1. Name of Property

- historic name: A. W. Gribble Farm
- other names/site number: Deerwood Farm

2. Location

- street & number: Loop Road
- city or town: Pisgah
- state: West Virginia
- county: Preston
- code: WV
- code: 077
- zip code: 26625

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 for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally, statewide, locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title: ________________________________ Date: ______________

West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office

State or Federal agency and bureau: ________________________________

In my opinion, the property meets or does not meet the National Register criteria. (See Continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title: ________________________________ Date: ______________

State or Federal agency and bureau: ________________________________

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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: ______________

See continuation sheet

See continuation sheet
A. W. Gribble Farm/Deerwood
Name of Property
Preston Co., West Virginia
County and State

5. Classification

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Name of related multiple property listing
N/A

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
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Narrative Description
See Continuation Sheets
8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

- [ ] 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.
- [x] 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

Property is:

- [ ] A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- [ ] B removed from its original location.
- [ ] C birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance.
- [ ] D a cemetery.
- [ ] E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- [ ] F a commemorative property
- [ ] G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Levels of Significance (local, state, national)

Local

Areas of Significance

Architecture

Period of Significance

c. 1842; c. 1870

Significant Dates

c. 1842; c. 1870

Significant Person

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

See Continuation sheets

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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 #

Primary location of additional data:

- [x] State Historic Preservation Office
- [ ] Other State Agency
- [ ] Federal Agency
- [ ] Local Government
- [ ] University
- [ ] Other

Name of repository:
A.  W. Gribble Farm/ Deerwood  
Name of Property

10. Geographical Data

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Quadrangle: Lake Lynn

UTM References

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Verbal Boundary Description
See Continuation Sheets

Boundary Justification
See Continuation Sheets

11. Form Prepared By

name/title  Meredith E. Kiger and Bethany Canfield (WVSHP)
organization  
date  
street & number  312 Kenmore Street
phone  304-599-6644

city or town  Morgantown
state  WV
zip code  26505

Additional Documentation
Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets
Maps
- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property’s location
- A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs
- Representative black and white photographs of the property.
- CD with electronic images if digital photographs.

Floorplans for individual listings

Additional items
(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Property Owner

name  Vaughn and Meredith Kiger
street & number  312 Kenmore Street
city or town  Morgantown
state  WV
zip code  26505

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 listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.
LOCATION and SETTING

The A.W. Gribble house is situated one half mile from Cooper’s Rock State Forest, two miles east of the Monongalia County line, eight miles south of the Pennsylvania line, and north of the Cheat River in rural northwestern Preston County, West Virginia. The property, including 3.97 acres with a farmhouse and outbuildings, is located one mile south of the unincorporated town of Pisgah and seven miles east of Bruceton Mills (Brandonville). The tract sits at an elevation of 2,200 feet and is a mixture of woodlands, pasture with a man-made pond\(^1\) and garden. To the south, in between the house and the pond, sits a stone decorative wall with shrubs planted to provide a screen from the road. The stone house is situated in the center of the tract, 85 feet east of Loop Road, a gravel road which dissects the property.

DESCRIPTIONS

1- House     c. 1842     Contributing Building

Exterior

The Gribble house is a two-and-a-half story, five bay, side gabled, I-house with Pennsylvania German features built from square cut regular coursed sandstone\(^2\) around 1842. On both the north and south elevations, two entrances are placed symmetrically in the center with one bay in between. There are two porches, the front or south elevation has a wooden deck porch overlooking a man made pond added in 1980. To the rear of the house on the north elevation, a wind break enclosure with windows was added around 1972.

The house measures 24’x 36’ and faces south to the Cheat River. There are three bays and two doors downstairs, front and back and five bays upstairs, front and back. There are two interior end contiguous stone chimneys on the east and west elevations. The rear (N) elevation has a one -story, full- length, frame porch with a flagstone floor, which is a 1971 replacement and extension of the original one with a frame floor. A wind break enclosure with windows on the north elevation of the porch was added around 1972. The porch is supported by four, four-inch wooden posts.

