

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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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 **Historic Resources of Berkeley County, West Virginia**  
(Partial Inventory: Historical and Architectural Properties)

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER **The county limits of Berkeley County and that part of the Potomac River that borders on the County line. Note: Ownership of the River is claimed by the State of Maryland.**

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Berkeley

003

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Multiple Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME **Multiple Ownership**

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

VICINITY OF

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, **Berkeley County**  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Martinsburg, West Virginia 25401

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE **Berkeley County Historical Society and Berkeley County Historical Landmarks Commission Survey**

DATE

1973-78

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

Berkeley County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Martinsburg, WV 25401

—EXCELLENT  
—GOOD  
—FAIR

—DETERIORATED  
—RUINS  
—UNEXPOSED

—UNALTERED  
—ALTERED

—ORIGINAL SITE  
—MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Berkeley County was taken from the County of Frederick, Virginia, by an Act of the Assembly in May 1772. It made its historic entry as a county on May 15, 1772. At that time its boundary lines took in present Jefferson County (until 1801) and three-fourths of present Morgan County (until 1820). Frederick County, Va. was from Orange County, Va. in 1738 and Orange County from the vast territory of Spottsylvania County, Va. in 1734.

Berkeley County is one segment of a large valley that parallels the Appalachian Mountains system from Vermont to Alabama and part of a larger area called The Shenandoah Valley. Berkeley County's soil is basically three types: rich limestone, shale and rich loam. The majority of the land east of the North Mountain is limestone very adaptive to cultivation with a variety of high yielding crops, however, there are strips (principally hills) that are shale. Berkeley County has two principal mounts: North Mountain and Third Hill Mountain. Its western boundary is Sleepy Creek Mountain. Approximately one-third of its land is west of the base of the North Mountain. The majority of this land is shale, however there are a few small sections of limestone soil. The Meadow Branch section of the Sleepy Creek Mountain contains deposits of coal. A few attempts have been made to mine it but it has never developed to the point of being of any significance in the development of Berkeley County. Back Creek is the large stream that runs through the valley that lies between North Mountain and Third Hill Mountain. Several spring fed streams empty into Back Creek. The largest and most significant of these streams is Tilshance's Branch. East of the North Mountain is the Opequon Creek. Part of this Creek forms the eastern boundary line of Berkeley County. The Opequon meanders through a rich, limestone area. Three smaller creeks empty into the Opequon and increase its water flow before it empties into the Potomac River. The Tuscarora Creek is the largest of the three. It has one major contributing stream—Dry Run. Next is Mill Creek and then Middle Creek. These three creeks are all fed from the springs at the east base of the North Mountain. Berkeley County is bounded on the north by the Potomac River. Three small streams beside the Opequon and Back Creek empty into the River. They are Jones Mill Stream which forms part of the east boundary line of Berkeley County; Cherry Run that forms part of the northwest boundary line and Tully's Branch. The low land along the stream bottoms at places are rich loam. There is also some small deposits of marl along a few of the streams. Jones Mill Stream and the Swan Pond Run which disappears underground have two of the choicest deposits. This vast, well distributed water system of Berkeley County is highly inducive to habitation. Before the white man came, it was occupied by Indians.

Colonel Morgan Morgan, the first white settler of the State, established in what became Berkeley County in 1728. Jost Hite, who purchased the Vanmeter orders, brought a group of settlers into the area in 1732 and they located west of the Opequon Creek and east of the North Mountain. These early settlers established along the streams and took up the prime land in the area.

Two major paths at a very early date went through this area. Pack Horse Ford Road which entered the area by a Ford crossing in the Potomac River below what became Shepherdstown, Berkeley County (now Jefferson County), Va., (W. Va.). The road went from northeast to southwest and crossed the whole area. By 1744 a ferry had been put into operation at the present U. S. Route 11 crossing of the Potomac River. The road ran north to south across the present County into Virginia.

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A great interference took place in the settling of Berkeley County. Lord Fairfax, heir to the Culpeper rights, made a trip from England in 1735 to this area. He claimed the area was part of his Northern Neck territory. On his return trip to England he got the King of England to order that patents for this area be stopped but those which had already been given out were good; however, Jost Hite and Ross-Bryan both continued to sell land. Much of the most valuable land had already been settled when Lord Fairfax returned from England in 1748. This caused considerable difficulties. Lord Fairfax opened his land office and started giving out grants. Those who had purchased after the King had stopped the patents repaid Lord Fairfax for the land or moved on. A suit was brought by Hite and others against Lord Fairfax. This internationally famous suit lasted until after the Revolutionary War and both Hite and Fairfax were dead.

