NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

NAME Swan Pond Manor Historical District

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Swan Pond

CITY, TOWN

Martinsburg

STATE

West Virginia

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY DISTRICT

OWNERSHIP PUBLIC

STATUS OCCUPIED

PRESENT USE AGRICULTURE

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

NO

MILITARY

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Multiple

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, Berkeley County

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Martinsburg, WV 25401

STATE

LOCATION OF EXISTING SURVEYS S-35

TITLE M-45, Berkeley County Historical Society & Berkeley County Historical Landmarks Commission Survey M-28, S-4, S-3, 1, 5, 2, 6, 7, 8, 18, 23, 24, 33, 21, 34, H-56, S-11, 37

DATE 1973-78

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Berkeley County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN Martinsburg, WV 25401

STATE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Swan Pond Manor Historical District

CONTINUATION SHEET

Item Number 4

Page 2

✓ M-28. Mr. & Mrs. Ankers, Rt. 3, Mtbg, 25401
✓ S-4. Mr. & Mrs. George W. Johnson, Swan Pond, Mtbg, 25401
S-3. Charles W. Miller, 1010 Florida Ave, Martinsburg 25401
✓ S-1. Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Hartley, RFD, Shepherdstown, WV 25443
✓ S-5X. Mr. & Mrs. Bruce T. Whittington, Rt. 3, Martinsburg 25401
S-2. Mr. & Mrs. Richard McCune, Rt. 3, Mtbg, 25401
✓ S-6. Mr. & Mrs. J. Wayne Hollida, Rt. 3, Mtbg, 25401
✓ S-7. Ernest & Herman Vanmetre, RFD, Shepherdstown, WV 25443
✓ S-8.
✓ S-18. J. Wayne Hollida, Rt. 3, Martinsburg 25401
✓ S-23. N. P. Wood, Rt. 3, Box 79, Martinsburg, 25401
✓ S-24. Andrew James Rt. 3, Martinsburg 25401
✓ S-33. Ned Morrow, Rt. 3, Martinsburg 25401
✓ S-34. Mrs. George K. Folk, Rt. 3, Box 67, Martinsburg 25401
M-56. Mr. & Mrs. W. Glenn Welsh, Rt. 3, Box 855, Martinsburg 25401
M-55. Mr. & Mrs. Richard W. McCune, Rt. 3, Martinsburg 25401
✓ S-11. Mr. & Mrs. W. Glenn Welsh, Rt. 3, Box 855, Martinsburg 25401
✓ S-37. Mr. & Mrs. W. Glenn Welsh, Rt. 3, Box 855, Martinsburg 25401
The Swan Pond Manor Historical District is an agricultural area of Berkeley County. Originally the area was composed, in 1772 when Berkeley County was carved off Frederick County, of the Swan Pond Manor land of Lord Fairfax of approximately 2,000 acres, 211 acres plus owned by Richard and John Morgan and the Maxwell Plantation of 358 acres and another tract of land which had been granted to John Morgan. By 1817 it had been divided into the following farms: the manor land, Jacob Folk, G. Dunkle, James Mason, Jacob Small, Jacob Williamson, Lewis B. Willis, E. Williams. C. J. Faulkner owned that part of the Maxwell plantation which is included in the district. John J. Welsh owned the Richard and John Morgan tract and Welcome E. Sprinkle owned the John Morgan land. Many of these farms have not changed their boundary lines. Today the area is composed of five dairy farms: Holliday, Wood, Snyder, Ankers and Hartley. It has one peach orchard (Welsh), one hog farm (Whittington) and three beef cattle farms (Welsh, Vanatre and Morrow). The land itself is rich limestone, adaptive to various forms of cultivation and crops. The Pond was originally more than one. A stream today flows through a heavy marl deposit which is used as pasture land. One farm northwest of the Manor land is where the stream disappears into a sink hole. The Swan Ponds and Swan Pond sink hole both appear on many early deeds as a general area location. The name Swan Pond officially dates back to the 1730s. The ponds were inhabited by swans. Today it is inhabited by wild ducks. All the above listed farms contain a farm unit of buildings typical for their type of farming. The following is a description of outstanding buildings and sites:

- **S-5.** Capt. James Mason House, a 3 bay small, two story stone house built of native limestone with very low ceiling.

- **S-6.** James Mason House, a story and a half log house with walk-in basement cooking fireplace.

- **S-24.** Site of house, burned ca. 1930. A few foundation stones and old well remain.

- **S-34.** George Folk House, arm of the century 3 bay frame house.

- **S-33.** A 3 bay frame with "L" wing, may be part log, in deteriorated condition.

- **M-28.** Keh-Sprinkle House. Built of limestone in 1819, this "L" shaped house is two stories with a gable roof and small brick inside end chimneys. The original window sash have been replaced with 2/2. Openings are larger on the first floor and have stone flat arches. The middle bay of the front 5 bay facade on both floors is a door. Both doors have sidelights and wide transoms supported by Doric columns. The one story, one bay entrance porch has a flat roof for a deck and probably originally had a balustrade. The roof is supported by coupled Doric columns. A flush belt course of stone extends across the front, tying into the stone flat arches, an outstanding feature. The ell has a two tiered recessed porch. This is an outstanding early Greek Revival house.

- **S-4.** Jacob A. Small House. The house is "L" shaped and was built in 2 sections, the ell being the older part. This was an early 1 1/2 story weatherboard house of a two room plan with enclosed winder stairs. The main front section was added in 1839. It has a center hall plan, 2 rooms each side. The 2 story, 5 bay house is built of brick in Flemish bond on a stone foundation. Large interior end chimneys separate the flush gable boards. The entrance porch is a one bay, one story, pedimented portico on coupled columns with a balustrade. The paneled entrance door has a small paneled transom. The open string stair reaches the third floor in four flights around an open well. Most main rooms have fireplaces with period mantels. Several have flanking two tiered, paneled door cupboards. Architecturally, this is a fine residence.
S-1. Robert Carter Willis House. 2 story stone house, with 1 1/2 story stone wing, wing abuts house. Gable roof, parallel to 3 bay entrance, side hall plan, single stone chimney, interior, at ridge line, east end. Simple box cornice and flush raking cornice, simple window surrounds. House is of field stone with quarried stone quoining at corners. Good stonework. Entrance door ornate, over massive stone quarried steps. 6 panels of equal size, repeated in reveals. 5 light transom above, also repeated in reveal. 6/6 sash. One log outbuilding with board and batten cover, to rear of house. Rest of outbuildings new. Excellent stone wall along entrance road with horizontal stone laid in wall and diagonal stone cap. Beautiful setting along open and rolling fields.

S-7. Dr. Williams House. A Greek Revival house constructed ca. 1840 of limestone, this 5 bay two story building is stuccoed except for the stone end chimneys on the gables. It is "L" shaped with a two tiered recessed porch. The front section is 5 bays with a center hall plan. Windows on the first floor are 9/6 double sash and on the second floor are 6/6 double sash. A box cornice extends across the front of the house with nice gable returns. There is no entrance porch. A special feature is the cistern which extends nearly 5 feet above the ground. It is located in the backyard.

S-8. Log-Brick House. The building was originally built as an early double log house. The layout is central block, side wing. Both sections are two story with gable roof and both have large exterior stone chimneys on the gable. The main section is 3 bays with 6/6 double sash windows. It has been covered with brick in a stretcher bond with slight flat arches over the fenestration. A handsome but heavy Greek Revival type cornice was then added to this section. The gable was also corniced with nice returns. Two small brick interior end chimneys were added. The two bay, two story wing is weather-boarded and has corner posts. The "new" bargeboard has decorative stops. The stone end chimney has a brick flue. An unusual feature is the basement which is in one of the outbuildings close to the house. The property is in poor condition.

