

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

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1993

1. Name of Property

historic name Media Farm

other names/site number "Media"

2. Location

street & number Flowing Springs Rd., County Rt. 17, 2 miles ☒ not for publication
north of Charles Town

city or town Charles Town ☒ vicinity

state West Virginia code WV county Jefferson code 037 zip code 25414

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination
☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of
Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property
☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant
☒ nationally ☐ statewide ☐ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

William O. Gamm
Signature of certifying official/Title

5/25/93
Date

State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

- ☐ entered in the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet.

- ☐ determined eligible for the
National Register
☐ See continuation sheet.

- ☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register.

- ☐ removed from the National
Register.

- ☐ other, (explain:) _____

Media Farm
Name of Property

Jefferson County, West Virginia
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>11</u>	<u>4</u>	buildings
		sites
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	structures
		objects
<u>12</u>	<u>5</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic

multiple dwelling

secondary structures

institutional housing

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic

multiple dwelling

secondary structures

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Mid-19th century/Gothic Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation limestone

walls stone

wood

roof shingle

other _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation sheets.

Media Farm
Name of Property

Jefferson County, West Virginia
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☒ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is: N/A

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property.
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

A. education

exploration/settlement
entertainment/recreation

B. literature

politics and government

C. architecture

Other - house built for farmerettes
during WW I.

Period of Significance

1780-1940

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Ambassador John W. Davis
Julia Davis

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Primary location of additional data:

- ☐ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☒ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

Jefferson County Historic Landmarks
Commission

Media Farm
Name of Property

Jefferson County, West Virginia
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 12 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	18	255220	4357100
Zone	Easting	Northing	
2	18	255100	4356810

3	18	255040	4356810
Zone	Easting	Northing	
4	18	255040	4357100

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jean T. Crolius, Preservation Consultant

organization date March 8, 1993

street & number P.O. Box 1644 telephone 304-876-3614

city or town Shepherdstown state WV zip code 25443

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Mrs. Louise M. O'Brien

street & number 1114 San Jose Forest Dr. telephone 904-471-0180

city or town St. Augustine state FL zip code 32094

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 7 Page 1

Media Farm, Jefferson Co., WV

Media, a fine Gothic Revival farm house, on County Route 17, the main road between Shepherdstown and Charles Town, is at the end of a tree-lined serpentine driveway which bisects rolling grazing fields and is surrounded by numerous dependencies, a swimming pool on the west side and two tenant houses. The farm has a commanding view of rolling fields against the Blue Ridge Mountains in the distance. The 2-1/2 story house, a contributing structure dating from 1780, is sheathed in board and batten siding with decorated bargeboard gables. The shingled roof has numerous symmetrical dormers, due to other additions over the years. Another important architectural feature is a huge stone gable-end chimney on the northwest wing. The house's variety of architectural features tell the story of it being a tenant house, farm house, and resort hotel.

The house and its additions stands on limestone foundations that provide a crawl space. The wing has a partial basement. The exterior is of yellow painted board and batten with the exception of the original 2-story stone and wood wing at the northwest elevation. Its gables and dormers have asphalt shingles. The gables throughout have scalloped white painted bargeboards.

The center gable entrance is at the southeast facade and is flanked by one-story porches with 4 doric column supports beneath a fascia with dentil trim. The porches stretch across the rest of the facade. The southwest elevation reveals the gable-end with inside center chimney of the original tenant house and the 2-1/2 story addition and 2 dormers. The wing also has a 1-story frame addition along its southwest wall to accommodate a kitchen and enclosed porch. The northwest elevation is the gable-end of the wing that also has a 1-story concrete block addition for an apartment which obscures the first floor level of the massive stone chimney. Finally, the northeast elevation has undergone many additions. These include a 2-story porch open at the first floor and enclosed at the second floor; an addition at the rear of the original house for a hall and powder room sheathed in german siding; and a 1950 double garage. There are symmetrical dormers on the wing roof.

Interior

There is a vestibule enclosing the center entrance of the house which can be entered from the porch at either side. It has coral painted plaster, a plaster medallion with a 20th century lamp hanging from its center, and tile floor. Leading from this vestibule to the hallway of the house are double recessed single panel doors. The panels have two rows of raised mouldings with flat arches at the top and the reverse at the bottom. The brass escutcheons and doorknobs are of ornate victorian design.

JUN 7 1993

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 2

Media Farm, Jefferson Co., WV

A 3-light transom is above the doors and are flanked by four vertical lights over single raised panel wainscot. The pale orchid plastered center hall has its original late 19th century configuration of the main entrance leading to the opposite end which has an entrance to the outside. It's ten foot ceiling has a plaster medallion with a hanging 20th century light fixture at the center of the two entrances to the livingrooms. A bevelled edge baseboard defines a random width pine floor. A stairway to the second floor is on the southwest wall. It has a walnut mushroom capped newell post and handrail which rest on a machine tooled baluster. The doors in the hall leading to other rooms are two vertical recessed panels with again the ornate brass hardware. The northwest end of the hall has had renovations to create a cloak room and powder room. The entrance is the original doorway to the outside. At the southeast wall the entrance to a pale yellow livingroom, now being used as a guestroom, mirrors the livingroom opposite it. Their fireplaces are centered on the outside walls, their 8-light double french windows are identical on the facade wall and their two vertical raised panel doors are at the same position on the northwest wall. That door in the northeast guestroom leads into an early 20th century bathroom. The one in the southwest livingroom leads into the diningroom in the wing. The bathroom and a closet in the northeast room were built to accommodate guests when the property became a resort. The northeast room's fireplace has a simple painted wood mantel and surrounds resting on a large handmade brick hearth. The southwest room experienced a fire so that the fireplace was rebuilt with a painted wood mantel on wood brackets and surrounds. The hearth and fireplace itself are of contemporary brick. The floor also was replaced with 3" oak flooring. This room is the first floor of the original tenant house. The other difference is this pale orchid room still has its double 8-light french window on the southwest wall whereas the other one lost its window on the northeast wall to accommodate a closet. Both rooms and entrance hall give a feel of elegance due to their ten foot ceilings, large panel doors, embossed hardware and pairs of french windows.

The diningroom is the first floor of the late 18th century stone wing. There is a massive stone fireplace at the northwest wall flanked by cupboards of early 20th century design. The stone is bisected horizontally by a 12'x12' oak hand-hewn beam which also is the top of the fireplace opening where an iron wood-stove has been placed. It has a stone hearth. A pair of electric coach lamps are at either end of the stone wall and flank a Russian border tapestry. At either end of the diningroom hang 6-light lamp wood egyptian-style chandeliers.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JUN 7 1993

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 3

Media Farm, Jefferson Co., WV

On the southwest wall at the south end is a 15-light door with a 4-light transom leading to an enclosed breakfast room. Opposite on the northeast wall is the same door leading to an enclosed porch. Along both walls are matching windows and doors to accommodate a "pass through" and access to porches. The wood surrounds of doors and windows are of simple flat boards with the exception of the fireplace wall cupboards which have a triple center bead moulding. The baseboards are rounded edge painted black. Walls and ceiling are white painted plaster. The northwest wall has at its most southerly end a swinging door leading to a small 20th century kitchen (see sketch). The kitchen has a door on its southeast wall leading to a previously mentioned tile floored breakfast room of 20th century sliding windows over veneer panelling. A sliding glass door on the south wall leads to a patio.

At the landing of the stairway to the second floor is a door going into a 20th century bathroom. It also has a door on its northwest wall going out to a second floor porch.

The stairway at the second floor level reveals graining at the edge of the stair risers, not evident at the first floor, and continues to the third floor.

The 1 bedrooms on the second floor are over the livingrooms and are also mirror images regarding window placement, fireplaces, wood surrounds and mantels of simple design. Both have random width pine flooring. The northeast bedroom has a ceramic washbowl in the corner to again accommodate guests when Media was a resort in the late 1920's. The other bedroom had a contemporary bathroom built along the northwest wall.

An office is between the bedrooms at the second floor of the center-gable facade. At the center of the second floor hallway ceiling is an etched glass gas lamp (now electrified) hanging from a sturdy brass bracket.

The third floor was raised to accommodate two more bedrooms above the second floor ones. A gable-end inside chimney is visible in both rooms with evidence of stoves for each room. The brick chimneys are flanked by 4-light windows that drop into the room. Under the eaves are storage spaces and a bath in the southwest bedroom. The walls are of fiberboard, simple door surrounds and simple brass hardware. The numbers on the grained doors with box locks document the resort era.

The stone wing upper floors are accessible from the concrete block addition at its northwest elevation. The first floor of this addition is a contemporary livingroom and kitchen. A door from the livingroom southeast wall leads to an enclosed porch with a stairway leading to two bedrooms and a bath on the second floor and two more bedrooms, each with ceramic washbowls, on the third floor. This addition was again to accommodate guests when the property was a resort (see sketch). These

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JUN 7 1993

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 4

Media Farm, Jefferson Co., WV

rooms have pine flooring and most of the doors are tongue and groove planks with box locks and ceramic doorknobs. Some doors are the same as those described in the older section. Many alterations have taken place here with a variety of materials and no special architectural elements. The porch that gives access to the upper floors has a stone stairway leading to the partial basement under the previously described diningroom.

Yellow Tenant House

The ca. 1893 5-bay 1-story tenant house has an addition extending the facade to the east about 1930. It now has a center entrance into a mid-20th century livingroom with a fireplace on the west wall. Horizontal 5-panel doors lead to two bedrooms on the north wall and french doors on the east wall lead to a screened porch. The window and door surrounds are of simple flat boards. The contemporary bathroom, another bedroom and a contemporary kitchen are in the older section. A utility room stretches across the west elevation. The surrounds of the windows and doors in the older section are single center groove with bulls-eye corner blocks. Doors are 4-raised panel, longer above shorter ones and have box locks. An enclosed stairway at the west wall of the kitchen leads to an attic. The older section of the attic has 3" tongue and groove horizontal panelling. The older section was heated by a stove at the center chimney of the original building. Two x two double-hung windows are throughout the house. A partial basement is under the older section. Condition: Good. (#16 in sketch). Contributing.

The Grey Tenant House

This 1-story tenant house, west of the main house, was built in 1917 to house farmerettes who came to the area to work on farms during WW I. It has grey asbestos siding over german siding and stands on cinder block and poured concrete. The southeast elevation has a french door center entrance flanked by 2x2 double-hung windows and goes into a livingroom that was a porch. Another livingroom, now a diningroom, is west of this room. The diningroom has a brick corner fireplace with a concrete mantel at the northwest corner. On the south wall a hall leads to a small bedroom on the southeast wall and opposite is a contemporary bath. On the north wall of the diningroom is a small square hall which has entrances to a den on the west of it and a bedroom at the east. All bedrooms have on their outside walls at the center 2x2 double-hung windows. A contemporary kitchen runs nearly the length of the house on the west side. A small enclosed porch at the north end completes the elevation. A stairway on the southeast wall of the porch leads to the basement. It also has a ca. 1950 concrete block garage. Condition: Good. (#5 in sketch) Tenant house: Contributing; Garage: Noncontributing

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JUN 7 1993

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5

Media Farm, Jefferson Co., WV

The Smoke House

Ca.1800. Contributing. Log building with three sides sheathed in yellow painted random width weatherboard on a stone foundation. It has weatherboard clapboard gable ends and a shingle roof over random width boards. It is used as a pump and bath house for the pool. Condition: Good. (#2 in sketch) See photo.

Work Shop

Ca.1930. Non-contributing. Built of concrete block and stucco. Condition: Good. (#4 in sketch)

Barn

Ca.1915. Contributing. Built of painted random width weatherboard and has a standing seam tin roof. Condition: Poor. (#6 in sketch)

Shed

Ca.1900. Contributing. Built of random width weathered german siding, it has a concrete foundation and wall at the rear, and a standing seam tin roof. Condition: Deteriorating. (#7 in sketch)

Silo

Ca.1915 and late 20th century. Contributing. Earlier one built of board siding and deteriorating. It also has a wooden deteriorating grain shoot. The later is built of concrete in poor condition. (#8 in sketch)

Dairy Barn

Ca.1920. Contributing. Built of red tile and weatherboard gable-ends, with tin roof. Condition: Fair. (#9 in sketch)

Milk House

Ca.1920. Contributing. Built of concrete with standing seam tin roof. Condition: Fair. (#10 in sketch)

Wagon Shed

Ca.1900. Contributing. Built of painted weatherboard, low gable-end and standing seam tin roof. Condition: Fair. (#11 in sketch)

Corn Crib

Ca.1900. Contributing. Three bay, painted weatherboard with standing seam tin roof and snowbirds, stone blocks added at rear corners and center for support. Condition: Fair. (#12 in sketch)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6

Media Farm, Jefferson Co., WV

House Trailer

Ca. 1970. Non-contributing. (#13 in sketch)

Pump House

Ca. 1950. Non contributing. A small square building of yellow painted german siding and with a shingle roof. Condition: Good.
(#14 in sketch)

Stone Barn Foundation

Ca. 1840. Unevaluated. Nestled in a hillside facing south and built of limestone corner quoins with random rubble stone walls. Condition: Fair. (#15 in sketch)

Media Farm has been in the same family since 1780 and has been subdivided many times among family heirs over the years. It has been well maintained over the years and the various uses: a tenant dependency for a large plantation Walnut Grove, a farm, a school and a hotel resort are still evident. The once large family plantation and gracious living is felt as one visits the farm and enjoys the open vistas of rolling fields and the Blue Ridge Mountains.

For placement and dates of the other dependencies please see sketch.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JUN 7 1993

