1. NAME(S) historic/common: Buena Vista Farms

2. LOCATION street/road: E/S Route 220
   city/town: Old Fields Vlg. (Hardy Co.)
   (incorporated/unincorporated)

3. USE/FUNCTION present: Private Residence/Agriculture
   (public/private)
   original: Private Residence/Agriculture
   (public/private)

4. OWNER/ADDRESS present: George L. Leatherman
   Old Fields, WV
   (phone no.)
   original: Isaac Van Meter Family
   Old Fields

5. PHOTO/SKETCH OF

6. PLAN (include approx dimensions):

7. (A) ACREAGE (approx):
   Approximately 2 acres

8. (B) VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:
   The buildings are located within a 1000' by 1000' square having as its west boundary a small county road which forks from US Route 220, immediately south of the entrance to this property. The south side of the square follows the south edge entrance lane and includes all buildings.
DESCRIPTION (clarify as appropriate)
a. Exterior Fabric
   stone
   brick
   Flemish bond facade
   concrete
   stucco
   weatherboard
   clapboard
   board & batten
   shingle
   other

b. Structural System
   masonry
   frame
   log
   metal
   other

   foundation
   stone

   soldier
   header
   brick
   concrete
   steel
   wood
   metal
   stand seam sheet metal
   slate
   tile
   composition
   other

c. Roofing Material
   wood
   metal
   standing seam sheet metal
   slate
   tile
   asphalt
   composition
   other

d. Associated Structures (use/type):
   outbuildings
   large frame barn with
   multiple gables, shed, silos
   dependencies
   None
   other

  e. Integrity (include dates):
   original site/relocated
   alterations
   interior modernized
   additions
   central cross gable.
   C. 1900. brick extension to
   rear, C. 1900.

f. Condition:
   excellent X
   good
   fair
   deteriorated
   abandoned

g. Threats:
   None

10 SIGNIFICANCE (use attachment sheet if necessary): This farmstead is significant for its architecture. The
   brick house, dated 1836 is one of an important group of Greek
   Revival style farmhouses in the South Branch Valley. The
   large frame bank barn, built in 1900, is an outstanding structure
   With its numerous gables, it is unique within the South Branch
   Valley, and possibly within the state as well. The property
   is also significant for its association with the Van Meter
   family who settled on this property in the mid 18th century and
   were among the first families in the South Branch Valley. The Leatherman family who has owned
   the farm since 1898, built the barn.

11 BIBLIOGRAPHY
Adapted from survey documentation prepared by Nan Stevens, Region VIII Planning and Development
Council, P.O. Box 887, Petersburg, WV.

[Prepared by Paula S. Reed, Date September 1984, Address 207 S. Potomac Street, Hagerstown, MD 21740, Organization Preservation Associates, Inc., Phone (301) 791-7880]
1. Name(s) Historic/Common: Buena Vista Farms

4. Mr. George Leatherman
   General Delivery
   Old Fields, WV 26845

10. Significance, continued

   Built in 1836 the house is clearly influenced by the Greek Revival style, although it follows the traditional central entrance five bay plan, favored from the 18th century forward. The trabeated entrance with a broad transom and side lights is perhaps the most notable exterior Greek Revival feature. The central cross gable is a turn-of-the-century addition.

   Perhaps even more architecturally significant than the house is the large frame Gothic Revival style barn dating from 1904. It features a multiplicity of projecting gables, towers and raised vents with steeply pitched gable or pyramidal roofs. The barn is sheathed with horizontal wooden German siding and is set on locust posts and beams. The barn's significance lies in its unique design features, setting it apart from typical agricultural structures.

   The Buena Vista Farms are significant because of their significant buildings relating to period architecture of the early 19th century and early 20th century. The farms are also important for their association with the VanMeter family who settled in the area in the mid-18th century. The VanMeters were known to George Washington who stayed with them on a surveying trip in the South Branch Valley in 1748.


   Schultz, LeRoy G. "The Barns of West Virginia".

   Golden Seal, Charleston, West Virginia, April - September 1978, p. 56.