

USE TO COPY

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

1. Name of Property

historic name Bassel, Daniel, House

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number SR25 S past Jct of SR270/SR25

not for publication: N/A

city or town Lost Creek vicinity N/A

state West Virginia county Harrison code 033 zip code 26385

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Susan M Perie
Signature of certifying official

7/2/02
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

Date

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

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

Date

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

____ entered in the National Register
____ See continuation sheet.
____ determined eligible for the
National Register
____ See continuation sheet.
____ determined not eligible for the
National Register
____ removed from the National Register
____ other (explain): _____

Signature of Keeper Date
 of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

☒ private
____ public-local
____ public-State
____ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

☒ building(s)
____ district
____ site
____ structure
____ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u> 1 </u>	<u> 1 </u> buildings
_____	_____ sites
_____	_____ structures
_____	_____ objects
<u> 1 </u>	<u> 1 </u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing N/A
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic Sub: Single Dwelling

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic Sub: Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Double-Pile

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Sandstone
roof Slate
walls Brick
other _____

Narrative Description (See continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- ☐ 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.
- ☒ 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 (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- ☐ a owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ b removed from its original location.
- ☐ c a birthplace or a grave.
- ☐ 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.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance 1865

Significant Date 1865

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Cockrell, Jack, architect

Narrative Statement of Significance (See continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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

- ☐ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☒ Other

Name of repository: Harrison County Public Library

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.79 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing
17 555630 4334900

Verbal Boundary Description (See continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (See continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Amy J. and Audrey Dawson

organization N/A

date Jan 10, 2001

street & number Route 3, Box 513

telephone (304) 745-3210

city or town Lost Creek

state WV zip code 26385

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Diane Bassel

street & number Post Office Box 214

telephone (304) 745-3789

city or town Lost Creek

state WV zip code 26385

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 1 Bassel, Daniel, House
name of property
Harrison County, West Virginia
county and state

The Bassel House is a five bay Double-pile house with a hipped roof. A single-story, Queen Anne style front porch was added in the 1890s.¹ The walls are brick, the roof is slate, and the foundation is sandstone. The Bassel House is located in the small town of Lost Creek in Harrison County, West Virginia. The house is situated on 1.79 acres between State Route 25 and Interstate 79. Originally, the Bassel House was surrounded by 217.5 acres of land; however, through the years, that amount decreased to 10 acres. The property further decreased in size in 1966 when 7.23 acres were sold to the West Virginia Department of Highways for the construction of Interstate 79. An additional 0.98 acres were sold in 1969, leaving the house situated on 1.79 acres of land. To find the Bassel House, traveling south on State Route 25, it is the first house on the right past the intersection of State Route 270 and State Route 25. The house faces east with the east façade facing State Route 25. The lot contains a front and two side yards; there is a small stream at the back of the house. Leading from the road to the front porch is a fieldstone walk. The outline of previously abundant flowerbeds lines the front porch. In addition, there are two old pine trees in the side yard to the north of the house. Located on the south side of the house is a small two-stall brick garage. The noncontributing garage was built in 1966 from the bricks of the cellar. The cellar was removed for the construction of Interstate 79. The house has remained in the Bassel family for about 140 years.

The construction of the Bassel House began in 1860 and was completed in 1865. The house is symmetrical with a center door on each floor and four 6/6 double-hung windows on each side of the central doors. The foundation of the house consists of sandstone slabs. The walls are made of baked red brick, in a common bond pattern. The brick was made on location; however, no evidence of the kiln remains.² There is elaborate Queen Anne spindle work on the full-length one-story front porch. There is a small one-story brick extension with a shed roof, attached to the rear of the house; the extension begins about four feet south of the northwestern corner of the

¹ "History Lives in Lost Creek Home". *Sunday Exponent-Telegram*. (Clarksburg, WV 16 Feb. 1969).

² Interview with Diane Bassel on 12 February 2000 and 1990 Country Fall Festival. (Lost Creek, WV, 1990) 8.

