United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic  Henry J. Seibert II House
and or common "Seibert Villa"

2. Location

On north side of W. Va State Route #45, the Arden Road, one-and-a-half street & number miles west of intersection with Interstate #81— not for publication

city, town  Martinsburg  × vicinity of
state  West Virginia  code  54  county  Berkeley  code  003

3. Classification

Category  Ownership  Status  Present Use
--- district  ---
 × building(s)  × private  × occupied  --- agriculture
 --- structure  --- both  --- unoccupied  --- commercial
 --- site  Public Acquisition  --- work in progress  --- educational
 N/A object  N/A. in process  Accessible  --- entertainment
 --- being considered  --- yes: restricted  --- government

4. Owner of Property

name  C.J. Seibert Orchard Company
street & number  Route 1, Box 240

city, town  Martinsburg  × vicinity of  state  West Virginia

5. Location of Legal Description

Courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.  Berkeley County Courthouse

street & number  100 West King Street

city, town  Martinsburg  state  West Virginia

Representation in Existing Surveys

T-95 Berkeley County Historic Landmarks Commission Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  × no

July 1984  federal  state  × county  local

records  Berkeley County Courthouse

Martinsburg  West Virginia
7. Description

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Check one</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X. excellent</td>
<td>___</td>
<td>___</td>
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<tr>
<td>___ good</td>
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<td>___ fair</td>
<td>X. original site</td>
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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Located on State Route #45, one-and-a-half miles west of the intersection with Interstate #81, the house is situated on the north side of the road, on a crest, in a well landscaped lawn with a lot of tall trees and shrubs.

"Seibert Villa" measures thirty-six feet wide by seventy-six feet long and is a two story, "L" shaped brick dwelling house with gable roofs, built in Flemish bond and common bond on a stone foundation with inside end chimneys. The front section is three bays wide and the ell is three bays deep. The one story, one bay, hip roofed original main entrance porch is period late Greek Revival. The three bay, one story, hip roofed porch on the west side was added ca. 1890. It is very pretty with chamfered posts and ornamental brackets. Windows are 6/6 double hung sash with brick flat arch lintels. Entrance doors are four-panel with four-light transoms. On the exterior, this is a classic late Greek Revival house of 1867.

The main entrance door opens into a double parlor connected by large paneled pocket doors. Both rooms have end fireplaces with period mantels having a decorative ogee frieze. The rooms complement each other nicely and the effect is spacious. The dining room and stair hall are behind the parlors. The dining room also has an ogee frieze mantel. In the hall is a sweeping four flight, oval, open-well staircase with single starting heavy-turned newel. There are two plain, round-in-section spindles per step and simple brackets decorate the step ends. The hand rail is mahogany. Second story mantels are plainer but maintain the ogee frieze morif.

In the ell is the country kitchen with winder stair, under-the-stair closet, and fireplace. This fireplace has a simple mantel with rounded corner shelf on brackets.

Original floors are throughout, the trim is architrave, and doors are four-panel. Door box locks with tortoiseshell knobs were made by the "R & E MFG Co. Pat. May 29, 1866."

In the side yard are two outbuildings. One is constructed of logs with a large stone chimney and was the kitchen to an early log house. It is sided and has corner boards, a 6/6 double hung sash window, and the original board-and-batten door. The other outbuilding is small and frame constructed and is of the same period as the brick house. Between the two is a flower garden.

Alterations include a two story, one bay, one-room-each-floor addition to the rear of the house ca. 1910. Constructed of brick and built in the correct proportions, it is virtually indistinguishable as an addition, on the exterior. It is located behind the rear chimney and extends the ell. The interior work is period 1910 and is very good.
# 8. Significance

## Period
- prehistoric
- 1400–1499
- 1500–1599
- 1600–1699
- 1700–1799
- 1800–1899
- 1900–

### Areas of Significance—Check and justify below
- archaeology-prehistoric
- archaeology-historic
- agriculture
- architecture
- art
- commerce
- communications

- community planning
- conservation
- economics
- education
- engineering
- exploration/settlement
- industry
- invention

- landscape architecture
- law
- literature
- military
- music
- philosophy
- politics government

- religion
- science
- sculpture
- social/humanitarian
- theater
- transportation
- other (specify)

## Specific dates 1867

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Henry J. Seibert II House is historically significant for its continual associations with the Seibert family and is architecturally significant for being an excellent example of transitional Greek Revival–Victorian architecture.

