

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Helen Spiker Log House

2. Location

South side of street & number Greenbrier Road, .8 mile east of Boonsboro-Mt. Lena Rd not for publication

city, town Mt. Lena vicinity of congressional district Sixth

state Maryland county Washington

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input 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 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 Department of Natural Resourcesstreet & number Tawes State Office Bldg telephone no.: 369-3771city, town Annapolis state and zip code MD 21401

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Washington County Courthouse liberstreet & number West Washington Street foliocity, town Hagerstown state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title DNR Survey

March 1979 federal state county local

depository for survey records Department of Natural Resourcescity, town Annapolis state MD

7. Description

Survey No. UA-II-473

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

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

8.

Period

97
 14
 15
 16
 17
 18
 19

Special
check

Prepar
suppor

8. Significance

Survey No. WA-II-473

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 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

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.

The Helen Spiker Log House is a late nineteenth century two-story log structure built in a I-shape plan. The style, construction, plan, and ornamental details are typical of log construction found during the late nineteenth century in this region. It has two-over-two sash window frames with arched-topped upper panes, an ornamental feature that was quite popular in the eastern section of Washington County. The farm complex, which once had a double-pen log barn, now contains only the log farmhouse.

The farmstead is located on a lane south of Greenbrier Road, approximately .8 mile east of Boonesboro-Mt. Lena Road. The house sits at the end of a .1 mile dirt lane. It is a level site with a branch of Little Beaver Creek running between the house and Greenbrier Road. The property is within the boundary of Greenbrier State Park in Washington County Maryland.

The Helen Spiker Log House is a two-story, three-bay by two-bay structure with a two-bay ell. The main facade faces east and has a central entrance with two-over-two sash windows in the outer bays of the first story and three bays in second story. The window and door frames are set out from the log providing evidence that the log was once covered in weatherboard siding that has been removed from the structure. The logs are V-notched at the corners and have wide spaces filled with stones, woodchips, and mortar. The structure sits on a stone foundation that is partially collapsed. It has a steep gable roof covered in sheet metal.

The north facade has an entrance in the easternmost bay of the ell. Two-over-two sash windows^{are} on the other three bays of the first story and the four bays of the second story. The gable is covered in asphalt shingles and has two small windows. The box cornice returns at the gable end. The south facade has an early twentieth century brick chimney centrally located with a basement entrance running below the chimney. Two-over-two sash windows are located one on each story and the gable ornamentation is identical to the north gable end. The ell on the south side has a double-tiered porch that is falling down. The porch has an entrance and a window leading to it on each floor. The west gable end has a early twentieth century chimney and a single window on each story.

The basic element of ornamentation to the structure are the door and window frames. They are relatively unelaborate with board frames consisting of a band of beading down the center in a serpentine-molded top. The sash is two-over-two sash with the upper sash consisting of wood arches on each pane. The arched upper sash was a popular technique in this section of Washington County.

The interior floor plan consists of three rooms with the stairs in the south room. The stairs are located in the southwest corner of the room and have a rounded ~~newel~~^{newel} post with square balusters. The stairs have serpentine stair ends. This south room provides ^{ac}~~ex~~cess to the other two rooms as the partition wall between the two northern rooms does not contain a doorway to provide direct access between those two rooms.

The house has been substantially vandalized since the 1979 survey. Also, a double-pen log barn that stood on the site and is described in ^{the} this 1979 survey is no longer standing.

The gable windows had two panes with arched tops. Wire nails are found throughout the building.

Significance. The Helen Spiker Log House illustrates a number of features of late nineteenth century domestic architecture in Washington County. Foremost, it shows the prevalence of log construction as a building type into the late nineteenth century in this region. Secondly, it depicts the evolution of the L-shaped farmhouse plan into a large compact structure with specific characteristics that persisted throughout the nineteenth century and into the early twentieth century. The Spiker House also shows the influence of Victorian architectural styles, particularly through the window ornamentation found in the structure. Thus, the house and its characteristics represent the later stage of log construction in farmhouses in Washington County.

