

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

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

1. Name

historic Hughes-Cunningham House

and or common "HuCuRu"

2. Location

On Harlan Springs Road, Berkeley County Route #1, 2.2 miles north of the street & number intersection with W.Va. Route #9. not for publication

city, town Hedgesville  vicinity of

state West Virginia code 54 county Berkeley code 003

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> museum</span>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> park</span>
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <span style="float: right;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence</span>
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> religious</span>
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> scientific</span>
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> transportation</span>
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> other:</span>

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. William G. Ruth

street & number Route #2, Box 320

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

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

H-36 Berkeley County Historic  
title Landmarks Commission Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date July 1984  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Berkeley County Courthouse

city, town Martinsburg, state West Virginia

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			N/A

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Hughes-Cunningham House, of log and stone, is located on Harlan Spring Road, Berkeley County Route #1, 2.2 miles north of the intersection with West Virginia Route #9. It is situated in a large yard, set well back from the road, and is surrounded by maple and walnut trees. A small stone wall fence extends across the front.

The house was built in two sections. First the full two story, gable roofed, three bay log house was constructed on a stone foundation ca. 1772 and measures thirty feet wide by twenty-five feet deep by twenty feet tall from sill to plate. This is a ratio house, four by five by six, as many of the early houses were. The logs are big, sixteen inch, and are hand hewn on two sides. A large exterior double flue stone chimney is on the north gable end. The house is decorated with beaded corner boards, beaded barge boards, and the eave poles have carved ogee ends, not boxed in. Windows are small, 25" by 40", with 6/6 double hung pegged sash, and window and door trim is all beaded with a quirked ovolo backband. The entrance doors are opposite each other and are Indian doors, being six panel on the exterior and reinforced with beaded boards on the interior, hung on long strap hinges on pintles. The three bay, one story, shed roofed rear entrance porch protects a large section of the original beaded board siding, 8½" wide, held in place by hand wrought nails. The front one story, one bay entrance porch is gabled and supported by a log beam pegged into the log wall of the house.

The two bay, one story stone wing was added ca. 1784 and measures twenty feet wide by twenty-five feet deep with a big interior stone end chimney. A cantilevered porch extends across the rear and a one bay shed roofed porch is on the front. Windows are small 6/6 double hung pegged sash and entrance doors are board-and-batten. All chimneys have a stone cap molding. Both rear porch ceilings are panelled with flat panels in beaded stiles and rails. Some of this is original work but most is a restoration. It is very attractive.

This is an interesting early house. In the log house, there are three rooms on the ground floor and four rooms on the second floor. All the room partitions are made of wide (16"), hand planed, beaded, vertical board walls with board-and-batten doors on HL hinges. The original floor plan is totally intact. Much of the early hardware is in place. Doors have "elbow" iron box locks. The parlor was the original keeping room of the log house. The stone fireplace has a tall mantel with a shallow shelf decorated with quirked ovolo moldings and end projections over the sunburst end blocks set above reeded stiles. There is a small beaded surround. The sunbursts are hand carved, nice folk art. All the stairs in the house are enclosed winders (three) with board-and-batten doors. All interior windows and doors have

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beaded trim with a quirked ovolo backband. There is a small (3½") decorative chair rail in every room. The main bedroom on the second floor has a stone fireplace. The mantel has a shallow molded edge shelf and a quirked ovolo surround.

The stone wing has one large room on the ground floor with a large stone fireplace. The mantel board is heavily molded consisting of the same moldings found on the other two fireplaces. All the hearths are of stone. Next to it is a board wall closet originally used to hang meat. A winder stairs leads to the two second floor rooms under the eaves. Just inside the stair door is a peg board with only two pegs, all it ever had, perhaps used to hang a broom. Both the second floor rooms have two small board-and-batten doors giving access to the storage space under the eaves.

Early hand planed, wide board floors are throughout both sections and the steeply pitched roofs are supported by pegged, pole rafters.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1772/1784 Builder Architect Isaac Hughes/Hugh Cunningham

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Hughes-Cunningham House is historically significant for its associations with the Hughes family, an early permanent settler family, and with the Cunningham family, who purchased the farm from the widow Hughes and enlarged the house and farm. This was a building family and the Cunningham generations built several important farm houses in the county.