The farm was purchased by the Seiberts in 1848 and has been in the family for four generations and will continue, to the present, fifth generation. This continual inheritance has become very rare and there are only a few other such examples in the county. The passing of the family farm from generation to generation was mainly interrupted by the depression.

Wendel Seibert immigrated from Wolfesweiler, Germany, to Pennsylvania, and then came to Berkeley County ca. 1790. His grandson Henry J. Seibert I purchased the "Dry Land Farm" of ninety acres. Henry II inherited the farm and built the brick house ca. 1867 and changed the name to "Seibert Villa." Henry II also purchased an additional adjacent eighty acres in 1890. In 1910, the farm was willed to Charles J. Seibert and the present occupant is the widow of Henry J. Seibert III, Charles' son.

The Seiberts were prominent area farmers and orchardists. Charles J. Seibert resided at the farm his entire life (b. 1857). In addition to his agricultural work, he was instrumental in establishing the Y.M.C.A. in Martinsburg, was a board member of the Peoples Trust Company, was very active in the Liberty and Red Cross drives during WWI, and was a member of the board of trustees of Massanutten Military Academy in Woodstock, Virginia. His son Henry III was born at "Seibert Villa" in 1899 and continued the professional and community activities as established by his father. He was a member of the board of trustees of Massanutten for forty years and was inducted into the Academy Alumni Association Hall of Fame.

The brick used to build "Seibert Villa" was burned on the farm. This is a handsome house and is well maintained by a family that is proud of it. Located on a curve of the Arden Road, it is unavoidably very visible. The exterior architecture is classical late Greek Revival whereas the interior expresses the transition to the ogee ornamentation of a later period. As expressed in the mantels and particularly fine oval, open-well stairway, the curvilinear influence is subtle, but definite.

The floor plan in unusual and is an adaptation of the earlier "U" floor plan where the hall is located between the two rear rooms of the main sections a style popular in the Federal period in Berkeley County. Because of the prominence of this staircase, it deserved and received greater space. Since the double parlors are in the front, the house has a distinctive spaciousness. Proportion, design, and workmanship are excellent. The house is significant as being an example of fine transitional Greek Revival–Victorian architecture.
9. Major Bibliographical References
Berkeley County Deed Book 16, p. 79, DB 158, p. 459.
Berkeley County Land Books 1869, 1869, 1892.
Berkeley County Will Book 24, p. 474; Death Book 5, p. 204.

10. Geographical Data
Acreage of nominated property 1 acre
Quadrangle name Tablers Station
UTM References

Zone Easting Northing
A 1 7 5 7 1 1 8 0
B 4 3 6 9 2 8 0
C
D
E
F
G
H

Verbal boundary description and justification
Beginning 100' SE of the house, thence along
the Arden Road SW 100', thence NW 150', thence N 250', thence E 100', thence
along the farm lane SSE 100' and ESE 130', thence SW 100' to the beginning
(See map).

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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</thead>
</table>

| state | code | county | code |

11. Form Prepared By
name/title Frances D. Ruth, Administrator
organization Berkeley County Historic Landmarks Commission
date September 30, 1984
street & number Route 2, Box 320
telephone (304) 75407097
city or town Martinsburg, state West Virginia

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification
The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

I, the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89- 909), 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

State Historic Preservation Officer date May 2, 1985

Date the property is included in the National Register
Area 1 acre

Tablers Station Quadrangle

Berkeley County, West Virginia

Log Outbuilding
Frame Outbuilding

To U.S. Route 11
1.7 mile

2.5 mile
Arden

North

SCALE 1:7,920

Copied September 1984 from photo AGS-43-20, 25 Nov 1937 by Galtjo L. Geertsema