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west façade and continues until north of the central rear door. It is original and made of the same brick in the same common bond pattern. Above this extension, a single room addition, a bathroom, was added to the second story. On the north side of the extension, there is a small porch (about 4'x 4'). From this small porch, there is a rear door leading into the kitchen. Originally, there were two doors on the west façade, both on the first story. The first is located on the northern corner of the west wall and the second in the center of the west wall; however, in 1967, the center door was boarded up and a small addition was placed on the southern end of the existing brick extension. The front doors are double two-panel doors with sidelights and are almost identical. The only difference is that the downstairs front door has a rectangular transom. The doorstep of the first story is a large sandstone slab, which is unnoticeable until approaching the front door. Originally, the house had eight double-hung 6/6 windows on the east wall, four double-hung 6/6 windows on both sides and five on the west wall, for a total of twenty-one windows. All of the windows have sandstone lintels and sills. Today, the house has the original windows on the north, south, and east façades. However, with the addition to the extension, the window facing south was removed and replaced in the new addition; it no longer has a sandstone lintel or sill. The remaining windows on the west façade are original and untouched. The Bassel House has a low-pitched, variegated slate hipped roof with wooden eave brackets. Lastly, the house has two interior sloped brick chimneys with corbelled caps protruding from the roof.

The interior of the Bassel House has a three-unit floor plan with the small extension off of the northwest room. Each floor consists of a central hallway and two rooms (a front room and a back room) on each side. There are eight brick fireplaces with wooden mantles in the house—one in each room, except the extension. There is a main staircase in the central hallway, which has a handmade spindle banister. In addition, there is a hidden staircase running from the northwestern upstairs room to the kitchen that is located in the northwestern room of the downstairs. The Bassel House has rough hardwood floors and wood trim. "The trim for the interior finishing had been cut and partly installed when Union soldiers during the Civil War commandeered the lumber piled outside the house to use for firewood. Today, the woodwork in the rooms in the rear of the house is of walnut; and woodwork in the

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front rooms of the house is oak".³ The walls in the hallway are plastered in the original plaster, which contains pig bristles.⁴ However, after the town of Lost Creek flooded in 1985, the plaster in the four downstairs rooms was replaced with drywall. All of the rooms, except for the downstairs southwest room, have the original ceilings at the height of twelve feet. The downstairs southwest room has a ceiling height of ten feet; the ceiling was lowered after the flood in order to more efficiently heat this room.

The Bassel House contains architectural features very unique to Lost Creek and southern Harrison County. Among these features are the handmade bricks, the Queen Anne spindle work on the front porch, the original 6/6 double-hung windows and original slate roof, the unique pig bristle plaster, and original wood trim.

³ Dorothy Davis. *History of Harrison County*. (Clarksburg, WV: American Association of University Women, 1970) 356.

⁴ 1990 Country Fall Festival, 8.

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The Bassel House fulfills Criterion C for Architecture because it has remained relatively unaltered since it was completed in 1865.

It is the oldest example of an original residence in Lost Creek, West Virginia. The variegated slate hipped roof, the hand-made red bricks, the wood spindle work on the front porch, and the original interiors add to the unique architecture of this house. The period of significance is 1865, reflecting the date of the house's ultimate completion.

HISTORY OF THE PROPERTY:

The Bassel House is situated on 1.79 acres; this was part of the original 217.5 acres given to Benjamin Bassel by the Commonwealth of Virginia in the 1830s.¹ At Benjamin Bassel's death in 1858, his son, Daniel Bassel, inherited the land.² In 1860, Daniel Bassel started construction on the house that is still standing today. The architect was one Jack Cockrell. Due to the Civil War, the construction of the house lasted until 1865. The construction was slowed by the arrival of the Union soldiers in 1863. On May 1, 1863, the 3rd West Virginia Infantry, the 28th Ohio, and part of the Ewing's Batters and Bowen's troop under the command of Colonel Thompson arrived in Lost Creek to halt General Imboden's Confederate troops from advancing. Colonel Thompson and his troops erected two guns on Daniel "Squire" Bassel's property. The gunfire forced the Confederates to retreat to the east and south, however the Union soldiers remained on the property until May 4, 1863, when they received orders to return to Clarksburg, West Virginia. This scrimmage has been cited as the last confrontation of the Civil War in Harrison County, West Virginia.³ In February 1868, before Daniel Bassel's death, he deeded his property (217.5 acres and the house) to his children Louisa (through her trustee J.J. Burr), Burr, and Guy.⁴ By 1911, small plots had been sold from the original 217.5 acres leaving 185 acres. Then, for unknown purposes, on June 30, 1911, all of Daniel's children deeded ten acres and the house to their mother, Daniel's widow Louisa M. Bassel.⁵ At Louisa M.

