circa 1930 under Alice's direction and performed by local laborers, and twisted up through the wooded land between Bryan Point Road and the farmhouse. The design of the drive reflected the influence of the Country Place era, its serpentine curves leading visitors along an awe inspiring route from the darkness surrounding the ravine to the light and open hilltop with farmhouse and gardens. The interrelationship of these features created an aesthetic experience that was influenced by Picturesque ideals.

Alice began the process with small improvements, as she attended to more pressing issues such as shelter and road access. These projects included planting a climbing rose to each side of the main entrance to soften the starkness of the newly painted white house, and constructing a brick walkway to approach the entry from the front gate.³⁷ More significant landscaping projects were concentrated at the north lawn (or front terrace) approaching the Potomac River. After a memorable summer storm ripped out the lawn's locust trees, Alice noted that "The white house looked as though it had been accidentally dropped on the hill top and it had nothing to do with the surrounding landscape.... It occurred to me a terrace on the river side with a balustrade might soften the baseline of the house and help to tie it down."³⁸ This involved replacing an old fence that Alice said "staggered conspicuously through the foreground, an intolerable eyesore."³⁹ She replaced it with a new fence set below the ridge of the hill, where it did not obstruct the view. Next she had a balustrade installed overlooking the front terrace. Alice constructed the concrete balustrade herself with the help of local labor. The placement of the balustrade frames the view and benefits the natural contours of the land; conversely, it frames the oval gardens and acts as a stage for the house.

The next significant project was to contour the soil of the front terrace in order to further soften its appearance. Alice wrote that "On the river side the yard slopes gently down from the crest of the hill on a long shoulder and both sides of the shoulder drop away rather sharply. I decided to leave the gentle slope in the middle with nothing to distract from the view and building a series of little intimate gardens on both side slopes."⁴⁰ To this end, she installed small cement boundaries between the grass and areas where flower beds were to be planted. Where the grade looked too steep, the walls were broken up with small paved steps. Large bushes were planted next, and Alice said that eventually "the little gardens assumed the air of intimacy that had been planned."⁴¹ She further accented the landscape with a water feature and several garden features and sculptures placed throughout the front terrace gardens. In 1927, an armillary sphere set on a concrete pedestal was centrally located in the gardens. In 1929, a concrete water feature, with steps and a fish motif,

³⁷ Alice L.L. Ferguson, *Adventures in Southern Maryland*, 58.

³⁸ Alice L.L. Ferguson, *Adventures in Southern Maryland*, 59.

³⁹ Alice L.L. Ferguson, *Adventures in Southern Maryland*, 59.

⁴⁰ Alice L.L. Ferguson, *Adventures in Southern Maryland*, 61.

⁴¹ Alice L.L. Ferguson, *Adventures in Southern Maryland*, 62.

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was set northeast of the balustrade. Each of these elements, including the formal flower gardens, concrete steps, garden features, and artful groupings of shrubbery and trees, remains today.

Alice's friend and neighbor, Lenore Thomas (Straus) (1909-1988) added several pieces to the garden in the 1930s. A sculptor who had studied at the Art Institute of Chicago, Straus later became a prolific artist supported by the New Deal projects of the Roosevelt administration, under the Works Progress Administration (WPA) program.⁴² The Federal Art Project, begun in 1935, put thousands of artists to work across the country. Straus was commissioned to create sculptures for nearby Greenbelt, Maryland and Langston Terrace in Washington, D.C. where she designed one of a series of animal sculptures for the playground area. Her works at Greenbelt, Maryland included bas reliefs for the community's school and a monumental sculpture for the central public square. One of these sculptures, a rhinoceros, was not installed at Greenbelt. Instead, Straus, who lived on the neighboring Longview estate (owned by Alice), brought the sculpture in numbered parts to HBF. Photographs from the AFF archives show Lenore and a group of friends erecting the piece, where it remains today near the primary south elevation of the farmhouse. Glazed a bright blue, the ceramic sculpture is a playful, memorable piece of art from the New Deal period and emblematic of the joyful spirit of the Farm and the activities of The Gang. In addition to the *Blue Rhinoceros*, Straus is also the creator of the sculptures of Fergie and Alice that rest atop the farmhouse's brick entry gateposts. Fergie holds a volley ball and Alice holds a skull, a reference to her archaeological excavations.

Although the hilltop was artfully designed under identifiable principles of the Country Place era of landscape architecture, HBF was not merely a country retreat. Rather, it was also working farm, used by both the Fergusons and their community of neighbors and friends. As such, HBF was continuously changing throughout the Fergusons' tenure. Under the design and care of Alice Ferguson, HBF became the distinctive country place that today continues to display a picturesque interplay of built resources and both designed and natural landscapes. The property's buildings and landscape, all designed and constructed under Alice's direction, are intricately tied to their setting. Although Alice left her distinctive mark on the property, she also respected its natural beauty. Hard Bargain Farm undoubtedly represents the Country Place movement's aspiration to celebrate a place's natural beauty, by illuminating its genius loci, or "spirit of place." At the same time, it also reflects the spirit of its occupants, and their use of the farm, and as a result HBF is a true reflection of the fun, relaxed retreat the Fergusons intended it to be.

Archaeology and Historic Preservation: Alice's Contribution to Local and Regional History

Archaeology: Discovery of the Accokeek Creek Archaeological Site

One of Alice's accomplishments during her time at HBF came as a surprise, when what began as a recreational pursuit became one of the most important archaeological findings in Mid-Atlantic history at the time. During the Fergusons' period of ownership the lowland area bordering the Potomac River was still included within the boundaries of their property; it was later deeded to the National Park Service. Alice later recalled that the river was their favorite place to spend time when at the farm, and she wrote in *Adventures in Southern Maryland* that "Almost as soon as we had the farm we knew that archaeology was there. We never went down to the river without coming home with arrow heads and little fragments of pottery."⁴³ The Fergusons frequently welcomed visitors who were eager to explore the riverfront for "those countless arrow heads."⁴⁴

⁴² The Government Services Administration (GSA) is responsible for art works created as part of the New Deal, and such art remains the property of the federal government.

⁴³ Alice L.L. Ferguson, *Adventures in Southern Maryland*, 157.

⁴⁴ Alice L.L. Ferguson, *Adventures in Southern Maryland*, 158.

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Although they initially regarded the finds as a fun by-product of their location on the Potomac River, the Fergusons slowly realized the wealth of archaeological material on their hands. Alice approached several professional archaeologists, but was surprised to learn that no one was interested, as archaeological study at that time was primarily focused on sites in the Southwest region and in Florida. She was spurred to greater action following an incident in which a group of local high school boys dug a deep trench in the farm's alfalfa field and "found a magnificent lot of stuff."⁴⁵ Unfortunately, the boys also vandalized community property while out on their adventure, and the Fergusons immediately banished all arrowhead collectors from the farm. Alice began to more seriously explore the area, and called it "sheer luck" that their first attempt at digging plunged right into a large refuse pit that was rich with artifacts. The couple and intrigued members of their gang of friends spent that spring and summer digging in the pit, and found everything from pottery to animal bones. Alice recalled that the more the group uncovered, the "more convinced I was that the site was really important and not a proper plaything for anybody."⁴⁶ She later wrote that she felt a responsibility to do the best she could with the site, and determined to, at a minimum, record what was found and where.⁴⁷ Before Fergie and his geologist friends left mid-summer to return to their field work out west, Alice recruited Dr. Parker Trask and Dr. Thomas Nolan to lay out a grid to help organize the survey and mapping. A team of workmen were hired and excavation began.

The archaeological excavations commenced in 1930 and serious excavation continued through 1935, with Alice continuing her studies through the early 1940s. Interest in the site exploded in the third season of excavation, when Alice discovered what became known as Ossuary #1. Of the find, she says: "The second year we excavated I used to wander around saying: 'If I could only find a burial.' Early the third season we found the first ossuary with 250 burials piled into one pit. ... From then on we found so many burials that when we found a new one we simply groaned."⁴⁸ During the many years of excavation, Alice uncovered several prehistoric and American Indian sites, which are today collectively known as the Accokeek Creek Archaeological Site.⁴⁹ The approximately 60-acre site is located south of Mockley Point between Piscataway Creek and Accokeek Creek on the south bank of the Potomac River on what is now National Park Service-owned property.⁵⁰

One of Alice's earlier discoveries was a site that she identified as the Moyaone Village, as it had been identified on a map drawn by John Smith in 1612. Today, there remains some disagreement among scholars if this was the correct interpretation of the site. Dr. Richard Dent, an anthropologist with the University of Maryland, has been one such critic of that interpretation, although he does not feel this devalues Alice's findings in any way. With the benefit of much ethno-history research that was not available to Alice at the time, Dent and others believe that John Smith's labeling of the map was a mistake.⁵¹ Scholars generally agree that the site dates to around the early-to-mid-sixteenth century, and was occupied by the Piscataway Indians.⁵² The mislabeling of the site does not diminish the value of the find or the information Alice's archaeological

⁴⁵ Alice L.L. Ferguson, *Adventures in Southern Maryland*, 160.

⁴⁶ Alice L.L. Ferguson, *Adventures in Southern Maryland*, 162.

⁴⁷ AFF archives: Abstract of ALLE.

⁴⁸ Alice L.L. Ferguson, *Adventures in Southern Maryland*, 164.

⁴⁹ (Listed as a National Historic Landmark in 1966, reference number 66000909. MIHP #: PG-83-11.

⁵⁰ The Accokeek Creek Archaeological Site is composed of four smaller primary sites: a late prehistoric stockade village identified as the 'Moyaone' village from Captain John Smith's map; a smaller stockade village located just to the south, dated to ca. AD 800-1000; a third site at Mockley Point dating from the Archaic period (4,000-5,000 years ago) through the Woodland period (from 3,000 years ago to about 1,600 AD, at the time of European exploration); and finally, the site of the Susquehannock Fort, located at Clagett's Cove on the south side of Piscataway Creek, and established in 1674 by the Susquehannock Indians [G.L. Hanssen, *The Moyaone Reserve: The History of a Unique, Environmentally Conscious Community* (Accokeek, Maryland: Accokeek Press, 2007), 128-129; Francis P. McManamon, general editor, *Archaeology in America: An Encyclopedia* (Greenwood Publishing Group, Inc., 2009), 106].

⁵¹ G.L. Hanssen, *The Moyaone Reserve: The History of a Unique, Environmentally Conscious Community*, 12.

⁵² Richard J. Dent, Jr., *Chesapeake Prehistory: Old Traditions, New Directions* (New York, NY: Plenum Press, 1995), 46.

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work uncovered, and Dent states that she "quite literally rediscovered the Piscataway Indians," revealing their unique way of life.⁵³ The discovery of the Susquehannock Fort was another major find from Alice's excavation. The fort was excavated between 1938-40 with the assistance of Professor Thomas J. Wertenbaker of Princeton University who first located the structure on a historic map.⁵⁴ Established in 1674, the fort was placed under siege by the Maryland and Virginia militias in 1675. The site is historically significant as this siege is considered to be the spark of Bacon's Rebellion.⁵⁵

The Accokeek Creek site included numerous pits, post molds of dwellings and stockade walls, ossuaries, and a variety of artifacts, including pottery and animal bones. Her extensive excavation yielded an estimated 150,000 to 200,000 pot sherds and 9,000 points.⁵⁶ As a whole, the site has artifacts dating from the Late Archaic period through European colonization, but it is best known for the most intensive period of its occupation during the late Woodland period and the early period of European colonization in the Mid-Atlantic region. This record provided evidence that the area had been occupied by Native Americans for over 10,000 years as well as valuable information concerning the cultural prehistory of the Mid-Atlantic coastal region. The National Historic Landmark nomination for the Accokeek Creek Archaeological Site stated that "not only has the Accokeek Creek Site provided valuable chronological information needed for comparisons with other sites on the east coast, but it has also given insight into the in-situ cultural development of the Piscataways during the Late Woodland period, into the lifestyle of the Indians at contact times, and into their interaction with the earliest colonial settlers."⁵⁷

Alice's excavations continued until about 1940-41, at which time she turned her attention to farming in order to support the war effort. She resumed research in 1945, intending to publish more of her work, but following a number of years of illness died in 1951, before its completion. Fergie donated the artifact collection to the University of Michigan in 1957, saving a small collection he gave to the Accokeek Public Library and another small collection that was kept at the farmhouse. Robert L. Stephenson, a graduate student at the university, undertook the classification of the overwhelming collection of more than 75,000 artifacts resulting from Alice's excavations.⁵⁸ The preliminary results of his work were published in his paper, "The Prehistoric People of Accokeek Creek," in 1959. Using Alice's findings, *The Piscataway Indians of Southern Maryland* was published by the Alice Ferguson Foundation in 1960, with a foreword by Fergie.⁵⁹

True to her personality, in later writings, Alice downplayed the seriousness of her archaeological excavation and research, but her tireless efforts in excavation, research, and publication, reveal her commitment to the project. Further, the archives of the AFF include hundreds of letters between Alice and experts in the field as she worked to bring attention to what she knew was a significant site, and requested their advice as to how to properly proceed. The archives also contain a number of Alice's notebooks, wherein she painstakingly traced, measured, and described hundreds of pottery, arrowhead, and bone shards. Multiple handwritten drafts of her publications reveal the same level of commitment. It is also likely that Alice was not as naïve to the field

⁵³ G.L. Hanssen, *The Moyaone Reserve: The History of a Unique, Environmentally Conscious Community*, 131.

⁵⁴ Alice L.L. Ferguson, "The Susquehannock Fort on Piscataway Creek," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, Vol. 36, March 1941 (reprint, Alice Ferguson Foundation, 1984), pg. 5 and 9; Alice L.L. Ferguson and Henry G. Ferguson, *The Piscataway Indians of Southern Maryland* (Accokeek, MD: Alice Ferguson Foundation, 1960), 6.

