

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

White Bush

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Archibald Shearer House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
At the end of Route 11/3. Turn off US 11 onto 11/3. Go to end. *CR?*

CITY, TOWN
Falling Waters

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE
West Virginia

VICINITY OF
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
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Mr. & Mrs. John Ziegler

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN
Falling Waters, WV 25419

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Berkeley County

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN
Martinsburg, WV 25401

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE W-3, Berkeley County Historical Society & Berkeley County Historical Landmarks Commission Survey

DATE
1973-78

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS Berkeley County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN
Martinsburg, WV 25401

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

A four bay, 2 story house with pedimented dormer windows in the gable roof and inside end chimneys, White Bush was built ca. 1790, the Federal period, but some Georgian influence, particularly inside, is apparent. Windows are 9/6 double sash with paneled shutters on the ground floor and 6/6 with louvred shutters on the second. This is the old established shutter distribution for early houses. Brick flat arches are over the windows. The house is built in 5 row common bond on a stone foundation. A one story Victorian entrance porch, now removed, extended across the front. It consisted of chamfered posts on paneled bases with small brackets. The transomed entrance door is of this period, 4 panel with the top 2 panels arched. The original porch either had a deck or was two tiered as a door is in this bay on the second floor. The floor plan is central hall, two rooms on one side and one large room on the other. The large room has a heavy cornice with pierced fretband and the projecting chimney breast is paneled. The mantel has a paneled frieze of flutings and the pilasters are fluted. Window reveals are paneled and the trim is shouldered (or has ears). A chair rail extends around the room. The old kitchen is on the west side of the house. A passageway was between the kitchen and the main house which was open on the south side and closed on the north. Originally one story, the kitchen wing was rebuilt ca. 1900 as a full two stories with bay windows flanking a recessed two-tiered porch.

A smokehouse with a hip roof once stood in the corner of the yard.

The front facade of the 4 bay, 2 story central block portion of the house is constructed of Flemish bond and the sides, rear, and kitchen of 5 row common bond.

The 2 story kitchen has a gable roof that ends in a hip on the west end. The end bays of the front facade has 2 bay windows, one round or bowed with a decoratively corniced flat roof and the other the more usual 3 sided bay with a triangular pediment. In the recess of the bay windows is a 2 tiered porch with balustrade. Originally of 1 story, the kitchen wing was rebuilt to this appearance ca. 1900.

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> HISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

White Bush is significant because it is one of Berkeley County's oldest brick mansions built 1785-90. The Shearer family was known for their excellent carpentry work. An 1815 desk made by John Shearer, son of Archibald, sold for \$40,000 in 1978.

A smokehouse stood in the corner of the yard and is included as an historic archeology site. This area is well-known for the many Indian artifacts that have been found, and in the yard of White Bush.

The Shearers came into Berkeley County by 1750s. They acquired the whole bend in the river at Falling Waters-around 1,200 acres. Archibald Shearer, Sr. died in 1800. A grist and saw mill had been established ca. 1785. The interior wood work is some of the finest Federal style in the State. Unfortunately, it has only been in the last few years that the craftsmanship of the Shearers has come to light and information is limited.

The architectural significance of the property is enhanced by it being a combination period building. The Federal architecture of the central block is a simple statement of classic design and the wing is a more exciting statement of the later, curvilinear designs of the Victorian period. This is the county's only representative of the combination of these 2 separate styles, very well executed, in one building.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Berkeley Journal, published by The Berkeley County Historical Society
1976, pages 29-41

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Williamsport

QUADRANGLE SCALE _____

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,8 2,5,3,2,8,0 4,3,8,3,6,5,0

B

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

100 ft. on each side of the house and 200 ft. down to the lane at the foot of the hill.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Don C. Wood, Genealogist, Historian, Historic Archeologist

ORGANIZATION President, Berkeley County Historical Society
Chairman, Berkeley County Historical Landmarks Commission

DATE _____

STREET & NUMBER

Route 3, Box 79

TELEPHONE
267-7187

CITY OR TOWN

Martinsburg, WV 25401

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 _____

OR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE _____

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

WITNESSES

DATE _____

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

White Bush -
Archibald
Shearer Hse

WILLIAMSPORT
QUAD