¹ Clarksburg, West Virginia. Harrison County County Clerk's Office. Deed Book 43, 118.
² Ibid Deed Book 45, 65.

³ Haymond, Henry. *History of Harrison County*. (Parsons, WV: McClain Printing Co., 1973) 328.

⁴ Ibid Deed Book 50, 477.

⁵ Ibid Deed Book 199, 114.

⁶ Ibid Will Book 12, 8.

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Bassel's death on February 24, 1924, her heirs (Guy M., Blanche, Louise A., Mary Louise and Amy) inherited the house and ten acres.⁶ In 1945, the other heirs deeded their interest in the house and lot to Guy M. Bassel and his wife, Maud.⁷ Upon Guy M. Bassel's death in 1957, the house and land passed to his wife, Maude S. Bassel.⁸ On November 22, 1958, Maud S. sold the house and 10 acres to Guy's second cousin, Dana Bassel and his wife, Bernice.⁹ During the time that Dana and his wife owned the ten-acre lot, the acreage decreased to 1.79 acres. Lots were sold to George and Dorothy Dawson,¹⁰ David R. and Elsie Grace Hughes,¹¹ and the State Road Commission of West Virginia.¹² At Dana's death in 1992, his only surviving heir, his daughter Diane Bassel, inherited the house and 1.79 acres, although the land remains in Dana's name. Originally, Daniel Bassel farmed the acreage surrounding the Bassel House, however, his children were not interested in agriculture and some moved to cities throughout the United States, while others pursued business ventures locally. Dana Bassel, the most recent owner of the property, owned and operated a small garage in Lost Creek.

ARCHITECTURE:

Four major changes have occurred to the Bassel House in the past 140 years. The first two changes occurred in 1967. The first of these changes was a second floor rear addition. This was built above the existing brick extension at the rear of the house. At the same time, a small southern extension was added to the existing brick one. This extension eliminated the existing central back door and forced the window in the southern wall of the brick extension to be moved to the new wall of the wooden extension. With the moving of the window, the sandstone lintel and sill were removed. The third change was the replacement of the original plaster in the first floor rooms. The plaster was replaced with drywall after the town of Lost Creek flooded in 1985. With the addition of drywall, the ceiling in the southwest room on the first floor was lowered from 12 feet to 10 feet. This was

⁷ Ibid Deed Book 816, 515.

⁸ Ibid Will Book 49, 67.

⁹ Ibid Deed Book 816, 515.

¹⁰ Ibid Deed Book 1014, 600.

¹¹ Ibid Deed Book 957, 209.

¹² Ibid Deed Book 905, 295.

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Bassel, Daniel, House

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done in order to allow for more efficient heating of the room.

Other than these few changes, the Bassel House has maintained its original integrity. It has the original variegated slate hipped roof. Slate roofs can be found on a number of houses in Lost Creek, however, this is the only one with a variegated design; the others are plain slate roofs. Also, the majority of houses in this area have gable roofs, not hipped roofs. Thus, the Bassel House has a unique roof for this area.

The house has the original hardwood floors, wood trim around the doors are original. The window glass shows occasional bubbles and waves, indicating it was hand crafted. The double two panel front doors are also original to the structure; these are the only doors of this type in Lost Creek. Both of the doors have sidelights and the first floor front door has a rectangular transom.

The second floor of the Bassel House and the central hallway of the first floor contain the original plaster, which was a mixture of pig bristles and plaster (also unique to the area). The hallway that connects the two central halls contains a hand-hewed railing. In addition, the house has a sandstone doorstep, which is unnoticeable until standing on the front porch. The wooden eave brackets and the handmade spindle work on the front porch are also unique and original. The wooden floor of the front porch is original, however, some places have been replaced to prevent injury.