The Helen Spiker Log House is a late nineteenth century structure that shows the persistence of log construction in Washington County. While many regions were becoming quite accessible to railroad commerce and were abandoning regional building methods to incorporate late nineteenth century building technology, many sections of Washington County retained regional characteristics and building. The abundance of timber as a inexpensive construction material in these areas meant that log construction persisted for small log houses as well as larger farmhouse structures. The Spiker House is an excellent example

of a large farmhouse constructed of log.

The Spiker Log House also shows the evolution of the L-shaped plan to its late nineteenth century form. Earlier L-shaped houses evolved through additions being added to the structure or in early versions of L-shaped floor plans. At the Spiker Log House there is a fully-mature, L-shape plan with an inset double-tiered porch under a symmetrical gable roof on the ell. However, the interior room arrangement follows a rural floor pattern and does not contain a central stair hall popular in late nineteenth century domestic architecture. Instead, the interior has a three-room plan with a corner stair in the south room. The two northern rooms are not accessible to one another through the south room.

The Spiker house does show an influence of late nineteenth century domestic architecture in its window frames. The frames are constructed of a mass-produced board frame with beading down the center of the board. The window sash uses a popular Victorian style with the two upper panes having round-arches. The gable end windows have a similar arrangement consisting of two pane windows with each pane having an arched top. This style of window sash was particularly popular along the eastern section of Washington County.

There have been few changes or alterations to the Spiker House. The exterior wood siding has been removed from the structure to leave an exposed log exterior. Asphalt shingles have been added to the gables which probably are originally covered with wood siding. An early twentieth century chimney

has been added to the south and west gable end.

The structure has been vandalized through the removal of window sash and some interior features such as the handrail to the stairs. The basic components of the structure are solid except for the stone foundation.

ADDENDA

In 1984 the Department of Natural Resources contracted with Joe Getty to conduct a follow-up survey of selected historic properties on DNR lands. DNR funded the field survey and photography but did not prepare finished copy. The attached photocopy pages were forwarded to the Maryland Historical Trust to supplement existing files. All original material and photographs remain in the possession of the Department of Natural Resources under the supervision of Ross Kimmel (x3771).

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

WA-II-473
Greenbrier St. Park
DNR # 14 & 16

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

USGS Quad: Forkstown

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Helen Spiker property

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Greenbrier, Greenbrier State Park

6

CITY/TOWN

Mt. Lena

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Washington

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER <i>None</i>

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

(some use for storage)

NAME

M. Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Taves State Office Building

CITY/TOWN

Annapolis, Md.

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

21401

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Washington County Court House

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

West Washington Street

CITY/TOWN

Hagerstown

STATE

Md.

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY/TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This farmstead is located south of Greenbrier Road at the settlement of Greenbrier and is within the boundary of Greenbrier State Park in Washington County, Maryland. The complex dates from the late 19th century.

The house is a two story, three bay L-shaped log building resting on stone foundations. The wall construction is exposed and weathering of the logs suggests that they have been uncovered for some time. Window and door trim is set out ~~to receive~~ to receive siding. The logs are hand hewn and display inverted "V" notching at the corners. *It is likely that the logs were sided originally*

Windows and doors are aligned with each other in the walls. Windows have two over two pane sashes with the upper sashes having round arched panes. The architraves have flat top pieces with molded trim. The main entrance is located in the central bay of the front elevation. The door has four vertical panels and does not include a transom. It is trimmed similarly to the windows. The ell to the rear of the house has similar windows and doors to that of the front section. The east elevation of the ell has a two story porch supported by square posts.

The gables of the house are sheathed with asphalt shingles. Twentieth century exterior brick chimneys are located against the south end wall and the east end wall. The roof is covered with standing seam sheet metal.

Inside, a staircase is located against the east end wall of the main section. It features turned newel posts which do not appear to have received any finish. Curved facing ~~finishes~~ *trims* the ends of the risers.

Although it is vacant and ~~has~~ suffered some vandalism, the house appears to be basically solid and in good condition.

West of the house is a two pen log barn constructed of round logs some of which still retain their bark. The barn also has a log forebay supported by massive wooden posts. The bark roof is of corrugated sheet metal which is missing in some areas. The barn is in deteriorated condition but is salvageable.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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 checked="" 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 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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This complex consisting of a late 19th century log house and barn is outstanding as an example of regional vernacular architecture illustrating the prominent use of log as a construction material.

Log barns are highly unusual in Washington County although records suggest that the majority of barns in the 18th and 19th centuries were of log construction. Today fewer than a dozen of these structures are known to exist in Washington County. This barn, although deteriorated remains intact showing the construction, appearance and use of these structures.

The house which never had plumbing has survived to the present with very few alterations. The changes include the 20th century chimneys, ~~and~~ the application of asphalt shingles to the gables, *and removal of exterior siding.*

Although relatively late in the history of log construction this complex provides excellent visual documentation of an outstanding architectural type and suggest an important part of the cultural history of the residents of the slopes of South Mountain where log houses predominate.