Lord Fairfax set up two manors in Berkeley County and also gave some land to his cousin William Fairfax. He also had owned other tracts of land for his own use. Maidstone Manor was set up as an English Manor with a town by 1747, a commons and the Manor land.

Surveys were made in 1749 by Lord Fairfax. This also included the North Mountain and Back Creek Valley areas. By the time of the Revolutionary War most of the land in Berkeley County had been either sold through the early patents or granted by Lord Fairfax. Swan Pond Manor of 2,000 acres was disposed of by Lord Fairfax in 1777. He still held his Maidstone Manor land when he died.

Berkeley County has a large number of architecturally outstanding buildings built pre-Revolutionary War. Typical of these range from a reconstructed log cabin (G80), second home of Col. Morgan Morgan, a 1747 English nogging house (H68), the original Maidstone Manor house, a stone lean-to kitchen (H107) and an array of different styled log and stone buildings and a mud nogging house (G23).

The end of the Revolutionary War brought a change to Berkeley County. The early predominant settlers were of the Quaker and Presbyterian faith. The land dispute and the war had driven most of the Quakers out except for the ones who became Presbyterians. Just before the War the Pennsylvania Dutch German settlers had started to move to Berkeley County. These were of the Lutheran/Reformed faith. They acquired large holdings in some of the best agricultural areas of the County, and the County took on more of a southern influence even though it came through the Pennsylvania Dutch from Maryland and Pennsylvania. Small plantations were established with slave labor. Native limestone was the principal building material. Outstanding plantation complexes such as the Lick Run District were built (H108). The placement of their main buildings generally near a stream and outbuildings contributed much to the outstanding landscaping of the County. A few very outstanding Georgian and Federal houses exist in Berkeley County. Some influence from the Tidewater area is evidenced. Brick came into use about 1785 with its primary use after 1800. The Greek Revival period was predominant from the 1830s to the Civil War.

When Berkeley County was formed in 1772, Major General Adam Stephen laid out a town along the Tuscarora Creek in 1773. He was selling lots by 1775. Here the Berkeley County Courthouse was established. He named the town Martinsburg after Lord Fairfax's nephew. Martinsburg became, and still is, the government/commercial center of the County. Three other towns, Darkesville 1780, Hedgesville 1832 and Gerrardstown 1785, were established but have all remained small villages. There were attempts to establish other towns but none ever developed past a few homes with a couple of store type villages except Bunker Hill which developed at a different time.

The next major change to Berkeley County, and particularly Martinsburg, was the coming of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad in 1844. It brought new and faster transportation for the County's products.

Berkeley County had harnessed its water power in the very beginning. Many mills were established on its streams. Mill Creek had the largest concentration with some 15 mills. They varied in their produce from grinding grain, flour, sawing lumber, grinding plaster, woolen mills, and paper mills. There were a few oil mills for pressing oil out of flax seed in the County. Adam Stephen had established three mills on the Tuscarora Creek for his town.

The rich farmlands of Berkeley County produced more grain than was needed for the area. Before the establishment of the C & O Canal and the Railroad, flour was boated down the Potomac River by way of reloading around the falls, or by wagon. Both were time consuming, and costly. Associated with the mills were distilleries, there being a great variety. The Buena Vista Brewery established after the coming of the railroad, also a foundry near the railroad. Hotels were built near the train station; in 1847 the B & O Shops were built. Then came the Civil War. Berkeley County was about evenly divided. Its location on the border line, first of Maryland and then on Nov. 2, 1863, when it became a part of the new State of West Virginia, on the border line of Virginia. Its families were divided. With the plantations that had been established in the early 1800s, many of its sons and daughters there not being land enough for all, moved to Kentucky and the Ohio area. Its patriotic fathers—there being many—had acquired bounty lands in Kentucky and Ohio. There was a big migration from the area to Ohio from 1810 to 1840. This left brothers, sisters and cousins in this area with their plantations and slaves while some who had inherited slaves in this area had gone to Ohio and given emancipation. Berkeley County suffered much loss during the Civil War. Its greatest loss was the destruction of the B & O Railroad Shops and the Colonade Bridge.