SUMMARY:

Compared to other homes within Lost Creek, the Double-pile Daniel Bassel House is one of a kind. It is one of the very few brick houses, and by far the oldest, in Lost Creek and the only brick house to be constructed of handmade bricks, fired on location. In addition, it is the only residence in Lost Creek with a variegated slate roof. Lastly, the most striking characteristic of the Bassel House is that it has remained relatively unaltered throughout its lifetime. Other houses in Lost Creek have been renovated and have had additions built on which ruins the integrity of the original structure.

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Bassel, Diane. Interview by Audrey Dawson. Lost Creek, West Virginia,
12 February 2000.

Clarksburg, West Virginia. Harrison County County Clerk's Office. Deed
Book 43, page 118.

Clarksburg, West Virginia. Harrison County County Clerk's Office. Deed
Book 45, page 65.

Clarksburg, West Virginia. Harrison County County Clerk's Office. Deed
Book 50, page 477.

Clarksburg, West Virginia. Harrison County County Clerk's Office. Deed
Book 199, page 114.

Clarksburg, West Virginia. Harrison County County Clerk's Office. Deed
Book 816, page 515.

Clarksburg, West Virginia. Harrison County County Clerk's Office. Deed
Book 905, page 295.

Clarksburg, West Virginia. Harrison County County Clerk's Office. Deed
Book 957, page 209.

Clarksburg, West Virginia. Harrison County County Clerk's Office. Deed
Book 1014, page 600.

Clarksburg, West Virginia. Harrison County County Clerk's Office. Will
Book 12, page 8.

Clarksburg, West Virginia. Harrison County County Clerk's Office. Will
Book 49, page 67.

1990 Country Fall Festival. Lost Creek, WV: unknown, 1990.

Davis, Dorothy. History of Harrison County. Clarksburg, WV: American
Association of University Women, 1970.

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Section 9 Page 2 Bassel, Daniel, House
name of property
Harrison County, West Virginia
county and state

Haymond, Henry. History of Harrison County. Parsons, WV: McClain Printing
Co., 1973. 327-329.

"History Lives in Lost Creek Home". Sunday Exponent-Telegram.
Clarksburg, WV 16 Feb. 1969.

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Section 10 Page 1 Bassel, Daniel, House
name of property
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VERBAL BOUNDARY:

Beginning at a point twenty feet from the center of State Route 25 in the southwestern corner right-of-way line and opposite the center of the bridge over T.G. Run¹; thence running North 87° West 259 feet, more or less. Then South 20° East 75 feet, "more or less to a point in the intersection of" State Route 25²; thence following the right-of-way State Route 25 South 63° West 133 feet, more or less.³ Thence with the said State Route 25 South 51° West 206 feet, more or less to the beginning and containing 1.79 acres, more or less.⁴

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

Due to the construction of Interstate 79 and the use of unknown datums, a sketch of the lot could not be created. However, the lot was plotted by the State Road Commission and is included in this package, along with a copy of Harrison County's tax map for the property.

Nominated is the entire 1.79 acres and the buildings on the property; this includes the house, garage, and wooden storage building. These boundaries were selected because they are the current property boundaries.

¹ Clarksburg, West Virginia. Harrison County County Clerk's Office. Deed Book 957, 209.
² Ibid Deed Book 905, 295.
³ Ibid Deed Book 816, 515.
⁴ Ibid Deed Book 816, 515 and Ibid Deed Book 957, 2090.

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name of property
Harrison County, West Virginia
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Name of Property: Daniel Bassel House
Address: SR25 S past Jct of SR270/SR25
Town: Lost Creek
County: Harrison
State: West Virginia

