NAME
Faraway Farm
AND/OR COMMON
Daniel Ropp House

LOCATION
STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN
Martinsburg
STATE
West Virginia

CLASSIFICATION
CATEGORY
BUILDING(S)

OWNER OF PROPERTY
NAME
Mr. & Mrs. Frank C. Downey, Jr. (Nancy C. Ropp Downey)
STREET & NUMBER
Route 2
CITY, TOWN
Martinsburg, WV 25401
STATE

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
BERKELEY COUNTY
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN
Martinsburg, WV 25401
STATE

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE
H-33, Berkeley County Historical Society & Berkeley County Historical Landmarks Commission Survey
DATE
1973-78
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Berkeley County Courthouse
CITY, TOWN
Martinsburg, WV 25401
STATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED
2. About 1/2 mile from Spring Mills on Route 8 over 1. Take Route 1 at Spring Mill Presbyterian Church south to Route 8 over 1. Take north private road at first fork.

There has been no change to building since 1978. Recent photo attached.
DESCRIPTION

CONDITION
- EXCELLENT
- GOOD
- FAIR
- DETERIORATED
- RUINS
- UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE
- UNALTERED
- ALTERED
- ORIGINAL SITE
- MOVED
- DATE

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The "Lower Place" house is a large, two story, L shaped brick house built in seven row common on a stone foundation. The house is five bays wide; the ell is four bays long with a two story recessed porch. All chimneys are inside end chimneys with corbelled caps that break the roof at the gable ridge. Gables are decorated with beaded bargeboards. Brick flat arches highlight the fenestration; windows are 1/4/1 double sash. Single pane rectangular transoms are ver most of the exterior doors. A brick dentil cornice extends across the front and a dogtooth brick cornice extends down the ell. The entrance porch is a one bay, one story pedi ented portico with plain balusters, rectangular in section. The column shafts have chamfered edges. Scrolled brackets may have been added later for a more Victorian effect. This is a beautiful example of the "West Virginia Porch" type of building constructed ca. 1865. The front section has a central hall plan, one room each side. The ell is two rooms deep with an enclosed single flight stair in the kitchen which leads to a hall and three rooms on the second floor. All four rooms in the front section have mantels, but there is only one fireplace on the second floor. All the mantels in the house are different. They all relate to each other through certain design elements, particularly tapering and/or chamfered pilasters, decoratively shaped corners on the mantel shelf, chamfered edges on the frieze, and small pilaster bases with moldings. These, and other features found individually on the mantels, create beautiful effects that result in their being one of the special features of this fine house. Only one of the six mantels has a ogee arched frieze and it is on the single second floor firebox in the bedroom. The other mantel across the hall in the SW bedroom has a Tudor arched frieze as does the mantel in the living room which also has a cartouche with pierced design. The Romanesque antel in the parlor is the only one that is round arched and has spandrels and a cartouche. The dining room mantel in the ell has a chamfered frieze board and pilasters with pronounced ornamental chamfer stops, as do most of the other mantels, but this mantel is otherwise plain and the effect is charming. The mantel on the larger fireplace in the kitchen is plain but the half has clipped corners. The open string main stairway curves beautifully to the third floor room, a single starting newel in four flights with three landings, the last one being in effect a small balcony. Two turned balusters are on each step to support the shaped handrail that rises at the base into the circular newel cap on the tapered octagon shaped starting newel. The string course has a beaded edge and small cavetto moldings outline the tread and riser on the step ends. This stairway is beautiful. The dining room has an original two tiered built-in cupboard to one side of the fireplace. The doors have raised panels that fit into chamfered frames and rails. The kitchen has a like arrangement. Original built-in closets are located in the living room on the ground floor and in three of the five bedrooms on the second. Clothes rails with pegs are on the walls of the two tiny bedrooms (one is now a bath) over the kitchen. They are approached by a single flight enclosed stair which has a small balustrade on the second floor having rectangular spindles and newel with a hipped cap and handrail. The trim in this section of the house is much plainer being only a shaped surface of two planes, the inner one s a bevel. All other trim is asymmetrically molded of layered facings and a nice backband. The aseboard, although of the same design throughout, is taller in the front of the house. Doors are four panel with their original hardware. Interior box locks are 3 1/4" x 1" with white or oortieshell porcelain knobs. The front entrance door lock is 4" x 6". All windows on the first floor have splayed reveals but they are straight on the second floor. Floors are tongue and groove pine of 6" boards. There are several classical elements of design incorporated in his house, particularly with regard to the exterior. The front fenestration with wide and laring, bonded brick flat arches, the brick dentil cornice, full triangular pediment on the ne bay entrance porch and the corbelled rectangular chimneys are all reminders of the straight line classicism of Greek Revival. The dogtooth cornice of the ell, the chamfered porch posts, occasional heavy scrolled bracket, and 1/4/1 window sash are features more associated with the urvilinear Victorian age. The interior of the house reveals the same combination of the periods. The magnificent curved stairway and the ogee, Tudor, and Romanesque arched mantels certainly indicate that the builder had been influenced by the curvilinear themes of the Romanesque and Gothic periods. There is even a hint at Egyptian in the tapered, chamfered pilasters of the mantels. Stylistically, this house fits well into a period of 1855-75.
The Daniel Ropp House is significant for its type of unaltered architecture. The Ropp House is a beautiful pre-Civil War, West Virginia Porch type of building constructed ca. 1860. This is a type and style of architecture which can be found throughout Berkeley County from the 1850 to 1880 period.
GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 A.

QUADRANGLE NAME Hedgesville

UTM REFERENCES

| A | 1 8 | B | 4 7 4 4 0 0 |
| C | E 18 | D | 4 8 1 5 8 0 |

ZONE EASTING NORHTING ZONE EASTING NORHTING

QUADRANGLE SCALE

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Run 100 ft. on each side of house.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>CODE</th>
<th>COUNTY</th>
<th>CODE</th>
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FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE Don C. Wood, Genealogist, Historian, Historic Archeologist

ORGANIZATION President, Berkeley County Historical Society
Chairman, Berkeley County Historical Landmarks Commission

STREET & NUMBER Route 3, Box 79

CITY OR TOWN Martinsburg, WV 25401

STATE

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL __________ STATE __________ LOCAL __________

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

ATTEST:

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE