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 Jacks - Manning Farm

and/or common "Vinton Farm"

2. Location

street & number U.S. Route 340

city, town Charles Town X vicinity of

state West Virginia code 54 county Jefferson code 037

3. Classification

Category Ownership Status Present Use

X building(s) X private X occupied agriculture

X both unoccupied commercial

X site X public in progress educational

V/A Public Acquisition work in progress entertainment

both Accessible

X yes: restricted government

X no industrial

X public Acquisition being considered military

X in process museum

X private residence

X commercial

X educational

X entertainment

X government

X industrial

X military

X other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. Randolph J. Hayes, Sr.

street & number 3340 Ridge Point

city, town Atlanta X vicinity of state Georgia 30339

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Jefferson County Courthouse

street & number George and Washington Streets

city, town Charles Town state West Virginia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Historic Resources Survey, Charles Town

Bye-Pass Project, Paul D. Marshall & Associates

date 1980

Historic Preservation Unit, WV Dept. of Culture & History

depository for survey records

city, town Charleston state West Virginia
7. Description

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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

"Vinton Farm" is located at the end of a long, tree lined rural lane off U.S. Route 340 south of Charles Town, Jefferson County, West Virginia. The main house sites amidst a landscaped environment that is the center of a working farm, as it has since its construction about 1840.

"Vinton", the principal residence of the Jacks - Manning - Hayes family since antebellum times, is an excellent example of Greek Revival architecture in Jefferson County.

Greek Revival themes are outstanding in this two-story building with shallow hip roof. A porte-cochere entrance with Doric columns and full width porch lead to the main door. The rectangular transom found over the door is broken by three vertical muntins and the double entrance doors are flanked by side lights.

The white brick residence is approximately 49' x 43' and contains three interior chimneys. One of the most prominent interior features is the doorway between the entrance hall and the stair hall. This doorway is surmounted by a semi-circular fanlight that is segmented by delicate wooden tracery. The doorway is flanked by full-size louvered shutters. Vinton's floor plan is basically four over four in room arrangement with a wide central hallway and stair in the middle. There is a full basement and finished attic. Some interior spaces have been altered to accommodate modern conveniences such as toilets and baths, kitchen and closets.

The brick coursing is Flemish bond on all elevations. Features of the brickwork include strong corbeled lines to accent the large plain entablature around the entire house at the eave line, pilastered areas at each corner, and a reverse-corbel water table. The windows are six over six light sash, with louvered shutters flanking the window openings.

A full length, screened-in porch covers the east (rear) side of the house, with two entrances onto the porch level. The north elevation entrances has a one-story portico, with low hip roof carried by two slender Doric columns. The portico covers a doorway with a rectangular single-paned transom light.
8. Significance

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Specific dates  c. 1840  Builder/Architect  Not Known

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

"Vinton Farm", located off U.S. Route 340 south of Charles Town, in Jefferson County, West Virginia, is significant as an excellent surviving example of Greek Revival architecture in Jefferson County. It is also significant for having remained in the same family hands for over one hundred forty years; a family prominent in Jefferson County annals.  

EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. As described in greater detail in Part 7, the Description, of this document, "Vinton" is an excellent example of Greek Revival style architecture in Jefferson County, probably the richest county in West Virginia in terms of architectural landmarks. The large porte cochere supported by Doric columns, on the exterior, and the doorway that breaks the central hall on the first floor, surmounted by a semi-circular fanlight, on the interior, are but two of the existing architectural features that give this property its Greek Revival flavor.

2. "Vinton" was constructed about 1840 (though earlier, 1830, date has been speculated) for Robert Jacks, a prominent Jefferson County planter, as the seat of a large agricultural complex. He married Julia Davenport, member of one of Jefferson County's most prominent and influential families. Her father, Abraham Davenport, was one of the first justices of the peace when Jefferson County was formed in 1801 and was High Sheriff of Jefferson County 1813-15. Her brother, Braxton Davenport, was very prominent in local affairs, even reaching the national spotlight when, as chief justice of the Jefferson County magistrates court in 1859, he presided over the incarceration of abolitionist John Brown. He also served three terms in the Virginia Assembly.

The daughter of Robert and Julia Davenport Jacks, Rebecca, married Thomas J. Manning, and "Vinton" thus came to be the Manning Family seat. The Manning family continued to be prominent in Jefferson County social and political life, though in quieter manner. Their continuing prominence is evidenced by several events that illustrate their central roles in the community. In 1865, Francis J. Manning was the winning "knight" (Bushong) at the Ring Tournament, an equestrian social event that was the high point of the social season in Jefferson County for much of the 19th century. In 1898 Francis J. Manning, Jr. was appointed to head the Charles Town recruitment office for the Spanish-American War effort. In 1942-45, Mrs. Rolfe Gerhardt (former Delia Manning), then owner of "Vinton", was a leading member of the citizens.
committee that effectively opposed construction of a large dam on the Shenandoah River that would have flooded vast areas of agricultural land, including two entire Jefferson County communities.

These seemingly isolated events are illustrative of the way that the Manning family has continued to take an interest in and be a part of Jefferson County social and public life. The present owner of "Vinton" is a direct descendent of Thomas and Rebecca Jacks Manning.

The Jefferson County Historic Landmarks Commission declared "Vinton" a Jefferson County Historic Landmark in August of 1979, recognizing its importance to the historic heritage of the area.

#10 Geographical Data

Verbal boundary description and justification:

line 450 feet to the northern side of a private lane (including the circular turn-around); thence approximately 450 feet east along the northern side of the private lane; thence 600 feet north along the private road to the point of beginning.
9. Major Bibliographical References

Norris, J.E., History of the Lower Shenandoah Valley, A. Warner & Co., Chicago, 1890
Spirit of Jefferson Advocate, Charles Town, W.Va., August 23, 1979

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property: App. 2% acres
Quadrangle name: Charles Town, W.Va.
Quadrangle scale: 24,000

UTM References

A

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

18 253 210 435 0 300

Verbal boundary description and justification: Beginning at the point where the Vinton Farm's private drive meets the western terminus of the northern fence line (where the private drive turns sharply south); thence along the fence line approximately 450 feet to its junction with another fence; thence south along that fence line approximately 200 feet and continuing in the same

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

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11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Michael J. Pauley, Historian, and Paul D. Marshall, Architect
organization: W.Va. Dept. of Culture & History
date: November 15, 1983
street & number: The Cultural Center
telephone: (304) 348-0240

city or town: Charleston
state: West Virginia

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national  ____ state  X 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: November 18, 1983

For NPS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

Chief of Registration
Jacks-Manning Farm
"Vinton Farms"
U.S. Route 340,
Charles Town vicinity,
Jefferson County,
West Virginia

Charles Town, W.Va.
U.S.G.S. Quadrangle
U.T.M. Coordinates
18/353220/4350300

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1974. Field checked 1974
Projection: West Virginia coordinate system, north zone
(Lambert conformal conic)
10,000-foot grid ticks based on West Virginia and Virginia coordinate systems, north zones, and Maryland coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 18
1927 North American Datum

To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 7 meters south and 24 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks
Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fences generally visible on aerial photographs.

There may be private inholdings within the reservations shown.

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