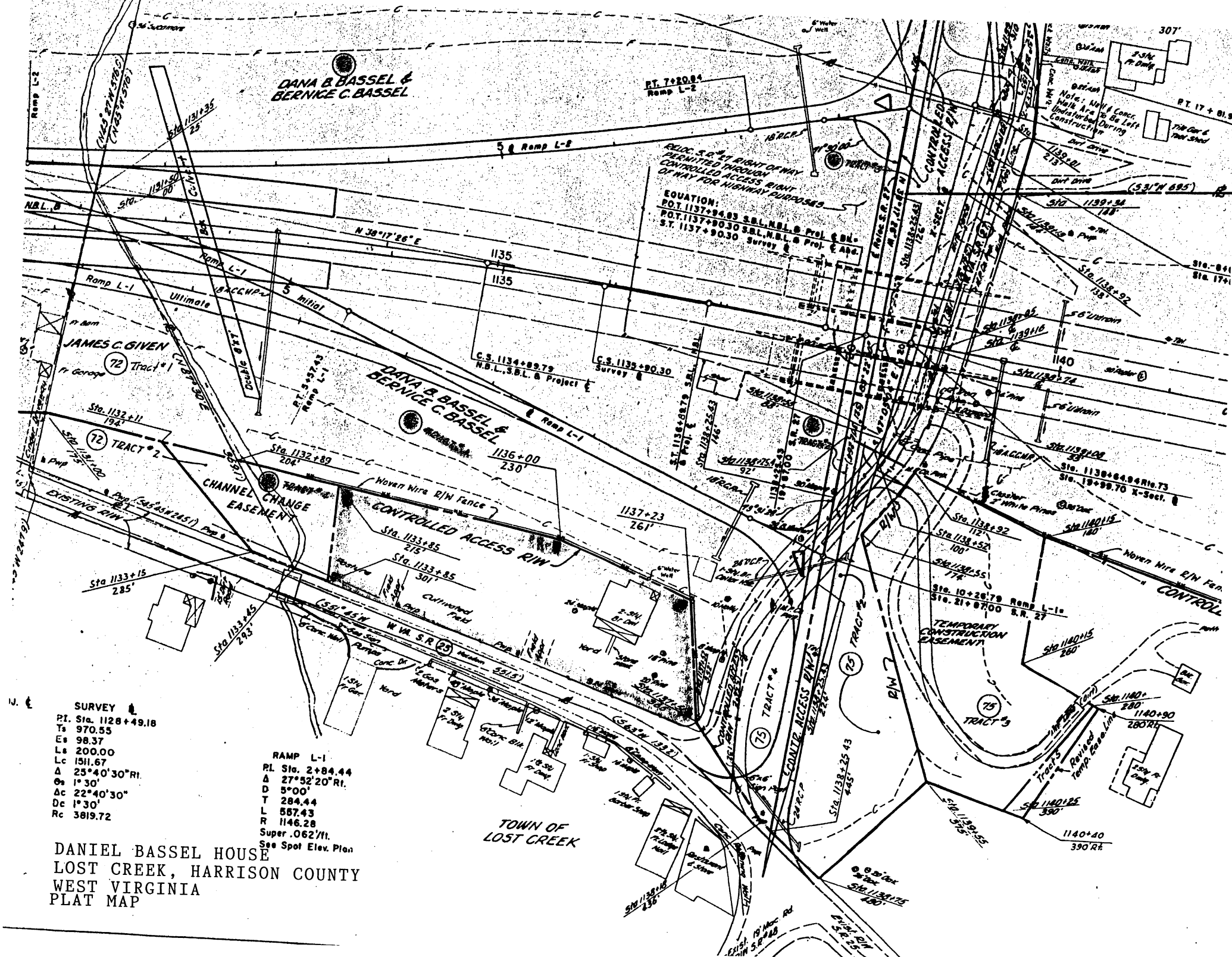
Photographer: Audrey Dawson

Date: March 2000

Negatives:

Photo 1 of 2: Main façade, camera facing west.

Photo 2 of 2: Rear elevation, showing rear of NC garage, camera facing
northeast.



SURVEY

PI. Sta. 1128+49.18
 Ts 970.55
 Es 98.37
 Ls 200.00
 Lc 1311.67
 Δ 23°40'30"RI.
 Os 1°30'
 Δc 22°40'30"
 Dc 1°30'
 Rc 3819.72

RAMP L-1

PI. Sta. 2+84.44
 Δ 27°52'20"RI.
 D 5°00'
 T 284.44
 L 557.43
 R 1146.28
 Super. 062'/ft.
 See Spot Elev. Plan

RELOC. S.C. & T. RIGHT OF WAY
PLANNED THROUGH
CONTROLLED ACCESS RIGHT
OF WAY FOR HIGHWAY PURPOSES

EQUATION:
 POT. 1137+94.93 S.B.L. N.B.L. & Proj. E. & B.L.
 POT. 1137+90.30 S.B.L. N.B.L. & Proj. E. & B.L.
 S.T. 1137+90.30 Survey E