⁵⁵ "DC Woman Finds Site," Wash Post; and G.L. Hanssen, *The Moyaone Reserve: The History of a Unique, Environmentally Conscious Community*, 128-29.

⁵⁶ National Register of Historic Places, *Accokeek Creek Site*, National Historic Landmarks (Prince George's County, Maryland, 1966).

⁵⁷ National Register of Historic Places, *Accokeek Creek Site*, National Historic Landmarks (Prince George's County, Maryland, 1966).

⁵⁸ Her work has continued to inspire further research and analysis, including the work of Mel Thurman of the University of Maryland in 1971-72, who re-excavated the site and was able to perform a more detailed post mold study.

⁵⁹ *Feast of the Dead: Aboriginal Ossuaries in Maryland* by Dennis C. Curry (Maryland Historical Trust Press: 1999), publishes a complete list of Alice Ferguson's archaeological excavations.

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of archaeology as she later presented herself to be. Her characteristic glibness in reference to her own work may belie the fact that she had at least some knowledge of archaeological fieldwork. She later wrote that "I had been in New Mexico with Dr. Hewett while he was excavating the Puye and had seen many of the excavations in South America and Spain but it never occurred to me that I could do any digging myself."⁶⁰ Alice and Fergie had spent their year-long honeymoon in 1914-15 traveling through South America, and it is possible, though not yet proven, that they visited Machu Picchu in Peru, which was being excavated at that time by explorer Hiram Bingham. Alice's attendance at the field school at Puye is of particular note, as this is considered to be Dr. Edgar L. Hewett's most significant work. Hewett, in fact, is known for encouraging women to study in his program at the University of New Mexico, and particularly to attend his field schools.⁶¹ In the United States, female archaeologists were first encouraged professionally at national park sites in the southwest in the 1920s. During her time in the southwest and with Hewett particularly, she surely learned the basic precepts of the archaeological profession.

Whatever her actual experience was, with the knowledge she had, Alice organized a comprehensive dig that included a number of collaborative efforts with many individuals and organizations with professional archaeological knowledge and expertise. Alice's communications from those years and her later acknowledgements reveal the efforts she undertook to bring expertise to the project, and to get the necessary guidance and advice to complete the archaeological fieldwork properly. She later credited her many advisers, writing that "The work was an education and it was especially so in the opportunity it gave to observe how scientists work. They were all absorbed in their own jobs but when they were asked questions there was no end to their patience and their generosity with both their time and knowledge." Particularly notable visitors to the site included Dr. Henry B. Collins, anthropologist and archaeologist at the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution; and Dr. Ales Hrdlicka and his successor, Thomas Dale Stewart, of the U.S. National Museum (now the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution). Both men are remembered as tremendous contributors to the field of physical anthropology, and Hrdlicka is generally known as the father of the field.⁶²

Alice Ferguson was one of a number of women who became involved in the evolving fields of anthropology and archaeology in the early part of the twentieth century. Although women continued to face obstacles within the field, growing numbers found positions as research assistants and similar positions and made significant contributions.⁶³ Many continued to undertake their work as part of the "amateur community," as Alice did. In areas such as the Mid-Atlantic region, which was ignored by professional academics at that time, it was in fact so-called amateur archaeologists who sustained local archaeological efforts.⁶⁴ Alice has received praise of her work from her contemporaries and scholars today. Writing in March 1941, Professor Wertenbaker, who assisted in the Susquehannock excavation, congratulated Alice "on the excellent work you have done. I think that you have written an important chapter in the seventeenth century history of Virginia and Maryland."⁶⁵ Dr. Richard Dent from American University, notes that "If Alice was an amateur

⁶⁰ From Alice Notes as Mentioned above (PDF 0669_001.pdf)

⁶¹ Edgar L. Hewett (1865-1946) was an archaeologist and anthropologist who primarily focused his studies on the southwestern region of the United States, in New Mexico particularly. Hewett was the founder of the Museum of New Mexico, as well as the first president of the New Mexico Normal School (today the New Mexico Highlands University). He is credited with creating the Antiquities Act, which was signed into law by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1906, and has since played a significant role in the nation's preservation of cultural resources.

⁶² Other academics who aided Alice in her fieldwork and research were Dr. Donald A. Cadzow, executive director of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission; Dr. William Ritchie, state archaeologist of New York; Dr. James B. Griffin, director of the Museum of Anthropology at the University of Michigan; and Mr. John T. Hack, an instructor of geology at Harvard University [Archives, Alice Ferguson Foundation: Photographs, Letters, and Ephemera belonging to Henry and Alice Ferguson.]

⁶³ Cheryl Claassen, editor, *Women in Archaeology* (Philadelphia, PA: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1994), 39.

⁶⁴ Richard J. Dent, Jr., *Chesapeake Prehistory: Old Traditions, New Directions*, 46.

⁶⁵ AFF archives: letter dated March 31, 1941.

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archaeologist, it was certainly in the original sense of the word – somebody who does something well, but more importantly, does something for the love of it rather than for some type of material gain.”⁶⁶ Further, she is admired as “an excellent role model” in publishing her work and making her findings available to academics and the public, therefore stimulating further interest and research in an area of history that was previously overlooked, even by regional academics.⁶⁷

Historic Preservation: Alice's Restoration of the Old Chimney House

Alice's intensive research into Maryland's pre-history and history in relation to her archaeological work sparked a passion for the state's history and cultural heritage that she believed was sadly overlooked. In addition to research and written history, she became increasingly interested in historic preservation, a developing field at that time that received heightened attention due to the recent restoration of Colonial Williamsburg, beginning in 1927. A letter from Alice to Eleanor dated October 28, 1939, reveals that a recent trip to Williamsburg inspired her to take action in her own community:

My trip to Williamsburg impressed me very deeply that Virginia had found a new major industry. They not only made history come alive but they furnished work for innumerable small people, care takers, carpenters, brick layers, gardeners to say nothing of the tourist homes and lunch rooms. Maryland has far finer stuff but it is completely unknown and is mostly falling to pieces. I want to start a society for the preservation of Maryland antiquities... The house where you wanted to buy antiques at Marlboro is the old governors house and you know what that looks like. Something should be done and I feel like doing it.⁶⁸

Just several months later, Alice began the restoration of the historically significant “Old Chimney House” (MIHP CH-14), located in the village of Port Tobacco in Charles County, Maryland. Port Tobacco was an important Colonial port village that served as the county seat from 1727 to 1895. The two-story, wood-frame house was constructed in the third quarter of the eighteenth century, and is noted for its impressive double chimney, and is considered a significant example of local eighteenth-century architecture. The building served various uses through the nineteenth century, including as a tavern, lawyer's offices, and the local courthouse.

By the time Alice discovered the property, it had fallen into an advanced state of disrepair. She purchased it at a Sheriff's Sale for \$500.00, receiving the deed from Henry Hawkins on December 21, 1939.⁶⁹ She immediately set to work restoring the building, doing her best to follow the standards of the historic preservation field, which were still evolving at that time. In 1940, J. Alexis Shriver, a devoted historian of Colonial Maryland history, wrote to Alice that, “You are certainly energetic in restoring the Big Chimney House, and I am very anxious to know and see just what you are doing there.”⁷⁰ One community member wrote, “Everyone I have talked with has commended the fine work you have done in restoring the ‘Old Chimney House’ and believe that the Charles County people appreciate the efforts you have made to keep this building from being lost as a Charles County landmark.”⁷¹ Alice's restoration of the Old Chimney House is considered the first restoration project to be undertaken in historic Port Tobacco, and one of the first in

⁶⁶ G.L. Hanssen, *The Moyaone Reserve: The History of a Unique, Environmentally Conscious Community*, 131.

⁶⁷ G.L. Hanssen, *The Moyaone Reserve: The History of a Unique, Environmentally Conscious Community*, 131.

⁶⁸ Archives, Alice Ferguson Foundation: Photographs, Letters, and Ephemera belonging to Henry and Alice Ferguson: Letter from Alice to Eleanor, dated October 28, 1939.

⁶⁹ Archives, Alice Ferguson Foundation: Photographs, Letters, and Ephemera belonging to Henry and Alice Ferguson.

⁷⁰ Archives, Alice Ferguson Foundation: Photographs, Letters, and Ephemera belonging to Henry and Alice Ferguson: Letter dated Sept 10, 1940.

⁷¹ Archives, Alice Ferguson Foundation: Photographs, Letters, and Ephemera belonging to Henry and Alice Ferguson: Letter from Mrs. P.D. Brown to Alice, dated August 5, 1941.

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Charles County. Perhaps inspired by Alice's early work, the Society for the Restoration of Port Tobacco was established in 1948. Today, the Old Chimney House, a private dwelling, is a contributing resource within the Port Tobacco National Register Historic District.

Community and Conservation: Alice's Real Estate Ventures

From Alice's first experience with HBF, she was impressed by the property's distinctive beauty, particularly its location on the historic Potomac River. It played an important role in the Fergusons' life at the property, and Alice later wrote, "From the beginning we loved the river more than any one thing about the farm."⁷² The couple enjoyed recreational and athletic pursuits on the property and at the river from the start, and Alice's time there saw an increased physical interaction with the land through her landscaping, farming, and archaeological activities. The combination of Alice's intimate knowledge of the land, her appreciation of its history, and her devotion to her community, eventually realized itself in conservation efforts to protect the natural setting of HBF and its adjacent properties. During her time at HBF, she undertook several real estate ventures that both contributed to the fabric of the local community and shaped its future growth. She is credited with planting the seed for later conservation efforts in Accokeek in the 1950s and 1960s, which resulted in the creation of the Piscataway National Park and the protection of the Potomac River shoreline and its viewshed.

In 1925, Alice acquired a neighboring property, Longview (1511 Bryan Point Road), which contained approximately 100 acres of land. At the time, she was frustrated with the lack of attention given to Accokeek's small, rural community, and felt that with even just one "neighboring gentleman farmer with my point of view we could get some of the most urgent needs of the community cared for."⁷³ Alice designed a new farmhouse for the property, which is today considered an excellent local example of the Neoclassical style, and Jack Pierce was hired as the builder. The property shares Hard Bargain Farm's impressive setting above the Potomac River. In the 1930s the property was "rented to people who have become such friends that we are now terrified for fear the farm may sell...our neighbors over at Long View also have a 'gang' like ours, but their guests are more artistic and more sure that they are intellectual."⁷⁴ The artistic gang at Longview included Lenore Thomas (Straus), who installed several of her art works at Hard Bargain Farm, her husband, Robert "Bobby" Ware Straus, Sally Ringe Goldmark and John E. Goldmark, Charles Kramer, and Charles Wagner, an architect who designed many houses in Accokeek. Members of the gang at Longview, Robert Straus in particular, were instrumental in the eventual creation of the Piscataway National Park.

Alice's real estate work continued after World War II with the purchase of a large, 800-acre tract of land called "Bond's Retreat," located across Bryan Point Road.⁷⁵ World War II had brought significant expansion of government and activities south of D.C., stimulating suburban growth that threatened Alice and Fergie's isolated rural community. In Fergie's foreword to *Adventures in Southern Maryland*, he wrote of changes in the area that were "greatly stimulated by the war. As building restrictions were lifted and materials became available, cheap suburban developments began to intrude on our neighborhood. This was inevitable, and right and proper along the highway, but we resented it when it began to encroach on our isolated area."⁷⁶ Already provoked by these changes, Alice was aided in her desire to protect the area by Bobby Straus, who brought her attention to "Bonds Retreat." This property bordered HBF and Straus' own house. She purchased the land in 1946, and her new venture as a real estate operator began.

⁷² Alice L.L. Ferguson, *Adventures in Southern Maryland*, 89.

⁷³ G.L. Hanssen, *The Moyaone Reserve: The History of a Unique, Environmentally Conscious Community*, 25.

⁷⁴ Alice L.L. Ferguson, *Adventures in Southern MD*, 31. The property became owner-occupied when Alice sold it to William and Nora Breese in 1943.

⁷⁵ Named after the site she had believed to be an Indian village called "Moyaone."

⁷⁶ Henry G. Ferguson, Foreword to *Adventures in Southern Maryland: 1922-1940*.

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Utilizing his mapping skills, Fergie was put to work creating a topographic map and plotting the boundary and lot lines.⁷⁷ The Bonds Retreat development was divided into large tracts of five or more acres for single dwellings, thereby protecting the natural setting.⁷⁸ When the long process of laying out the lots and building roads was completed, the sales began. In the earliest stages, Alice relied on word-of-mouth rather than advertising, beginning with several old friends from the Longview gang. The majority of the landowners, cultivated by Alice and Fergie, were attracted to the community due to the natural, secluded setting. The new landowners shared the Fergusons' views on land development and protection of the area's scenic beauty, and Alice's venture proved immediately successful, with the first house built in Bond's Retreat in 1947 and most of the available lots sold by 1952.⁷⁹

With the success of Bond's Retreat, Alice began another real estate venture in 1949 named Cactus Hill. The 120-acre tract of land was located directly opposite from Mount Vernon on the Potomac River and was separated from Bond's Retreat by only a small strip of land, forming the major part of the old Bryan Farm.⁸⁰ It was connected to Bond's Retreat via Colonial Road and the communities were further united by the application of the same covenants.⁸¹ Alice lived to see the beginning stages of the project including the completion of roads and several lot sales.

⁷⁷ Henry G. Ferguson, *Hard Bargain Adventures*, 21.

⁷⁸ *Land Use Plan: Hard Bargain Farm*, 7.

⁷⁹ G.L. Hanssen, *The Moyaone Reserve: The History of a Unique, Environmentally Conscious Community*, 29.