The four exterior wooden doors on the house are original and each is topped by three-light transoms. All double hung windows are replacements from 1939 of the original six-over-four with plain stone sills and lintels. Custom made screen doors were added to the rear elevation in 1940 and commercial storm doors were added to the front in the 1970s. Storm windows throughout were added in the 1970s. There are two operational, single-pane windows on each side of both chimneys and can be accessed via the attic.

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\(^1\) The pond, according to unconfirmed family history, was potentially constructed by the CCC in 1939. If confirmed, the pond could be added as a contributing resource.

\(^2\) The sandstone might be Berea, however if quarried in the area it is most likely, Mahoning or Lower Freeport Sandstone.
The east elevation has a wooden cellar door below grade that leads to a partially dug out cemented basement created in 1962 so that an oil furnace could be added to the house. There are cement steps leading down to this door. In 2008 a standing seam steel roof replaced the 1950 asphalt shingle roof replacement of the original tin roof. The extended overhang of the original side-gable roofline was restored in 2008. Chimney covers are later added in 1940 and 2005.

**Interior**

The east door on the north side enters what now a small kitchen is created from partitioning the dining room. The original frame kitchen was torn off in 1939 due to deterioration. The west door on the north elevation enters the parlor. Originally, there were three rooms on the first floor. In 1940, the three rooms were reconfigured to enlarge the parlor and create a small kitchen from the dining room. This was achieved by moving the vertical solid walnut boards of the interior walls (see floor plans).

In the parlor, the west elevation exhibits the original fireplace in the center of the wall with built in cupboards to the right. Four six-paneled glass doors are on top and four wooden paneled doors on the bottom conceal shelving. Three drawers separate the top and bottom shelving. To the left of the fireplace wood paneling floor-to-ceiling hiding the ascending stairway. There is a small closet within this paneling. Further left is a wood paneled door and two steps leading to the ascending half turned stairway to the second floor. The walls on the north and south elevations and over the mantel are plaster containing sheep’s wool over the cut stone. The ceiling is constructed of cut boards. The floor is red oak and was refinished in 2006.

The original four-inch chair rail and eight-inch baseboards are intact. The wall between the parlor and dining room is made of one inch thick walnut boards held vertically in place by the replaced crown molding on top and the original baseboards on the bottom. Thin dry wall was placed over these boards in the living room and dining room to preserve them from being painted in 2007. The open doorway into the dining room was doubled in size during the 1940 renovation that enlarged the living room. There are windows on each side of the exterior doors on the south and north. The shelf around the upper part of the living room was added in 2007.

In the dining room, the east side exhibits a non-working fireplace exactly opposite in position to the one in the living room. The less elaborate mantel is fitted with a coal grate. To the right of the mantel is vertical paneling that conceals a small closet hiding the ascending stairway. Farther right is a wood paneled door and two steps leading to the half-turn stairway to the second floor. An exterior door and window to the left of it sits on the south side. The north side is a reconstructed wall of original materials dividing the dining room and creating a small kitchen. A doorway is in the center of this wall. The original chair rail and baseboard remain. In 2007, the southwest corner of the dining room contains ductwork from the furnace that has been covered by drywall.
The east wall of the kitchen contains built-in cupboards similar to those in the parlor. The top glass paneled doors have been altered to slide back and forth rather than open out. The bottom wood paneled doors were removed in 1940 and sliding plywood doors substituted. A window is on the north wall and an exterior door to the left of it. Kitchen cabinetry circa 1950 had been installed on the north and south walls up to the interior and exterior doors. A modern kitchen sink is within this cabinetry on the south elevation. An overhead cabinet remains over the counter to the left of the window.

