

ABSTRACT

WA-I-271

1802

Castle Plains Farm  
Cearfoss Vicinity  
private

This farm complex includes a two story brick house, a stone and frame bank barn and domestic structures such as a brick smoke house and a wooden cucumber pump. The house is particularly worthy of note as an example of an unusually early brick dwelling in Washington County. Presumed to have been built about 1802, it is older than most brick houses in the area, where the majority of such structures date from after 1820. The house has a number of exterior characteristics which suggest its relatively early date, such as the molded brick water table at all four elevations, the use of Flemish bonding at the end walls in addition to the front elevation. Also indicative of its age is American or common bond with three instead of the customary five courses of stretchers between header rows. The house follows the five bay, central entrance plan which was prominent in Maryland and Pennsylvania during the 18th and 19th centuries.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

WA-I -271  
District 13  
Map 9

Parcel 3

MPCI # 220-~~40~~5885  
580

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Castle Plains Farm

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Maryland route 63, the Greencastle-Williamsport Pike

CITY, TOWN

 VICINITY OF Cearfoss

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Washington

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

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

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Castle Plains Farm

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Route # 6

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21740

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Washington County Court House

Liber #: 628

Folio #: 288

STREET &amp; NUMBER

West Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown

STATE

Maryland 21740

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Maryland Historical Trust Survey # 4090

DATE

Summer 1967

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

WR-1-271

# 7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This farm is located on the east side of Maryland route 63, the Williamsport-Greencastle Pike, south of the Mason-Dixon Line near Cearfoss in Washington County.

The house rests on fairly level ground parallel to the road and faces east. The structure is a two story, five bay brick dwelling on low fieldstone foundations. Attached to its north end wall is a stone, brick and frame two story shed roofed addition. A one story enclosed porch has been added to the rear of the main section.

Flemish bonding is displayed at the front or east elevation and the two end walls as well. The rear or west wall has American or common bonding with three courses of stretchers between header rows. A water table of quarter round bricks is present at all four walls, seven courses above the foundation. High flat arches of brick are present above the windows and doors. The entire surface of the structure has been painted red.

Windows appear to be spaced evenly in the front wall. They have wide frames with butt joints and no pegs showing. The frames are trimmed with a bead at the inside edge and hold single pane, double hung sashes which have replaced the originals. Windows at the front elevation are flanked with shutters. At the upper story, louvered shutters are used; at the first story shutters have paneled lower sections while their upper portions are louvered. Windows at the other elevations which have no shutters do have hinge pins suggesting that shutters were sent at one time.

The main entrance is located in the center bay of the front elevation. The door is framed similarly to the windows and includes a narrow transom. The central three bays of the front wall at the first story are sheltered with a flat roofed porch supported by heavy chamfered square posts with Victorian brackets. A similar porch with turned posts and a shed roof extends across the front elevation of the wing.

The roof of the main section is covered with modern asphalt shingles and extends beyond the end walls of the house. Late 19th century eaves and barge boards appear to have replaced the original work. Large brick chimneys with several courses of corbeling at their tops are located inside the gable ends.

A brass door knocker in the possession of the present owner of the farm which is said to have been removed from the house is inscribed with the name Dr. H. Schaffely and the date 1802.

Just southwest of the dwelling is a square brick smoke house resting on low fieldstone foundations. It is constructed in common bond with three courses of stretchers between header rows. The hipped roof is sheathed with asphalt shingles like those used on the house.

A wooden cucumber pump stands in front of the north wing of the house.

Behind the domestic structures is a large bank barn with stone ends below frame gables. It faces west.

The buildings are in excellent condition on a farm which contains 130.79 acres.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

WA-I-271

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> early COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input 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 Dr. H. Schnebely 1802 BUILDER/ARCHITECT  
 (On brass door knocker)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This farm complex includes a two story brick house, a stone and frame bank barn and domestic structures such as a brick smoke house and a wooden cucumber pump. The house is particularly worthy of note as an example of an unusually early brick dwelling in Washington County. Presumed to have been built about 1802, it is older than most brick houses in the area, where the majority of such structures date from after 1820. The house has a number of exterior characteristics which suggest its relatively early date, such as the molded brick water table at all four elevations, the use of Flemish bonding at the end walls in addition to the front elevation. Also indicative of its age is American or common bond with three instead of the customary five courses of stretchers between header rows. The house follows the five bay, central entrance plan which was prominent in Maryland and Pennsylvania during the 18th and 19th centuries.

According to the present owner the farm has been in the Hoffman family for seven generations. Part of the land grant, "Castle Plains;" the farm which originally included 265 1/8 acres was owned by Daniel Schnebely during the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The property was resurveyed at the time it was sold to John Felker in 1818 (CC/754). In his will, probated August 29, 1846, John Felker left the portion of the farm which includes this complex to his son Abraham (Will Liber D/621). In April of 1855, Abraham Felker and Catherine, his wife sold the farm to Christian Hoffman (IN10/274). It has descended through the Hoffman family to the present. (LBN2/484, 127/47, 211/250).

WR-I-271

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Washington County Land Records.