⁸⁰ Henry G. Ferguson, *Hard Bargain Adventures*, 35.

⁸¹ G.L. Hanssen, *The Moyaone Reserve: The History of a Unique, Environmentally Conscious Community*, 33.

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Henry G. Ferguson: Geologist and Philanthropist

Henry Gardiner Ferguson was born on June 21, 1882, in San Rafael, California, to Emma Jane Gardiner Ferguson (1847-1930) and Reverend Henry Ferguson (1848-?).⁸² He had several siblings, a younger brother, Charles, and an older sister, Eleanor, with whom Alice became close friends and corresponded with regularly throughout her life. His father was an Episcopalian minister and educator, and the family returned east when Rev. Ferguson took a position as chaplain at St. Paul's School in New Hampshire. Fergie attended St. Paul's before entering Harvard, where he received an A.B. degree in 1904, a B.S. degree in 1905, and an A.M. degree in 1906. During his years in school, Fergie completed fieldwork in locations as varied as Texas, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and an exploration in Western Iceland.⁸³ Upon graduation, Fergie took his first job with the Cleveland Cliffs Iron Company in Michigan, serving as an assistant geologist. He then worked as an economic geologist with the Philippine Bureau of Science from 1907 until he resigned in March 1911.⁸⁴ Fergie returned to the United States to begin graduate work in geology at Yale University and to simultaneously enter service with the United States Geological Survey (USGS).⁸⁵ He was appointed a Junior Geologist with the USGS in May 1911 and was permanently appointed to the Survey the following year.

Throughout his life, Fergie remained devoted to both his geological studies and his community of colleagues, friends, and neighbors. Fergie has been remembered as a leader within the USGS, not only as a "top-notch geologist" but for his gift for mentoring younger colleagues and creating a sense of community within the agency. Many members of the geological survey were also familiar with Hard Bargain Farm, which in its earlier years, regularly hosted members at Sunday social events and recruited them for gardening and archaeological work. With the construction of an office for Fergie at HBF in 1937, it is also clear that he completed much of his work at the property, likely including his many publications for the USGS. Upon his retirement from the service, Fergie increasingly turned his attention to the Accokeek community, and is today remembered for his numerous philanthropic activities and contributions to local conservation efforts, as well as for his part in the creation of the Alice Ferguson Foundation in 1954, which remains a center for the community. His colleague, Thomas Nolan, later wrote that "To those of us who knew him, Fergie will be remembered not only as a most accomplished, if far too modest, geologist, but also as an individual who greatly endeared himself to his friends and colleagues, and who above all was motivated by a deep sense of responsibility to them and to the community. He would have liked to have been remembered that way."⁸⁶

Science: Henry Ferguson's Career in Geology

Beginning with his first job as an assistant geologist with the Cleveland Cliffs Iron Company, Fergie devoted the entire length of his career to geological fieldwork and research. He entered service with the USGS in 1912, and remained with the agency until his retirement in 1952. Throughout his career, he was active in the geological community, maintaining membership in a number of national organizations, including the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, and the Society of Economic Geologists, of which he served as president for many years (1941-1958). Fergie was known primarily as a field geologist, but he also authored an impressive number of publications, including maps and papers for the USGS. He also

⁸² Archives, Alice Ferguson Foundation: Henry Ferguson Legal Papers, Birth Certificate, Graduation Certificate, etc.

⁸³ Archives, Alice Ferguson Foundation: Henry G. Ferguson, Summary of qualifications for work in Mining Geology.

⁸⁴ Archives, Alice Ferguson Foundation: Letter from McIntyre (?), Colonel, U.S. Army, Assistant to Chief of Bureau to ??, dated April 20, 1911.

⁸⁵ Fergie completed all necessary requirements for his Ph.D. degree by 1912, but was not granted the degree until 1924.

At that time, he underwent an informal oral examination wherein his USGS Bulletin on the Manhattan District in Nevada was accepted as his dissertation. [Thomas B. Nolan, *Memorial to Henry Gardiner Ferguson (1882-1966)* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Geological Survey, Geological Society of America Proceedings, 1966).]

⁸⁶ Thomas B. Nolan, *Memorial to Henry Gardiner Ferguson (1882-1966)*.

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had a long association with the *Economic Geology Journal* and the Economic Geology Publishing Company, of which he served as director from 1922 to 1960.⁸⁷

Fergie's earliest assignments took him to the gold districts of Northern California.⁸⁸ He spent brief periods in other locations, such as his review of tin deposits at Irish Creek, Virginia, and of gold-bearing veins at Great Falls near Washington, D.C. during World War II, but the major focus of his career centered on the Basin and Range region of the western United States. The region covers much of the western half of the country, and extends to northwestern Mexico, and while it has a variety of ecoregions, the area is mostly characterized by desert. Fergie published a number of reports on mining districts, including Mogollon, New Mexico; Manhattan, Tybo, and Gilbert, Nevada; and Allegheny, California, among others.⁸⁹ His later work focused on the stratigraphy and structure of the region, which at that time, was relatively unknown geologically.⁹⁰

Fergie's efforts in Nevada began prior to the United States' entry into World War I, as he worked toward the eventual publication of a USGS paper on ore deposits that would be similar to earlier papers published for New Mexico and Utah. As he continued his fieldwork in the early 1920s, he came to recognize the complex geology of the area. He and a handful of other young geologists, including his colleague D. Foster Hewett, found that mapping smaller areas than the traditional regional surveys allowed them to study the rock units and the structures that deformed the rocks in greater detail.⁹¹ As a result, he decided to prepare maps of two belts across Nevada, resulting in a more comprehensive understanding of the Great Basin structure.⁹² Fergie's colleague, Thomas Nolan, later described his impressive achievement in performing this work, as he completed the mapping of a 12,000 square foot area with "relatively little assistance."⁹³ In his mapping of the Manhattan district in 1924, and in the resulting Manhattan bulletin, he was the first to recognize Paleozoic deformation in Nevada, "a historic interpretation for which he deserves full credit."⁹⁴ The high point of Fergie's career is considered to be his publication, "The Mining Districts of Nevada," first published in *Economic Geology* in 1929, and later reprinted by the Nevada State Bureau of Mines in 1944. Nolan states that, "It remains the bible of Nevada mining geologists, and its conclusions, with only minor modifications, remain sound."⁹⁵

Fergie continued his fieldwork through the 1930s and 1940s, returning often "to his beloved Nevada."⁹⁶ He began the study of Hawthorne-Tonopah quadrangles in the mid-1930s, before undertaking the Sonoma Range quadrangle in 1939.⁹⁷ He partnered with Si Muller, who studied the Mesozoic rocks, and focused his own study on the Paleozoic details. Again, Fergie found that recording the study area on one map would not allow for the level of detail necessary to truly represent the complexities of the geology. As a result, he divided the quadrangle into four parts to be presented on four maps, which he named the Winemucca, Golconda, Mount Moses, and Mount Tobin quadrangles.⁹⁸ The maps, completed in 1951 and 1952, were authored by several geologists working under Fergie's leadership. Writing in 2002, author and mentee, Ralph J. Roberts, stated that just completing the fieldwork and maps for this project was "a great accomplishment, but

⁸⁷ Thomas B. Nolan, *Memorial to Henry Gardiner Ferguson (1882-1966)*.

⁸⁸ Thomas B. Nolan, *Memorial to Henry Gardiner Ferguson (1882-1966)*.

⁸⁹ Ralph J. Roberts, *A Passion for Gold: An Autobiography* (University of Nevada Press, 2002), 201.

⁹⁰ Thomas B. Nolan, *Memorial to Henry Gardiner Ferguson (1882-1966)*.

⁹¹ Ralph J. Roberts, *A Passion for Gold: An Autobiography*, 82; Thomas B. Nolan, *Memorial to Henry Gardiner Ferguson (1882-1966)*.

⁹² Thomas B. Nolan, *Memorial to Henry Gardiner Ferguson (1882-1966)*.

⁹³ Thomas B. Nolan, *Memorial to Henry Gardiner Ferguson (1882-1966)*.

⁹⁴ Ralph J. Roberts, *A Passion for Gold: An Autobiography*, 201.

⁹⁵ Thomas B. Nolan, *Memorial to Henry Gardiner Ferguson (1882-1966)*.

⁹⁶ Archives, Alice Ferguson Foundation: letter from Alice to Eleanor, July 10, 1946.

⁹⁷ Ralph J. Roberts, *A Passion for Gold: An Autobiography*, 37.

⁹⁸ Ralph J. Roberts, *A Passion for Gold: An Autobiography*, 36.

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more than that Fergie was largely responsible for setting up the geologic framework as we know it today – a notable contribution.⁹⁹ The four Sonoma Range maps, for which he is named “the principal architect,” outlined this framework.¹⁰⁰

Fergie also worked with the newly organized Military Geology Unit of the USGS during World War II. The unit was established in 1942, organized to prepare intelligence reports on natural resources and conditions as they would affect military engineer operations in war locations.¹⁰¹ The unit came to be considered an authority on all matters related to ground conditions such as water supply, mineral and fuel resources and construction materials and problems.¹⁰² While he later recalled his time with the unit with his typical nonchalance, calling it “for the most part very interesting work,” the group’s reports, of which Fergie was a primary author, were recognized as the final authority on these issues by the War and Navy Department agencies.¹⁰³ The Military Geology Unit drew key personnel from existing USGS staff, and its staff of scientists, engineers, geologists, and supporting personnel grew larger and more diverse as the war continued. Fergie, who was on call 24 hours a day, is said to have served as the unit’s “elder statesman and counselor.”¹⁰⁴

Fergie remained with the USGS until his mandatory retirement in 1952 at age 70, although he unofficially continued fieldwork in Nevada. In 1957, he was forced to halt work, after a field accident in which the shattering of the steel head of a geologic pick led to the eventual loss of one eye.¹⁰⁵ At home, he collaborated with Ralph Roberts, Preston Holtz and James Gilluly on a paper published in 1958, “Paleozoic Rocks in North-Central Nevada.” Roberts called the paper the “culmination of his career,” extending his earlier work on the Manhattan district.¹⁰⁶

Ferguson has been awarded a number of national honors for his service, including the naming of Mount Ferguson in Nevada in his honor. In 1953 he received the Department of the Interior’s highest honor, a “Distinguished Service Award,” in recognition of his 44 years of government service. The department stated that as:

An authority on the geology and mineral resources of the Great Basin, he made notable contributions to our understanding of the ore deposits of the Southwest. His extensive knowledge of foreign geology and mineral resources was invaluable to the work of the Military Geology Unit of the Survey during World War II, and his services in organizing and guiding this work deserve special mention. Dr. Ferguson’s work with the Geological Survey is nationally known, and he was recently elected President of the Society of Economic Geologists, the leading professional organization of its kind in the world. His publications and original contributions to science are numerous and are evidence of an eminent career

⁹⁹ Ralph J. Roberts, *A Passion for Gold: An Autobiography*, 201.

¹⁰⁰ Ralph J. Roberts, *A Passion for Gold: An Autobiography*, 201.

¹⁰¹ Archives, Alice Ferguson Foundation: Letter, dated March 8, 1946, to Secretary of the Interior, from War Department.

¹⁰² Archives, Alice Ferguson Foundation: Letter, dated March 8, 1946, to Secretary of the Interior, from War Department.

¹⁰³ Henry G. Ferguson, *Hard Bargain Adventures*, 10; Archives, Alice Ferguson Foundation: Letter, dated March 8, 1946, to Secretary of the Interior, from War Department.

¹⁰⁴ C.M. Nelson and E.P.F. Rose, “The US Geological Survey’s Military Geology Unit in World War II: ‘the Army’s pet prophets.’” *Quarterly Journal of Engineering Geology and Hydrogeology*. 45: 349-367; quoting C.B. Hunt, “History of the Military Geology Unit in World War II,” *Geologic Division Retirees Newsletter*, 8, pg. 13.

¹⁰⁵ Ralph J. Roberts, *A Passion for Gold: An Autobiography*, 201.

¹⁰⁶ Ralph J. Roberts, *A Passion for Gold: An Autobiography*, 202.

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spent in the economic and military application of geology of both present and future significance.¹⁰⁷

Throughout his career, Fergie served as a friend and mentor to colleagues and younger members of the USGS, many of whom remembered him for his warm, welcoming personality, and respected him for his contributions to the field of economic geology in particular. As such, the words of his geological colleagues perhaps best express his importance to the field and its community. Thomas Nolan remarked that Fergie's "fundamental studies on the structure and stratigraphy of west-central Nevada, though, constitute a major contribution to geology; in retrospect, it is clear that the significance and magnitude of this phase of Fergie's work have never been given the recognition they deserve."¹⁰⁸ His eminent work is recognized by inclusion in the exclusive Hall of Fame at the *National Mining Hall of Fame and Museum* in Leadville, Colorado. Recent years have witnessed increasing recognition of his significant contributions to the field of geology, and HBF remains the best place to commemorate Henry Gardiner Ferguson and his illustrious career.

Community and Conservation: Fergie's Contributions to Accokeek

Alice's death in 1951 coincided with the closing phase of Fergie's geological career, and he took a more active role in HBF and in the Accokeek community in the final years of his life. He undertook a number of philanthropic endeavors including providing the funds for Prince George's County Memorial Library to purchase a four-acre site for a new library branch and assisting in the establishment of a local fire department and a local medical clinic.¹⁰⁹ His contributions to the community were recognized in 1963, when the Prince George's County Board of Education named a new elementary school in Accokeek after him. Today, the Henry G. Ferguson Elementary School is located at 14600 Berry Road in Accokeek.