The half turn stairway in the dining room leads to a bedroom on the east wall. A non-working fireplace on the east elevation is fitted with a coal grate. To the right of the fireplace is floor-to-ceiling paneling with a gated opening to the stairway down. Further right are a paneled door and a step leading to the half-turn steep steps to the attic. The exterior walls upstairs are plaster over stone and the interior walls are vertically arranged walnut paneling. The chair rails and baseboards are original in the two upstairs bedrooms. To the left of the opening on the interior wall is a small closet with a door created in the 1940 renovation. The doorway in the center of the interior wall leads into a bathroom created during the 1940 renovation.

**Upstairs**

Originally, there were three bedrooms upstairs. The interior wall of the bedroom on the west elevation was moved eastward 18-and-one-half inches. The resulting space in the center of the upstairs was divided into a bathroom on the north and a walk-in closet on the south wall. The bathroom was remodeled in 2007 adding beadboard wainscoting and thin drywall over the paneling. A window bay exists in the bathroom and in the walk-in closet. The walk-in closet, accessed through a door in the bedroom on the west wall, has built in sliding doors. The bedroom on the west elevation has a non-working fireplace with a more elaborate mantle than in the east bedroom. Built-in wooden cupboards with glass paneled doors on the top and wooden paneled doors on the bottom are to the right of the fireplace. To the left of a fireplace is the gated opening to the stairway downstairs. Two windows each are on the north and south elevations. A doorway in the center of the exposed paneled wall leads to the bathroom.

The full attic contains the original locust posts with wooden pegs that support the roof. Additional supports were added to the attic when the asphalt shingle roof was added in 1950.

**2 - The Springhouse**

The Springhouse, which sits 102 feet northeast of the house, measures 12’2”x12’ 2” and has two stories. The bottom half is constructed of the same cut sandstone as the house. The top half is constructed of hand hewn timbers. The bottom timbers on the north and south elevations extend beyond the west elevation. There is a doorway in the bottom west elevation with the original door remaining. The top story has a doorway on the west elevation. A wooden plank floor separates the two
stories. The original roof was replaced with asphalt shingles in 1950 and replaced again in 2008 with a standing seam metal one. The interior of the stone portion once contained a stone reservoir for the spring water which was piped into it and then piped into the main house. This was altered around 1950 when electricity came to the area. A brick reservoir three feet high was built in the interior of the north elevation as a holding area for spring water. A well was also sunk in the springhouse to the right of the brick reservoir at the same time which supplies the house and gardens with water. The floor of the springhouse was cemented at this time.

3- Pantry     c.1842    Contributing Building
The pantry, located 79 feet east of the main house, measures 10’2”x12’2”. It sits on a stacked stone foundation and is constructed of clapboards over a wooden frame. Some clapboards have been replaced over the years but the majority are original to the structure. The original roof was replaced with asphalt in the 1950s. It was replaced with standing seam metal in 2008. There is an entrance on the west elevation with the original door intact. The original plank flooring remains. Wooden shelving on the interior was built at a later time.

4- W.P.A. Privy    c.1939    Noncontributing Building
The wooden outhouse, which sits 116 feet southeast of the house, was built by the W.P.A. It measures 4’2”x5’2”. It used to sit closer to the house but was moved after the bathroom was constructed upstairs in the 1950s.

5- Barn     c. 1870    Contributing Building
The wooden barn sits 143 feet southwest of the main house, just across the road. The two-story barn measures 26.5’x20.5’ and faces east. It was constructed in 1870 by the son of the original builder of the house. His name and date are in the rafters of the barn. The barn is constructed of rough sawn lumber and wooden beams sitting on a stone foundation. The downstairs has an open area in the middle with rooms on either side. The small room on the north elevation has a door on the east elevation. The room on the south elevation has a door in the middle of the north elevation and one on the east elevation. The upstairs of the barn is accessed through the doorways on the south elevation. There is one small room, a hallway and a half turn stairway on the first floor. The wooden stairway leads to a large room on the second floor. This room sits over the open area on the first floor of the barn with access via rafters to the rooms on the first floor. There is a large opening in the second floor on the east elevation. This has been covered with a makeshift glass window. Later one story frame additions to this barn include one on the south elevation visible in a photo dated 1913 and one on the north elevation constructed in the 1970s.