Berkeley County and Martinsburg experienced a slow recovery following the War. The outstanding roundhouses were rebuilt in 1866 and the Shop put back into operation (M161). This continued a growth of new homes on the east side of Martinsburg which had started with the coming of the railroad. Areas like Chambersburg, Strinesville, Buena Vista, Irish Hill and Roma all developed from the 1840s to 1870s.

In the late 1880s a group formed and brought a new change to Martinsburg and Berkeley County. They brought electricity to the area in 1890. This brought the golden age of industrial development in the 1890s. At the heart of this development was the textile industry, which in a decade transformed Martinsburg into an important textile center. A series of large modern electric powered mills were built in the 1890s. Most of these buildings were built from 1891 to 1905 and collectively they represent a fine example of large scale industrial architecture utilizing simple brick elevations, punctuated with an impressive area of windows which provided the light necessary for knitting and weaving.

Martinsburg developed over a period of time from 1773 to the early 1900s. It has a wide variety of architectural buildings, a few early Georgian mansions like the O'Hara-Martin house (M160) and Aspen Hall (M59), Federal, Greek Revival, Romanesque. The downtown area

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of Martinsburg has complexes of pre-Civil War structures, including Federal and Greek Revival residences, Romanesque Revival, Gothic Revival, Italianate, Neo-Classical Revival, French Second Empire, Queen Anne, High Victorian Gothic and stick style. About 10% of the buildings in Martinsburg are commercial or industrial. 95% of the buildings in the County are residential.

Several church buildings in this district and a few single have been included. These are all very significant architecturally as well as historical.

A wide variety of historic archeology sites are located throughout the County. A very detailed study is being made of the 1847 map of Berkeley County. Types of sites such as early mills, distilleries, log cabins, school houses are being located, churches, a black village, stone and brick houses, slave cabins. Those sites which have been identified and are associated with the architectural buildings and historical districts and families are included at this time. A later more detailed coverage is planned. This will include a possible early settlement phase.

Railroads of Berkeley County as part of transportation are included. This takes in both the B & O and Cumberland Valley Railroads. The Cumberland Valley Railroad crosses Mill Creek over an impressive two span stone bridge and at Darkesville a similar two span stone bridge was constructed. A curious plate girder bridge was built between Bedington and Falling Waters. The conventional two span bridge is supported by a stone pier with a coping concrete cap. Other historic structures are a number of bridges throughout the County. These include examples of stone, brick, concrete and iron bridges (Thematic Group C).

Berkeley County Historical Society started a survey of its older pre-1880 buildings, structures, and related sites in the Fall of 1973. After donations were raised Tony P. Wrenn, a historic preservation consultant, was hired to do evaluation of a list of buildings and structures prepared by the Historical Society. 30 properties were evaluated. Mr. John Small, Clerk of the Court, opened the Courthouse one evening a week from 7 to 10 p.m. for members of the Historical Society to do research. Members also did some research during the day time. Research was under the direction of Don C. Wood, local genealogist and historian. Francis Silver, County Surveyor and Galtjo Geertsema, surveyor, were generally there to help with plat work. All but about two properties in the county have had a complete title search from present day all the way back to the time of the land grant. Galtjo Geertsema had prepared, previously, a complete and accurate overlay map of the Kings patents and land grants. Principal location of buildings and sites has been done by Don Wood from many visits with our residents and a study of the 1809, 1847 and 1894 maps of Berkeley Co. A Landmarks Commission was appointed by The Berkeley County Commission in 1975. The survey was taken over by them with funding from the County. James E. Harding of the W. Va. Antiquities Commission spent 20 days in Berkeley Co. in 1975 and 1976 with Wood driving through the County and evaluating properties. In the Fall of 1977 two representatives of The National Register suggested that Berkeley County be done as a multi resource project.