The complex is worthy for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

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

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

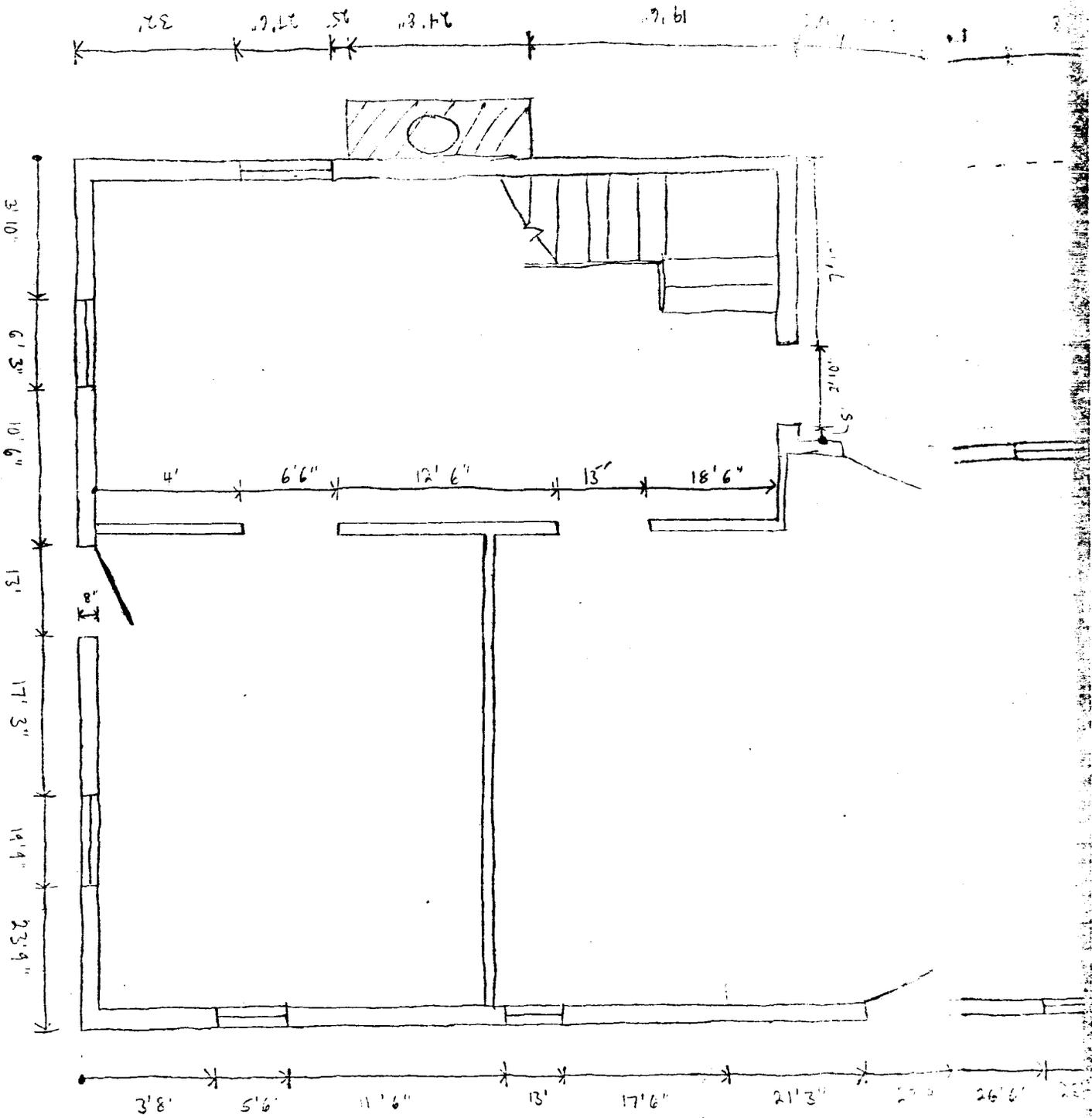
CITY OR TOWN

STATE

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



logs tie-in
from rear wall

WA II-473

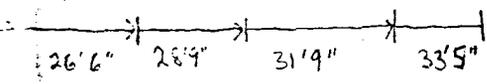
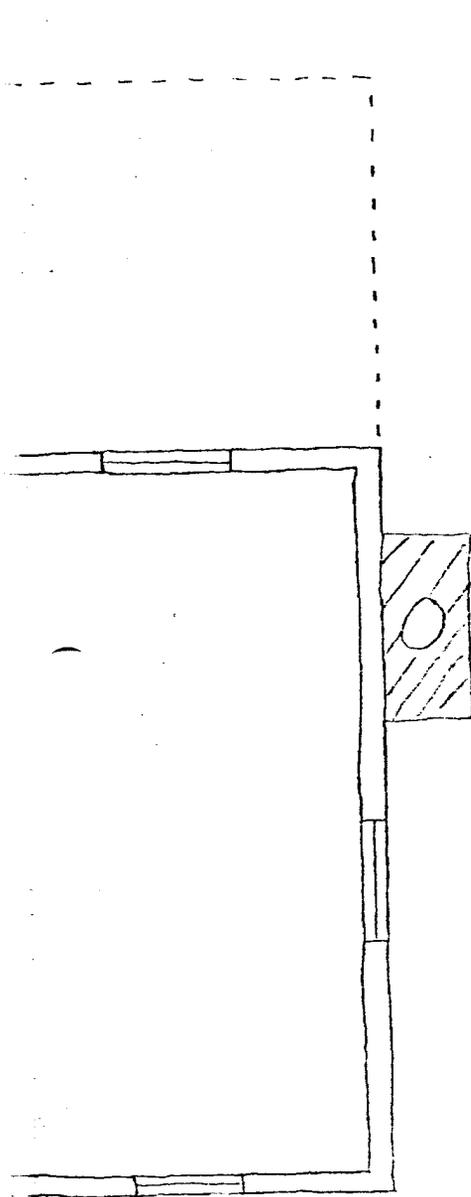
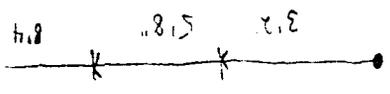
WA-II-473