Fergie's most enduring contribution to the community was his support of the creation of the Alice Ferguson Foundation in 1954, thus establishing an educational and community organization and center that continue to play a central role in the community. The AFF grew out of a nursery school that Fergie allowed to operate out of the cottage at HBF. In 1954, he indicated that he planned to will HBF and the nursery school to the adjacent Moyaone Association, the community association that stemmed from Alice's adjacent real estate projects. The community acted quickly, and in July appointed a committee to organize the formation of a non-profit corporation for educational purposes. The AFF was chartered in Alice's memory in 1954. The first meeting was held on November 9, 1954, and 59 people were members.¹¹⁰

Both Fergie and the AFF would play important roles in the emerging conservation activities focused on the Potomac River shoreline beginning in the early 1950s. Following Alice's death in June 1951, a new chapter in the area's conservation history unfolded, initiated by Fergie, who wished to carry on her legacy, and continued by members of the neighboring subdivisions which the couple had created, as well as community groups including the AFF. The process began when Fergie gave the unsold land, mortgages, and notes on sold land from the Bonds Retreat and Cactus Hill subdivisions to the community, deeding it to the Bonds Retreat Water

¹⁰⁷ Archives, Alice Ferguson Foundation: Certificate from Department of the Interior for "Distinguished Service" given to Henry on May 26, 1953. With the certificate, a letter from Secretary of the Interior, "Citation for Distinguished Service; Henry G. Ferguson."

¹⁰⁸ Thomas B. Nolan, *Memorial to Henry Gardiner Ferguson (1882-1966)*.

¹⁰⁹ Archives, Alice Ferguson Foundation: Release from the Prince George's County Memorial Library in Bladensburg, dated 1963: "Prince George's County Memorial Library recently purchased a four-acre site for a new branch library with funds given the library by Dr. Henry G. Ferguson." "Dr. Ferguson, 80-year-old retired Accokeek benefactor and philanthropist, is well known in the community;" (Letter from Paul Chen, Wilson Memorial Clinic, Accokeek, Maryland, to Henry, dated May 5, 1959: "We are so grateful for your assistance to us in establishing this office and also your patience in waiting for repayment of your loan.")

¹¹⁰ *Land Use Plan: Hard Bargain Farm*, 9-10.

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Company, the community's only official organization.¹¹¹ A planning committee formed, and from the start it was clear that they hoped to maintain the community ideals put into place by Alice, including land covenants that would minimize development. Their guiding goal was that the area should continue to develop as it had been, and as the Fergusons had planned, "a community of residents living on five or more acres of land."¹¹² One of the committee's first resolutions therefore established a condition for community membership that required ownership of a minimum five-acre lot in the community.¹¹³

When it became clear that the scope of the group's activities exceeded the Water Company's charter, the landowners of the two subdivisions formed a corporation consisting of 2/3 of the landowners in the communities.¹¹⁴ Uniting the two subdivisions of the Moyaone Reserve, the new organization was called the Moyaone Company (later renamed the Moyaone Association). Its first meeting was held on February 21, 1953. Its articles of incorporation specified that the purpose of the group was to engage in community development in Bond's Retreat, Cactus Hill, and neighboring Accokeek areas.¹¹⁵ Max North, an early resident of Bond's Retreat, drafted the community's first set of formal covenants in 1954 which upheld Alice's original restrictions "with the result that the kind of community she desired became firmly established."¹¹⁶ These covenants would go on to form the basis for the scenic easements enacted in the Piscataway National Park.

Alice had accurately predicted the further development of the Accokeek community and the Maryland banks of the Potomac River. Concurrent with the formation of the Moyaone Reserve, the area faced the first of several serious threats to the integrity of its natural setting, beginning in 1955 when a large tract of land located directly opposite Virginia's historic Mount Vernon was offered for sale to the Esso Corporation, which planned to construct oil storage tanks on the riverfront property. Recognizing that such an action would permanently destroy Mount Vernon's historic viewshed, Frances Payne Bolton, Republican Congresswoman from Ohio, and Vice Regent of the association, purchased the nearly 500 acres of land making up Bliss Farm. This effectively stopped the commercial construction and protected the integrity of the viewshed.

Bolton's admirable course of action attracted the attention of members of the adjacent Moyaone Reservation, who were also intent on protecting the riverfront area from development. The community united with Bolton to protect a six-mile stretch of riverfront between Piscataway Bay and Marshall Hall from undesirable development. One of the first steps in the group's strategy to protect the natural and cultural resources within the defined viewshed was the formation of a non-profit organization dedicated to that effort. In 1957, the Accokeek Foundation was incorporated by Bolton and local community leaders, Henry Ferguson, Robert Straus, and Charles Wagner.¹¹⁷ The Foundation's charter outlined its purpose to "preserve, protect, foster, for scientific, education or charitable use and study, historic sites and relics, trees, plants, wildlife located along Maryland shore of the Potomac."¹¹⁸ The first meeting of the board was held on April 18, 1957 at Fergie's California Street house.¹¹⁹

¹¹¹ G.L. Hanssen, *The Moyaone Reserve: The History of a Unique, Environmentally Conscious Community*, 35.

¹¹² G.L. Hanssen, *The Moyaone Reserve: The History of a Unique, Environmentally Conscious Community*, 36.

¹¹³ G.L. Hanssen, *The Moyaone Reserve: The History of a Unique, Environmentally Conscious Community*, 36.

¹¹⁴ G.L. Hanssen, *The Moyaone Reserve: The History of a Unique, Environmentally Conscious Community*, 37.

¹¹⁵ G.L. Hanssen, *The Moyaone Reserve: The History of a Unique, Environmentally Conscious Community*, 37.

¹¹⁶ Henry G. Ferguson, Foreword to *Adventures in Southern Maryland: 1922-1940*.

¹¹⁷ Charles Wagner (1909-1998) was a well-known local architect, whose main body of work is found within the Moyaone Reserve. Wagner designed Modern Movement-influenced houses for himself, and about fifteen of his neighbors. Born in Atlanta, Wagner graduated from Georgia Tech with a degree in architecture. Wagner retired in 1980, following a career focused on designing hospitals and public facilities for the Office of Health, Education, and Welfare (information available from: <https://moyaone.org>).

¹¹⁸ G.L. Hanssen, *The Moyaone Reserve: The History of a Unique, Environmentally Conscious Community*, 153.

¹¹⁹ Robert Ware Straus, *The Possible Dream: Saving George Washington's View* (Accokeek, Maryland: Accokeek Foundation, Inc., 1988), 24.

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The Accokeek Foundation immediately began a series of efforts to protect the riverfront, beginning with "Innumerable meetings and conversations regarding the desirability of keeping the lands within the 'viewshed' of Mt. Vernon under an open space, limited ownership control were held."¹²⁰ The group was spurred to more immediate action when a new threat arose in 1960. That year, the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission determined to employ the power of eminent domain in order to build a water treatment plant on the Maryland side of the river. In response, the Accokeek Foundation, including Fergie, developed a plan to create a national park that would include the approximately six-mile stretch of land visible from Mount Vernon. President John F. Kennedy signed a bill authorizing the creation of the Piscataway National Park on October 4, 1961. The following years would be devoted to acquiring the property necessary to form the park.

The land opposite Mount Vernon included a number of private properties such as HBF and those in the Moyaone Reserve. As a result, community leaders created an entirely new type of national park, one that includes private land and pioneered the use of what has become known as the scenic easement. Private landowners continued the already existing covenants on their property, while also allowing the federal government to acquire scenic easements. The easements crafted for Piscataway Park were generally consistent with the existing covenants. In 1961, Fergie had begun the process of deeding the HBF property to the AFF with the stipulation that he would retain a partial life interest. His conveyance specified "that the land be used only in a manner which will tend to maintain the present pastoral, open and wooded condition of the land" and that "the land and premises may be used by a charitable organization or governmental body for charitable, educational or scientific purposes... [and] the general benefit of the surrounding community for social, recreational, or educational purposes."¹²¹ They conveyance further prohibited commercial or industrial uses.

In January 1963 the first easements were donated by the Accokeek Foundation and the AFF to the federal government. Each would be allowed to continue their existing missions that included agricultural, historical, and environmental education programs for the benefit of the public. The AFF continued to serve its founding mission following Fergie's passing in 1966. The foundation continued with local conservation activities, as begun under Fergie's direction. As such, in 1968 the AFF donated 85 acres of land between the current boundaries of the HBF property and the Potomac River to the National Park Service, subject to the 1961 covenants in Fergie's deed. This transfer and that of other adjacent land owners enabled the establishment of the Piscataway National Park. The transfer was made upon the condition that the AFF retained the right to continue use of the land for activities consistent with its educational mission. That educational mission has grown, from support of the local educational system through teaching scholarships for example, to a focus on environmental education using the farm and its associated river and nature trails. Its mission also extends to include the protection and preservation of the character of HBF, as well as cultural heritage advocacy. This includes continuing to celebrate and promote the memory of Alice and Henry Ferguson and their life at Hard Bargain Farm.

¹²⁰ G.L. Hanssen, *The Moyaone Reserve: The History of a Unique, Environmentally Conscious Community*, 43.

¹²¹ Archives, Alice Ferguson Foundation: Deed Records, Deed Book 2687, April 27, 1961, pg. 3 and 4.

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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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

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Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 52.62

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. ~~Latitude: 38°41'10.61"~~ ~~Longitude: 77°2'30.96"~~
2. ~~Latitude: 38°41'19.99"~~ ~~Longitude: 77°3'1.23"~~
3. ~~Latitude: 38°41'22.41"~~ ~~Longitude: 77°2'47.44"~~
4. ~~Latitude: 38°41'17.07"~~ ~~Longitude: 77°2'38.05"~~

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

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1. Zone:	18	Easting:	322481	Northing:	4283929
2. Zone:	18	Easting:	321624	Northing:	4284315
3. Zone:	18	Easting:	322042	Northing:	4284473
4. Zone:	18	Easting:	322195	Northing:	4284218

Mount Vernon, VA-MD USGS Quad

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Hard Bargain Farm is comprised of 52.62 acres located approximately 15 miles south of Washington, D.C. at 2001 Bryan Point Road in Accokeek, Prince George's County, Maryland. The irregularly shaped parcel is bound by Bryan Point Road to the south and west, by a neighboring agricultural property to the east, and by National Park Service-owned fields and wetlands to the north. The main entrance is located at 2001 Bryan Point Road at the southeast point of the property.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

At the time of the Fergusons' purchase in 1922, HBF consisted of 330 acres. This purchase included approximately 138 acres located east of Accokeek Creek and encompassing the area extending from the hill bordering Bryan Point Road to the Potomac River. The Alice Ferguson Foundation currently owns 116.8 total acres, consisting of two main parcels, one 52.62 acre parcel located north and east of Bryan Point Road, and a 64.17 acre parcel located south and west of Bryan Point Road.¹²² The 52.62 acre parcel, encompassing the hilltop area, barnyard area, and lodge area, is that associated with Alice and Henry Ferguson's ownership, design, and use. During their period of ownership, the property also extended north to include lowlands areas bordering the Potomac River; the current boundaries are essentially the result of a series of land conveyance and covenant agreements made between Henry Ferguson and the AFF in the early 1960s, and the AFF and the federal government in the late 1960s. In 1961, Henry Ferguson began the process of deeding the HBF property to the Alice Ferguson Foundation, and he retained a partial life interest until his death in 1966. In 1965, the AFF donated its first scenic easements to the National Park Service for its creation of the Piscataway National Park, which serves to preserve and protect the viewshed from Mount Vernon. This process was completed in 1968, when the AFF transferred approximately 85 acres located between current boundaries of Hard Bargain Farm and the Potomac River to the federal government. This forms the central portion of Piscataway National Park. Under that agreement, the Foundation retained its right of use and occupancy, allowing it to continue educational and community activities on National Park Service land. The current acreage and boundaries were finalized in 1971 when the AFF acquired an adjoining, approximately 33.5 acres along Accokeek Creek.¹²³

¹²² *Land Use Plan: Hard Bargain Farm*, 13.

¹²³ *Land Use Plan: Hard Bargain Farm*, 12.

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11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Kate Ritson

organization: EHT Traceries

street & number: 1121 5th Street NW

city or town: Washington

state: DC

zip code: 20001

e-mail: eht@traceries.com

telephone: (202) 393-1199

date: January 2014

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

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Photo Log

Name of Property: Hard Bargain Farm
City or Vicinity: Accokeek
County: Prince George's State: MD
Photographer: Kate Ritson
Date Photographed: October 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photo #1 (MD_Prince George's County_Hard Bargain Farm_0001)
South façade and outbuildings, looking NE.
1 of 20.

Photo #2 (MD_Prince George's County_Hard Bargain Farm_0002)
Farmhouse, south façade, looking N
2 of 20.

Photo #3 (MD_Prince George's County_Hard Bargain Farm_0003)
Farmhouse, detail south façade, looking N
3 of 20.

Photo #4 (MD_Prince George's County_Hard Bargain Farm_0004)
Farmhouse, detail west wing, looking NW
4 of 20.

Photo #5 (MD_Prince George's County_Hard Bargain Farm_0005)
Farmhouse, detail east wing, looking NE
5 of 20.

Photo #6 (MD_Prince George's County_Hard Bargain Farm_0006)
Farmhouse, north façade, looking S
6 of 20.

Photo #7 (MD_Prince George's County_Hard Bargain Farm_0007)
Farmhouse, interior, first floor hallway, looking SW
7 of 20.

Photo #8 (MD_Prince George's County_Hard Bargain Farm_0008)
Farmhouse, interior, second floor hallway, looking W
8 of 20.

Photo #9 (MD_Prince George's County_Hard Bargain Farm_0009)
Farmhouse, interior, first floor living room, looking E
9 of 20.

Photo #10 (MD_Prince George's County_Hard Bargain Farm_0010)
Farmhouse, interior, first floor living room, looking SW
10 of 20.