Clarence Moran, State Preservation Officer, gave approval of the project. In March Daniel Fowler, State Archeologist, Clarence Moran and Rodney Collins, received guidelines on the proposed project. Clarence Moran gave an approval of a \$30,000 matching retroactive grant-  
\$30,000, to hire needed professional help and other expense for the project and to include archeology. Frances Ruth, architectural analysisist, formerly with the Landmarks Commission, who had done evaluation of some properties, was hired to do an evaluation of the County properties. Rodney Collins of the State Historic Preservation Unit made visits in April and went over some of the proposed district boundries. Howard Butts, a local college student, was hired to do research, etc. Tony Wrenn was hired in July to do an historical architectural evaluation of Martinsburg. A change was made in the earlier planned coverage of Martinsburg because of a change the first of July 1978 of a new Mayor and City Manager. Both expressed interest in the survey. A further interest in Martinsburg was expressed by the HUD personnel who have a large program in Martinsburg. Because of opinions of City officials, original plans were to include for evaluation only the main downtown, Boydville and B & O areas. The area covered in Martinsburg was tripled because of the fact plus a tie up of the Federal money in the State office and the donation of time by both Frances Ruth and Howard Butts and my own attention on Martinsburg only part of the pre-1880 buildings are being included at this time. Professor Emory Kemp was employed to evaluate industry and transportation. Douglas Reed, a housewright, was hired in 1975 and 1976 to help date and evaluate some of Berkeley County's log buildings. Galtjo Geertsema was hired in October to complete the topography map and UTM references.

The purpose of the survey which is being continued is to locate and evaluate all of the historic resources of Berkeley County. As explained earlier, a concentration was made on Martinsburg in 1978 because of its 200th anniversary. This cut down on completing the location and study of County properties. It was agreed in September 1978 by Clarence Moran, State Preservation Officer, and Don Wood, Chairman of the Project, that Martinsburg and what County properties could be written up would be presented to the State Review Board meeting in November 1978. All of the towns, or villages, of Berkeley County have been completed except Gerrardstown. Lack of understanding of the survey until recently has prevented work in that town. Back Creek Valley area which includes that area from the east side of North Mountain to the Morgan County line has had very little work. The main reason for this is that it contains fewer outstanding buildings and many standing buildings are second or third buildings on a property. It is anticipated that this area will be the most valuable for historic archeology sites.

Historical districts have been established where properties have a definite relation and areas of concentration. Martinsburg has been divided into 7 districts in accordance with its historical background relationship of resources in a particular area, i.e. the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and Related Industries Historic District (M-161), which contains industrial buildings and structures associated with a business or its transportation.\*

At a meeting on February 28th between Federal, National Register representatives, the State Preservation Officer and Rodney Collins, State representative to the Project and Don Wood, Chairman of the Project, it was agreed that the remaining buildings, archeology and natural resources would be combined into a second phase to be completed by March 1980. Originally discussed was for 4 or 5 phases to be submitted at various times.

\* Some large irregular districts have been established such as the Tuscarora Creek Historical District (T66). The Creek is the main reason these early buildings were built there for it has been used as the main base or core, of the district. A few small districts have been established such as Jones Mill Run (S14) where the mill site and its related buildings, structures and water ways have been used to establish the district.

# SIGNIFICANCE

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

PERIOD				
PREHISTORIC	__ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__ COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__ CONSERVATION	__ LAW	__ SCIENCE
1600-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	__ LITERATURE	__ SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ART	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	__ MUSIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> THEATER
1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__ PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
1900-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__ OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__ INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Berkeley County is the most historically significant area of the State. It is the first settled area of the State of West Virginia; therefore, it has many firsts: the first Mill site (Jones, S-14), site of the first crude shelter (Morgan Morgan, G-80), the reconstructed Morgan Cabin (G-80) which contains some of the first building material, the first organized militia and first official road. Significant Civil War history is associated with Berkeley County: Bunker Hill (G-48), Watkins Ferry (W-2), Medway house (A-73), Hedgesville (H-52), Darkesville (G-42) and Martinsburg (M-158 through M-164). Though no major battles took place in Berkeley County it was the scene of much occupation and many skirmishes took place.

Berkeley County has had a multitude of important persons associated with its history. Gen. Adam Stephen, founder of Martinsburg, whose house is listed in The National Register (M-160), and associations with the Revolutionary War: Gen. Dark, whose headquarters at Darkesville (G-42) has been reconstructed. Major George Scott, Captain Rawleigh Morgan (S-35), James Campbell (T-2), Captain William Henshaw (G-79). A great number of its forefathers served, or furnished supplies. The War of 1812 was another significant area of military association with Gen. Elisha Boyd, whose Boydville is listed in The National Register (M-162), Captain Lewis B. Willis (S-35), Captain James Mason (S-35), Moses Hunter (M-3) and many others. Further outstanding military association of persons is Rear Admiral Charles Boarman (M-163), Rear Admiral Stribbling (M-163), Secretary of War Newton D. Baker (M-163) and Ward Hill Lamon, early law partner and later bodyguard to Abraham Lincoln (his boyhood cabin home (G-35) is located east of Bunker Hill).