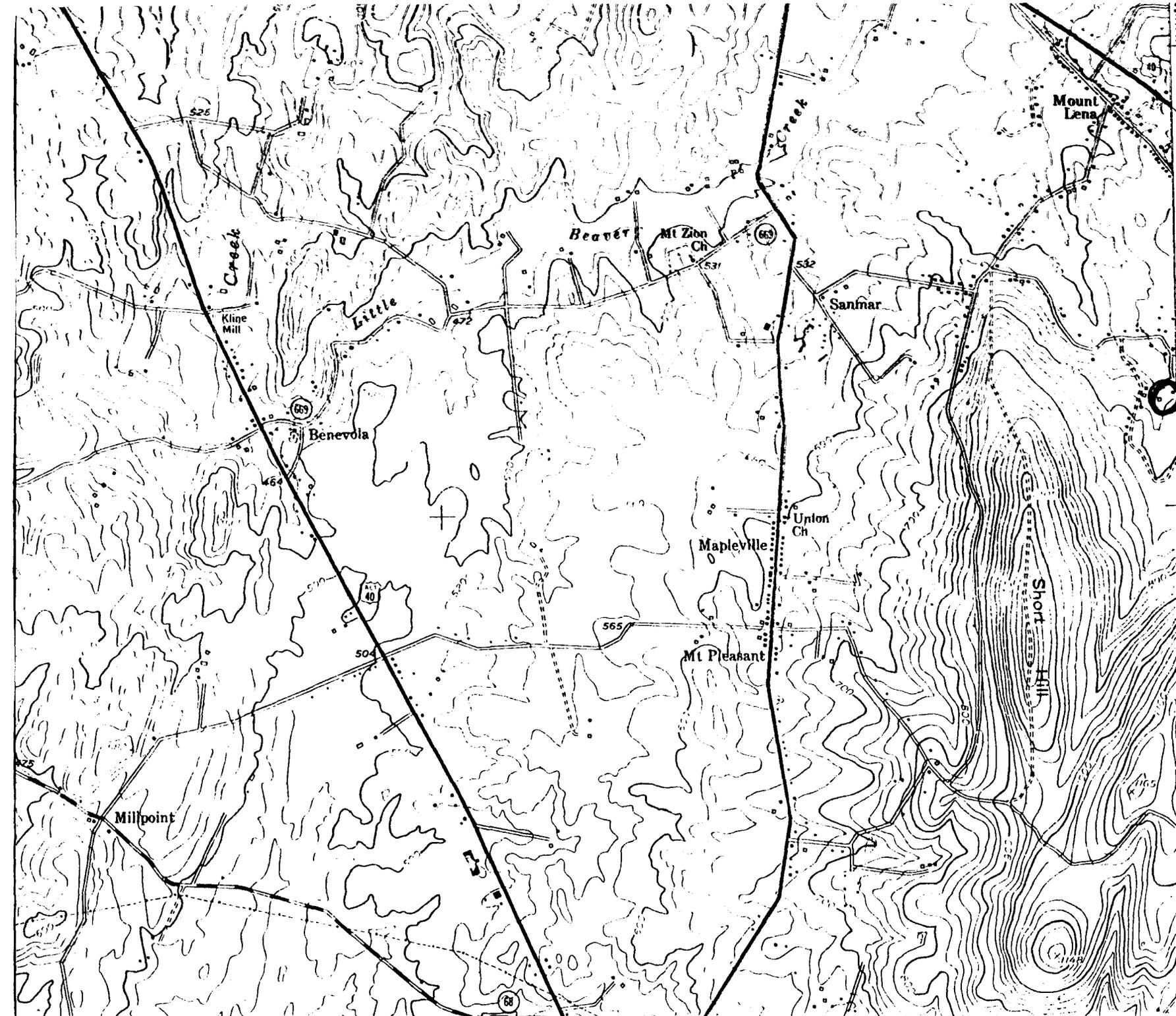
GREENBRIER STATE PARK

SPIKER LOG HOUSE.