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Photo #11 (MD_Prince George's County_Hard Bargain Farm_0011)
Farmhouse, interior, first floor kitchen, looking SE
11 of 20.

Photo #12 (MD_Prince George's County_Hard Bargain Farm_0012)
Entry gates, looking NW
12 of 20.

Photo #13 (MD_Prince George's County_Hard Bargain Farm_0013)
Entry road at ravine, looking NW
13 of 20.

Photo #14 (MD_Prince George's County_Hard Bargain Farm_0014)
Hilltop north lawn, looking N
14 of 20.

Photo #15 (MD_Prince George's County_Hard Bargain Farm_0015)
Hilltop outbuildings, looking NE
15 of 20.

Photo #16 (MD_Prince George's County_Hard Bargain Farm_0016)
Hilltop garage, looking E
16 of 20.

Photo #17 (MD_Prince George's County_Hard Bargain Farm_0017)
Hilltop cabin, looking NW
17 of 20.

Photo #18 (MD_Prince George's County_Hard Bargain Farm_0018)
Hilltop, farm manager's cottage, looking NE
18 of 20.

Photo #19 (MD_Prince George's County_Hard Bargain Farm_0019)
Barnyard, barn and outbuildings, looking SE
19 of 20.

Photo #20 (MD_Prince George's County_Hard Bargain Farm_0020)
Barnyard, outbuildings, looking SE
20 of 20.

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.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

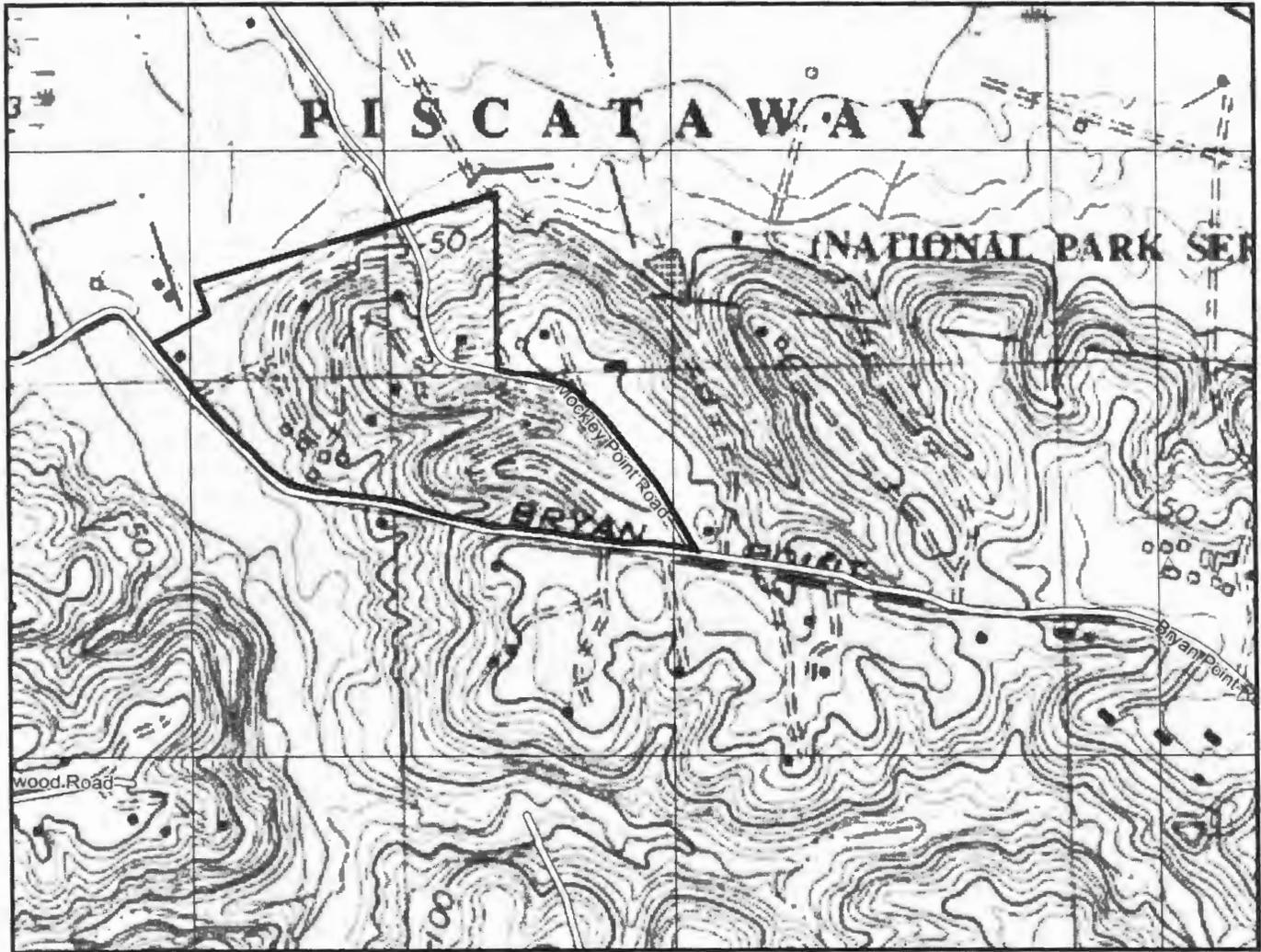
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Hard Bargain Farm (PG:83-2)
 Accokeek, Prince George's County, MD
 Mount Vernon Quad, USGS Topographic Map, 1953, Revised 1974
 EHT Tracerics, Inc., October 2013



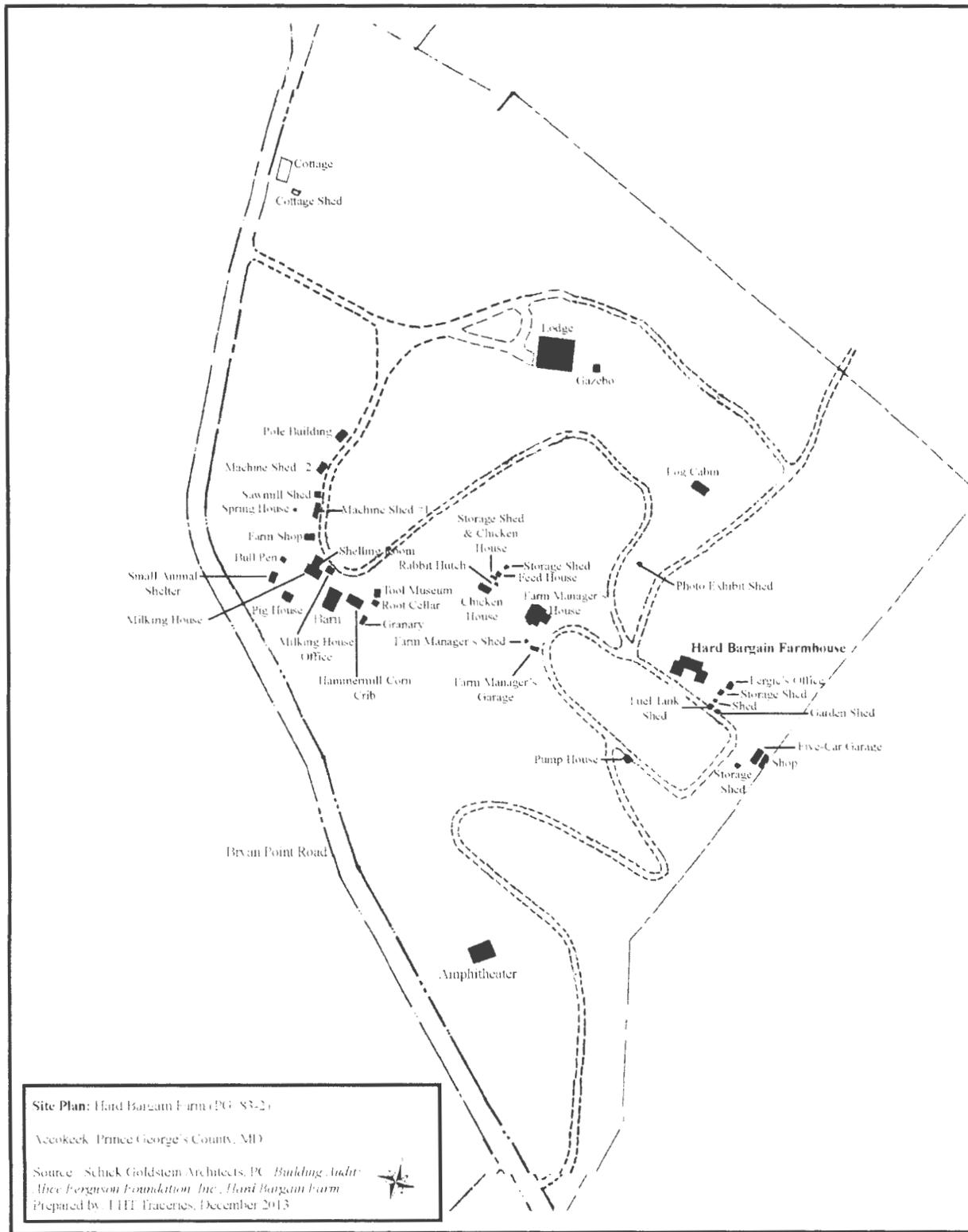
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Inventory of Alice Ferguson Paintings (known)

Pines of the Sierras (1924–1925)
Sledding (circa 1930)
Saguaros (circa 1931)
A Day at the Farm (1931–1932)
Tired [self-portrait] (1933–1934)
The Frog Pond (circa 1935)
The Student or A Hot Day (circa 1935)
View of the Potomac From the Ferguson Farmhouse (circa 1935)
Garden Party (date unknown)
Potomac Shoreline (date unknown)
Western Landscape: Mountains and Sun (date unknown)
Colorado Stream and Mountain (date unknown)
Blue Mountains (date unknown)
The Mission (date unknown)
The Pool / Autumn View of Potomac Shore with Trees [two-sided painting] (date unknown)
Spring View of Potomac River Shore with Trees / California Coast with Joshua Tree [two-sided painting] (date unknown)
Trees and Summer Sky (date unknown)

Alice Ferguson Publications

1937 "Burial Area at Moyaone." *Journal of the Washington Academy of Sciences*. Vol. 27, No. 6, June 15, 1937.

1937 *Moyaone and The Piscataway Indians*. Washington, D.C.: Alice Ferguson.

1940 "An Ossuary Near Piscataway Creek." With Thomas Dale Stewart. Reprint by Alice Ferguson Foundation 1984.

1940 *American Antiquity* Vol. 6, No. 1 (Jul., 1940), pg. 4-18. Published by: Society for American Archaeology.

1941 "The Susquehannock Fort on Piscataway Creek." *Maryland Historical Magazine* 36, pg. 1-9.

1941 *Adventures in Southern Maryland, 1922-1940*.

Henry Ferguson Publications (adapted from Nolan, Thomas B. *Memorial to Henry Gardiner Ferguson (1882-1966)*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Geological Survey, Geological Society of America Proceedings, 1966.)

1908 (with Turgeon, F.N.) "An occurrence of Harney granite in the northern Black Hills." *Harvard Col. Mus. Comp. Zology*, Bull. 49 (geol. Series 8), pg. 275-283.

1912 (with Bateman, A.M.) "Geologic features of tin deposits." *Economic Geology*, v. 7, pg. 209-262.

1914 "Gold lodes of the Weaverville quadrangle, Calif." *U.S. Geological Survey Bulletin*, 540, pg. 22-79.

1914 "Lode deposits of the Allegheny district, Calif." *U.S. Geological Survey Bulletin*, 580, pg. 153-182.

1915 "Pocket deposits of the Klamath Mountains, Calif." *Economic Geology*, v. 10, pg. 241-261.

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1916 "The Golden Arrow, Clifford, and Ellendale districts, Nye Co., Nevada." *U.S. Geological Survey Bulletin*, 640, pg. 113-123.

1917 "Placer deposits of the Manhattan district, Nevada." *U.S. Geological Survey Bulletin*, 640, pg. 163-193; *Wash. Acad. Sci. Jour.* V. 7, pg. 266 (Abstract).

1917 "Graphite in 1916, 1917." *U.S. Geol. Survey Min. Res.* 1916, pt. 1, pg. 43-59; 1917, pt. 2, pg. 97-119.

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1918 "Tin deposits of Irish Creek." *Eng. and Mining Journal.*, v. 105, pg. 5-7.

1919 "Graphite in 1918." *U.S. Geol. Survey Min. Res.* 1918, pt. 2, pg. 223-265.

1921 "The limestone ores of Manhattan, Nevada." *Economic Geology*, v. 16, pg. 1-36.

1921 "The Mogollon district, New Mexico." *U.S. Geological Survey Bulletin*, 715, pg. 171-204.

1921 "The Round Mountain district, Nevada." *U.S. Geological Survey Bulletin*, 715, pg. 171-204.

1924 "Geology and ore deposits of the Manhattan district, Nevada." *U.S. Geological Survey Bulletin*, 723, 163. P.

1924 (and Cathcart, S.H.) "Major structural features of some western Nevada ranges" (Abstract). *Wash. Acad. Sci. Jour.*, v. 14, no. 15, pg. 376-379.

1926 "Late Tertiary and Pleistocene faulting in western Nevada" (Abstract). *Geol. Soc. America Bull.*, v. 37, no. 1, pg. 164; *Pan-Am. Geologist*, v. 45, no. 2, pg. 163-164.

1927 "Geology and ore deposits of the Mogollon mining district, New Mexico." *U.S. Geol. Survey Bull.* 787, 100 p.

1927 "Regional relations of Nevada ore deposits" (Abstract). *Wash. Acad. Sci. Jour.* V. 17, no. 5, pg. 121-122.

1927 "The Gilbert district, Nevada." *U.S. Geol. Survey Bull.* 795, pg. 125-145.

1929 "The mining districts of Nevada." *Econ. Geology*, v. 24, no. 2, pg. 115-148.

1929 (and Gannett, Roger W.) "Gold quartz veins of the Alleghany district, Calif." *Am. Inst. Min. Met. Eng. Tech. Pub.* 211, pg. 40.

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1932 (and Gannett, Roger W.) "Gold quartz veins of the Alleghany district, Calif." *U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper* 172, 139 p.

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1933 "Geology of the Tybo district, Nevada." *Nevada Univ. Bull.*, v. 27, no. 3, 61 p.

1936 (with Muller, Siemon W.) "Triassic and Jurassic formations of west-central Nevada." *Geol. Soc. America Bull.*, v. 47, no. 2, pg. 241-251.

1936 (and Muller, Siemon W.) "Jurassic thrust faults in west-central Nevada." (Abstract). *Wash. Acad. Sci. Jour.*, v. 26, no. 9, pg. 394.

1937 (and Muller, Siemon W.) "Early Jurassic orogeny in west-central Nevada" (Abstract). *Geol. Soc. America Proc.* 1936, pg. 71.

1937 Review of *Geology of the Silver City district and the southern portion of the Comstock Lode*, Nev., by Vincent Paul Gianella, 1936: *Econ. Geology*, v. 32, no. 6, pg. 858-861.

1938 "Memorial to Hiram Dwyer (Dryer) McCaskey (1871-1936)." *Geol. Soc. America Proc.* 1937, pg. 183-189.

1939 (with Muller, Siemon W.) "Mesozoic stratigraphy of the Hawthorne and Tonopah quadrangles, Nev." *Geol. Soc. America Bull.*, v. 50, no. 10, pg. 1573-1624.

1939 "Nickel deposits in Cottonwood Canyon, Churchill County, Nev." *Nevada Univ. Bull., Geol. and Mining ser.* 32, v. 33, 21 p.

1944 "The mining districts of Nevada." *Nev. Univ. Bull., Geol. and Min. ser.* 40, v. 38, pg. 77-108.

1949 (and Muller, Siemon W.) "Structural geology of the Hawthorne and Tonopah quadrangles, Nevada." *U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper* 216, 55 p.

1951 (and Roberts, Ralph J., and Muller, Siemon W.) "Geology of the Winnemucca quadrangle, Nevada." *U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quadrangle Map (GQ 11)*, scale 1: 125,000.

1951 (and Muller, Siemon W., and Roberts, Ralph J.) "Geology of the Mount Moses quadrangle, Nevada." *U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quadrangle Map (GQ 12)*, scale 1: 125,000.

1951 (with Muller, Siemon W., and Roberts, Ralph J.) "Geology of the Mount Tobin quadrangle, Nevada." *U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quadrangle Map (GP 7)*, scale of 1: 125,000.

1952 (and Muller, Siemon W., and Roberts, Ralph J.) "Geology of the Golconda quadrangle, Nevada." *U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quadrangle Map (GQ 15)*, scale of 1: 125,000.

1952. "Paleozoic of western Nevada." *Wash. Acad. Sci. Jour.*, v. 42, no. 3, pg. 72-75.

1953 (and Muller, Siemon W., and Cathcart, Stanley H.) "Geology of the Coaldale quadrangle, Nevada." *U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quadrangle Map (GQ 23)*, scale 1: 125,000.

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1954 (and Cathcart, Stanley H.) "Geology of the Round Mountain quadrangle, Nevada." *U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quadrangle Map (GQ 40)*, scale 1: 125,000.

1954 (and Muller, Siemon W., and Cathcart, Stanley H.) "Geology of the Mina quadrangle, Nevada." *U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quadrangle Map (GQ 45)*, scale 1: 125,000.

1958 (with Roberts, Ralph J., and others) "Paleozoic rocks of north-central Nevada." *Am. Assoc. Petroleum Geologists Bull.*, v. 42, no. 12, pg. 2813-2857.

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Alice Ferguson ca. 1930. Courtesy of the Archives of the Alice Ferguson Foundation.

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Henry Ferguson, ca. 1930. Courtesy of the Archives of the Alice Ferguson Foundation.

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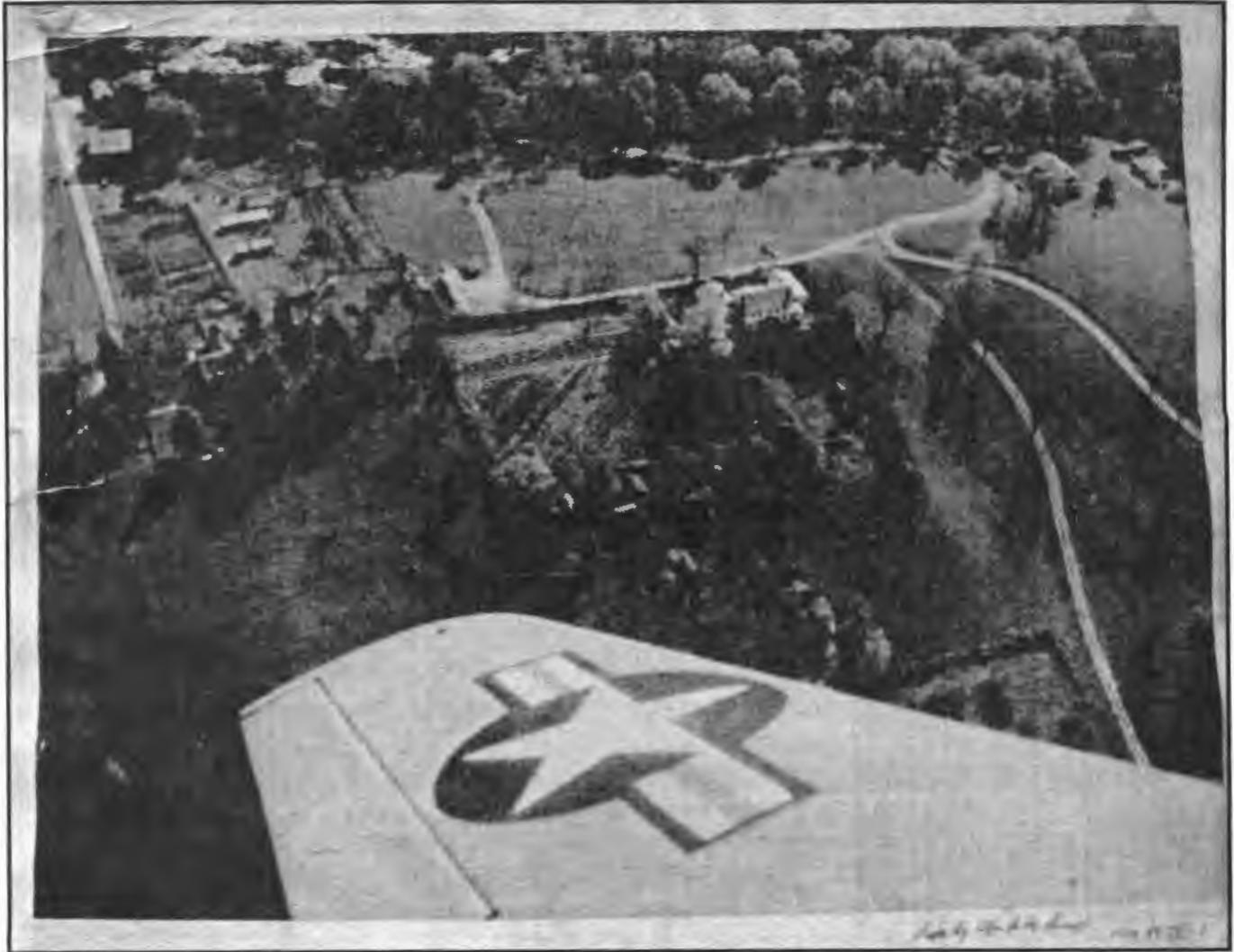
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Aerial photo, ca. 1932. Courtesy of the Archives of the Alice Ferguson Foundation.

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Farmhouse, looking northeast, dating pre-1927, showing the original one-story, full-depth porch at the west elevation. Courtesy of the Archives of the Alice Ferguson Foundation.

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Façade of Farmhouse, looking north, 1931. Courtesy of the Archives of the Alice Ferguson Foundation.

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Farmhouse, northeast, 1934. Courtesy of the Archives of the Alice Ferguson Foundation.

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Farmhouse, looking northeast, 1931. Courtesy of the Archives of the Alice Ferguson Foundation.

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Rear Farmhouse and Gardens, looking south, 1931. Courtesy of the Archives of the Alice Ferguson Foundation.

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Rear Elevation Farmhouse, looking south, 1934. Courtesy of the Archives of the Alice Ferguson Foundation.

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Hilltop outbuildings, 1931. Courtesy of the Archives of the Alice Ferguson Foundation.

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Garden Party at Farmhouse, ca. 1931. Courtesy of the Archives of the Alice Ferguson Foundation.

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Garden Party at Farmhouse, ca. 1931. Courtesy of the Archives of the Alice Ferguson Foundation.

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Garage and Outbuildings, ca. 1931. Courtesy of the Archives of the Alice Ferguson Foundation.

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Volleyball at Hard Bargain Farm, ca. 1934. Courtesy of the Archives of the Alice Ferguson Foundation.

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Archaeological Dig, ca. 1934. Courtesy of the Archives of the Alice Ferguson Foundation.

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Swimming in the Frog Pond, ca. 1930. Courtesy of the Archives of the Alice Ferguson Foundation.

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Construction of the Blue Rhinoceros, ca. 1935. Courtesy of the Archives of the Alice Ferguson Foundation.

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Alice Ferguson, A Day at the Farm. Courtesy of the Archives of the Alice Ferguson Foundation.

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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)	

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number: Additional Documentation

Page 19



Alice Ferguson, Colorado Stream and Mountain. Courtesy of the Archives of the Alice Ferguson Foundation.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

Hard Bargain Farm PG: 83-2

Name of Property
Prince George's County, MD
County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number: Additional Documentation

Page 20



Alice Ferguson, Frog Pond. Courtesy of the Archives of the Alice Ferguson Foundation.

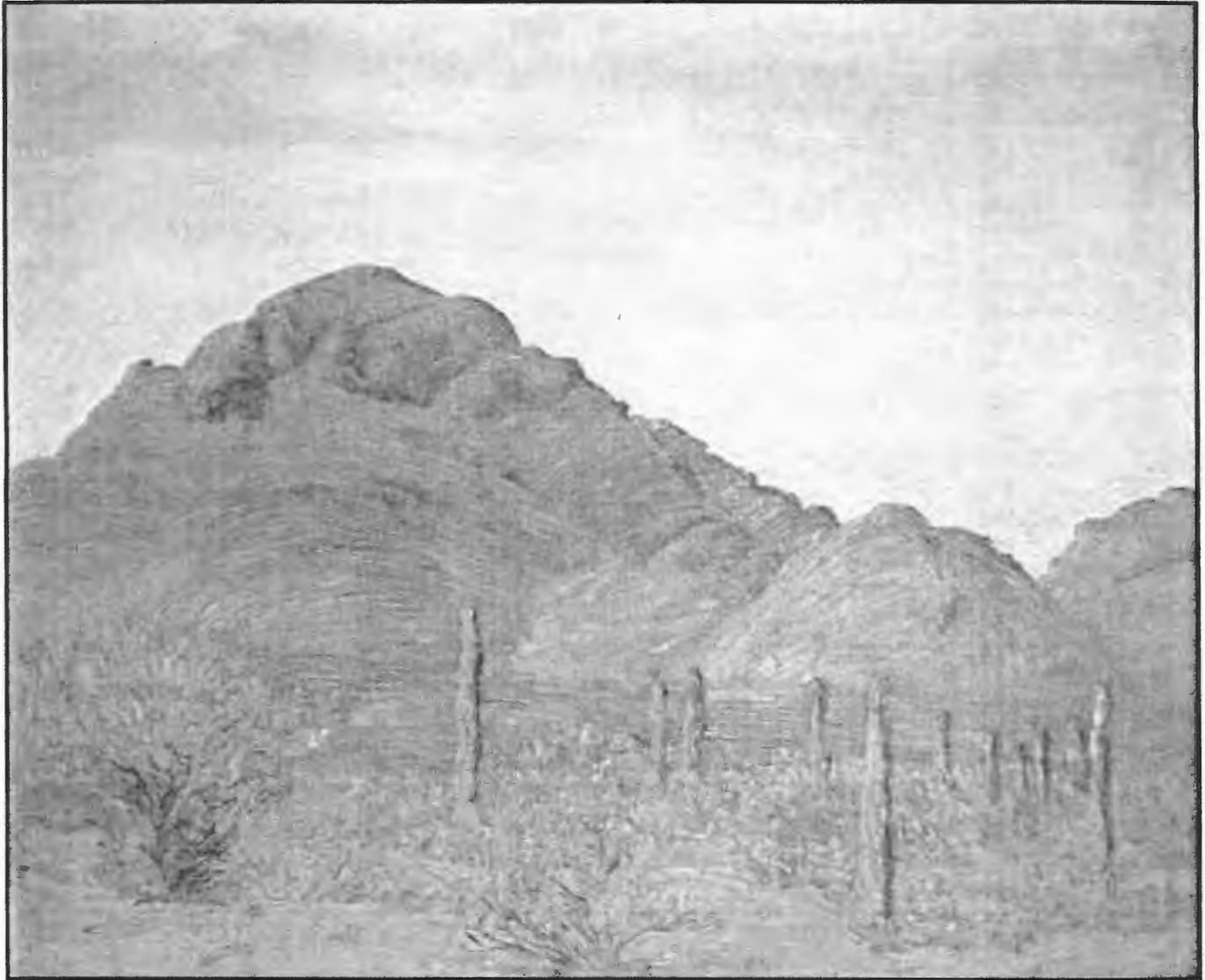
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Hard Bargain Farm	PG: 83-2
Name of Property	
Prince George's County, MD	
County and State	
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)	

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number: Additional Documentation

Page 21



Alice Ferguson, Saguaros. Courtesy of the Archives of the Alice Ferguson Foundation.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

Hard Bargain Farm PG; 83-2
Name of Property
Prince George's County, MD
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number: Additional Documentation

Page 22



Alice Ferguson, Self Portrait. Courtesy of the Archives of the Alice Ferguson Foundation.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Hard Bargain Farm PG:83-2

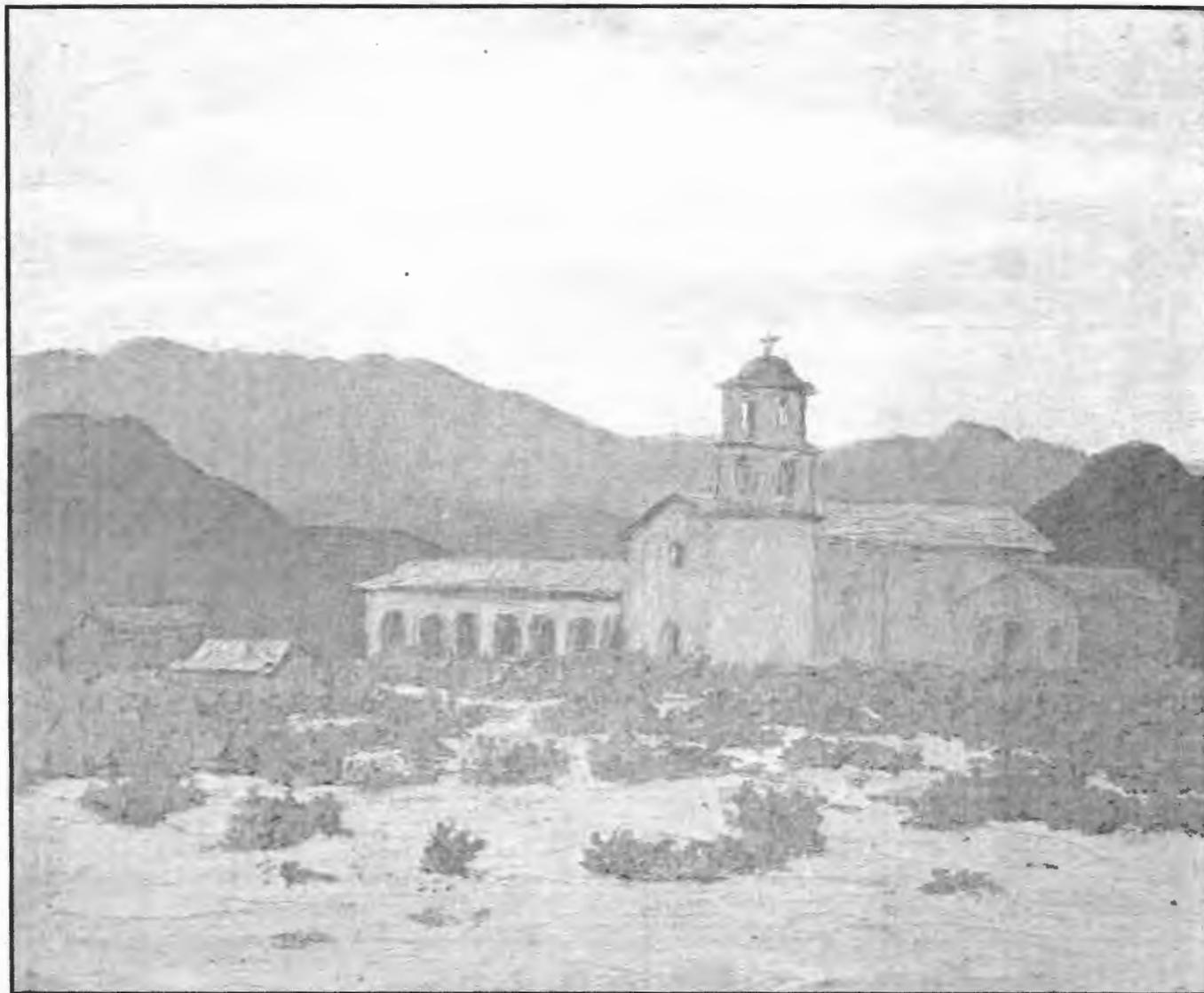
Name of Property
Prince George's County, MD
County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number: Additional Documentation

Page 23



Alice Ferguson, The Mission. Courtesy of the Archives of the Alice Ferguson Foundation.

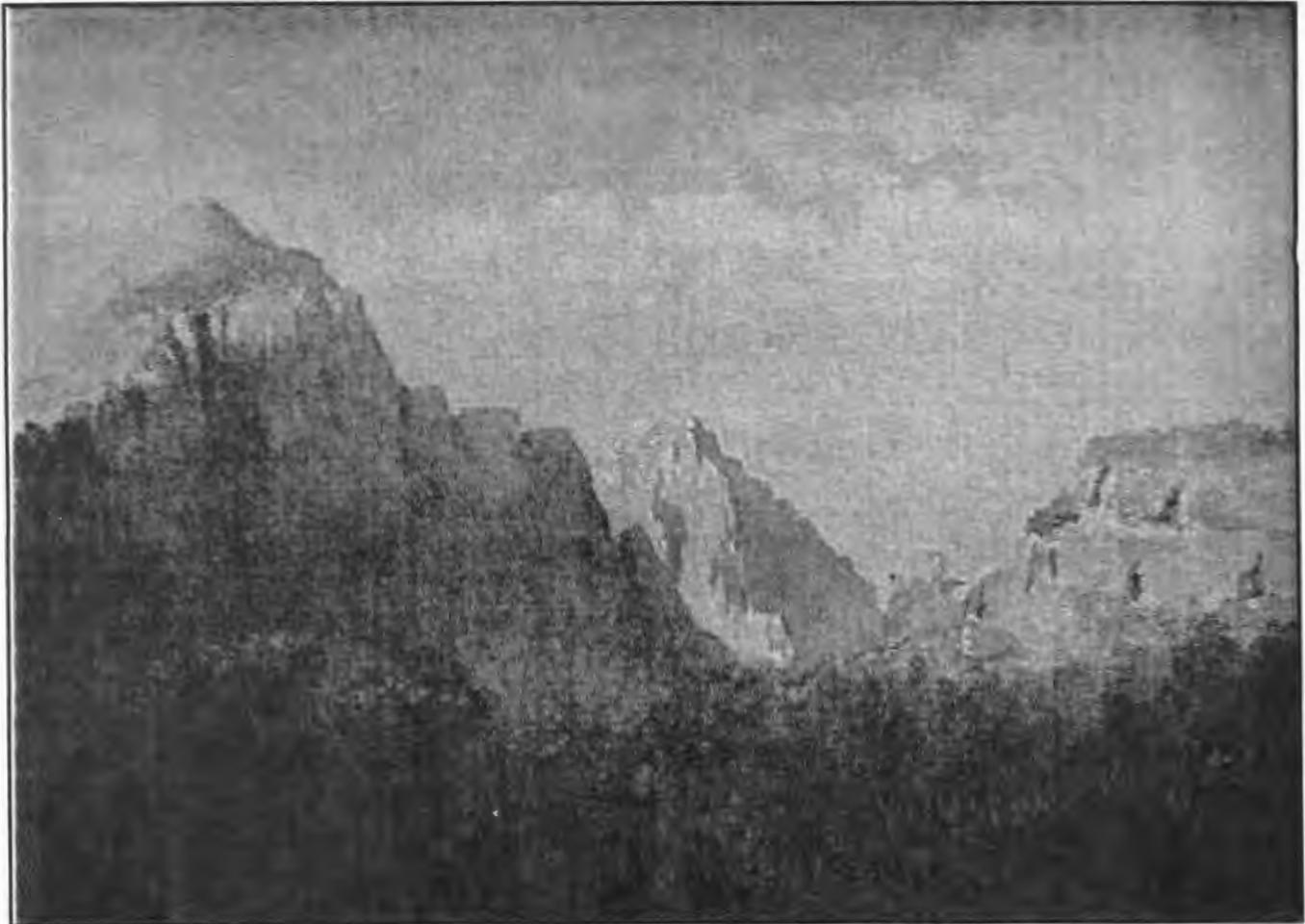
**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

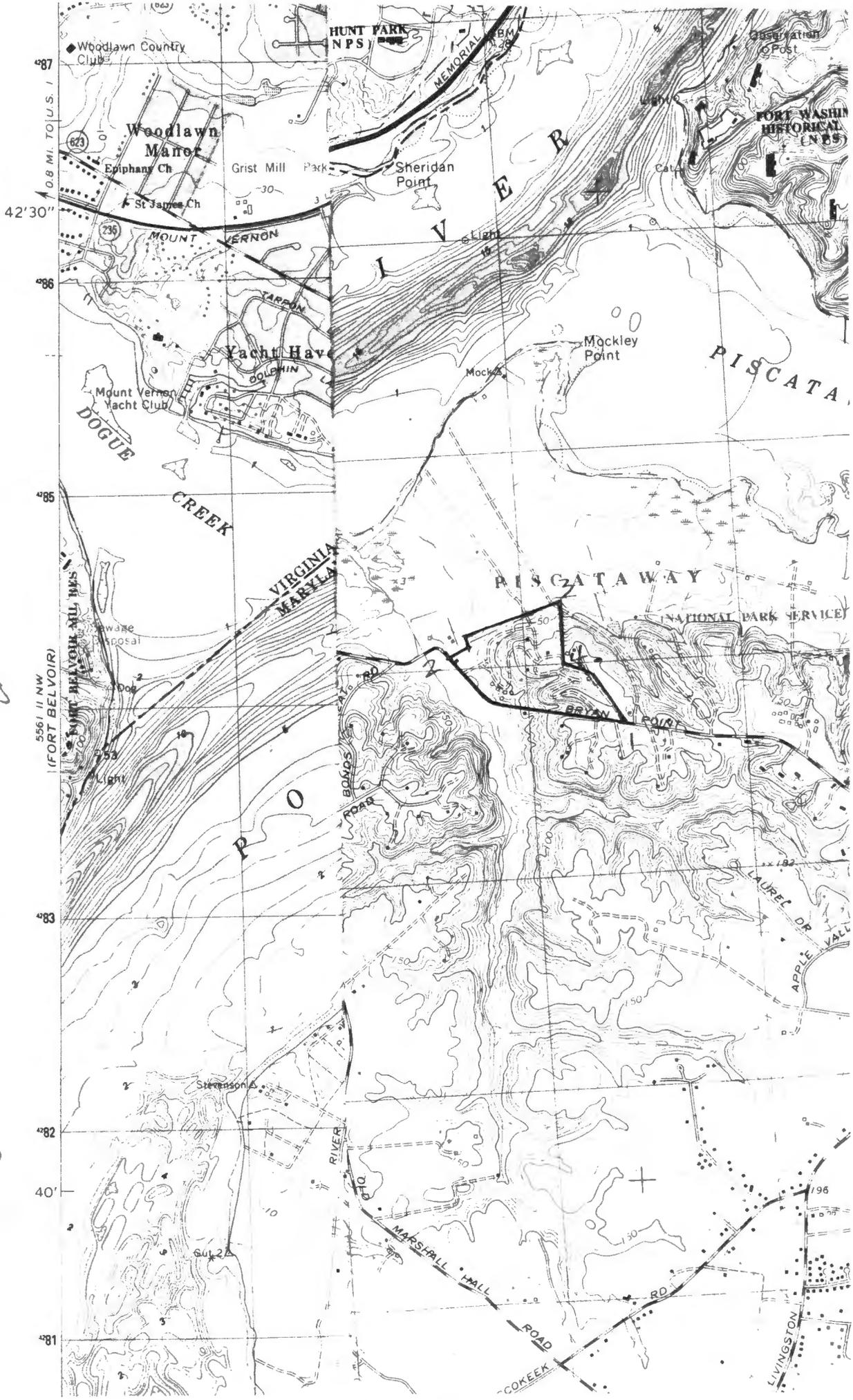
Hard Bargain Farm	PG: 83-2
Name of Property	
Prince George's County, MD	
County and State	
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)	

Section number: Additional Documentation

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Alice Ferguson, Western Mountains. Courtesy of the Archives of the Alice Ferguson Foundation.