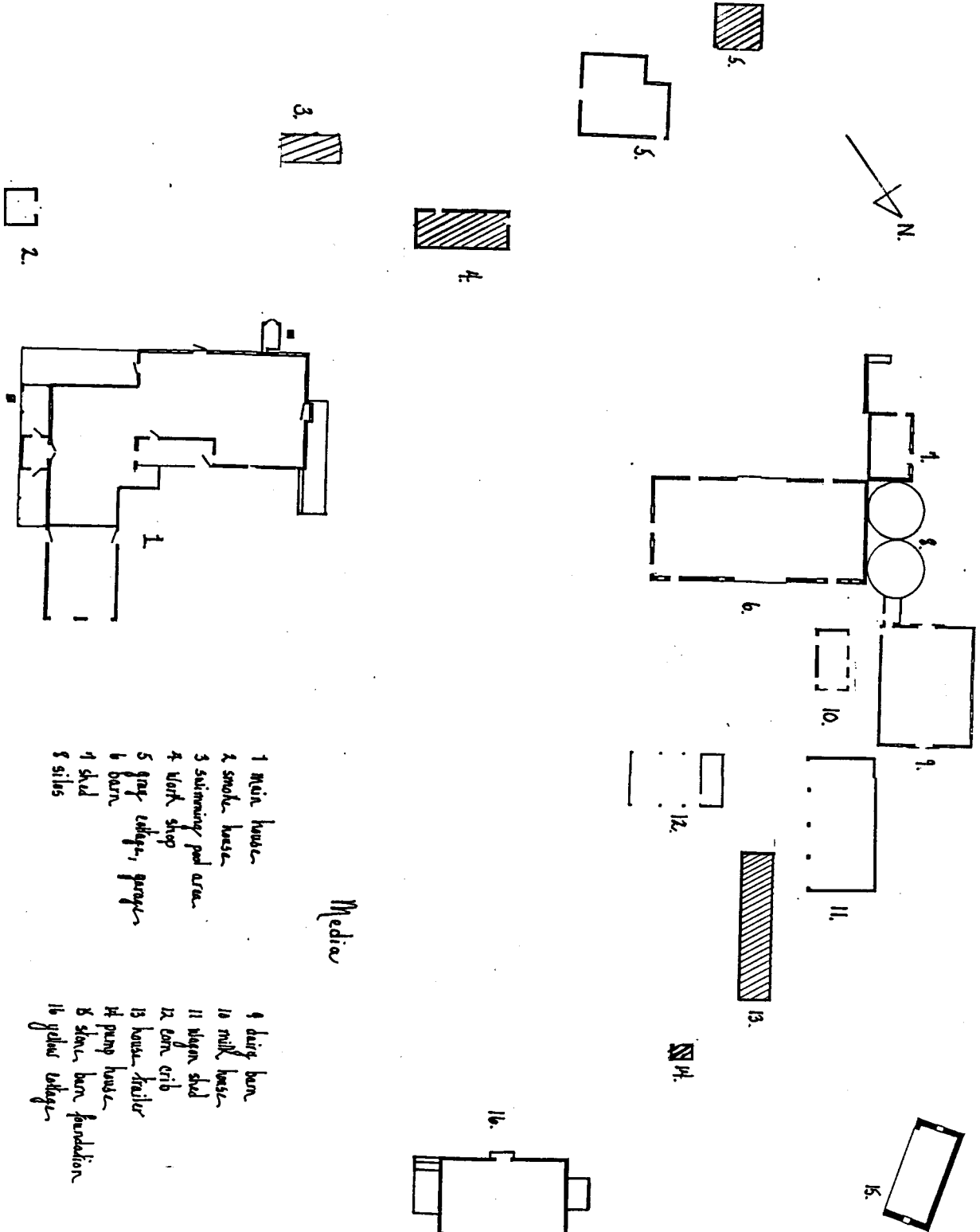
National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Sketch 1

Media Farm

Jefferson Co., WV



Diagonal lines
non-contributing

JUN 7 1993

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1

Media Farm, Jefferson Co., WV

Media Farm was acquired in 1780, then a property of over 1,000 acres, by Charles Yates, from England, and his descendants have continued the ownership to the present. The farm's period of significance begins with the purchase, 1780 to 1940, when Julia Davis published her book about the Spanish Civil War, The Sun Climbs Slow. It is eligible for National Register designation under criterion A because of its school run by the family for their children and those from nearby farms; the 200 year history of its settlement and development; and when the farm was the first golf course resort in Jefferson County. It meets criterion B because of the past owner, Julia Davis, a well-known authoress, and her father, Ambassador John W. Davis, who was a tutor at the school and a candidate for president of the United States in 1924. It also meets criterion C because of its architecture which represents 200 years of styles as the owners made alterations to meet the changing uses of the farm. Another significant period for Media Farm is a small house built in 1917 for farmerettes, a program to help farmers during WW I.

Jefferson County today is bounded by the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers, the Blue Ridge Mountains and Clark County, Virginia. It is an area that began development in the early 1700's when it was largely forest and limestone outcropping. Settlers from Europe acquired grants from England and began developing the land for farming and extraction of iron ore, copper and limestone. It saw many skirmishes with Indians during the French and Indian War of 1755. The county is proud of its role in the Revolutionary War because of the famous "Bee Line" march when its volunteers were the first to arrive in Boston after marching 600 miles in 24 days to participate under Washington's command.

Under criterion A for Media Farm there are three areas of significance. Its history of settlement begins in 1780 when Charles Yates from England bought the 1,000 acre property from Thomas Rutherford and cleared the land. At the time the only structure was a 2-story single pen log house built for the overseer of Walnut Grove nearby. The rich forest of oak was used to build dependencies and additions to the main house. Media Farm and other farms in the area became prosperous with its cleared fertile land. Jefferson County today is an agricultural county begun by its early land owners such as Charles Yates. The Media acreage was reduced as sub-divisions took place among the Charles Yates heirs, so today the farm is about 150 acres.