Scale $\frac{1}{4}'' = 1 \text{ foot}$

12/83
J. Getty





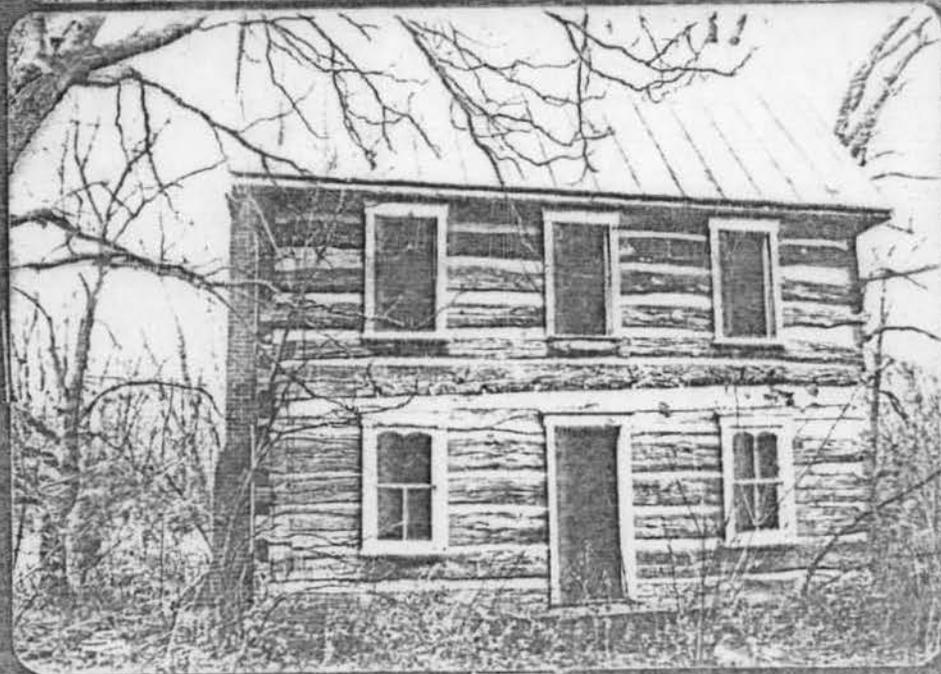
MYERSVILLE (JUNO. MO. 17) 1.48 MI.
FREDERICK 1.5 MI.

HELEN
SPIKER
DNR 12, 16 ~~82~~
PROPERTY
WA-II-415

PUNKSTOWN
QUAD

WA-II-473

WA-II-473 Helen Spiker Log House
top - East & North Facades
center - " "
bottom - East Facade