Berkeley County has been the home of such notable artists as William Robinson Leigh (H-12) and John Drinker (G-60), an early Quaker portrait artist. It has been the home of noted Civil War writer, David H. Strother (Porte Crayon) (M-163).

Buildings of such architectural significance like the Georgian mansion "Aspen Hall" (M-58), home of Edward Beeson II, a member of the Quaker faith and trustee of Martinsburg; Federal mansions like "Rural Hill (B-8 & B-9) built by Edward Tabb from the Tidewater area of Virginia; White Bush (W-3) built by Archibald Shearer; Greek Revival mansion "Allen Dale" (M-4), all demonstrate the economic growth of the early settlers. Further examples may be seen in the Tuscarora area through the many significant buildings associated with the Pennsylvania Dutch families--the Seiberts and Cushwas.

Social/humanitarian is designated through its association with the outstanding Poor House, later the home of Porte Crayon (M-163). The Poor House Farm (T-66) which has served since 1850 as a complex of buildings for the poor, aged and now a house for wayward boys.

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A further significance is the operation of its land and homes from the 1740s by a continuous direct descendant like the Harlan Spring area, Swan Pond farm area. The association of the Hedges family, their houses and town is equalled by none in the State. The Hedgeses were an early family who moved to Berkeley County from the Prince Georges County area of Maryland in the 1730s. They were associated with the Morgans, Vanmeters and other well-known families of the U.S. Traditionally they claim they descend from Sir Charles Hedges of England. They owned and controlled one whole area of the County and established a village in 1832. (Thematic Group B)

Harmony (H-14, a site) was a religious meeting house where many of the Falling Waters area harmonized together in the use of one meeting house to hold meetings of various faiths.

The use of water power started with the very first settler. Berkeley County is filled with many early mill sites. Many of these are outstanding for their landscape architecture, like Newcomer (M-12), Jones (S-14) and Rippey Gold (G-34). All were complete with outstanding mansions. Some had miller's houses. Seven mill buildings remain: Bryarly (G-42), Patterson (G-66), Scharrard (G-29), Hibberd (T-66), Lick Run (H-108), Bunker Hill (G-79) and Spring Hill (H-106). The Bunker Hill mill is still in operating order. This mill has been in operation except for a few short spans since before 1738. Flour was one of the early exports of the County. One of the mills constructed principally for export was the Lick Run mill (H-108). A few fulling, or woolen, mills existed in the County, however, it was not until the coming of electricity that the textile industry flourished. The new textile mills are historically significant because of the central role they have played in the industrial life of Martinsburg, and in a larger sense, they represent the most modern technology of their time and are an early example of the shift of the industry from New England to the South (M-161 and M-164).

Among Berkeley County's engineering fetes are its bridges. Bridges hold a unique place in the history of technology. From the Engineer's point of view, a bridge fulfills one primary purpose and that is to support loads. West Virginia was the scene of a number of notable accomplishments in bridge building. Because these turn of the century bridges are rapidly disappearing and because of the picturesque setting of most of them, all major road and rail bridges built before World War I located in Berkeley County are being included in this nomination. The Vanmeter Ford Bridge, a three arched stone bridge, built by Silas Harry in 1832, is the oldest known bridge in the State. It is already listed in The National Register.

Berkeley County contains sites of some of the first religious buildings in the State. It also has some very outstanding architecturally significant churches: Mt. Zion Baptist with its unusually small stonework (M-2); the 1818 Mt. Zion Episcopal Church (H-52); Falling Waters Presbyterian Church (Greek Revival) (H-106). The architectural landscape of Green Hill Cemetery is equalled by none in the State (M-158).

Martinsburg is significant as the commercial center of Berkeley County and as a center of City and County governments. It has such important buildings as the Courthouse, the old County Jail and the 1890 Jail. The Apollo Theater, built in 1911 after designs by noted theater architect Reginold. The home of George D. Whitson, Berkeley County's prolific builder and architect, the B & O Roundhouses and adjoining complex of architecturally significant buildings is equalled by none in the Nation.