PG: 83.2
 HARD BARBAIN
 FARM
 GEORGE'S
 COUNTY, VA

- 18-322481 - 4283929
- 18-321624 - 4284315
- 18-322042 - 4284473
- 18-322195 - 4284218

NOVA - VERMONT,
 VA. 112 9 41



Hard Bargain Farm (PG: 83-2)
Prince George's County, MD
Photo 1 of 20



Hard Bargain Farm (PG-83-2)
Prince George's County, MD
photo 2 of 20



Hard Bargain Farm (PG: 83-2)

Prince Georges County, MD

Photo 3 of 20



Hard Bargain Farm (PG:83-2)

Prince George's County, MD

Photo 4 of 20



Hard Bargain Farm (PB: 83-2)

Prince Georges County, MD

Photo 5 of 20



Hard Bargain Farm (PG: 83-2)

Prince Georges County, MD

Photo 6 of 20



Hard Bargain Farm (PG:83-2)

Prince Georges County, MD

photo 7 of 20



Hard Bargain Farm (PG: 83-2)

Prince Georges County, MD

Photo 8 of 20



Hard Bargain Farm (PG: 83-2)

Prince George's County, MD

Photo 9 of 20



Hard Bargain Farm (P6:83-2)
Prince George's County, MD
Photo 10 of 20



Hard Bargain Farm (PB: 83-2)

Prince George's County, MD

Photo 11 of 20



Hard Bargain Farm (PG: 83-2)

Prince Georges County, MD

photo 12 of 20



Hard Bargain Farm (PG: 83-2)
Prince Georges County, MD
Photo 13 of 20



Hard Bargain Farm (PB: 83-2)

Prince Georges County, MD

Photo 14 of 20



Hard Bargain Farm (PG: 83-2)

Prince Georges County, MD

photo 15 of 20



Hard Bargain Farm (PG: 83-2)
Prince George's County, MD
Photo 16 of 20



Hard Bargain Farm (PG:83-2)

Prince Georges County, MD

Photo 17 of 20



Hard Bargain Farm (Pg: 83-2)

Prince George's County, MD

Photo 18 of 20



Hard Bargain Farm (PG: 83-2)

Prince George's County, MD

Photo 19 of 20



Hard Bargain Farm (PG: 83-2)

Prince George's County, MD

photo 20 of 20

960653

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property/District Name: Hard Bargain Farm Survey Number: PG 83-2

Project: Woodrow Wilson Bridge Agency: FHWA

Site visit by MHT Staff: no yes Name Orlando Ridout V Date 1984

Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended

Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G None

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

The property is located within the listed Piscataway Park which is listed in the National Register under Criterion A for its role in maintaining the vista from Mt. Vernon. Based on the available information, this property appears to independently eligible under Criterion B for its association with Alice L. L. Ferguson, who with her husband, Henry G. Ferguson, excavated the Accokeek Creek Site in the 1930s and 1940s, advancing significantly our understanding of the Native-American culture of Maryland's Western Shore. In addition, it appears to be eligible under Criterion C. The heavy timber frame tobacco barn, originally constructed circa 1830-1850 and rebuilt in the post-Civil War period, exhibits some unusual construction features and is one of several significant buildings dating from the 19th through the mid-20th century which compose the farmstead.

Please note that the National Park Service is responsible for evaluating the eligibility of its properties in accordance with Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and has not yet done so for this property. The above eligibility opinion reflects the views of this office only.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Project File, Maryland Inventory

Form PG 83-2

Prepared by: Parsons Engineering Science (1996), Orlando Ridout V (1984)

Elizabeth Hannold May 5, 1996
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence: yes no not applicable
Peter A. Kurtz 5/9/96
Reviewer, NR program Date

Handwritten initials

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

I. Geographic Region:

- Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
- Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)
- Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
- Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

- Paleo-Indian 10000-7500 B.C.
- Early Archaic 7500-6000 B.C.
- Middle Archaic 6000-4000 B.C.
- Late Archaic 4000-2000 B.C.
- Early Woodland 2000-500 B.C.
- Middle Woodland 500 B.C. - A.D. 900
- Late Woodland/Archaic A.D. 900-1600
- Contact and Settlement A.D. 1570-1750
- Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
- Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
- Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
- Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present
- Unknown Period (prehistoric historic)

III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

- Subsistence
- Settlement
- Political
- Demographic
- Religion
- Technology
- Environmental Adaption

IV. Historic Period Themes:

- Agriculture
- Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning
- Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
- Government/Law
- Military
- Religion
- Social/Educational/Cultural
- Transportation

V. Resource Type:

Category: Buildings, Structures

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Domestic - single dwelling, Agricultural-storage, outbuilding, animal facility

Known Design Source: _____

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Hard Bargain Farm, Ferguson Farm

2. Location

street & number North side, Bryan Point Road not for publication

city, town Acco Keek vicinity of congressional district Fourth

state Maryland county Prince George's County

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 type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Alice Ferguson Foundation

street & number Hard Bargain Farm telephone no.:

city, town Acco Keek, state and zip code Maryland 20607

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Court- liber
house

street & number folio

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input 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	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Note: The following description of the tobacco barn at Hard Bargain Farm was prepared by Orlando Ridout V in response to a request from Mr. Elmer S. Biles, President of the Alice Ferguson Foundation, Inc. The request was made as part of an effort to review and consider possible plans for the repair and use of this building as an educational exhibit. Correspondence and recommendations regarding the building are on file in the vertical file archives of the Maryland Historical Trust.

The tobacco barn is only one of several significant historic sites and features at Hard Bargain Farm. These have not been surveyed in detail at this time.

Description: Tobacco Barn

The tobacco barn at Hard Bargain Farm is located on a relatively flat stretch of cultivated land lying between two marshes that drain into the Potomac River just below Piscataway Creek. The barn is oriented on an east-west axis with the north facade facing the river.

The barn measures 32 feet long and 24 feet deep, and has been enlarged by the addition of an L-plan shed that extends 12 feet deep across the south facade and the east gable end of the building.

The main barn structure is of hewn and pit-sawn heavy timber construction. The basic frame in its present condition appears to date to circa 1860-90, but appears to be extensively rebuilt utilizing an earlier frame of circa 1830s-40s. The lean-to sheds are 20th century additions but may have replaced earlier sheds. The north wall of the barn was extensively rebuilt and repaired in the mid-1970s.

The exterior of the barn is covered with horizontal siding on the gable ends and vertical siding on the sheds and the rebuilt north facade. Early flush bevel-edge siding secured with machine-made nails survives on both gable ends, with 20th century plain horizontal board siding mixed in. The south wall, now protected by the south shed, was originally framed with

(Continued on White Sheet)

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input 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 type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or
Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G
Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

In general form and appearance, this is a typical example of a heavy timber frame tobacco barn of the post-Civil War period. On closer examination, a number of features become evident that are considerably less common. The overall size of 24 feet by 32 feet is consistent with the four-foot common denominator generally utilized for tobacco barns but the barn is unusually deep in relation to its length. The interior framing system is the most unusual feature. Originally constructed circa 1830-50, the barn was extensively rebuilt in the post-Civil War period. The gable ends and roof were disassembled and rebuilt using the same materials and the facade walls were altered from a post-and-stud system sheathed with horizontal siding to a post-and-rail system sheathed with vertical siding. The spacing of the original posts and studs does not conform to any previously recorded system, and offers few clues to the underlying rationale.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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 Zone Easting Northing

B

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 Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

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

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Orlando Ridout V - Historic Sites Survey Coordinator		
organization	Maryland Historic Trust	date	Field Notebook MD-10; Recorded March 13, 1984
street & number	Shaw House, 21 State Circle	telephone	301-269-2438
city or town	Annapolis	state	Maryland 21401

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

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

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
 Shaw House
 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 269-2438

7. Description: Tobacco Barn (Continued) #1

vertical studs to accommodate horizontal siding. This entire wall was evidently rebuilt and the vertical studs were replaced with horizontal rails. Vertical siding secured with wire nails remains on the east portion of this wall.

The interior is laid out to form eight four-foot rooms. The principal posts are on eight-foot centers and the tie beams and rafters are on four-foot centers. Unfinished round poles of about six-inch diameter are placed vertically on four-foot centers down the center of the barn, in line with the ridge-line. These are lapped and nailed to the tie beams at the top and rest on or slightly in the ground at the bottom.

Lighter horizontal poles averaging four inches in diameter remain in place, serving as tier poles. These rest on horizontal rails mortised into the principal posts of each facade wall, and are supported in the center of the barn by heavy wood pins driven into the heavy vertical six-inch poles that run down the center of the barn. Rough scantling, averaging one inch thick and $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, has been nailed to the interior face of the gable end framing to serve as tier poles at each end of the barn. These boards show evidence of having previously served as roof nailers. This evidence includes the overall size of the material, the numerous nails and the nail holes that serve no purpose in the present position, and the evenly spaced notches in the thicker boards that conform with the four-foot rafter spacing. These notches allowed the thicker nailers to lie flush in an even plane to insure a secure roof.

The gable ends of the barn are framed with hewn and pit sawn studs regularly spaced at two-foot intervals. Large mortises and trunnel holes indicate that there were originally two intermediate posts dividing each gable wall into three eight-foot bays. These two intermediate posts may have served to frame doors in each gable end, but gable openings were more commonly only four feet wide. The surviving evidence suggests that the gable ends were also reworked in the circa 1860-90 renovation. The early studs were pulled out and turned around and the intermediate posts were replaced with smaller studs. A small door measuring approximately four feet wide and five feet high was framed in, and the barn was re-sided. Nails and nail holes on the interior face of the gable studs are the principal evidence for this change. The surviving nails appear to be a mix of both early and fully mature machine-made nails suggesting the original period of construction occurred circa 1830s-1840s.

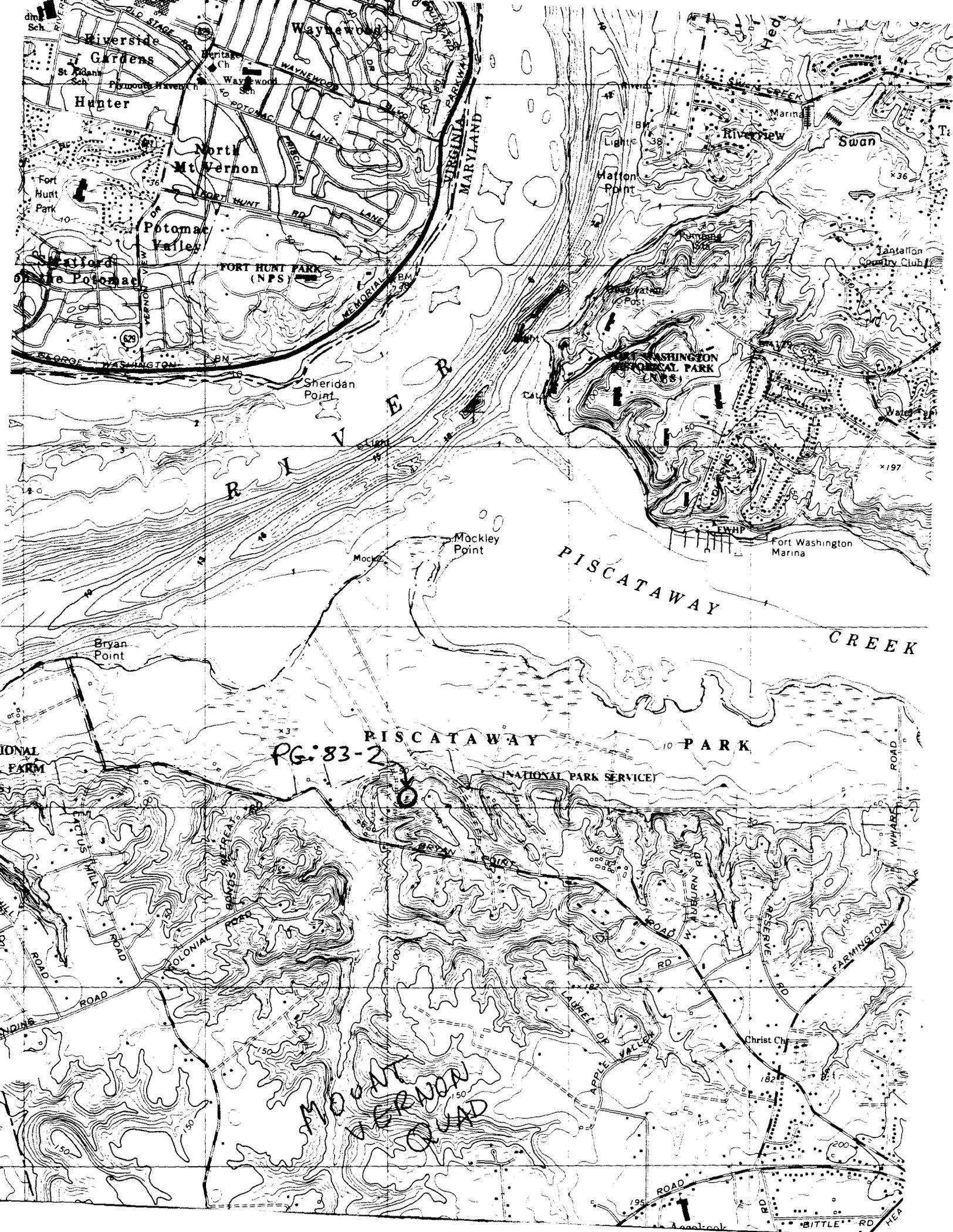
Numerous other details serve as evidence of an extensive rebuilding in the post-Civil War period. All of the early posts and intermediate posts have a wide variety of mortises and half-lap joints that were clearly used and became obsolete when the barn was rebuilt. The top plate on the south wall has mortises for two intermediate posts and 14 studs that have been eliminated.

7. Description: Tobacco Barn (Continued) #2

It is curious to note that these studs do not conform to the standard two-foot centers found in the gable walls, and that while the two missing intermediate posts appear to have served to frame a door, the door was significantly out of center and did not align with the four-foot room system or an eight-foot framing system. A rational explanation of this dual framing plan is not readily apparent.

The roof has also been rebuilt. The present roof is constructed of common rafter pairs set on four-foot centers, supported by a flat false plate, joined at the ridge with a simple nailed mitre joint, and by two sets of collar beams. The mitred ridge connection is not common in traditional heavy timber framing, and three sets of empty half-lap joints for an earlier triple-tier collar system are further evidence that the roof has been rebuilt. The rafters in the west gable wall have even been turned upside down, leaving collar joints exposed at unusable angles and positions.

In the 20th century the early, narrow shingle nailers were pulled up and were reused in combination with stock board planks to sheath the roof to support roll tarpaper roofing.





PG 83-12

Hard Bargain Farm



PG 83-42

Hard Bargain Farm



PG 83-12

Hard Bargain Farm



PG 83-12

Hard Bargain Farm



PG 83-12

Hard Bargain Farm



PG 83-12

Hard Bargain Farm



PG 83-12

Hard Bargain Farm



PG 83-12

Hard Bargain Farm