Edward Hughes' will, probated 1769, gave his younger son Isaac 250 pounds of lawful money. Isaac left Towamencin, now part of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and moved with his family to Berkeley County in 1772. Their Quaker membership was transferred from Guinedd Meeting house in Philadelphia to Hopewell Meeting House in Virginia in that year. The deed of this land purchase is lost but the farm of 250 acres was part of the 1753 Lewis Burwell grant of 3,173 acres from Lord Fairfax. Isaac built his log house in 1772 and died soon after in 1776. An appraisalment of his estate is interestingly recorded in Berkeley County Will Book #1. It lists everything including a black horse, some corn in crib, one trunk and some "old stuff," coat, jacket, britches, and hat, and one square table with "falling leaves." The list is extensive and entertaining. His widow Leah McKewn and his son Abner Hughes sold the log house and 250 acres for 600 pounds in 1784 to Hugh Cunningham. Abner Hughes moved west to Sullivan County, Tennessee.

Hugh Cunningham was Scotch-Irish and Presbyterian and was born in 1741 in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. He and his wife Agnes had ten children and probably added the stone wing soon after purchasing the farm. Hugh had furnished supplies to the American Army during the Revolutionary War and also served as a private in Pennsylvania. At his death, the farm went to his son William D. who lived here until his death in 1858. William was very prosperous and increased his acreage here to 344 acres, and purchased three other farms, totalling 1,052 acres. His daughter Sarah married Dr. Allen Hammond, a Civil War era doctor who treated soldiers on both sides at his eighteen room mansion at Spring Mills. Dr. Hammond's extensive correspondence is at the West Virginia University Library in Morgantown. All the Cunninghams are buried in the Presbyterian Graveyard at Spring Mills. William's granddaughter Emma inherited the Hughes-Cunningham farm and sold it in 1888 to Acquilla Janney, a descendant of the Aquilla Janney who founded Waterford, Virginia. They were Quakers. Many of the older area residents today still call the place "the Old Janney Farm." Beginning in 1938, the farm fell on hard times and the house was in a near ruinous condition when purchased by the Ruths in 1976.

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The Hughes-Cunningham House is significant for being an excellent example of late permanent settler architecture in the log and stone mediums dating from 1772 and 1784. The house is truly of excellent design and proportion and has a very distinctive and strong appearance. The windows are small and the doors reinforced indicating an influence from the aftermath of the French and Indian War of the previous ten years, and the unsettled times of the Revolution. The workmanship is excellent and abounds. Everything is hand carved, hewn, or planed. Even the floors are impressive for the wide floor boards. Much of the hardware is here and the atmosphere of the house is of "Days of Old." It is an important architectural example, available for study for its period and type, and is an excellent and rare representation of late settler architecture in Berkeley County.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

National Society DAR, DAR Patriot Index, 1969, p. 169.  
Martinsburg Gazette, 1827, 1832, 1851, microfilm, Berkeley County Courthouse.  
 Berkeley County Historical Society, "The Berkeley Journal," Issue 5, 1976.  
 John Weyland, Hopewell Friends History, Genealogical Publishing Co.,  
 Baltimore, Md., 1975.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1 acre

Quadrangle name Hedgesville

Quadrangle scale 1 : 24,000

UTM References

A 

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 Zone Easting Northing

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**Verbal boundary description and justification** Nominated area includes roughly 100' on each side of the house and is bounded on the west, north, and east by the property line and on the south by an unmarked line (See map).

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

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) 754-7097

city or town Martinsburg, W.V.

state West Virginia

## 12. 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 State Historic Preservation Officer

date May 2, 1985

For NRS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

date

Chief of Registry

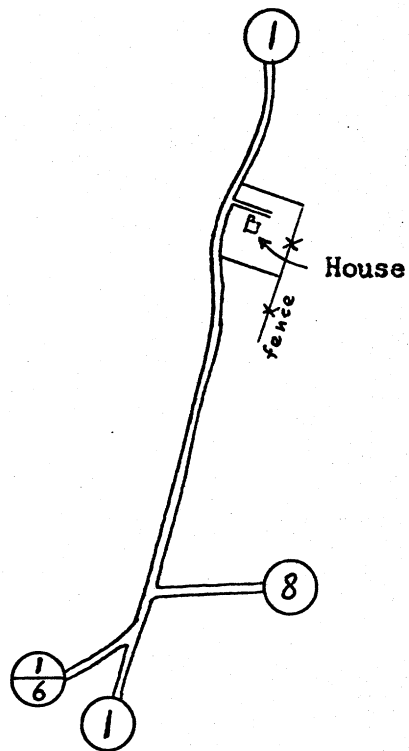
HUGHES - CUNNINGHAM HOUSE

H-36

Hedgesville Quadrangle

Berkeley County, West Virginia

Area 1 acre



North

SCALE 1 : 7,920

Copied September 1984 from  
photo AGS-57-93, 5 Jun 1938  
& Deed Bk. 296, p. 326  
by Galtjo L. Geertsema





HUGHES-CUNNINGHAM  
HOUSE  
County Rt 1, 1 mile  
FROM HARLAN Spring  
BERKELEY County  
18-245550-4380260