Several outstanding educational buildings are located in the City and County. Berkeley County with its array of magnificent pre-Revolutionary War and antebellum homes and Martinsburg with its outstanding buildings built through the years and the B & O complex qualify on a national basis for its architectural/historical significance.

It was in 1728 that Morgan Morgan settled west of the present village of Bunker Hill. Col. Morgan Morgan was first in many things. His family and descendants were very active in settling other areas of the State and are well-known throughout the State. Col. Morgan Morgan's son, Zackquill, built a stone house, Cool Spring Farm (G-80) and then moved on to establish Morgantown, WV. Son David Morgan, built a log cabin in 1745 in Berkeley County. He moved to the Monongalia Valley area in 1771. He and his sons helped built Prickett Fort and they served in the Revolutionary War. It was son Morgan Morgan who remained in Berkeley County and helped reestablish the early State Anglo-Saxon Church into the Episcopal Church of America while in neighboring areas of Virginia the early English Church was being destroyed. A new Morgan Chapel (G-80) was built in 1815.

John and Isaac Vanmeter (brothers) went to Williamsburg in 1730 and acquired orders to settle 40,000 acres east of the Opequon Creek. They sold these orders in 1731 to Jost Hite who brought a group of settlers in 1732 into the area. In 1730 Alexander Ross and Morgan Bryan acquired orders to settle up to 70,000 acres west of the Opequon Creek and east of the North Mountain. They brought a group of Quakers and Presbyterians into the area in 1733.

Lord Fairfax took over in 1750 and started granting land in the area. By the time of the Revolutionary War most of Berkeley County had been settled. Due to the land dispute that arose between Lord Fairfax-Hite and others, many of the Quakers had left the area before the Revolutionary War. Though they had acquired much land in this area in the 1730s to 50s period many had left by the time of the War. The 1730s to the Rev. War era is one of Berkeley County's most significant periods. An array of significant log and stone buildings remain in Berkeley Co. today as a testimony of this early settled area, such as the Garard/Hays house (G-5); James Crumley cabin (G-82); Ridgeway Farm (G-19); Snodgrass Tavern (B-1); Aspen Hall (M-58); the Morgan houses in the Col. Morgan Morgan district (G-80); Stone House Mansion (M-3); Prospect Hill (H-69); Redbud Hollow (T-62); Watkins Ferry house (W-2); several outstanding buildings along the Tuscarora Creek remain today (T-66).

It was during the Revolutionary War that the town of Martinsburg was started. Change came to the area by the end of the War. Land was acquired in the Kentucky and Ohio area by many of the Rev. War soldiers from Berkeley County. The Pa./Dutch/Lutheran/Reformed acquired big holdings in the County from the 1770s to 1820s period. Their craftsmanship is reflected in many of the outstanding buildings they built. It was during this period that we felt our most southern influence. Though most of our slave holding plantations were of the Pa. Dutch/German, some like the Tabbs, who built Rural Hill (B-8); Rawleigh Colston and the Robert Carter Willises came from the Tidewater area of Virginia. It was during this period that such outstanding plantations like the Lick Run Plantation (H-108), Honeywood (H-13), the Seibert farm on the Tuscarora (T-66) and many others were established.

Brick was first shipped (traditionally) around 1785 and then locally made to be used as one of the main building materials. We had outstanding Georgian/Federal style mansions such as White Bush (W-3); Mt. Zion Episcopal Church (H-52); the Martin-MacDonald house (M-160), the Poor House (M-16). Then came the Greek Revival period in the 1830s. This is reflected in such outstanding buildings as the Falling Waters Presbyterian Church (H-106); Allen Dale (M-4) and Dr. Hammond house (now ruins) (H-106). Some of earlier stone and brick houses like the Kerney/Kilmer house were built during this period.

Stone still remains to be a principal building material. Such outstanding houses as the John Lyle (T-66) were built in the early part of this period. The antebellum period reached its peak around 1850.

Historic Resources of Berkeley County, West Virginia  
(Partial Inventory: Historical and Architectural Properties)

With the beginning of the Civil War, this was the end of the building of the stone plantation houses. Slave labor had been used for the majority. The stones were quarried in the Winter months when weather permitted. From the 1850s until the 1880s was the secession period of Berkeley County though a few outstanding houses like the Teter-French house (H-11) and the brick section of the Simmons-Rees house (G-17) were built, just before the War. They were soon sold because of debts. The 500 acre to 2,000 acre plantations which had been established in the early 1800s were divided. It was at this time that the old frame, wood sided houses became popular in both this county and Martinsburg.