C.S. 1134+89.79
 N.B.L. S.B.L. & Project E

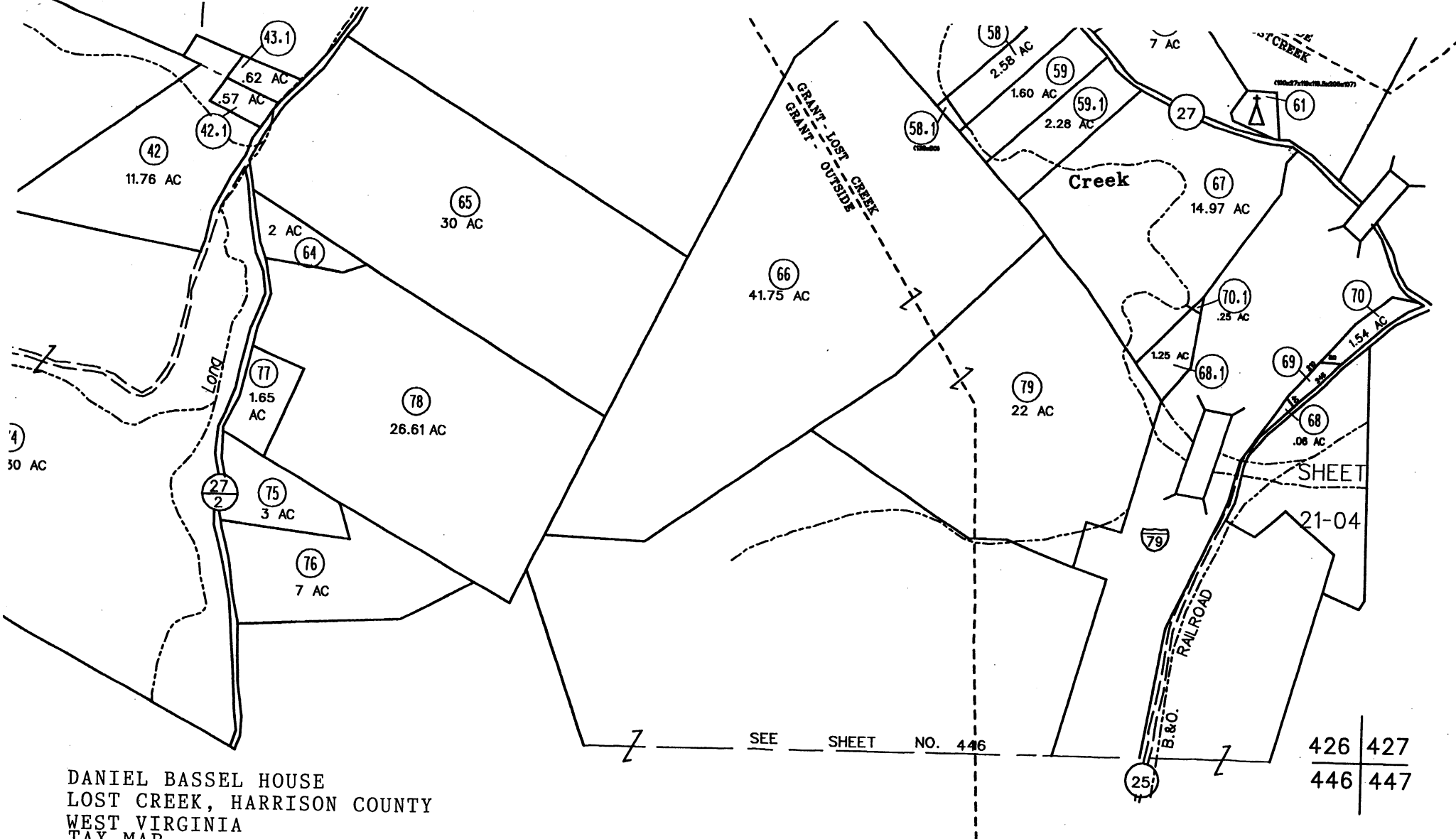
C.S. 1132+90.30
 Survey E

Note: Utility Concr. Hole Are To Be Left Unfilled During Construction

TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT

TOWN OF LOST CREEK

DANIEL BASSEL HOUSE
 LOST CREEK, HARRISON COUNTY
 WEST VIRGINIA
 PLAT MAP



DANIEL BASSEL HOUSE
 LOST CREEK, HARRISON COUNTY
 WEST VIRGINIA
 TAX MAP

KEY MAP

405	406	407
425	426	427
445	446	447

HARRISON COUNTY

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

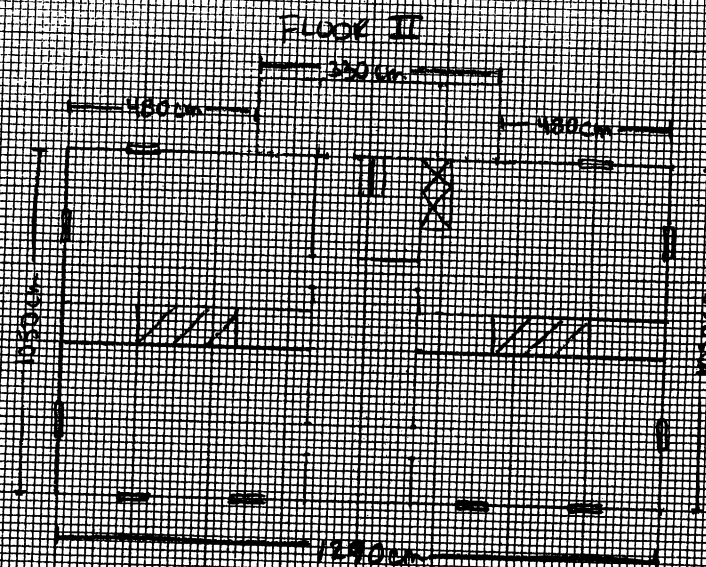