During the Civil War the county became a battleground covering much of its farmland as troops moved back and forth battling to occupy the rich farmland. The Yates at Media, so named for its location in the midst of other farms, suffered as did others when soldiers stole live-stock, food and even spent days at the farm. Some shooting of firearms took place on the porch of the farmhouse.

JUN 7 1993

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 2

Media Farm, Jefferson Co., WV

Media was a school in 1863 for the Yates family and again in 1869 when Reverend William T. Leavell, who married Anne Yates who inherited the property from her father John Yates, moved there to establish a country school for his children and others in the neighborhood. About 1890, Major Edward H. McDonald and his wife, Julia Yates Leavell, who inherited the property from her mother Anne Yates Leavell moved to Media and hired John W. Davis of Clarksburg to be a tutor to his children.

Also under criterion A, the farm became a resort when Marshall McDonald believed the rolling hills and mountainous scenery would attract urbanites. In 1928 he built the first golf course in Jefferson County which stretched across the front of the property. This venture didn't succeed due to the Great Depression.

Criterion B is supported by the authoress, Julia McDonald Davis, who spent the summers of her childhood with her maternal grandparents, the McDonalds, at Media Farm. Her writings reflect much of her life with her many cousins on the farm.

She began writing as a child and she continued to write poems, childrens books, historical novels, mysteries and plays until her death in January, 1993. She was one of two of the first women journalists hired by the Associated Press in 1926. Her book The Swords of the Vikings was one of five nominated for the Newberry Awards in 1928, an award for children's literature. Her play "The Anvil" written for the Civil War Centennial in Charles Town was produced off Broadway in 1962. She wrote articles for the Smithsonian Magazine and wrote "The Shenandoah" (1944) at the request of Stephen Vincent Benet for the Rivers of America Series. Her book Cloud on the Land (1950) was a novel about western settlement and slavery, though thinly disguised, was about Media and the McDonald family. In 1963, she was honored as the West Virginia Daughter of the Year. Governor Gaston Caperton again honored her by naming her a Distinguished West Virginian on July 31, 1992 for outstanding achievement and meritorious service. Her renowned career as a writer began at age 11 when she received a silver medal for a story published in St. Nicholas Magazine. Her other love was children and though she couldn't have any of her own, she raised a brood of adopted and step-children. The story of two of these children who were refugees from the Spanish Civil War is told in her book The Sun Climbs Slow (1940).

JUN 7 1993

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Media Farm, Jefferson County, W.V.

Section number 8 Page 3

Also under criterion B, Julia's father, John W. Davis, who later distinguished himself as a lawyer, politician, and statesman, met her mother, Julia McDonald, when he came to Media from Clarksburg, West Virginia, as a teacher for the McDonald children and others. His political career began in West Virginia when he was elected to the West Virginia House of Delegates, then received national attention when he became a U.S. congressman and later solicitor general under President Woodrow Wilson. Between December 1918 and March 1921, Davis was the ambassador to the Court of St. James's (Great Britain). His daughter spent a year in 1919-1920 with him, her stepmother, Nell, and Nell's young niece, Katy Watson. In 1920, in spite of being out of the country, Davis was a strong contender for the presidential nomination on the Democratic ticket. Four years later, he was the candidate. After losing the election to Calvin Coolidge, Davis continued until his death in 1955 as head of a prestigious Wall Street law firm. His last and most important case was before the Supreme Court in 1954 when he defended South Carolina in Brown v. Board of Education. In 1991 Burt Lancaster played the part of Davis in a major television movie based on the Supreme Court case. Davis received numerous honors and awards, including the prestigious Knight Commander of the Bath, the highest rank possible for a foreigner, from Queen Elizabeth II in 1953.*

John W. Davis's ties to Media remained strong after his first wife died in 1900 shortly after Julia's birth. He visited the farm frequently, often walking the 2 1/4 miles from the train station, and he always allowed Julia to spend her summers there with her beloved grandparents. When Mrs. McDonald died in 1920, Davis wrote in his ambassadorial diary: "The most saintly woman I have known is no more."*

*Dolores A. Fleming, historical editor of The Ambassadorial Diary of John W. Davis, to be published in 1993 by West Virginia University Press.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 4

Media Farm, Jefferson County, W.V.

Julia Davis and her father, John W. Davis, were accomplished in their respective fields in the years before 1940, the closing of the period of significance. However, it should be noted that their accomplishments and contributions to history continued until they died.

The architecture at Media Farm meets the significance under criterion C. It tells a story from rural log and stone to refined Gothic Revival. The materials for the house were mainly from the land, including the limestone for the stone wing. Media's large oak forest supplied the beams and framing for the main house. The house started out as a 2-story single pen log structure for the overseer for Walnut Grove, another farm across the road. A single story limestone wing was added in the rear in 1790. As the family grew, another 2-story single pen and center hall were added and a wood second story to the stone wing. About the same time, 1800, a log smokehouse and a barn on a stone foundation were built. The main house now is of Gothic Revival style with board and batten siding and was repeated again when a garage was attached to the house in the 1950's. Today the house, in spite of its additions of a wing, porches, dormers, and a garage, gives the appearance of a classic example of Victorian Gothic Revival with its symmetry and scalloped barge boards and inside chimney at its gable-end at the southeast elevation. This is the way farm houses in Jefferson County grew into manor houses during the prosperous 19th century in Jefferson County.

Another significant feature of Media is the small cottage built in 1917 to house "farmerettes" during WW I. The farmerette program was established to help farmers whose family members had gone to war. The women were brought from urban areas to work on the farms.

The farm today, though reduced to 150 acres from the original 1,000, is shared by the many heirs of John Yates. Much of the surrounding farm land is part of the original purchase and also owned by Yates' descendants. Media looks today much as it did in the 19th century and is still a family farm. It is being preserved as a family heirloom where vacations, reunions and parties capture the spirit of a strong family heritage.

* "Julia Davis WV Wordcrafter" by Wm. Theriault, Goldenseal, Vol. 18, No. 3.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JUN 7 1993

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 1

Media Farm, Jefferson Co., WV

Jefferson County Land Records Office, Court House, Charles Town, West Virginia.

Berkeley County Historical Society, John St., Martinsburg, WV. Microfilm of Berkeley County Land Records Office.

Jefferson County Historical Society Magazines.

Volume LIII, December 1987. "Making It on 75 Acres": from 1883-1891. Letters by Mrs. John M. Daniel.

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**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 1

Media Farm, Jefferson Co., WV

Verbal Boundary

The boundary for Media begins near the southeast corner of the grey tenant house in a straight line until it is parallel with the rear of the yellow tenant house; then runs in a straight line northeast until it is parallel with the rear of the northwest corner of the old barn foundation; then in a straight line northwest until it is parallel within a few feet beyond the southwest corner of the grey tenant house; then in a straight line southwest to the beginning. See Media Farm Boundary Map and white line.

Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn so that it includes the significant buildings of Media Farm. The buildings are clustered thus the boundary includes the resources that have historically been part of Media Farm and maintain historic integrity.

JUN 7 1993

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Media Farm, Jefferson Co., WV

Other Property Owners:

Julia Ann Urquhart
3049 Fawn Lane
Jackson, Michigan 49201

John Davis O'Brien
Media Farm
Box 140, Rt. 3
Charles Town, West Virginia 25414

Carla O. Kennedy
5933 Estola
Jackson, Michigan 49201

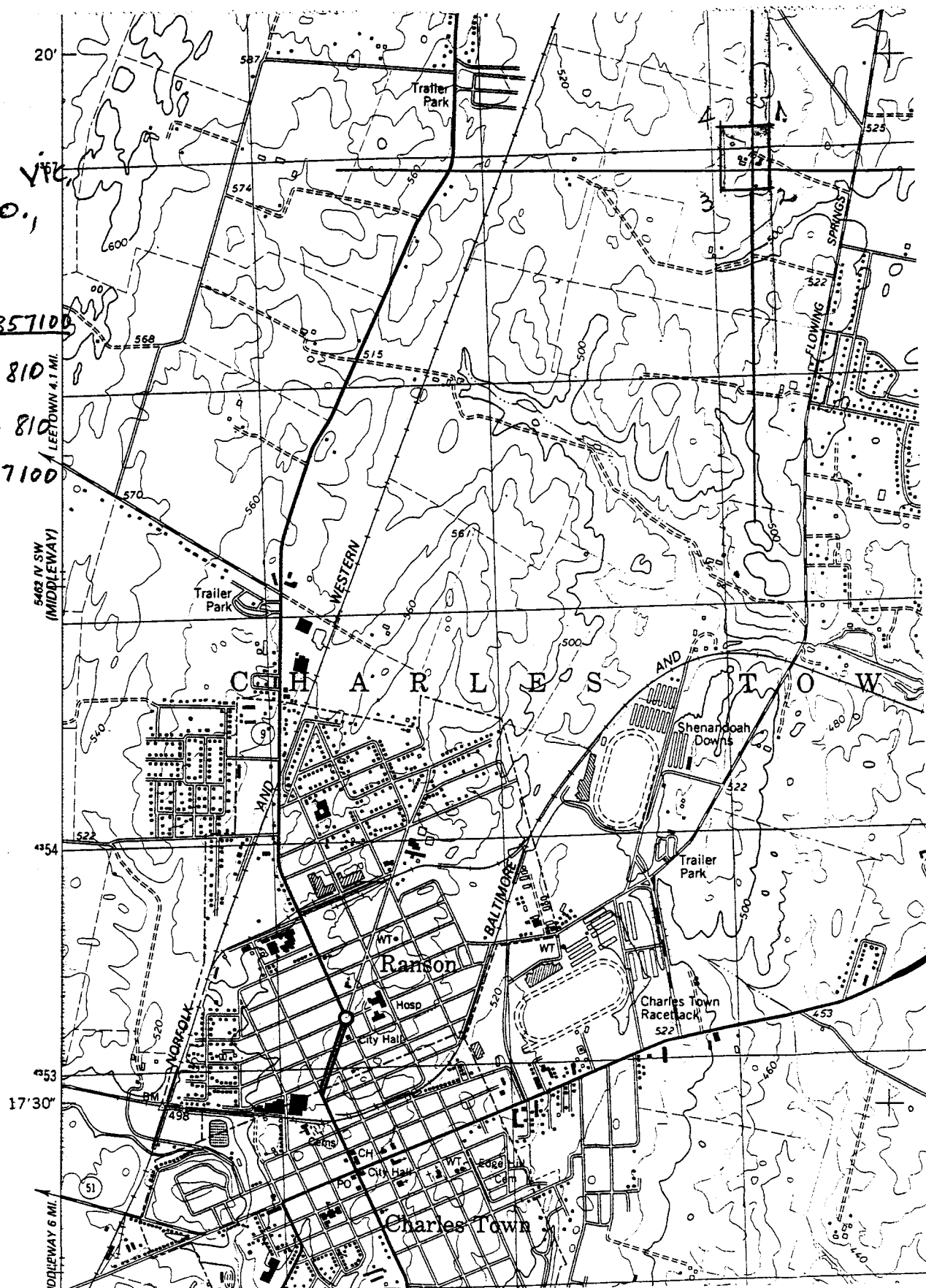
MEDIA
CHARLES TOWN VTC,
JEFFERSON CO.,
W.V.,
UTM:

1. 18 | 255 220 | 4357100

2. 18 | 255 100 | 4356 810

3. 18 | 155 040 | 4356 810

7. 18 | 155 040 | 4357100





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