Darkesville was established about 10 years after Martinsburg. Most of its buildings were built of log. Located on Route 11 just about half way between Martinsburg and the Frederick County line, it served as a rural town until the 20th century. Its most significant period was from 1810 till 1860.

Hedgesville established in 1832, built principally of log, reached its peak as a resort town in the 1890-1920 period. Both Darkesville and Hedgesville are very significant because of the number of original log houses which still remain.

Martinsburg with its wide variety of architecture/historically significant buildings has served the County as the county seat from the time of its beginning though it had booms and new growth at times and a few short recession periods. It still remains today as the growing industrial, government, commercial and cluster center of Berkeley County.

District boundary lines have been selected to establish complexes of buildings like Harlan Spring, Spring Mills, the Lick Run Plantation. These all have a close association of buildings. The Tuscarora Creek has been used to link a group of prominent early buildings and structures along its banks into one large district. The Morgan Morgan district has been linked together to show association of relative buildings with the use of the first official road in the State of West Virginia which is included in the district and also for its historical significance. The area of Mill Creek which had a dense group of mills has been linked together by using Mill Creek. The McKown homes located sparsely in one section have been tied together with the use of a road. This was also done on the Ridge Road district.

Swan Pond, an agricultural significant area, boundary lines were established by using the original manor land and land on the west side which was associated both agriculturally and historically with the Ponds.

Martinsburg has been broken up into seven districts. Boundary lines literally define themselves. The B & O Complex, the land on the east side. The downtown commercial-residential area. A small district along Tuscarora Creek and the Adam Stephen house, Boydville, a group of prominent homes in this area. The Boom district, the 1890 developed land.

The Multi Resource survey of Berkeley County has been received by the residents of Berkeley County especially well. The public opinion programs were held on what is being submitted for listing on The National Register at this time. Tony P. Wrenn presented a program on the seven districts of Martinsburg. Don C. Wood presented a program on the 17 districts and single listings for the County on November 15th. All districts and properties received excellent support.



Historic Resources of Berkeley County (Partial Inventory)

Item No. 9, page 2

Berkeley County Historical Society "The Berkeley Journal" Issue 1, 1968, 2, 1970; 3, 1974, 4, 1975, 5, 1976; 6, 1977, special Issue 1977, 7, 1978.

Martinsburg Gazette 1810-1855 on microfilm, Berkeley County Courthouse. This is considered a prime resource to help date many of the buildings.

Berkeley County House Tax 1798, 50th survey, located locked vault Berkeley Co. Courthouse. A prime source for dating buildings throughout the County. All brick buildings start at \$350, stone at \$500.

Glenn D. Lough "Now and Long Ago", 1969 by author of the Col. Morgan Morgan Monument Commission Report, Charleston, WV 1924

Joint Committee of Hopewell Friends "Hopewell Friends History 1734-1934", 1936, Shenandoah Publishing House, Inc. Strasburg, Va.

War of the Rebellion Series 1 Vol 46 part 2, page 130  
" 1 Vol XXVI, pages 989, 981, 989, 993

The Evening World, Martinsburg, Newspaper Feb 1, 1905, page 1

William Thomas Doherty "Berkeley County U.S.A, 1972, McClain Printing Co.

Galtjo L. Geertsema Cadastral Index 1969, published loose leaf with overlay land grant map. Copies survey file and Berkeley Co. Courthouse.

Gladys Hartzell "On This Rock" 1970, the Shepherdstown Register, Shepherdstown, WV

French Morgan "Descendants of Colonel Morgan Morgan, 1966 McClain Printing Co.

Berkeley County Courthouse records, deeds, wills, Court cases, etc. Copies or abstracted have been done to establish chain title.

Land Grant records, early survey records and mutual assurance records of Va. Original unpublished located Va. State Library, Richmond, Va. Copies of many have been obtained and placed in survey file.

Martinsburg Journal and many other local newspapers, all on microfilm, Berkeley County Courthouse, individually reference listed with each property in survey file.

Sanborn maps of Martinsburg on microfilm, Berkeley Co. Courthouse