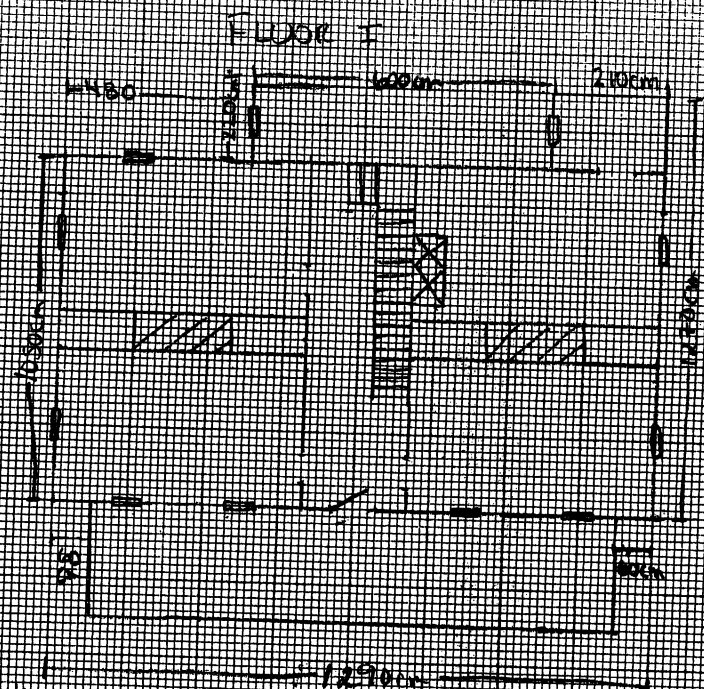
Office of Assessor

DISTRICT
 GRANT
 MAP NO:
 426

Date, Aerial Photography: April 1960
 Photo No:

Date, Map: S
 Scale: 1" =

provisions of
 erty of Harrison
 oduction, copying
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 sion of the
 bited by law.



- Cranny
- back stairs
- main stairs

The Bassel House
Lost Creek, Harrison Co., WV

DANIEL BASSEL HOUSE
LOST CREEK, HARRISON COUNTY
WEST VIRGINIA
FLOORPLANS

Daniel
Bassel
House
Lost Creek,
Harrison Co.,
W. Va.

UTM :
17/555630/
4334900