S-18. Holldale. The front facade of this 2 story, 5 bay "L" shaped brick house is built in offset Flemish bond. Windows are 6/6 double sash. The entrance door has a small paneled transom. Inside end chimneys are at the gables. The one story, three bay entrance porch has 4 Doric columns and 2 like pilasters. The floor plan is one room each side a center hall. There is 2 rooms deep. The house was built in the late 1860s and the period trim reflects this era. The stairway has 2 turned spindles per step. Fireplaces are in most of the main rooms with period mantels.

S-23. Wood Haven. It is a large 3 bay, 2 story, "L" shaped frame house built in 1895. The floor plan is center hall, one room each side, with a 2 story, one room plan ell with two tiered recessed porch. A one story, 3 bay entrance porch with 4 large Doric columns extends across the front. The exterior trim consists of a fluted rails and stiles with a cap mold, very attractive. The paneled entrance door has a frosted glass top panel with a carved egg-and-dart, surround. Windows are 1/1 double sash. The main stairway is an open string, single flight stairs with two turned balusters per step.
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Swan Pond Manor Historical District

CONTINUATION SHEET

The starting newel is a large, turned one with a beveled handrail. Both the parlor and dining rooms have fireplaces with similar mantels. The dining room mantel has a clipped corner shelf supported by many bed moldings. The frieze is decorated by a running dog-tooth pyramidal ornament with like motif on the end blocks; these end blocks also have pierced and shaped dentil fret. The pilasters are chamfered and have reeded sections separated by a head molding, all on plain bases. The interior chimneys have paneled door cupboards on the sides. This is an outstanding arrangement. The dining room and old kitchen area were separated by double l panel doors, the old kitchen has beaded wainscoting and an enclosed winder stair with l panel door leading to the bedroom above. A small closet is under the stairs. The old chimney that used to flue the cookstove had a flanking two tiered cupboard. A two story addition was built for a new kitchen and service areas. The new kitchen was wainscoted like the old one but has since been remodeled with new cabinets. An enclosed winder stair leads to the second floor rooms. A two story corner bay window was also added to the front. The trim in the hall and parlor has a cusion center molding flanked by fillets. Other trim is composed of rolled and flat fillet moldings and is very attractive. The yard around the house has many beautiful maple trees planted in 1896. The barn is outstanding for its eatherboard, instead of vertical board, construction. The windows are louvred with peaked cap. The

S-21. Williamson House. Built ca. 1850 of brick on a stone foundation, this 2 story Greek Revival house is 6 bays wide with inside end chimneys on the gables. Windows are 6/6 double sash, longer on the first floor. The original 1 story, 1 bay entrance porch has tapered square columns supporting the flat roof. The entrance has a small paneled transom over the entrance door with sidelights.

S-11. Raleigh Morgan House. Built of brick with plain flat arches, this 5 bay, 2 story brick house with 2 story ell has a gable roof with inside end chimneys. Flush bargeboards are on the gables. Original window sash have been replaced with 2/2 sash and a cross gable dormer with a 2/2 window breaks the roof line. Small windows flank the chimneys in the gables. The transomed entrance door has a new 1 bay, 1 story porch consisting of pedimented portico with arched ceiling supported by coupled Tuscan columns with like pilasters. The floor plan is central hall, one room each side. A fireplace with Federal mantel is in each of the 4 rooms of the main section. The open string stairway reaches the third floor in 4 flights around an open well. The two flights to the attic have been enclosed to preserve heat. These steps were grained, like the stairs at "Piedmont" in Jefferson Co. The house was built on a stone foundation ca. 1800.

M-56 M MORGAN-HUDGEL HOUSE SITE
56. Part of original basement kitchen stone wall still remains. It is used as a workshop and an old picture of the house, old house and basement which was built on slate hill with walk in ground floor kitchen.

S-3. Fairview School. Historic site of Fairview School, original brick building constructed in 1875 torn down because of crack in wall ca. 1930 and replaced with poorly constructed frame 1 bay deep building. This building is being torn down. This was the last of the one room schools to operate in Berkeley County.


M-45. The "Swan Pond" already listed along with S-2 in The National Register. It was here around the ponds that several log cabins stood which were used for slaves and after the Civil War were occupied by black people until they were burned in 1912. They were not all on the Swan Pond Manor land. Part were on the Richard Morgan land.

Among the most outstanding farm complexes listed above are:

M-28. Kroh-Sprinkle house farm. The stone house is located near the foot of a hill above a road a 1/2 foot stone wall is at the foot of the hill and designates the front yard to the house about 150 ft. south of the house is a good bank barn ground stable first floor is constructed of stone. The upper section of the barn is built of logs beams covered with vertical siding. The barn has a date cut in one log of 1856. Picturesque about 200 ft up the hill 3/4 back west of the house is the Spring grave yard with early poured concrete wall with large evergreen trees.

S-2 and M-45. The Swan Pond Manor House and Pond have a classic setting with the large brick mansion on the hill above the pond. The pond attracts ducks in the winter and turns a mass of yellow from a type of water flower that blooms in August. An old log wall house which has been restored is in the southeast corner of the yard east of it is a larger bank barn.

S-23. Wood Haven is a well planned, picturesque farm setting with house at entrance; shop of vertical boards on the west side of the private drive, a corn crib with wagon shed which is joined on the north side by a new concrete block shed. The outstanding barn has a silo on each side of the barn fill. A 50' concrete shed adjoins the north side of the barn. A 50' silo towers high on the northeast side with concrete feed trough.

S-18. Bolldale consists of house, poorly located, a bank barn about 50' in front of the house. A milking parlor was added about 7 years ago west of the bank barn.

S-21. Williamson house farm has the most outstanding out buildings with very good setting and location of building; just north in back of the house is a board and batten combination smokehouse and carpenters shop; about 25' north is a brick garner and wagon shed and north of this is a bank barn.
**PERIOD**  | **AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW**  
---|---
PREHISTORIC | ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC  
1400-1499 |  
1500-1599 | AGRICULTURE  
1600-1699 | ART  
1700-1799 | COMMERCE  
1800-1899 | COMMUNICATIONS  
1900- |  

**SPECIAL DATES**  
**BUILDER/ARCHITECT**  

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**  
Swan Pond Manor District is significant as an agricultural area of Berkeley Co. It is an area which still remains a rural farm community. It contains several architecturally significant buildings. It also shows a further importance as early settlement. The Swan Ponds was an area of land that Lord Fairfax set aside ca. 1747 for his own. He came to live in America in 1717 and set aside out of his “northern Neck Territory several manors for his personal use. One of these was Swan Pond, containing 1,902 acres. A later survey of this land proved it contained over 2,000 acres. He later divided the area equally between John Lewis and Henry hitting in 1775. Further divisions have been made. Included in this district is land on the west side of the Ponds which Lord Fairfax granted to the Richard Morgan family. Around the Ponds was an early colored village which was wiped out in 1912 by an epidemic of smallpox. At this time, the remaining black people were moved and most of the log cabins burned. The area is significant as an historic archeology site of an early black village. Also included for archeology is the site of a cabin in the Rawleigh Morgan farm and two sites on the John Hollida tract. The area around the Pond has a further significance as a historical site of an early black village which contributed to the history of the Swan Ponds. Architecturally significant buildings are Swan Pond Manor already listed on the National Register, the Henry Arch house, a stone farm house built in 1819, the Jacob Small house, an outstanding brick house built in 1839 and has an early clapboard first house built late 1700s, Fairview School, the last of the one room school to operate. It closed around 1958. Also the Robert Carter Willis house, the front section of this house was built ca. 1782 by Robert Carter Willis who was a great-grandson of “King” Robert Carter. The front early section of the house is important for its type of early architecture, a town house in the country. Robert Carter Willis was an early trustee of Martinsburg, it has a further significance as the home of Major Lewis Burwell Willis of the war of 1812. The Capt. Mason house is a farm house built of native limestone ca. 1817. The James Mason house is a log house built ca. 1810. The Dr. Williams house, a stone plastered house and significant for its type of architecture built in the 1840s. The early log house which was bricked over many years ago though in a deteriorated condition is most significant for its type and unaltered condition. The Hollida brick house is important because it was built right after the Civil War in 1867. The land has been in the family since the 1840s. The Will Hollida and George Folk house are tumb of the century frame houses. The Will Hollida barn built in 1903 is the only identified weatherboard barn in Berkeley County. The large brick Williamson house is significant for its architecture and provides style, the two outbuildings a board and batten combination smokehouse and carpenters shop and a brick garner have no equal in Berkeley County. The Staley house is a typical farm house and may be of log. The Rawleigh Morgan house built ca. 1800 is significant for its architecture and as the home of Rev. War soldier Capt. Rawleigh Morgan, who was a descendent of the prominent early settler Richard Morgan. The Morgan log house site is significant as being the home of two of the early Swan Pond families. The Morgans and the Welsh family. The house and the Rawleigh Morgan/Maxwell plantation have a further significance for the part they played in the historical development of Berkeley County. The 211A of land west of the Ponds was granted by Lord Fairfax to Richard and John Morgan, sons of Richard Morgan, Sr. This land came into dispute in the famous suit-Hite vs. Fairfax. The Maxwell plantation had been granted to William Maxwell of Pennsylvania in 1751. The Gov. of Va. regranted the land to
Dr. E. O. Williams in 1809 and 1811. The court suit later developed over this land after a Mr. Richard Fen entered the Maxwell plantation with slaves and beat Mr. Oen and his family who were occupying it. He used sticks, stones and knives. They destroyed their furniture and farming implements and drove them off the plantation. The Hudgell house built in the 1830s is significant because of its architectural type. There are few board and batten houses in Berkeley County. District has a further significance for its conservation practices. Crop rotation and general recommended practices are carried out in farming. This is quite evident by the high yield of crops proved throughout the years.
The Swan Pond area is one of the richest farm soils in the County. Heavy marle deposits are along the pond stream in the lowest areas. Such limestone loam covers the rest of the area. Basically the area included in the historic district has had no change in the 20th century. The area contains several farm units which contain architecturally/historical significant buildings. The farm buildings, while serving as a whole for one base purpose, at the same time contain their own individuality as architectural/historical significant buildings which demonstrate several types of buildings built at various time periods. The most southern area of the district contains a 2nd school building and a few small houses which were essential to the community for many years. Surrounding the pond up to 1912 was an early black village. Little is known of the origin of the village. There are no deeds, the log houses were on the farm land of 2 farms which meet at the pond. An archeology dig of the area may provide valuable information as to when the village was established. Indications are that this is the first concentration of black people in Berkeley County.
**MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

**GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY**: 2165A.

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**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

**LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

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**FORM PREPARED BY**

**NAME / TITLE**

**ORGANIZATION**

**DATE**

**STREET & NUMBER**

**TELEPHONE**

**CITY OR TOWN**

**STATE**

**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**

**DATE**

**FOR NPS USE ONLY**

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

**DATE**

**KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER**

**DATE**

**CHIEF OF REGISTRATION**

**GPO 921-803**
Swan Pond Manor Historic District

Beginning at (A), about 1000 ft. W of Jones Mill Run, thence S 800 ft., thence with the lines of the manor SW 1100 ft., SE 1200 ft., SSW 2700 ft., SW 1800 ft., S 100 ft. to (B), thence W 3200 ft., thence along the road SE 200 ft., thence SW 200 ft., NW 300 ft., thence again with the manor lines W 2400 ft. to (C), thence NW 5000 ft. to (D) a point in the road just west of Swan Pond, thence leaving the manor lines along another road W 3000 ft. to the junction, thence NW 3500 ft., to (E), N 1300 ft., to (F) SE 1700 ft., N 1000 ft. thence along a road SE 1700 ft. to a road junction, NE 1800 ft. to a junction, N 700 ft., E 600 ft., S 200 ft., SE 500 ft., NE 2800 ft. to (G), SE 2000 ft., thence with the manor lines N 100 ft., NE 1200 ft., NW 1800 ft. to (H), SE 10,700 ft., to the beginning.