## National Register of Historic Places Inventory - Nomination Form

### 1. Name
- Common: Cedar Lawn
- And/or Historic: Berry Hill and Poplar Hill

### 2. Location
- Street and Number: 3 1/2 miles west of Charles Town on Route 51 and 1 1/2 miles south of 51 on the O'Sullivan Road (Route 51/1)
- City or Town: Charles Town
- Congressional District: Second
- State: West Virginia
- Code: 54
- County: Jefferson
- Code: 037

### 3. Classification
- Category (Check One): Building
- Ownership: Private Residence
- Status: In Process
- Accessible to the Public: Yes: Unrestricted

### 4. Owner of Property
- Owner's Name: Mrs. Clarke Funkhouser
- Street and Number: P.O. Box 152
- City or Town: Charles Town
- State: West Virginia
- Code: 54

### 5. Location of Legal Description
- Courthouse, Registry of Deeds, etc.: Jefferson County Courthouse
- Street and Number:
- City or Town: Charles Town
- State: West Virginia
- Code: 54

### 6. Representation in Existing Surveys
- Title of Survey: Historic American Building Survey
- Date of Survey: 1937
- Depository for Survey Records: Division of Prints and Photographs
- Street and Number: Library of Congress
- City or Town: Washington
- State: District of Columbia
- Code: 11
The main section of Cedar Lawn is a two-story, white-painted brick structure of Federal style. Its roof is hipped and has two central chimneys. The cornice is plain brick. Its eastern facing front has a one-story Greek revival porch with unadorned pediment.

A simple denticulated cornice lies below the pediment and is supported by fluted Doric columns.

The porch steps and square balustrades are wooden. A step and a half, the width of the frontispiece, join the adamesque door, a six-paneled, double-leaved object with elaborate sidelights and fanlight. Metal mullions separate the panes of the latter two into geometric shapes including circles, triangles, and bi-pointed ovals.

The five windows in the front of the central structure are geometrically placed around the front door; all are twelve pane, double hung, and the central second-story window has sidelights. All have splayed brick lintels (hardly visible since the building has been painted) and dark, louvered shutters.

To the south of the house proper is a long, one-and-a-half-story kitchen wing. It has windows similar to those of the front of the central section and dark, louvered shutters.

To the north of the house is a small, one-story attachment, a more recent addition not mentioned in the 1937 Historic American Building Survey description. It is in keeping with original architectural lines, however, and does not detract from the appearance of the structure.

Both wings are nearly flush with the central section, and both have gabled roofs with asphalt shingles. The southern wing has an end and central chimney. The hipped roof section is slate.

The southern wall is Flemish bond; all others are common.
### Period of Significance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Check One or More as Appropriate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Columbian</td>
<td>16th Century</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th Century</td>
<td>17th Century</td>
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<tr>
<td>18th Century</td>
<td>19th Century</td>
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<tr>
<td>20th Century</td>
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</tbody>
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### Specific Date (If Applicable and Known)

- **1825** (Constructed)

### Areas of Significance

- Aboriginal
- Prehistoric
- History
- Agriculture
- Architecture
- Art
- Commerce
- Communications
- Conservation
- Education
- Engineering
- Industry
- Invention
- Landscape
- Architecture
- Literature
- Military
- Music
- Political
- Science
- Sculpture
- Social/Humanitarian
- Theater
- Transportation
- Religion/Philosophy
- Other (Specify)

### Statement of Significance

Cedar Lawn is historically significant because it was the home of George Washington's great nephew, John Thornton Augustine Washington. Of John's many children, four of whom are known in their own right, Lawrence became a lawyer and author who practiced in Chicago and later left for California to write *Fifty Years Hence*. Thornton Augustine was a graduate of West Point and soldier in the Confederate army, serving first on General Lee's staff and then in the Trans-Mississippi department. A third son, Benjamin Franklin, became an organizer of a local group known as the "Forty-niner's" and accompanied the many thousands in the gold rush to California. John's daughter, Mary, is known locally for her short poem, "Cedar Lawn," which expresses her memories of her early home.

The Cedar Lawn property had originally been part of the Harewood estate of Samuel Washington and was left to Thornton Washington, the son of Samuel. In 1780, Thornton built a large log and plank house, naming it "Berry Hill" in honor of the Miss Berry he had married. The house, like so many others in the neighborhood, was destroyed by fire, and when Thornton's son, John Thornton Augustine, inherited the property, he built the present dwelling known as Cedar Lawn. The probable date of construction is 1825.

In September 1810, John Thornton Augustine Washington married Elizabeth Bedinger, the daughter of Daniel Bedinger and Sara Rutherford Bedinger. Elizabeth's father was a Revolutionary general; her maternal grandfather was the lower Shenandoah Valley's first representative in Congress; her brother, Henry, was also a representative and later President Pierce's chargé d' affaires to Denmark.
8. SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

Cedar Lawn takes its place beside the many Washington homes of Jefferson County, West Virginia, as an excellent example of style and architecture brought to the area by the increasingly mobil eastern families of Virginia. The main section, built in 1825, is of a Federal style with two large chimneys protruding symmetrically from its hipped roof. On its eastern elevation a one-story Greek Revival portico supported by four columns under a simple pediment adds grace to the neatly kept and well-proportioned house.

By the time of John Thornton Augustine Washington's death in 1841, his children had departed the homestead for other areas or moved to nearby homes, and the property passed from the Washington family. The house, however, continued to be a landmark of beauty and witnessed military action during the Civil War. During August 1864, forces of Confederate Lieutenant General Jubal Early and Union Major General Philip H. Sheridan clashed in the vicinity of Charles Town. Cedar Lawn was among many famous estates (including Richwood Hall, Harewood, Locust Hill and Sulgrave) which were in line of much shelling and shifting of positions.
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES
DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CORNER</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td>39° 17' 6.6&quot;</td>
<td>77° 55' 21.9&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>39° 17' 6.6&quot;</td>
<td>77° 55' 21.9&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE</td>
<td>39° 17' 6.6&quot;</td>
<td>77° 55' 21.9&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW</td>
<td>39° 17' 6.6&quot;</td>
<td>77° 55' 21.9&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 2 Acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY: None

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Ted McGee, Field Agent

ORGANIZATION:
West Virginia Antiquities Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
Old Mountainlair, West Virginia University

CITY OR TOWN:
Morgantown

STATE:
West Virginia

CODE: 54

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National [X] State [ ] Local [ ]

Name:
Dr. Leonard M. Davis

Title:
State Historic Preservation Officer

Date:
February 22, 1974