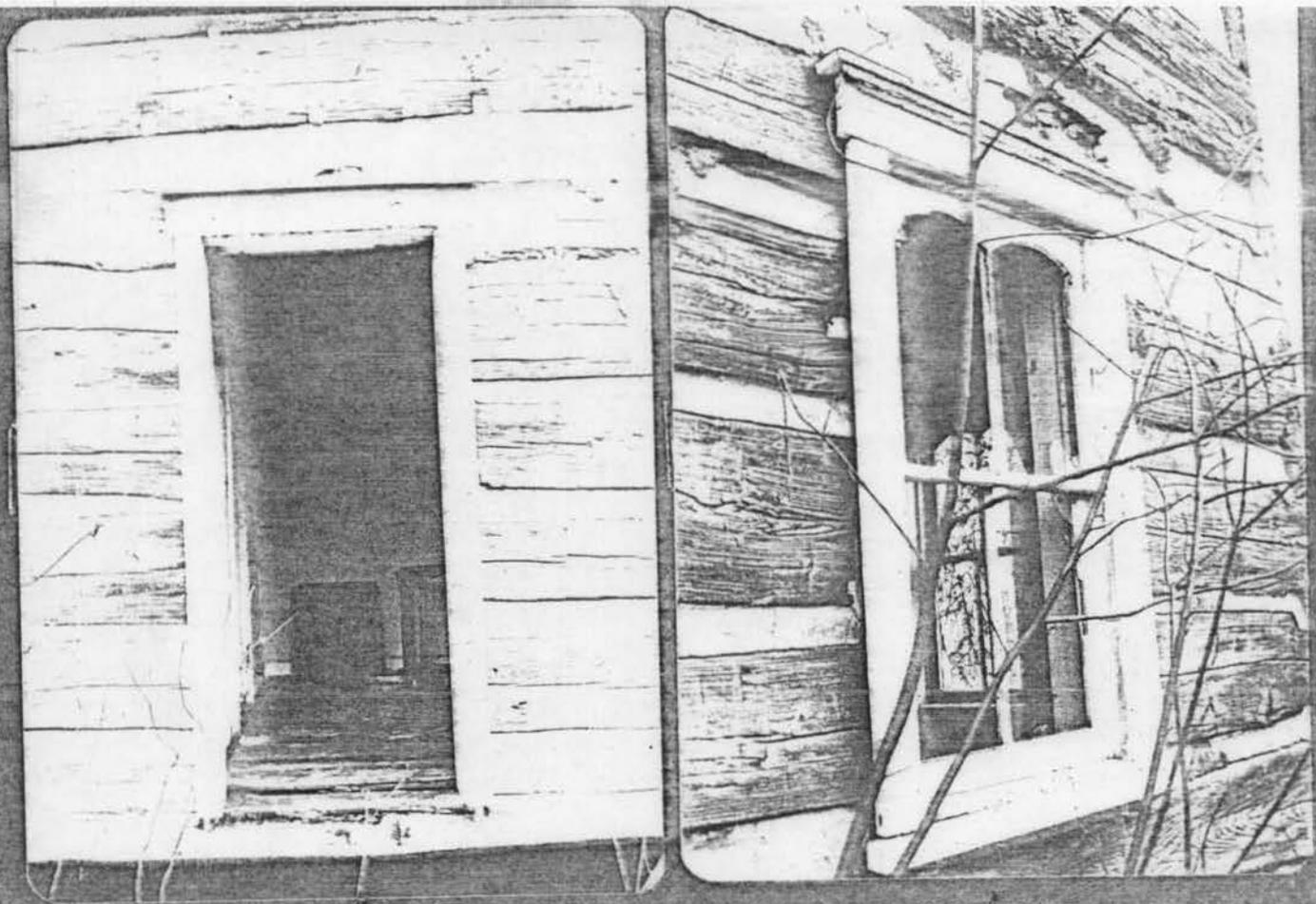
WA-II-473 Helen Spikes log House

top - East + South Facades

center - South Facade

~~bottom~~





WA-II-473 Helix Spiker Log House
right. - Window frame
left - Door frame



WA-II-473

Greenbrier State Park

S.W. view

Jan. 1979

DNR Survey

Photo Credit

Paula Stoner
Preservation Association



WA-II-473

Greenbrier State Park

W. View

Jan. 1979

Photo Credit

Paula Stoner
Preservation Associates



WA-II-473
Greenbrier St. Pk.
N.W. View
Jan. 1979

DNR Survey

Photo Credit

Pavle Stoner
Preservation Associates



11

1. The first part of the document is a list of names and addresses of the members of the committee. The names are listed in alphabetical order and include the following: [illegible names]

John [illegible]

Photo Credit
Preservation Society

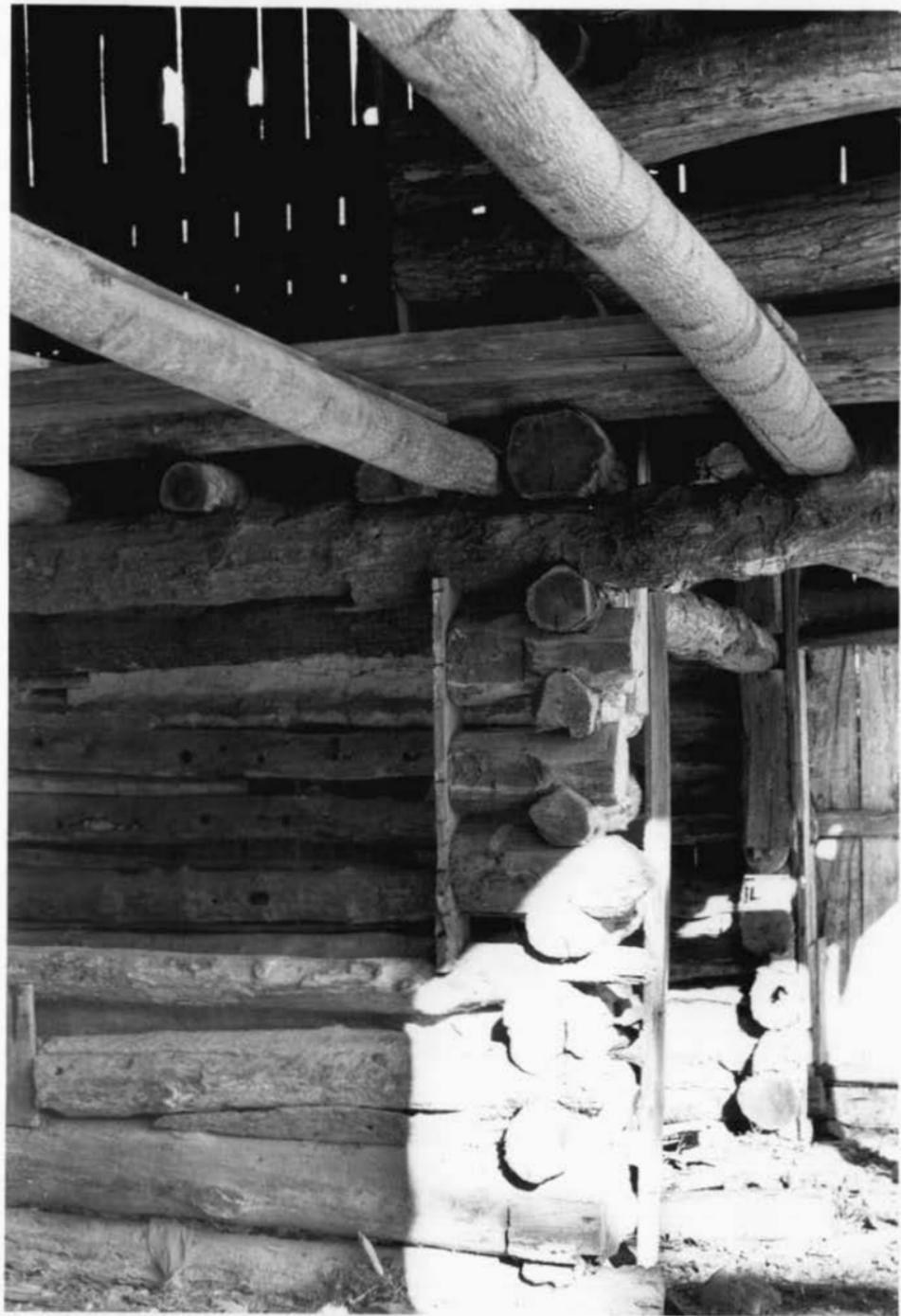


WA-II-473
Greenbrier State Park
Barra - W. View
Jan. 1978

DNR Survey

Photo Credit

Paula Stoner
Preservation Associates



WA-II-473

Greenbrier State Park

Barn, Interior detail

Jan. 1978

DNR Survey

Photo Credit

Paula Stoner
Preservation Association



WA-II-473

Greenbrier State Park
Barn - Interior Detail

Jan. 1979

DNR Survey

Photo Credit

Paula Stoner
Preservation Associates