6- Log Barn Remains               c.1830s   Non-contributing site
Remains of one of the original barns which was burned by lightning. It includes a stacked stone foundation and logs (no chinking) approximately four feet high. It has a modern flat roof.
STATEMENT of SIGNIFICANCE

The A. W. Gribble Farm or Deerwood Farm meets Criterion C: Architecture for its local significance as a great example of a local stone German Colonial Pennsylvania farmhouse and rural complex, with the double door layout on the front and back elevations. The technique of using large cut sandstone is similar to that used by the Iron furnace industry in the surrounding area of rural Preston County, West Virginia. This property has the majority of its original woodwork and flooring intact. The period of significance is c.1842, the date of the construction of the house and c.1870, construction of the barn.

HISTORY

The unincorporated town of Pisgah was formerly known as Flat Rock until circa 1872. It was named for Mount Pisgah in the New Testament. Originally the area of present Preston County was formed from Monongalia County in 1798. In the area of modern day Preston County around 1831, the “Buildings received their proper share of attention and many neat frame, and commodious stone, and several brick houses were to be seen throughout the county.” John Gribble, the original ancestor purchased a lot of 97 acres for $300 from one of the first settlers in 1803. John Gribble was a petitioner to the Virginia Legislature seeking the creation of Preston County from Monongalia County in 1798. He was also instrumental, along with Judge Hagen and several others, in securing the funds necessary through the Virginia legislature to begin the road later known as the Brandonville Pike. This road was crucial in connecting northwestern Preston country to the Northwestern Turnpike which traversed the southern part of the county.

According to a county history, “four dwellings of log preceded the substantial stone house built on the Gribble farm about 1844” John’s son Archibald built the present stone Pennsylvania German farmhouse between 1842-1844. Archibald was married to Margaret Smith from Pennsylvania. Her father owned and operated one of the iron furnaces in the area. This may account for the similar use of the stone construction in the house. The family owned the house until 1939 when it was sold to Brad and Mary Laidley. Mr. Laidley sold it to Joel Hannah in 1984, keeping a life estate. The Kigers bought it from Mr. Hannah in 2001.

3 Oren Frederick Morton, A History of Preston County, West Virginia vol. 1, 236.
4 The Preston County Historical Society, Preston County History 1979, 27.
5 S.T.Wiley, History of Preston County, 68.
6 Morton , 542 and Wiley 83-88, 237.
7 All information, unless previously cited, was provided by the property owner, Meredith Kiger.
Criterion C: Architecture

The Archibald Gribble Farm represents the Pennsylvania German Farmhouse due to the typical format and unique design of double entryways on both sides. This stone I-House stands two stories tall, one room deep with steep gables on each end. There are two chimneys located on each gabled end. The large cut sandstone represents the prosperity of the builder and owner, Archibald Gribble. This decision on building material demonstrates the ability of the building to finance a costly building of stone, rather than wood or brick. Also typical of German building placement, it was built into the sloping hill. In order to provide an easy entrance into the cellars, the Pennsylvania Germans used the landscape to conceal the storage area from one side but still allow entry from the other. The one distinguishing feature of the house is the use of the double doors on both the front and back sides. This is defined as a Pennsylvania farmhouse style and created with symmetry in mind, differing from the usual Continental Plan.

The Continental Plan features an off-set central chimney and the usual fenestration of the entrance on the right side of the building, instead of the center. Another feature which separates the Gribble farm house from other similar styles is the two sets of half-turn stairs on the gabled ends of the house. Usually a typical Colonial home has a central hall and staircase; this is not the case with the Gribble farm. It is believed that the double hidden stairs are common in Pennsylvania German designs. It follows with the idea of symmetry, on the interior as well as the exterior of the house. Archibald’s father-in-law was involved in the iron furnace industry in Pennsylvania, which explains the similar technique used in the construction and cutting of the Cleveland sandstone. The stone was reportedly cut from the property and pulled by oxen to the house’s present location.

The Archibald Gribble house is different from most typical stone I-houses as a Pennsylvania German Farmhouse with the double entry way on both the front and back. The closest, listed property in the National Register is the Hagans Homestead in Brandonville or Bruceton Mills. It was built in 1830 but follows the usual Georgian style with one entry door and is made of sandstone. The Gribble house is constructed from

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9 Ibid.
large cut sandstone, therefore differing in the construction materials as well as the overall style. Also in Preston County, the Colonel Thomas Brown House, located in the Reedsville vicinity, is made from Flemish style and comprised of sandstone. Therefore the Gribble farm is an excellent representative of stone German architecture in Preston County, West Virginia.

Outbuildings Significance

The Gribble I-house and outbuildings are an excellent example of an agricultural domestic vernacular complex. The springhouse and pantry were constructed at the same time as the main house, therefore contributing to the period of significance and architectural style. Both outbuildings were crucial for the storage and preservation of food supply on a rural mid-eighteenth century farmstead. Even though the property is not nominated under Criterion A for Agriculture, the outbuildings are important to provide the context of the agricultural complex for a rural German style farm house.

SUMMARY

The Archibald Gribble Farm, built circa 1842, is a prime example of Pennsylvania German farmhouse and rural agricultural complex, in Preston County, West Virginia. This specific style of home is different for this area and the Gribble house has excellent integrity to demonstrate the difference in architecture versus the other nearby stone buildings constructed around the same time.
Archives of the State of VA. Land Office Grants No. 96, Archibald Gribble, June, 1845.


Morten, Oren F. A History of Preston County, West Virginia, Vol. 1, Kingwood, WV. 1914.

Deed of Archibald and Margaret Gribble to Jefferson T. Gribble. April 1877.

Deed of J.T. Gribble’s brothers and sisters to J.T. Gribble. May 1877.


VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundaries of the Archibald Gribble house property are recorded in the land books of Grant District, Preston County, West Virginia, book 626, pages 739-742 and known as Tract B, containing 3.97 acres. Tract A is the remaining pasture and woodlands containing 158.55 acres but is not included in this nomination.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The historical boundary of John Gribble’s land was 600 acres; however the document of the exact boundary was lost during the Preston County Courthouse fire in the 1800s. The current property owner possesses 162 acres. Since the early records are lost, it is unknown if the entire 162 acres falls within the historic parcel. Therefore, the nomination boundary follows the current Tract B parcel which encompasses all the contributing resources as a rural agricultural complex including the house, outbuildings, orchard, garden, pond, and enough property to provide setting.
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**Photographer:** Bethany Canfield, WV SHPO  
**Date:** June 4, 2009  
**Negatives:** N/A, CD-R submitted

**Photo 1 of 8**  
Gribble House, view facing east

**Photo 2 of 8**  
Gribble House, view facing west

**Photo 3 of 8**  
Living Room, facing Southwest

**Photo 4 of 8**  
Springhouse, facing east

**Photo 5 of 8**  
Pantry, facing northeast

**Photo 6 of 8**  
Barn, facing west

**Photo 7 of 8**  
Log Barn (NC), facing west

**Photo 8 of 8**  
Barn, facing east
Figure 1: Gribble House, c.1890
A.W. Gribble Farm Site Plan
Preston County
Pisgah Vicinity

1. House
2. Springhouse
3. Pantry
4. W.P.A. Privy
5. Barn
6. Log Dwelling Remains

O depict camera views
FIRST FLOOR
PRIOR TO 1940

A.W. GRIFFLE FARM
DEERWOOD
(not to scale)

AFTER 1940
Second Floor
prior to 1940

After 1940

Deerwood
A.W. Gribble Farm
(not to scale.)