Washington County Probate Records.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 130.79 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

**Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant**

ORGANIZATION

**Washington County Historical Sites Survey**

DATE

**March 1977**

STREET & NUMBER

**County Office Building, 33 West Washington Street**

TELEPHONE

**791-3065**

CITY OR TOWN

**Hagerstown**

STATE

**Maryland 21740**

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  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

WA I-271

A N S T R L M

White Pine Sch  
Gosetown  
Cem Pleasant Hill Ch

FRANKLIN CO  
WASHINGTON CO

Mason and Dixon

PENN CENTRAL

Mt Zion Ch

Reiffs Ch

Cearfoss

EEK

Poms

Rain

4402

4401

690 000 FEET  
(M.D.)

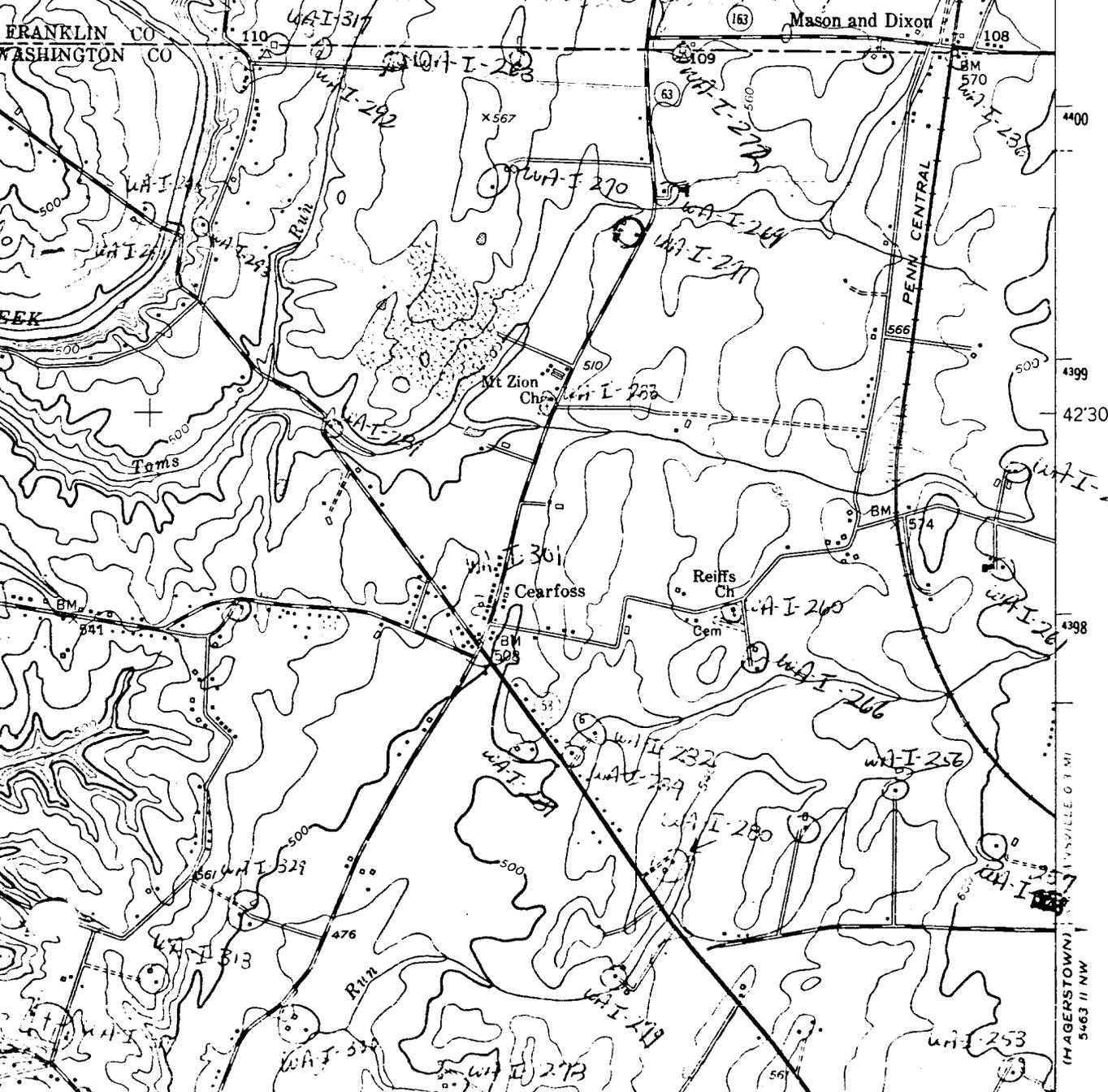
4400

4399

42'30"

4398

SPRINGVILLE 6 7 MI  
(HAGERSTOWN)  
5463 11 NW





WA-1-271

Castle Plains Farm

From northwest

Castle Plains Farm

1-23-73

From northwest

5 Goodrich

1-23-73

From northwest



WA-1-271

Castle Plains Farm  
From southwest

Castle Plains Farm

WA-1-271

1850s Great Salt Lake

S. Cordillera

7-22-99

W. R.



WA-1-271

Castle Plains Farm

From east

Castle Plains Farm

WA-1-271

18525 1/2, 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 700, 800, 900, 1000

1000

1000

1000







WA-1-271

Castle Plains Farm

From south

Castle Plains Farm

14541 S. Greenfield Rd.

S. Greenfield

7-23-53

Lot 1











11-2-2000

894

11-2-2000

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



10/15/78

10/15/78

Dec 10/78

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY