

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 any 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.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Evergreen  
other names AL-V-A-031; Federal Hill

### 2. Location

street & number 15603 Trimble Road NW  not for publication  
city or town Mount Savage  vicinity  
state Maryland code MD county Allegany code 001 zip code 21545

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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).

*Elizabeth Hughes* 2-27-15  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
Acting Director/SHPO, Maryland Historical Trust  
State or 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 this property is:
- 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): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Evergreen (AL-V-A-031)

Name of Property

Allegany County, MD

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	
2	2	buildings
		sites
12		structures
		objects
14	2	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: single dwelling
- Domestic: secondary structures
- Agriculture/Subsistence: storage, animal facility
- Industry/Processing/Extraction: extractive facility

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

- Education: research facility

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

- No style

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation Stone
- walls Stone, Wood
- roof Metal
- other

**Narrative Description**

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

**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 pattern of our history.
- B** Property 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.

**Area of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT  
 AGRICULTURE  
 ARCHITECTURE  
 INDUSTRY

**Period of Significance**

ca. 1780-ca. 1920

**Significant Dates**

ca. 1780  
 1822  
 1870

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

unknown

**Criteria Considerations**

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

Property is:

- 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 files (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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Evergreen (AL-V-A-031)  
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Allegany County, Maryland  
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**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property 167 acres

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1															
	Zone	Easting						Northing							
2															

3															
	Zone	Easting						Northing							
4															

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 Janice Keene, President

Organization Evergreen Heritage Center date 2012; rev. Feb. 2015

street & number 101 Braddock Heights telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town Frostburg state MD zip code 21532-2345

**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 \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Paperwork Reduction 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 the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Evergreen

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### Description Summary:

The Evergreen complex is located on 167 acres in western Allegany County, approximately one mile from the town of Mount Savage on a ridge first named Federal Hill in an 1817 plat.<sup>1</sup> The property includes a total of fourteen contributing historic resources constructed beginning in the late 1700s. The two primary contributing resources are an historic house and barn, located at the northeast end of Trimble Road, a county road that provides access to the property. The original house and barn are believed to have been built circa 1780 by Revolutionary War veteran, early settler, and first property owner Edward Grimes (commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. in 1776), in the center of Grimes' four Revolutionary War Military Lots (50 acres each).<sup>2</sup> The stone cellar of the original house remains today, as does the entire structure of the original bank barn. Circa 1822-1823, George Winter, also an early area settler who had originally acquired Military Lots in what is today nearby Eckhart, purchased the property and expanded the house by building a two story, Federal style, stone addition adjacent to the front porch of the original house.<sup>3</sup> This section of the house remains today. The second major renovation/addition to the house occurred between 1873 and 1882 and was engineered by Winfield Scott Trimble, whose great-grandfather, John Trimble, was another early settler who had acquired and lived on Military Lots on the other side of Federal Hill.<sup>4</sup> During this renovation, Trimble removed the decaying log/frame upper structure of the original Grimes' house as well as the porch connecting the log/frame and stone structures and replaced them with a two story frame addition that included Victorian embellishments such as gingerbread decorations and a rooftop turret. In addition, Trimble named the property Evergreen for the 13 species of fledgling evergreen trees he planted there. Today the 167 acre property contains three other contributing resources believed to have been built in the early 1800s when George Winter owned the property: the original stone road that accessed the property, a roadside gatehouse, and stone fencing. In addition, nine other contributing resources were added by coal companies in the early 1900s. These resources are located on the Evergreen Coal Trail, which follows the tramway used to haul coal from the deep mines to the railroad. These structures and objects include three abandoned coal mine openings, a bank of waste slate, the ruins of the

<sup>1</sup> Allegany County Circuit Court: Land Survey, Subdivision, and Condominium Plats, Patented Certificate #842 "Federal Hill," Survey for Oswalt, 10 February 1817, *Maryland State Archives*, MSA S1188-880.

<sup>2</sup> "Distribution Notice" regarding Land Westward of Fort Cumberland, *Maryland Journal*, 3 July 1789; R. Cummins to Council, *Journal and Correspondence of the Maryland Council of Safety*, (July 7: December 31, 1776), Volume 12, 501, Archives of Maryland Online, accessed July 15, 2009, <http://aomol.net/000001/000012/html/am12--501.html>, (citation of Edward Grimes commission as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. in Skipton District (Oldtown) in 1776).

<sup>3</sup> "Lots Westward of Fort Cumberland: 1793-1903," *Maryland State Archives*, MSA SE1-1, 360, accessed 1 November 2012, <http://guide.mdsa.net> (specify Series ID SE1, select "link," specify page 360); Allegany County Circuit Court, Liber L, Folio 353, *Maryland State Archives*.

<sup>4</sup> Land Office, "Lots Westward of Fort Cumberland: 1793:1903," *Maryland State Archives*, MSA SE1-1, 332, accessed June 29 2008, <http://guide.mdsa.net> (specify Series ID SE1, select "link," specify page 332).

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blacksmith's forge, the miners' mule stable, the water tower and shed, a hand-dug water well, and the site of a bull wheel to lower coal cars down an incline plane. Trimble family descendants opened the house as the Evergreen Museum in 1993, showcasing the architecture, furnishings, and artifacts of early area settlers who explored and settled western Allegany County. The Evergreen Barn and the Evergreen Coal Trail were also opened for tours beginning in 2010. The property includes two other non-contributing resources: a Learning/Visitors Center built in the 1970s and remodeled in 2011/2012, and the caretakers' house built in 1990.

### General Description:

#### SETTING

Evergreen is located in western Allegany County on a ridge of the Appalachian mountain range that lies between Piney and Big Savage Mountains.<sup>5</sup> The Evergreen house and barn are on the southwest side of Federal Hill at an elevation of 1800 feet, and today have a scenic view of the town of Frostburg five miles to the southwest. The town of Mount Savage, with a population of 883, is a mile away at a lower elevation of approximately 1200 feet.<sup>6</sup> Much of the hillside's 167 acres were farmed until the last fifty years during which the forest reclaimed all but twenty acres surrounding the house and barn, which contain gardens, fields, a large pond, and majestic extant evergreen trees that were planted there 140 years ago. These evergreens include two of the largest trees in Allegany County, and the grounds and over 100 acres of forest provide shelter for large populations of white-tailed deer, wild turkeys, and other mountain wildlife.<sup>7</sup> Higher on the hillside is the Evergreen Coal Trail that follows the tramway on the northern edge of the property leading from the deep coal mines dug into the hill, through the forest, to an incline plane almost a mile away that lowered the coal to the railroad at the base of Federal Hill. Lower on the hillside, the Evergreen property is traversed by what is now the Great Allegheny Passage, which spans the Appalachians from Pittsburgh to Cumberland where it joins the C&O Canal Towpath and continues on to Washington, D.C.<sup>8</sup>

#### EVERGREEN

<sup>5</sup> United States Geological Survey, *Cumberland Quadrangle* map, Cumberland, MD.-PA.-W.VA., 1993, accessed 23 February 2012, <http://usgsol.srv.mst.edu/store3/digital-download/mapping-ap.jsp>.

<sup>6</sup> Community of Mount Savage, "Open-Public-Records.com, accessed 1 February 2010, [www.open-public-records.com/maryland/mount\\_savage\\_data.htm](http://www.open-public-records.com/maryland/mount_savage_data.htm).

<sup>7</sup> Allegany County Forestry Board, "Big Tree Awards," presented to Donald and Marianna Keene, April 2003, Evergreen Archives.

<sup>8</sup> "Great Allegheny Passage," accessed 30 October 2012, [www.gaptrail.org](http://www.gaptrail.org).

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Evergreen and the Revolutionary War Military Lots on which it is located can be reached by driving west past Cumberland on Interstate 68 and then driving north via state and county roads until reaching Trimble road, which runs through the 167 acre property to its historic house and barn at its northeast end.<sup>9</sup> The barn is approximately 400 feet to the southeast from the house, with both buildings built into the hillside to allow ground level access on both the lower and main levels. Although many of the outbuildings referred to in deeds and letters no longer remain, the property does still contain the original stone road, referred to as Trimble Lane, which accessed the property in the 1800s at the bottom of Federal Hill and progressed up the hill with a gradual rise in slope, unlike the steeper-sloped Trimble Road that is used today.<sup>10</sup> In addition, the remains of a large gatehouse structure that continued to be in use until the 1940s is within 500 feet of the barn, and multiple sections of stone fencing, still extant, can be seen at various locations on the property.

Other historical features include those along the tramway that was used to haul coal from the property's deep mines in the early 1900s. Visitors may walk a trail that passes by the abandoned coal mine openings, the ruins of the miners' mule stable, the slate bank that collected slate discarded from the coal cars, ruins of the blacksmith's forge, the concrete trough that was used to repair the "dinky" steam engine and its coal cars, the well that provided water for the steam engine, and the site of the bull wheel that lowered the coal down an incline plane to the Chesapeake and Pennsylvania Railroad in Mount Savage for transport to the east.

## CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES

### *The House, Contributing Building*

The House is described according to its stages of construction: the original house built by Edward Grimes circa 1780, the Winters' stone addition in 1822, the Trimble renovations 1870 to 1920, and then the house as it exists today.

**The Original Grimes House.** Military Lot deeds identify the earliest property owner as Edward Grimes.<sup>11</sup> Grimes, listed on 1783 tax records for the area then known as Wills Town, is believed to have built the property's original house and barn when he first settled there circa 1780.<sup>12</sup> The assumption that Grimes' house is the original house is further supported by a survey for "Nancy (sp) Delight" commissioned by Grimes in

Alexandria Drafting Company, *Allegany County, MD* map, (Alexandria: Langenscheidt Publishing Group, 2011).

Allegany County Circuit Court, Grimes' Heirs' Deed to Oswald, 6 March 1811, Liber F, Folio 179, *Maryland State Archives*, MSA CE77-6; Winfield Trimble, letter to brother Frank Trimble, May 1874, Evergreen Archives.

<sup>11</sup> Land Office, "Lots Westward of Fort Cumberland: 1793-1903," *Maryland State Archives*, MSA SE1-1, 331-332.

<sup>12</sup> General Assembly of Delegates, "1783 Maryland Tax Assessment for Washington County," Edward Grimes.

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1793.<sup>13</sup> This 7 ½ acre triangular property is due north of Military Lot #4020. The 1793 survey for Nancy Delight references “Edward Grimes House” and sites the beginning (far east corner) of the triangular Nancy Delight property as being “about 30 perches north of a spring run and about 1/4 mile westwardly of Edward Grimes House.” This location is where the historic house stands today, and is indicated with an “HS” on a circa 1920 Union Mining Company survey that specifies the locations of the Evergreen house, the companion barn, and Military Lot #4020. For purposes of this document, a red dotted line marking the 30 perch distance has been drawn on the map from the Grimes’ house due west to the far eastern corner of Nancy Delight.<sup>14</sup>

Based on the architectural evidence remaining today, the house built by Mr. Grimes was 32’ by 22’ and was constructed on a stone foundation into the side of a hill facing southeast. The footprint of the house is rectangular with the 32’ side to side length defined by two extant 32’ long hand-hewn header beams. One of the header beams is supported by an extant hand-hewn post. The cellar’s stone walls, which remain, do not include the northeast section of the footprint, likely due to a stream entering the cellar from that corner, flowing across rocks and exiting under a cellar doorway on the other side. This underground stream continued to provide water and refrigeration until the mid-1900s when the current owners diverted the stream and replaced that part of the cellar floor with concrete. On the southwest (ground level side), the cellar includes a stone chimney to the main floor, the aforementioned side door, and two 6 pane windows. On the northwest side, five of the cellar’s mill-sawed wooden steps remain, the lumber for which may have been obtained from Michael Oswald’s near-by sawmill, which was cited in the *Maryland Session Laws* for 1793 (Oswald had married Grimes’ oldest daughter Margaret in 1787).<sup>15</sup>

In the cellar, visitors can also see 16’ long hand-hewn logs (some retaining their bark) that serve as floor joists for the main level. Upstairs, the main floor likely contained a fireplace that used the southwest side cellar chimney, as well as a chimney on the northeast side of the house that may have supported a stove. Both chimneys remain, although the fireplace was rebuilt or replaced in the 1880s. Regarding materials used in constructing the house, the main floor (and likely an attic loft or second story) was built using logs, frame, and lathing that were subsequently removed during a renovation by ancestors of the current owners in the 1870s.

Allegany Circuit Court: Land Survey, Subdivision, and Condominium Plats, Patented Certificate #1892 “Nancy Delight,” *Maryland State Archives*.

<sup>14</sup> *Union Mining Company Survey* map, circa 1920, Evergreen Archives.

<sup>15</sup> Thomas Sim Lee, Governor, “Session Laws, 1793,” Volume 645, 5, *Maryland State Archives*; Bedford County, Pennsylvania Marriage Records, 1787, accessed 3 July 2009, <http://trees.ancestry.com/tree/428802/family?fpid=2083827408>.

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**Floor Plans of the Grimes House.** In the attached floor plans, the drawing on the top of the page shows the cellar foundation's two 32' extant hand-hewn beams, as well as shorter beams, some of which are logs and some of which have been replaced with cut beams. The area on the left side of the cellar where no beams are indicated is the foundation supporting the front porch. The second drawing depicts the cellar floor plan, which includes the home's large aforementioned 10' by 32' front porch. The cellar area under the porch includes a window and doorway, both of which remain.

Although as previously indicated, the upper structure of the original house was torn down in the 1870s, the main floor of the house likely consisted of either one large room or two divided rooms. In addition, as previously noted, the house may have contained a loft or second story. What is believed to be the original board-and-batten front door for the house was found stored in the barn in 2011 and is on display in the house cellar today.

**Transfer of Ownership.** The Grimes family continued to occupy the house in the early 1800s.<sup>16</sup> On March 31<sup>st</sup>, 1808, Ann Grimes, Edward's wife and executor of his estate, registered his will, and as of 1810, the Grimeses were no longer residing on the property.<sup>17</sup> In 1811 and 1816 (as Grimes grandsons came of age and inherited shares of the property left to them by their grandfather) their father, Edward Grimes' son-in-law Michael Oswalt, acquired those shares, as well as adjacent Military Lot 4070.<sup>18</sup> Then, in 1819, with full ownership of the property, Oswalt sold all 415 acres of Federal Hill to William Ridgeley.<sup>19</sup> The deed indicates that the property included (Grimes') house, outbuildings, and barns. If Ridgeley lived in the house, he did so only briefly, electing to build a new home on the other side of Federal Hill overlooking the growing town of Mount Savage.<sup>20</sup> Ridgeley sold the Grimes' house, barns, and the surrounding 174 acres to George Winter in 1822, at which time; the house had likely been vacant for over ten years.<sup>21</sup>

**The Winters' Stone Addition.** After acquiring the Federal Hill property in 1822-1823, George Winter built a two story 32' by 22' Federal style house adjacent to the porch of the original log/frame house, constructed using

<sup>16</sup> U.S. Department of State, *Second Census of the United States, 1800*, Wills Township, Allegany County MD, Edward Grimes.

<sup>17</sup> Allegany County Register of Wills, 1808 Registration of Edward Grimes' Will (Ann Grimes, executor), Allegany County Court House, Cumberland, MD.; U.S. Department of State, *Third Census of the United States, 1810*, District 5, Allegany County MD, Grimes.

<sup>18</sup> Allegany County Circuit Court, Liber F, Folio 179, *Maryland State Archives*; Allegany County Circuit Court, Oswalt's Sons' Deed

<sup>19</sup> Oswalt, 26 October 1816, Liber IJ, Folio 95, *Maryland State Archives*, MSA CE77-9; Allegany County Circuit Court, Military Lot

Deed #4070, 15 April 1811, Liber F, Folio 197, *Maryland State Archives*, MSA CE77-6.

Allegany County Circuit Court, Liber K, Folio 199, *Maryland State Archives*.

<sup>20</sup> Allegany County Circuit Court, Liber 17, Folio 448, *Maryland State Archives*; *Union Mining Company Survey*, circa 1920, specification of location of Ridgeley homestead, Evergreen Archives.

<sup>21</sup> Allegany County Circuit Court, Liber L, Folio 353, *Maryland State Archives*.

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cut stone. This new section of the home, which remains today, faced southeast toward the barn and leveraged the stone construction of the log house cellar, connecting to and extending the existing stone cellar wall on the northeast side of the porch along the hill and connecting to and extending the stone porch southwest porch wall where the point of connection is visible today. As can be observed today, after building the stone foundation, the beams that traverse the width of the new stone building (northwest to southeast) were imbedded in the stone walls. Floor joists and six inch wide wooden plank flooring were then put in place, and the main floor stone walls (each two feet thick) were built on top of the flooring. Similarly, floor joists and flooring for the second floor were sandwiched between the main and upper floor stone walls. The resulting stone addition has one large stone fireplace on the southwest side of the cellar, two gable fireplaces in the main floor parlors (on the northeast and southwest sides), and two gable fireplaces on the upper floor (also on the northeast and southwest sides), all extant. The five foot wide stone fireplace in the cellar has a curved-top opening with a small iron beam wedged between the chimney stones just above the opening to allow a pot to hang over the fire.

The stone house also had porches on both the main and second floors; the main floor porch remains as does the door to the second story porch; the second story porch itself was removed in later renovations. As a result of the second story porch, the stone house had southeast facing doors on the cellar, main, and upper levels. The cellar doorway was adjacent to the large cellar fireplace, but it was sealed in the early 1900s. An outline of the door opening remains visible today.

**Floor Plans of the Winter House.** Floor plans for the Winters' Federal style addition, which are largely based on the architectural structure that remains today, are attached. The drawing on the top shows the first floor addition and the one below shows the second floor. These plans are referred to as Phase 1 of the Winter renovations. The main floor consisted of a large "double parlor," still extant, that was partitioned using three foot support walls on each side. Upstairs were two sleeping areas separated by a wall and doorway, also extant. One noteworthy architectural feature of the stone addition is that each of the upstairs sleeping areas included a shallow closet (still extant) built into the wall, which was unusual for that time period. The southwest sleeping area also includes a storage closet that is located under the stairs to the attic, which are accessed via a door on the separating wall.

Circa 1825, after completing the new stone section of his residence, George Winter is believed to have enclosed the sides of the porch, thereby connecting the log and stone sections of the house. The roofline of the porch where it butted against the stone addition is still visible today on an interior wall.

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Other "Phase 2" renovations made by the Winter family likely included the creation of a circular well (using bricks made and stamped by the Mount Savage brick factory). This well may have been used to provide an easily accessible source of drinking water. The well was removed in the 1960s as part of a renovation of the cellar, but sample bricks remain.

The Winters also added or renovated various outbuildings on the property, many of which were later removed by Winfield Scott<sup>22</sup>. The buildings that remained in the early 1900s included a spring house (originally located above the spring in the back yard of the house), an ice house, and a chicken coop.

**Acquisition by the Trimble Family.** By 1869, many of the male members of the Winter family (both young and old) had died and the family chose to sell the property.<sup>23</sup> This transaction was facilitated by Easter Hester Trimble who had married into the Winter family. As a result, in 1869, Easter Hester's brothers, Joseph Arnold Trimble and Enoch Trimble, who owned neighboring farmland, acquired the property.<sup>24</sup> The grandfather of the three siblings, John Trimble Sr., had originally acquired and settled on neighboring Revolutionary War Military Lots when Edward Grimes first settled on Federal Hill, as evidenced by Trimble's Military Lot deeds and the 1783 Maryland Tax Assessment that lists both men under what was then called Wills Town.<sup>25</sup>

The new owners of the property, Joseph and Enoch, did not occupy the house since they had purchased and lived in the former neighboring William Ridgeley homestead.<sup>26</sup> Therefore the house remained vacant until 1873, when Joseph Arnold Trimble's oldest son Winfield Scott Trimble, age 24, began to renovate the house, barn, and grounds as part of an agreement with his father and uncle that would allow him to eventually purchase the property. In May 1874, Winfield, who was by then living in the house, wrote to brother Frank that he had his potatoes and a garden planted. He also wrote that he had "the old filth and rubbish cleaned up," the "grass looks first rate" and he had torn down "a lot of old fallen (out) buildings."<sup>27</sup> Also as indicated in the letter, the 25 year old Winfield was doing this work without the benefit of horses, since he could not afford them.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid.

<sup>23</sup> Winter family genealogical records, Evergreen Archives.

<sup>24</sup> Allegany County Circuit Court, Winter Deed to Joseph and Enoch Trimble, 28 December 1869, Liber 31, Folio 247, *Maryland State Archives*, MSA CE78-24.

<sup>25</sup> *Maryland State Archives*, MSA S11-61-11-4, 1/4/5/54, page 18, John Trimbell; Allegany County Circuit Court, Liber K, Folio 199, *Maryland State Archives*.

<sup>26</sup> Allegany County Circuit Court, Liber 17, Folio 448, *Maryland State Archives*.

<sup>27</sup> Winfield Trimble, letter to brother Frank Trimble, May 1874.

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**The Trimble Renovations.** In addition to clearing and cleaning the grounds, between 1876 and 1900, Winfield Trimble doubled the value of the house (from \$1000 to \$2000) by making a series of major renovations.<sup>28</sup> These renovations, as evidenced by dated receipts for various supplies and other items used, as well as oral family history, included<sup>29</sup>:

- Tearing down the original log/frame section of the house and replacing it with a two story frame structure that connected to the Winters' stone addition;
- Creating a formal center hallway on the main floor which joined the stone section to the new frame addition, building a grand center hall staircase to the second floor and installing a wooden staircase;
- Creating a formal dining room in the new frame side of the house, converting the fireplace in that room to burn coal as well as wood, and installing a "marbleized slate" mantle and cast iron insert for the fireplace;
- Creating a main floor kitchen, building a steep back stairway from the kitchen to the second floor, and installing a Penn Ester coal stove that connected to the chimney in the new kitchen;
- Adding four bedrooms in the new frame section of the house, each with a transom over the door to provide ventilation and extending/rebuilding the existing chimneys and installing stoves with access to those chimneys, thereby providing heat in two of the new bedrooms;
- Replacing many of the windows in the stone section with 2/2s to match the windows in the new frame side of the house;
- Extending the attic across the length of the entire house;
- Adding a new tin shingle roof, stamped with the date 1882 (still extant);
- Building a hexagon-shaped turret in the attic (still extant) that Winfield could use to overlook his new farm, and adding Victorian gingerbread ornamentation in both the double parlor and on the porch.

Winfield also either built or rebuilt some outbuildings including a spring house that remained on the property until the 1970s.

On February 8, 1882, after a ten year effort of restoring the farm purchased by this father and uncle in 1869, Winfield Scott Trimble officially obtained title to the 181.5 acre property he named Evergreen for the thirteen species of evergreen trees that he planted there.<sup>30</sup>

<sup>28</sup> *Allegany County Tax Records*, District 5, 1876, 1900, Joseph A. Trimble and Winfield Scott Trimble, pp. 354-356, Allegany College of Maryland, Donald L. Alexander Library, Genealogy Room, Cumberland, MD.

Winfield Trimble's receipts, 1876-1900, Evergreen Archives

<sup>30</sup> Allegany County Circuit Court, Joseph and Enoch Trimble Deed to Winfield Trimble, 8 February 1882, Liber 58, Folio 61, *Maryland State Archives*, MSA CE78-51. This deed included the 174 acres purchased by George Winter in 1822 (Liber K, Folio 199) plus Blair's Neglect, a 7 1/2 acre property purchased by Winter in 1818 (Plat #98).

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Winfield continued making renovations to Evergreen from 1900 through 1912, increasing the value of the house from \$2000 in 1900 to \$3000 in 1912.<sup>31</sup> As part of those renovations, prior to and during the World War I era, Winfield Scott Trimble:

- Built an addition on the northwest side of the house (beyond the frame addition); this two story addition was built on a slab and accessed from the kitchen by a narrow hallway; the main floor of the addition was the “lobby,” which provided a place to “wash up” after working in the property’s coal mines or butchering animals and the upstairs was an indoor bathroom with a cast iron claw foot tub’
- Created a pantry to store cooking supplies across from the new hallway to the “lobby;”
- Added another wall in the upstairs stone wing of the house to create two distinct bedrooms with a center hallway to separate them, which gave the house a total of six bedrooms;
- Removed the second story porch at the end of the stone wing hallway, replacing it with a sloped tin roof;
- Converted two of the double parlor windows to French doors leading onto the outside porch, one door on the southeast side of the house and one door on the front (southwest) side;
- Added French doors to the upstairs bedroom closest to the stone wing of the house (directly above the double doors in the new center hallway);
- Rebuilt and extended a main floor wrap-around porch and roof on the front (southwest) and southeast sides of the house;
- Added a new roof for the back porch;
- Added a bay window in the dining room for Winfield’s plants;
- Piped water to the house from the property’s new deep coal mines, a practice that continued into the late 1940s.

In 1921, Winfield repaired the flat roof where a small wooden stationary ladder and a wooden cap provided access to the roof from the turret. This cap was later sealed in the 1940s due to constant leaks.

After World War I, Winfield continued to make practical improvements to Evergreen including:

- Procuring electrical service in 1919;
  - Extending the service and wiring to the cellar in 1922;
- Installing a coal-fired hot air furnace to heat the house (in 1920), thereby eliminating the need for individual room stoves.

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Although minor modifications have been made to the house since the early 1900s such as converting one kitchen pantry to a powder room, adding a coal and later an oil furnace, replacing the wooden wrap-around porch with one made of concrete, and pouring concrete floors in sections of the cellar; the basic structure of the house has remained unchanged since the 1920s.

### General Description of the House

The principal façade of the [stone section of the] house faces southeast. There are doors in the first and third bays from the left of the principal floor of this façade, with 2/2 windows in the second and fourth bays. These doors open onto a one-story porch with square posts and decorative brackets that stretch across this façade. On the second story, there is a door in the third bay with two 2/2 windows to the left and one to the right. This door is partially blocked by the roof of the present porch, and suggests that an earlier porch included a second story. A small, pitched roof 2/2 dormer window is centered on the hip roof. The façade wall is constructed of dressed stone with raised mortar joints; the eaves oversail and are boxed in.

The southwest gable wall faces down the hillside, leaving the cellar wall fully exposed although now enclosed by the foundation of a porch that extends across the southwest side of the house. There is a door to the cellar in the left or west bay and a 6/6 window in the right bay of the ground floor, a door opening fitted with paired French doors in the left bay of the principal floor and a 2/2 window in the same position on the second story. The stonework, hip roof and boxed eave on this façade match the front façade. The flush chimney is constructed of brick above the roof.

The northwest wall of the ... [stone section of the] house has been incorporated into the later frame addition. This wall is now pierced by one door on the cellar level, two doors on the principal floor and one door on the second floor.

On the northeast gable wall of the .... [stone section of the] house there are single 2/2 windows in the right or west bay on both the first and second floor. The stonework, hip roof, boxed eave and brick chimney shaft match the southwest gable wall.<sup>32</sup>

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Winfield Trimble's receipts, 1900-1912, Evergreen Archives; *Allegany County Tax Records*, District 5, 1900, 1912, Winfield S. Trimble, Allegany College of Maryland, Donald L. Alexander Library, Genealogy Room Cumberland, MD.

<sup>32</sup> "Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties form AL-V-A-031," Maryland Historical Trust (MHT), Crownsville, MD, filed 1976, updated 1982, page 3 of 1982 update.

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The addition served to reorient the enlarged house so that the southwest façade became the principal façade and [stone section of the house] became part of a larger center passage plan dwelling. The southwest wall was enlarged from two bays to five bays, with a central entrance in the center bay. This entrance is fitted with double doors with a transom above. There is a French door immediately to the left of the double doors and a projecting bay window to the far left. The three principal facets of the bay window are pierced by 1/1 windows. A French door in the center bay of the second story opens onto the roof of the one story porch; there are two 2/2 windows to the left of the door. The most striking feature of this façade is a crenelated turret that is centered on the enlarged façade and projects up above the eave line. Three 1/1 windows are centered in the south-facing facets of the tower, and the tower and roof are covered with patterned metal sheathing. The first and second story of this façade are sheathed with German siding; the foundation is stone.

A small two story frame addition with a shed roof is centered on the northwest façade, flanked by a single 2/2 window on each floor on each side of the addition. There are no openings on the northwest wall of the addition. Single 6/6 windows on each floor on the southwest wall of the addition appear to replace earlier, larger openings evident from seams in the German siding. On the northeast wall of the addition, there is a door to the extreme left and a 6/6 window to the right on the first floor and a single 6/6 window centered on the second floor. A 2/2 pitched roof dormer window is centered on the northwest pitch of the roof of the main house, looking out over the shed roof addition.<sup>33</sup>

The northeast wall of the enlarged house is five bays wide, with the stone section forming the two east bays. There is a rear door in the center bay of the enlarged façade, with a second door immediately to the right and one 2/2 window to the far right. Three 6/6 windows are ranged across the second story and a pitched roof 1/1 dormer window is centered on the façade. A one story hip roof porch with square, bracketed posts protects both first story doors.

The principal floor of the early stone house has two nearly equal rooms, each heated by a gable fireplace. The mantels on these two fireplaces match. They are board surrounds with flat pilasters and plain frieze below molded shelves with cove/astragal and cavetto moldings. Rabbeted baseboard trim and beaded and rabbeted architrave trim survives throughout both rooms. When the parlors were joined (during the 1870s renovation) a large opening between the two rooms was trimmed with reused and new, matching architrave trim. The

<sup>33</sup> Ibid, page 6 of 1982 update.

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Victorian interior doors and the floor were painted and grained in the 1920s by Virginia Trimble. One early paneled door with flattened Greek ogee panel molds survives on the southeast façade.<sup>34</sup>

Pine plank floors remain throughout the house. Planks in the older stone section are 6" wide, while planks in the newer frame section are generally 4" wide. The 6" wide planks are over two inches thick and are connected by a separate tongue piece.

The current layout of the main floor level of the expanded house shows many of the Winfield Trimble renovations including the creation of a center hallway (the former location of the original Grimes front porch) with the southwest-facing entrance and walnut staircase. The center stair passage extends the full depth of the house, with the two original rooms (the double parlor) to the right and two additional rooms to the left. The stair rises against the west wall of the passage. It is an open-string stair with a large, turned walnut newel, turned balusters and a heavy rail. The most significant feature of the added section is a marbled state mantel with Eastlake details and a cast iron insert in the front or west (dining) room on the first floor."<sup>35</sup>

The dining room and kitchen have replaced the main living areas of the original Grimes house. The steep back stairs leading to the second floor may have been the location of a ladder or stairs leading to the loft or second floor in the original Grimes house. The dining room wall that borders the powder room and pantry is directly above the original Grimes stone wall in the cellar.

The current layout of the second floor of the house has two large bedrooms on the left, with stairs to the attic to the right. Winfield Trimble added a second interior wall that divided the upstairs stone section into two bedrooms, with a center hallway that included a doorway to the second story porch.

The bedroom adjacent to the southwest stone bedroom may have been created by George Winter when he built the connecting hallway section to join the log/frame and stone sections. The three other bedrooms and the bathroom were created as part of Winfield Trimble's renovations in the 1870s. Each of these bedrooms has a transom over the door to facilitate ventilation. The bathroom was added in the World War I era. The steep wooden back stairs on the right side of the layout descend into the kitchen.

### *The Barn: Contributing Building*

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<sup>34</sup> Ibid.

<sup>35</sup> Ibid, page 7

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**The Grimes Barn.** Based on architectural evidence, circa 1780, Edward Grimes likely built a bank barn (a “Sweitzer” Pennsylvania style barn) approximately 400 feet from the house. When MHT updated its survey of the property in 1982, it noted the following about the barn:

*“To the south east of the house is an early frame bank barn with a full stone cellar. This is an extremely fine and carefully preserved barn with numerous interesting features. These include the framing system, the purlin roof, loose laid floors for increased air circulation, the original stall plan surviving on the ground floor, and the hewn log feed troughs. This barn is worthy of detailed recording.”<sup>36</sup>*

As noted in the survey, the barn has an extant stone foundation, which is 65.5’ by 35.5’ with an 8’ open forebay extending over the six stables on the lower level. The barn can be classified as a Sweitzer style barn as specified by Robert F. Ensminger in his book on The Pennsylvania Barn: 1) it has a “forebay of medium depth, 6 to 9 feet, supported only by forebay beams cantilevered into the barn structure” and 2) “the front roof slope is longer than the rear roof slope because the roof continues unbroken over the forebay. The angle of the slope is steep, 40 to 45 degrees, facilitating rapid drainage from original roofs, which were of thatch or from wooden shingle roofs. The result is the characteristic asymmetrical gable-end silhouette of the Sweitzer barn.”<sup>37</sup>

The barn has a heavy timber frame, the principal members of which appear to be hand hewn. Wrought nails have been found in various areas, such as the roof frame and stable partitions. The roof frame may have been used to support various roofing materials over the life of the barn -- currently, corrugated steel panels. Most of the siding of the Sweitzer-style barn today is sawed vertical boards that appear to have been replaced in many locations. However, some logs were used and remain imbedded in the two foot thick stone foundation, which has been repointed over the years.

On the upper level, the barn has two log cribs for hay separated by a threshing floor, with ground level access to the threshing floor via a double doorway wide enough for a wagon. The original double doors were apparently replaced by large sliding doors that slid open using extant overhead tracks and wheels, although the doors themselves were replaced again in the 1960s with additional boards and a garage door. The outside frame of the barn includes angled queen posts resting on one of two horizontal tie beams. The inner frames separate the threshing floor from the two side hay mows and contain an upper cross beam connected to end and inner posts

<sup>36</sup> Ibid.

<sup>37</sup> Robert F. Ensminger, *The Pennsylvania Barn*, (Baltimore and London: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2003), 56.

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plus diagonal braces. The main girder of the barn traverses the entire 65.5 foot width of the barn and consists of two beams that are joined with a lap connection.

The side of the barn facing the house had a corn crib (approximately 9' long, 4' wide, and 6' high) as well as door-sized opening (still visible) where grain could be shoveled out the side from the granary area in the back of the log crib on that side of the barn. An opening in the front wall section of the threshing floor allowed hay to be tossed to the barnyard below. All of these features remained in place through the 1940s, when the corn crib was removed and the front and side openings were boarded shut. On the other side of the barn was an overhang that provided shelter for grazing animals. Only two rocks remain that mark the location of posts that supported the overhang, which is also evidenced by the indentations on the side of the barn.

Based on cutouts in the frame that are visible today, the stables appear to have had wooden Dutch doors that swung open. These doors appear to have been replaced in the 1800s with wooden doors with rolling wheels. Two of the stables have troughs that are long logs that have been hollowed out to hold feed for the animals. In the first stable, the trough is higher for larger animals such as horses, and in the third stable, the trough is lower for animals such as ponies. A heavy plank stairway (still in place in one of the stables today) provides access from the stables to the upper level in an area behind the granary.

The extant forebay overhang is large enough to afford livestock entering or exiting the stables with protection from snow or rain. The cantilevered beams, partially hand-hewn logs with the bark still intact that were used to create the forebay overhang, are over 45' long and made of white oak or chestnut (requiring trees of at least 90 to 100 feet in height). Two large stone pillars helped to support the log cantilevered beams. Similar logs are laid across the barn frame, high above the threshing floor, to support planks that may have been used for drying tobacco (which was used as tender in early property deeds).<sup>38</sup> The barn also has a cupola (likely replaced multiple times) that was used to facilitate ventilation.

### *Trimble Lane, Contributing Structure*

In either the late 1700s (during the residency of the Grimes family) or in the early 1800s (during the residency of the Winters), the path/trail up the southwest side of Federal Hill was upgraded to a stone road. Sometime after the mid-1820s when William Ridgeley built his home on the other side of Federal Hill, the road was

<sup>38</sup> Allegany County Circuit Court, Shaw Deed to Trimble, 17 March 1797, recording fee: 36 pounds of tobacco, Liber B, Folio 317, Maryland State Archives, MSA CE77-2.

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extended on to the Ridgeley home, which in 1858, as previously noted, was acquired by and became the residence of Joseph Arnold Trimble.<sup>39</sup> The path of the road remains very visible today, since very few trees have grown on its route. The stones to build the road may have come from a very rocky nearby property known as "Stoney Batter," which was acquired by Edward Grimes from the Western Shore Land Office in 1794.<sup>40</sup> Until the Lane was replaced by Trimble Road in the 1930s, a path that was much steeper but more direct, Trimble Lane was accessed via a double-wide gate at the foot of the hill where the Lane originated, continued on up the hill until it reached the gatehouse and a second double-wide gate where it branched off to the far left (west) to continue 800 feet to the House, to the left (northwest) 500 feet to the Barn, or northward up and over the hill to the Ridgeley homestead. After acquiring the Evergreen House, the Trimble family continued to use Trimble Lane and its gates to herd cattle up and down the hill for grazing until the 1930s.

### *Gatehouse (ruin), Contributing Structure*

As with the stone road, the Gatehouse was built in either the late 1700s during the residency of the Grimes or the early 1800s during the residency of the Winters. The first known reference to the Gatehouse is in the 1850 U.S. Census when it served as the residence of the Ross family and their six children, who may have been servants and/or field hands for the Winters.<sup>41</sup> The Gatehouse remained in use until the 1920s when it was destroyed by fire. It was a two story 20' x 30' frame structure with a stone cellar, located approximately 500 feet from the Barn.

### *Stone Fencing, Contributing Structure*

Stone Fencing also remains on the Evergreen property. This fencing, which was primarily used to mark property boundaries, was likely created when the fields were cleared and the hilly, rocky land produced an abundance of materials. The attached Site Drawing indicates the locations of some of the remaining stone fences, which were built by the Grimes family in the late 1700s or the Winter family in the early 1800s.

### *Miners' Mule Stable (foundation), Contributing Structure*

Allegany County Circuit Court, Liber K, Folio 199, *Maryland State Archives*; Ibid, Liber 17, Folio 448.

<sup>40</sup> Allegany County Circuit Court, Western Shore Land Office "Stoney Batter" Deed to Edward Grimes, 1 November 1794, Liber A, Folio 464, *Maryland State Archives*, MSA CE77-1.

<sup>41</sup> U.S. Department of State, Census Board, *Seventh Census of the United States, 1850*, District 5, Allegany County MD, James Ross.

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This red brick two story Miner's Mule Stable housed the mules that hauled coal cars from the mines, as well as hay to feed them. The lower floor consisted of stables and the upper floor provided storage for hay. Although the building deteriorated somewhat after United Big Vein Coal Company (UBVC) mining operations ceased circa 1925, it remained intact until the 1980s when various sections of the brick walls began to crumble.

### *Blacksmith Forge, Contributing Structure*

The remains of the Blacksmith Forge mark the location of a former shop building. The Blacksmith would shoe the mules and make and/or repair any iron tools used by the miners. The glossy cream and white bricks used to build the Forge were made at the Mount Savage Enameled Brick Company in the late 1800s and early 1900s.<sup>42</sup>

### *UBVC Mine #2, Contributing Structure*

UBVC Mine #2 is one of three mines on the Evergreen property that were dug and mined by UBVC between 1915 and 1924.<sup>43</sup> The remains of the mine's 15 foot wide opening and support beams are extant, as is the stone wall on the right (southwest) side of the opening of the mine. Wooden support beams were used to support the weight from the hillside above.

### *Slate Bank, Contributing Structure*

The Slate Bank, located near UBVC Mine #2, was formed from waste from the coal mines, particularly from the slate that was separated from the coal by the miners after it was hauled from inside the mines.

### *Water Tower and Shed, Contributing Site*

This location was the site of the Water Tower and Shed (open on both ends) that housed the UBVC Dinky (small) Steam Engine when it was not transporting coal from the mines or when it was being repaired. The Water Tower at the site, which remained until the 1940s, fed the engine with water from a well dug by UBVC. This site is marked by the cement trough from which workers could access the engine while it was being repaired. The site also includes the remains of a pole supporting wires that provided electricity to power an

<sup>42</sup> Mount Savage Historical Society, "Brick Yard," accessed 11 May 2012, [www.mountsavagehistoricalsociety.org](http://www.mountsavagehistoricalsociety.org).

<sup>43</sup> United Big Vein Coal Company, Coal Leases with Winfield Trimble, 1915, 1917, 1919, 1921, 1924, Evergreen Archives.

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electric tram, the predecessor to the steam engine. These power lines were configured with blue lights all along the tramway.

### *Mount Union Mine, Contributing Structure*

The Mount Union Mine at Evergreen was mined beginning in 1914.<sup>44</sup> The Mount Union Mining Company, which mined both coal and clay for fire brick, was headquartered in nearby Mount Savage and remained in business until 1944.<sup>45</sup> This mine is located within 1000 feet of the incline plane where its coal was lowered down to the C&P Railroad. The remains of the mine opening are visible today, as well as the sunken landscape indicating the cave-in of that mine that occurred in the 1950s.

### *UBVC Mine #3, Contributing Structure*

UBVC Mine #3 is one of the three UBVC mines dug and mined by UBVC between 1915 and 1924 on the Evergreen property.<sup>46</sup> The mine is within 600 feet of the incline plane. The mine experienced a cave-in circa 1940; the remains of the mine opening and sunken ground resulting from the cave-in remain visible today.

### *Bull Wheel, Contributing Site*

The Bull Wheel, a large wheel on which a cable turned, was located at the edge of a steep ridge on the southwest side of Federal Hill. The Bull Wheel was at the top of an incline plane and was used to lower the coal cars down to the railroad where their contents were hauled onto waiting trains.

### *Water Well, Contributing Structure*

The Water Well was dug by hand by UBVC workers circa 1920 to provide a supply of water for the Water Tower that fed the UBVC Dinky Steam Engine. The Well is approximately 200 feet southeast and downhill from the Water Tower location. The Well is three feet square and 16 feet deep, and is lined with enameled cream and white bricks from the Mount Savage Enameled Brick Company. The Well has also been used to pump water to the Evergreen house since the late 1940s and to the Caretaker's House since 1990.

<sup>44</sup> Mount Union Mining Company, Coal Lease with Winfield Trimble, 1914, Evergreen Archives.

<sup>45</sup> Mount Savage Historical Society, "Brick Yard."

<sup>46</sup> United Big Vein Coal Company, Coal Leases with Winfield Trimble, 1915, 1917, 1919, 1921, 1924, Evergreen Archives.

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### Summary Statement of Significance:

Evergreen derives significance under Criterion A for its association with the early settlement and subsequent development of western Allegany County. In the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, Flintstone, in the eastern part of the County, was home to the majority of the County's early settlers, and the city of Cumberland was in its infancy with fewer than 35 families.<sup>47</sup> The five families that settled in western Allegany County on Evergreen had migrated to what was then the western frontier from the northern, southern, and eastern areas of the colonies. Each represented different cultural backgrounds, working together and independently to settle and develop this land. Edward Grimes, who came west from Frederick, built the original Evergreen house and barn and in 1794 was one of the County's first commissioners, appointed to build what would become Route 36 from Cumberland to Mount Savage. Grimes' son-in-law Michael Oswald, who had migrated south from Pennsylvania, was also a County Commissioner and owned one of the area's first saw mills. William Ridgeley, whose family had migrated to Western Maryland from the Eastern Shore and took ownership of Evergreen in 1819, owned ten slaves, was also a County Commissioner, filed the first layout of the town of Frostburg, and fostered the partnership between the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal that would significantly expand transportation to the region. George Winter had also migrated west from Frederick, owned one of the area's first woolen mills and an inn on what became the National Road. Winter purchased Evergreen in 1822 and substantially expanded the Grimes house. Lastly, the Trimble family, who had migrated north from the Shenandoah Valley and settled on Federal Hill near Edward Grimes circa 1780, built one of the area's largest farms, encompassing over 1100 acres on Federal Hill, including Evergreen, which was added to their Federal Hill holdings in 1869. The Trimbles remodeled the Evergreen house creating a Victorian mansion, continued the Hill's history of farming, and participated in the region's booming coal industry, which was a key factor in the economic development of the region.

Evergreen derives additional significance under Criterion C, for its exceptional collection of resources representing vernacular property types characteristic of the region from the late 1700s (the barn), the early 1800s (the stone section of the house), the late 1800s (the frame Victorian section of the house), and the early 1900s (the structures along the coal tramway) that are all in their original location, with the setting, historic materials, and design intact and visible, providing a strongly conveyed feeling for and association with the respective time periods.

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In addition, the property offers an informational treasure in historical documents, artifacts, antiques dating back over 200 years, an opportunity to explore the property's rich agricultural history and the legacy of Western Maryland coal mining that peaked during the "Big Vein" era of the early 1900s.<sup>48</sup>

**Period of Significance:** The period of significance extends from the original settlement of the property and initial phase of construction, ca. 1780, through the establishment of coal mining facilities ca. 1920.

### Resource History and Historic Context:

#### Criterion A Exploration/Settlement Events

Under Criterion A, the Evergreen property is significant for its association with the settlement and subsequent agricultural and industrial development of western Allegany County. The following paragraphs describe the role played by each of the five families that settled on Evergreen in the context of the history of the area.

The first inhabitants of Allegany County, the Shawnees, had departed Western Maryland in the early 1700s for the Ohio Valley, as indicated in the earliest map of the area, drawn in 1751, which noted abandoned Shawnee Lands.<sup>49</sup> After the Shawnees departed, one of the earliest explorers to pass through the area was George Washington, who was there in the summer of 1755 under the command of General Edward Braddock during the establishment of Fort Cumberland.<sup>50</sup> The early inhabitants of the County, however, were the settlers who built their log cabins in what is now known as Flintstone in the eastern section of the County in the 1760s after the end of the French and Indian War.<sup>51</sup> Likely these settlers and the ones that followed were drawn to the cool summers, plentiful forests for timber and fuel, rich soil and abundant land, streams with perch and trout, and plentiful game (white-tailed deer, black bears, squirrels, and rabbits).<sup>52</sup> However, it was not until the defeat of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown, Virginia, that early settlers began to believe that Western Maryland was safe

<sup>47</sup> Stegmaier et al., *Allegany County - A History*, 58; J. Thomas Scharf, *History of Western Maryland, Being a History of Frederick, Montgomery, Carroll, Washington, Allegany, and Garrett Counties*, (Chicago and Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts and Company, 1882), 1394.

Scharf, *History of Western Maryland*, 1436

Stegmaier et al., *Allegany County - A History*, 10

<sup>50</sup> Ibid, 3

<sup>51</sup> Ibid, 58

<sup>52</sup> Ibid, 9

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from attack by the British.<sup>53</sup> Then, the County, which was sparsely populated with no established towns, and its abundant natural resources, including the Potomac River that provided a route for trade and transport, became a magnet for settlers wanting to migrate west.<sup>54</sup> Although Fort Cumberland was “sagging” by the 1780s, its location on the Potomac was an appealing area for settlement and by 1784 Cumberland was home to 35 families, growing to 125 families by 1797.<sup>55</sup> Meanwhile, settlement west of Cumberland was facilitated by the 1781 confiscation of Lord Baltimore’s holdings and the creation of two land offices, one of which was the Western Shore Land Office.<sup>56</sup> In 1787, as a follow-up to an Act passed by the Maryland General Assembly in 1777 that had included land as compensation to soldiers for their service in the Revolutionary War, the Assembly appointed Francis Deakins to survey the area westward of Fort Cumberland and divide it into lots.<sup>57</sup> These 50 acre Military Lots, 4165 in all, were located in what are now Allegany and Garrett counties.<sup>58</sup>

By the time of Deakins’ appointment, however, several years had passed since the confiscation of Lord Baltimore’s land, and Deakins found that 323 families already lived on 636 of the 4165 Military Lots.<sup>59</sup> As a result, in 1788, the Assembly agreed these settlers could purchase those lots.<sup>60</sup> One of these settlers was Edward Grimes, who had settled in the area prior to 1783 and built a home in the middle of Military Lots #3388, #3389, #3390, and #3391.<sup>61</sup> Grimes purchased these Lots for a nominal fee of six shillings to be paid over three years (1789-1791), even though he had served in the Revolutionary War and could have been awarded Lots elsewhere.<sup>62 63 64</sup>

<sup>53</sup> Ibid, 3

<sup>54</sup> Ibid, 69

<sup>55</sup> Ibid, 70, 82; Scharf, *History of Western Maryland*, 1394

<sup>56</sup> Stegmaier et al., *Allegany County - A History*, 83

<sup>57</sup> Archives of Maryland Online, *Hanson’s Laws of Maryland 1763-1784*, Volume 203, 182, accessed 11 May 2012, <http://aomolnet/megafile/msa/speccol/sc2900/sc2908/000001/000203/html/am203--182.html>; Archives of Maryland Online, *Hanson’s Laws of Maryland 1785-1791*, Volume 204, 350, accessed 11 May 2012,

<http://aomolnet/megafile/msg/speccol/sc2900/sc2908/000001/000204/html/am204--350.html>.

<sup>58</sup> Ibid.

<sup>59</sup> Scharf, *History of Western Maryland*, 1344.

<sup>60</sup> Ibid.

<sup>61</sup> General Assembly of Delegates, “1783 Maryland Tax Assessment for Washington County,” Edward Grimes.

Land Office, “Lots Westward of Fort Cumberland: 1793-1903,” *Maryland State Archives*; R. Cummins to Council, *Journal and Correspondence of the Maryland Council of Safety*.

<sup>63</sup> Land Office, 1874 version of Francis Deakins’ 1787 Military Lots Map authorized by the Maryland General Assembly, *Maryland State Archives*, MSA S0451-2, accessed 11 May 2012, <http://guide.mdsa.net> (specify Series ID S451, select “details” for S0451-2).

<sup>64</sup> Land Office, “Lots Westward of Fort Cumberland 1793-1903,” *Maryland State Archives*.

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As noted in the description of "Contributing Resources," the assumption that the house that Grimes built is the original Evergreen house is supported by a survey for "Nancy Delight," commissioned by Grimes in 1793.<sup>65</sup> This 7 ½ acre triangular-shaped property, likely named after Grimes' younger daughter Nancy, is due north of Military Lot #4020, which is adjacent to Grimes' Military Lots.<sup>66</sup> The property survey references "Edward Grimes House" and sites the beginning (far east corner) of this property as being "about 30 perches north of a spring run and about ¼ mile westwardly of Edward Grimes House."<sup>67</sup> This location is where the Evergreen house stands today, and is indicated with a small "HS" on the 1920 Union Mining Company survey map.

Unlike the majority of the early Western Maryland settlers who had migrated south from Pennsylvania, Mr. Grimes came to the area from Frederick (Poolesville) where his father owned land.<sup>68</sup> His wife Ann stayed in Frederick during the first part of the war, likely moving with Edward to the "Lots West of Fort Cumberland" circa 1780 after the defeat of Cornwallis.<sup>69</sup> Grimes would have been familiar with the area as a result of his service in the Skipton District (Oldtown) Company.<sup>70</sup> Grimes added to his original four fifty-acre Military Lots, acquiring adjacent Military Lots #3391, #4017, and #4020 for a total of 350 acres of Military Lots.<sup>71</sup>

Like many of his fellow settlers, Grimes was a farmer. In 1783, Grimes had three horses and six cattle.<sup>72</sup> Within ten years, his expanding farm had grown to include five horses and ten cattle.<sup>73</sup> Likely as the result of his interest in the growing opportunities to market his farm goods as the region attracted more settlers, Grimes participated in the development of the area's infrastructure. Specifically, in 1793, the Session passed "an Act to establish the road from the Turkey Foot road ...above the fork of Jennings' Run, leading up the said run by Oswalt's saw-mill to the foot of Mount Pleasant, and from thence until it intersects Braddock's road at a tract of land called The Mountain...and be it enacted that Michael Oswalt, Garret Snediker Sr., and Edward Grimes or

<sup>65</sup> Allegany Circuit Court: Land Survey, Subdivision, and Condominium Plats, Patented Certificate #1892 "Nancy Delight," *Maryland State Archives*.

<sup>66</sup> Scharf, *History of Western Maryland*, 1344.

<sup>67</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>68</sup> Stegmaier, *Allegany County - A History*, 10; Frederick County Land Records, "Betty's Good Will," 29 July 1772, Allegany College of Maryland, Donald L. Alexander Library, Genealogy Room, Cumberland, MD.

<sup>69</sup> "Maryland Colonial Census of 1776," *Maryland State Archives*, S1419-6-6779, accessed 29 October 2012, <http://guide.mdsa.net> Specify Series ID SE1419, select "details" for S1419-6, scroll down to Grimes, Ann).

<sup>70</sup> R. Cummins to Council, *Journal and Correspondence of the Maryland Council of Safety*.

<sup>71</sup> Land Office, "Lots Westward of Fort Cumberland 1793-1903," *Maryland State Archives*.

<sup>72</sup> General Assembly of Delegates, "1783 Maryland Tax Assessment for Washington County," Edward Grimes.

<sup>73</sup> *Allegany County Tax Records*, District 3 Wills Town Hundred, 1793, Edward Grimes, Allegany College of Maryland, Donald L. Alexander Library, Genealogy Room, Cumberland, MD.

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any two of (them), be and are hereby appointed commissioners on the aforesaid road...<sup>74</sup> In today's terminology, this road would run from what is now called the Narrows (west of Cumberland) through Barrelville (the location of Oswalt's saw-mill on Military Lots #3377/3379) through Mount Savage (near Grimes' farm) to Zilhman (the location of Snediker Military Lots #3631 and #3632 at the foot of what would become Frostburg). This road connected the settlements between Cumberland and Frostburg, facilitating the growing commerce in the area, and would later become part of what is now Route 36.

The aforementioned Michael Oswalt is the second early settler to have influenced the evolution of Evergreen. Oswalt had been born in Pennsylvania in 1754 and lived in the Londonderry Township in Bedford County (just north of Barrelville) on his father's 170 acre farm.<sup>75</sup> Like Grimes, Oswalt had been a soldier in the Revolutionary War, serving in Samuel Paxton's Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion.<sup>76</sup> In 1787, living in neighboring Bedford County Pennsylvania, Oswalt married Edward Grimes' oldest daughter Margaret, and in 1788, served as one of the county officers commissioned by the President of the Supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.<sup>77</sup> By 1796, Oswalt had officially acquired property in Maryland, two unclaimed Military Lots (#3377 and #3379), on which he had built the aforementioned saw-mill, enabling settlers to use sawed timber in the construction of their homesteads and businesses.<sup>78</sup> Oswalt's Military Lots were located northeast of those owned by his father-in-law. In addition to facilitating local economic development through his saw-mill and the construction of the early version of Route 36, Oswalt may have influenced the design of his father-in-law's large barn (still extant), which was built in the Sweitzer style prevalent in Pennsylvania between 1730 and 1850.<sup>79</sup> Also, until the death of his father-in-law (Grimes) in 1808, Oswalt continued to participate in the development of the region, acquiring properties in Barrelville, Mount Savage, and Cumberland.<sup>80</sup> When Grimes died, he left his property to Oswalt's sons (his grandsons); and as the boys came of age, Oswalt acquired their shares of the Federal Hill property as well, which gave him title to over

<sup>74</sup> Thomas Sim Lee, Governor, "Session Laws, 1793," Volume 645, 5, *Maryland State Archives*.

<sup>75</sup> "Tax Assessment Listing for 1793," Bedford County, Londonderry Township, Book 797, *Pennsylvania Archives*, accessed 1 February 2012, <http://www.pa-roots.com/bedford/taxlists/tl1793londonderry.htm>.

<sup>76</sup> "1778 Bedford County Militia Roster," accessed 1 February 2012, [www.motherbedford.com/roster05.htm](http://www.motherbedford.com/roster05.htm).

<sup>77</sup> *The Civil Lists in The History of Bedford, Somerset and Fulton Counties*, "Civil Lists," Chapter XIX, accessed 1 February 2012, <http://www.pa-roots.com/bedford/history/historyofbedford/chapter19.html>.

<sup>78</sup> Land Office, "Lots Westward of Fort Cumberland 1793-1903," *Maryland State Archives*; Allegany County Circuit Court, Land Survey, Subdivision, and Condominium Plats, Patented Certificate #1483 "Military Lots #3377 and #3379," 18 November 1796, *Maryland State Archives*, MSA S1188-1541.

<sup>79</sup> Ensminger, *The Pennsylvania Barn*, 56.

<sup>80</sup> Allegany County Circuit Court, Oswalt Deeds, 1802-1803, Liber C, Folio 333,351, 352, 488, and 632, *Maryland State Archives*; Allegany County Register of Wills, Edward Grimes' Will, Allegany County Court House, Cumberland, MD.

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418 acres of Federal Hill by 1818, including Military Lots #3387-3391, Military Lots #4017 and #4020, and two small lots, Nancy Delight and Grimes' Panick (sp).<sup>81</sup>

Although Oswalt had acquired a total of over 570 acres, he and his family left the area prior to 1806. Oswalt moved back to Pennsylvania, before moving west to Ohio several years later where he became a member of the Ohio House of Delegates from 1816 to 1819 and then the Ohio Senate from 1820 to 1822.<sup>82</sup> Once in Ohio, he began to divest himself of his holdings in Western Maryland, including his property on Federal Hill, which he sold to William Ridgeley in 1819.<sup>83</sup> The Federal Hill deed indicates that the property included a house, outbuildings, and barns at that time.<sup>84</sup>

The new owner of the Evergreen property, William Ridgeley was another of the area's early settlers, although not quite as early as Grimes and Oswalt. William Ridgeley was descended from early Eastern Shore settlers who had acquired large plots of land (over 100 acres each) as early as 1796 in what is now Garrett County.<sup>85</sup> Ridgeley was born during the Revolutionary War and did not acquire his first piece of property until 1814 (474 acres called "Resurvey on Shawney (sp) War" near today's Deep Creek Lake).<sup>86</sup> After acquiring the Federal Hill property from Oswalt, Ridgeley built a house on the other side of Federal Hill, roughly a half mile from Grimes' house. The Ridgeley home remained until the 1940s when it collapsed due to deterioration. The Ridgeleys' two story frame Federal-style home with a two story porch was built on the side of Federal Hill that faced the growing village of Mount Savage.<sup>87</sup>

Like his two predecessors, William Ridgeley was also an influential settler on Federal Hill. First, he was a farmer who had five horses and 17 cattle. Ridgeley used slaves on his 400-plus acre farm, a practice that was

<sup>81</sup> Allegany County Circuit Court, Liber F, Folio 179, *Maryland State Archives*; Liber IJ Folio 95; Allegany County Circuit Court: Land Survey, Subdivision, and Condominium Plats, Patented Certificate #842 "Federal Hill" Plat.

<sup>82</sup> Elliot Gilkey, *Ohio Hundred Year Book: A Hand-Book of the Public Men and Public Institutions of Ohio*, (Columbus, Ohio: Fred J. Heer State Printer, 1901), 298.

<sup>83</sup> Allegany County Circuit Court, Oswalt Sale to Fair, 18 September 1811, Liber F, Folio 264, *Maryland State Archives*, MSA CE77-6; Allegany County Circuit Court, Oswalt Sale to Fair, 9 May 1815, Liber H, Folio 135, *Maryland State Archives*, MSA CE77-8; Allegany County Circuit Court, Liber K, Folio 199, *Maryland State Archives*.

<sup>84</sup> Allegany County Circuit Court, Liber K, Folio 199, *Maryland State Archives*.

<sup>85</sup> Scharf, *History of Western Maryland*, 1528.

U.S. Department of State, *Fifth Census of the United States, 1830*, District 5, Allegany County MD, William Ridgley; *Allegany County Tax Records*, District 4, 1813-1825, William Ridgley, Allegany College of Maryland, Donald L. Alexander Library, Genealogy Room, Cumberland, MD.

<sup>87</sup> Marianna Trimble Keene, Trimble family descendant who was born and grew up in the Evergreen house, remembers visiting the home frequently as a child in the 1930s.

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rather limited in Western Maryland, expanding from four slaves in 1810 to ten slaves in 1840.<sup>88</sup> Ridgeley's major contributions to the region, however, were in the development of its infrastructure and transportation. For example, in 1837, as County Commissioner, Ridgeley co-authored the layout of the town of Frostburg, which was growing since its inception in 1820 in part due to the evolution of the National Road, which by 1849 saw thirty to forty stages daily pass along its route from Cumberland to Ohio.<sup>89</sup> The National Road was a "vital link" between the East and the new lands in the West.<sup>90</sup> Ridgeley was also instrumental in addressing the stalemate between the Baltimore and Ohio (B&O) Railroad and the Chesapeake and Ohio (C&O) Canal that could have impeded the completion of two of the most important transport mediums in the East.<sup>91</sup> In 1834, both projects were stalled due to conflict over access to entry points south of Harpers Ferry on their routes.<sup>92</sup> After mutual injunctions against one another and a subsequent agreement, the Canal was still short of the funding required to complete the project.<sup>93</sup> Concerned citizens of Allegany County, including William Ridgeley who served as the group's Vice President, met and agreed to conduct a multi-state convention in Baltimore to develop a course of action.<sup>94</sup> The convention was successful, and the Maryland House of Delegates subsequently voted an additional \$2 million to complete the Canal.<sup>95</sup> This grass roots effort resulted in the successful completion of the B&O Railroad in 1842 and the C&O Canal in 1845; and as the common meeting point of the National Road, the B&O Railroad, and the C&O Canal; by 1850, Cumberland had become the second largest city in Maryland.<sup>96</sup>

Apparently since Ridgeley's farm was based on the Mount Savage side of his Federal Hill property, he elected to sell approximately 40% (174 acres) of his Federal Hill acreage to farmer and businessman George Winter in 1822, less than three years after his purchase from Oswalt.<sup>97</sup> Winter was another of the original settlers in the area, owning Military Lots #3676 and #3678, located on what is now the Eckhart side of Federal Hill.<sup>98</sup> Winter

<sup>88</sup> U.S. Department of State, *Third Census of the United States, 1810*, District 5, Allegany County MD, William Ridgley; U.S. Department of State, *Sixth Census of the United States, 1840*, District 5, Allegany County MD, William Ridgley.

<sup>89</sup> Stegmaier et al., *Allegany County - A History*, 101, 111, 138; Allegany County Commissioners Bruce and Ridgeley, Allegany County Circuit Court, Plat and Proceedings, Layout of Town of Frostburg, 21 May 1837, Liber T, Folio 236, *Maryland State Archives*, MSA CE77-19.

<sup>90</sup> Stegmaier et al., *Allegany County, A History*, 117.

<sup>91</sup> Scharf, *History of Western Maryland*, Scharf, 705

<sup>92</sup> Ibid.

<sup>93</sup> Ibid.

<sup>94</sup> Scharf, p.706

<sup>95</sup> Scharf, p. 705

<sup>96</sup> Stegmaier et al., *Allegany County - A History*, 120.

<sup>97</sup> Allegany County Circuit Court, Liber L, Folio 353, *Maryland State Archives*.

<sup>98</sup> *Allegany County Tax Records*, District 3 Wills Town Hundred, 1793, Allegany College of Maryland, Donald L. Alexander Library, Genealogy Room, Cumberland, Maryland.

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had been born in America in 1765 (based on Winter family genealogical records) and was only eleven years old when the Revolutionary War began.<sup>99</sup> Winter was a farmer (owning three horses and two cattle in 1793), but he was also a weaver with at least one apprentice and by 1809 had a woolen mill.<sup>100</sup> In addition, Winter invested in local properties, acquiring over 1228 acres of land, including his new home on Evergreen, before his death in 1826.<sup>101</sup> One of those properties was 264 acres on the National Road in Eckhart known as the Fountain Inn, one of the many inns on the National Road.<sup>102</sup> This property also contained a spring/fountain that served as a local water source until the construction of Interstate 68 in the 1970s and 1980s, and likely was also the Eckhart location of Winter's woolen mill. Winter's woolen mill would have assisted local farmers in producing woolen goods for market and his inn on the National Road would have provided a welcome stagecoach stop on the way up the hill to Frostburg. This Eckhart location, where many of Winter's properties were located, were later found to be in the heart of a "mountain of coal" that was discovered during flooding in 1810.<sup>103</sup> Winter's investments in Eckhart proved to be a boon to his descendants when the Fountain Inn and adjacent Maryland Mining Company property were sold in one body for a half a million dollars in 1852.<sup>104</sup> This area contained a "Big Vein" of coal over 14 feet thick that would lead to a boom in economic growth that lasted until the early 1900s.<sup>105</sup>

With regard to Winter's acquisition of the 174 acre Evergreen property from Ridgeley, this property was adjacent to a small 7 ½ acre property known as Blair's Neglect, that was located at the bottom of Federal Hill on the northwest side of the Hill.<sup>106</sup> As a result, Winter's 181 ½ acre Federal Hill property included Blair's Neglect and Nancy Delight plus Military Lots #4017, #4020, and approximately half of Military Lots #3088-3091 as well as some "vacancies" left unidentified by Deakins in his 1787 survey. This definition of the boundary of the Evergreen property remains today.

<sup>99</sup> Winter family genealogical records

<sup>100</sup> *Allegany County Tax Records*, District 3 Wills Town Hundred, 1793, George Winter, Allegany College of Maryland, Donald L. Alexander Library, Genealogy Room, Cumberland, MD; Allegany County Circuit Court, Weaver Apprenticeship of Michael Sowers to George Winters, 2 September 1793, Liber A, Folio 327, *Maryland State Archives*, MSA CE77-1; *Allegany County Tax Records*, District 3 Wills Town Hundred, 1809, George Winter, Allegany College of Maryland, Donald L. Alexander Library, Genealogy Room, Cumberland, MD.

<sup>101</sup> *Allegany County Tax Records*, District 4, 1824, George Winter, Allegany College of Maryland, Donald L. Alexander Library, Genealogy Room, Cumberland, MD.

<sup>102</sup> Allegany County Circuit Court: Land Survey, Subdivision, and Condominium Plats, Unpatented Certificate #296 "Fountain Inn" for George Winter, 6 June 1818, *Maryland State Archives*, MSA S1211-328.

<sup>3</sup> Stegmaier et Al., *Allegany County - A History*, 130.

<sup>4</sup> Scharf, 1436

<sup>105</sup> Scharf 1436; *Allegany County - A History*, 203.

<sup>106</sup> Allegany County Circuit Court: Land Survey, Subdivision, and Condominium Plats, Unpatented Certificate #98, "Blair's Neglect" for George Winter, 6 March 1818, *Maryland State Archives*, MSA S1211-124.

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After George Winter Sr. died in 1826, his son George Winter Jr., continued to live on Federal Hill and manage his father's businesses.<sup>107</sup> He was also active in local politics, serving as County Commissioner with William Ridgeley in the 1820s.<sup>108</sup> By 1868, however, George Winter Jr., had died as had his brother John and his son William, and the family was experiencing financial difficulties.<sup>109</sup> As a result, in November 1869, Easter Hester Winter, John's widow and sister of neighbor Joseph Arnold Trimble, orchestrated the sale of the 181 ½ acre property to the Trimble family.<sup>110</sup>

Trimble's grandfather, John Trimble Sr., was one of the area's original settlers and had been Edward Oswalt's neighbor on Federal Hill in the 1780s, settling on and purchasing Military Lots #3393 and #3394 on the top and eastern side of Federal Hill.<sup>111</sup> Trimble's father David and his four brothers had migrated to America circa 1740 and settled in the Shenandoah Valley, following cousins who had preceded them in migrating from Ireland. David and his brothers fought in the French and Indian War. In fact, John Trimble's uncle (and namesake) John was the last white man massacred in the war.<sup>112</sup> By the time of the Revolutionary War, however, most of the land granted under the early Beverly Patent and Borden Grant in the Shenandoah Valley was spoken for, so the open land of Western Maryland may have appealed to John Trimble and his wife.<sup>113</sup> This attraction may have been strengthened by the potential support of relatives, since Trimble's wife Margaret Arnold was related to the Arnolds that settled in Mount Savage circa 1780, establishing a farm and an inn for travelers heading west.<sup>114</sup>

As with the other early settlers on Federal Hill, John Trimble Sr. also contributed to the successful settlement of the area. Like his neighbor Edward Grimes, he was a farmer who started with one horse and four cattle,

<sup>107</sup> U.S. Department of State, *Fifth Census of the United States*, 1830, District 5, Allegany County MD, George Winter, Jr.

<sup>108</sup> Jonathan Arnold, Allegany County Court Records, Petition by Arnold to Close a Section of the Turkey Foot Road, 19 April, 1827, *Maryland State Archives*, referenced by Lannie Dietle and Michael McKenzie, *In Search of the Turkey Foot Road*, (Mount Savage: Mount Savage Historical Society, 2010), 215.

<sup>109</sup> Porter Cemetery, Allegany County Maryland, USGenWeb Archives Special Projects, accessed 1 February 2012, <http://files.usgwarchives.net/md/allegany/cemeteries/porter.txt>.

<sup>110</sup> Allegany County Circuit Court, Liber 31, Folio 247, *Maryland State Archives*.

<sup>111</sup> General Assembly of Delegates, "1783 Maryland Tax Assessment for Washington County," Edward Grimes; Land Office, "Lots Westward of Fort Cumberland 1793-1903," *Maryland State Archives*.

<sup>112</sup> John Farley, *Trimble Families of America*, (Parsons, West Virginia: McClain Print Company, 1973), 30.

<sup>113</sup> James Raymond Hildebrand, "Map of the Beverly Patent 1736," 1954, accessed 31 January 2008,

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~vaugust/bevmap.html> (map is in four sections, northeast (NE), etc.); "Map of the Borden Grant," accessed 31 January 2008, <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~vaugust/bordon.html>.

<sup>114</sup> Mount Savage Historical Society, "Historical Overview," accessed 11 May 2012, [www.mountsavagehistoricalsociety.org/archives](http://www.mountsavagehistoricalsociety.org/archives).

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growing to three horses and eight cattle within ten years.<sup>115</sup> John Sr. also continued to acquire more Federal Hill land, purchasing adjacent Military Lot #3392 plus "Charlotte's Fancy" from his daughter Charlotte and her husband William Shaw, paying for the property with 36 pounds of tobacco.<sup>116</sup> Reverend William Shaw, another Revolutionary War veteran, married over 700 people in Allegany County between 1792 and 1813, and after selling his Federal Hill property to his father-in-law, moved on to found the nearby town of Barton.<sup>117</sup> John Trimble's descendants continued to grow the family's Federal Hill farm so that by 1823 and the death of John Trimble Jr., the farm included 287 acres plus five horses and 22 cattle. The farm also produced farm products that were typical for the area and included wheat, rye, corn, oats, peas, beans, and potatoes from the gardens; apple, cherries, and peaches from the orchards; tobacco (used as a cash crop as indicated above), and beef, pork, and lamb.<sup>118</sup> After John Trimble Jr.'s death, the farm grew larger under the partnership of John Jr.'s sons Joseph, Henry, and Enoch, who acquired more land including William Ridgeley's 264 acre Federal Hill estate (purchased after Ridgeley's death), and then, as previously mentioned, George Winter's 181.5 acre Federal Hill plantation.<sup>119</sup> As a result, by 1870, when over 85% of the County's citizens lived on farms, the Trimble brothers owned and farmed over 1100 acres of Federal Hill, and in 1876 owned 13 cows, 7 horses, 8 cattle, 3 hogs, and 55 sheep.<sup>120</sup>

Since the Trimble brothers had their own Federal Hill homesteads when they acquired the Winter property (Joseph was living in Ridgeley's former home), the house on the Winter property remained vacant for four years. Then in 1873, when Joseph's oldest son Winfield (early settler John Sr.'s great-grandson) turned twenty-three, Joseph and Winfield negotiated a deal where-in if Winfield would restore and farm the Winter property, Joseph would sell the property to Winfield. From 1873 to 1882, Winfield renovated the Winter home, tearing down the original log/frame section of the house (built by Grimes) and replacing it with a two story frame addition, which he integrated with the Winters' stone addition and then decorated with a rooftop Victorian turret and gingerbread. In 1882, after a ten year effort of restoring and rebuilding the farm, Winfield Trimble

<sup>115</sup> General Assembly of Delegates, "1783 Maryland Tax Assessment for Washington County," John Trimble; *Allegany County Tax Records*, District 3, 1793, Edward Grimes, Allegany College of Maryland, Donald L. Alexander Library, Genealogy Room, Cumberland MD.

<sup>116</sup> Allegany County Circuit Court, Liber B, Folio 317, *Maryland State Archives*.

<sup>117</sup> Cresap Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, *Marriage Diary of Reverend William Shaw Allegany County Maryland, 1792-1813*, 1967, Frostburg State University, Lewis J. Ort Library, Special Collections Room; Shaw family genealogical records, accessed March 28, 2012, [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mdallegh/shaw/shawsofa.htm](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mdallegh/shaw/shawsofa.htm).

<sup>118</sup> Stegmaier et al., *Allegany County - A History*, 97.

<sup>119</sup> Allegany County Circuit Court, Liber 17, Folio 448, *Maryland State Archives*; Allegany County Circuit Court, Liber 31, Folio 247, *Maryland State Archives*.

<sup>120</sup> *Allegany County Tax Records*, District 5, 1876, Joseph A. Trimble and Henry Trimble; Stegmaier et al., *Allegany County - A History*, 97.

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officially purchased the 181.5 acre property and named the Federal Hill property Evergreen for the fledgling evergreens he planted there<sup>121</sup>. Trimble continued to add to the rich agricultural history of Federal Hill, maintaining detailed records on his crops and the work he did on his farm and his Victorian farmhouse.

In addition to his work in agriculture, Winfield Trimble was also a strong believer in progress and the importance of commerce to the region. As a result, in 1910, Trimble sold a right-of-way through the Evergreen property to both the Western Maryland railroad and the Georges Creek and Cumberland Railroad to facilitate the transportation of coal and other goods between Frostburg and Cumberland and other local towns.<sup>122</sup> This right-of-way not only enabled the expansion of the region's railroad system, but contributed to the development of the area's commerce in coal. Trimble also supported local coal mining efforts by working with a series of mining companies to harvest coal from Evergreen, which represented the eastern point of the "Big Vein," the previously noted 14 foot thick seam of bituminous coal (known for its clean-burning low sulfur content), the heart of which was located in the George's Creek/Eckhart area near Frostburg.<sup>123</sup> The Big Vein was highly desirable coal, not only because it was extraordinarily well-suited for smithing and steam, but also because it was easily accessible through tunnels in the mountainside i.e. it was both plentiful and inexpensive to mine.<sup>124</sup> This coal mining effort, which peaked in the early 1900s, at one time employed over 65 miners on Evergreen who mined the coal and then hauled it over the tramway they built from the deep mines to the railroad, where it could be transported to areas east and west. The Evergreen Coal Trail, which follows the tramway, illustrates this important aspect of Allegany County history.

### **Criterion C: Architectural Value**

In addition to its contribution to early settlement, the Evergreen property has maintained the architectural integrity of the buildings on the property, providing multiple examples of vernacular architecture, materials, workmanship and feeling of Western Maryland in the late 1700s, early 1800s, late 1800s, and early 1900s, all in

<sup>121</sup> Allegany County Circuit Court, Liber 58, Folio 61, *Maryland State Archives*.

<sup>122</sup> Allegany County Circuit Court, Winfield Trimble Right-of-Way to Railroad Agent, 25 February 1910, Liber 105, Folio 183, *Maryland State Archives*, MSA CE78-98. This right-of-way, as well as a nine acre plot at the foot of Federal Hill that was sold to United Big Vein Coal Company in 1921 (Liber 444, Folio 247), contributed to the reduction of the Federal Hill /Evergreen acreage from 181.5 to its current 167 acres.

<sup>123</sup> Chas J. Fox, *Annual Report of the Mining Inspector of the State of Maryland, from May 1, 1915 to May 1, 1916*, (State Board of Labor and Statistics, 1916), 118; Fox, *Annual Report of the Mining Inspector from May 1, 1917 to May 1, 1918*, 118; Fox, *Annual Report of the Mining Inspector from May 1, 1918 to May 1, 1919*, 61. All are available in the Evergreen Archives.

<sup>124</sup> Stegmaier et al., *Allegany County - A History*, 207, 223.

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their original location. Evergreen offers a rare example of the development of architectural styles and use of materials during the region's settlement and evolution of the agrarian and industrial economy.

**Late 1700s.** The Evergreen barn, which is in excellent condition, displays many of the classic architectural features of a "Sweitzer" style bank barn that date its construction to the late 1700s. From its steep asymmetrical roof, open forebay with log cantilevered beams, early American style of bracing, the broad-axed cuts of its beams, the use of large wooden pegs and wrought nails, mortise and tenon construction, and log troughs; all still extant, the barn represents the design and workmanship of the period and showcases the materials such as the stone and timber from the land. In addition, the barn displays antique harnesses, tools, hay wagon, and a grain fanning mill, which further associate the barn with agricultural practices dating back over 150 years.

The cellar of the Evergreen house provides a second example of late 1700s architecture, again displaying the materials and workmanship of the period, including the stone foundation, the two-foot thick openings for windows and doors, and the stone chimney; the hand-hewn beams and posts; the mill-sawed wooden steps (likely from Michael Oswalt's saw mill), and the packed dirt floor, all extant. The cellar and its extant features continue to convey the feeling of rural life in that period.

**Early 1800s.** Built in 1822, the stone section of the Evergreen house, which is also in excellent condition, displays many architectural features of the simple Federal style with its use of minimal ornamentation and box-like exteriors, as well as the materials (stone and wood) and workmanship that were characteristic of the period, particularly in a rural setting. Examples of the architectural features of interest include the large stone cellar fireplace with its iron rail to hold its large hanging kettle, the remaining 6/6 cellar windows, the "sandwich" construction of the stone walls and floor joists, the four gable fireplaces with board surrounds with flat pilasters and a plain frieze, the early paneled parlor door, the shallow bedroom closets, the two foot thick stone walls built using English cut stones, and the six inch wide pine plank floors. With the exception of the addition of gingerbread decoration, the basic architecture of the addition remains as it was when it was built. As a result, this three story stone wing of the house, which is furnished with antiques and artifacts dating back to the early 1800s, strongly conveys the feeling of the period.

**Late 1800s.** Built in the 1870s, the frame section of the Evergreen house, which is also in excellent condition, again utilizes the stone and wood (typically white oak, chestnut, and pine) available on Federal Hill, but also incorporates the clay bricks manufactured in nearby Mount Savage at that time (some of which are stamped

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with the Mount Savage brand).<sup>125</sup> Although many local materials were employed, the architectural details represent the current national architectural trends in their form including the use of 2/2 windows and tin shingles on the roof. Architectural features of interest include the rooftop hexagon-shaped turret and Victorian style gingerbread decorations, the center hallway with its walnut staircase, the dining room with its marbled slate fireplace, the bedrooms with their transoms to facilitate air circulation, and the brick-lined chimneys. As with the stone wing of the house, the frame section is furnished with artifacts and antiques dating to the period, which further associates the structure with and conveys the feeling of rural life in the late 1800s.

**Early 1900s.** Although many of the nine structures located on what is today the Evergreen Coal Trail are in ruinous condition, they retain much of their original appearance and are closely associated with the coal mining history of Allegany County, conveying the setting of a small-scale deep mining operation in the early 1900s. The remains of the deep mines, the miners' mule stable, blacksmith's forge, the hand-dug well, the site of the water tower and repair shop, the bull wheel and incline plane, and the slate bank together portray a story of a dangerous, labor-intensive coal mining venture that was a major contributor to the economic growth of the region.

In addition, the Evergreen property provides a treasure of information in its museum's documents, records, artifacts, and antiques, and the opportunity to explore the property's agricultural and coal mining history. Specifically the museum contains an archive of over 200 historical documents, fifty original deeds including those for four Revolutionary War Military Lots, an inventory of all the deeds pertinent to all five Federal Hill families, over 250 antique books dating back to the late 1700s, an inventory of more than 400 antiques and artifacts, dozens of historical maps, and over a dozen filing cabinets of historical files that include 100 years of coal mining history, over 400 years of Winter and Trimble family genealogy records, and detailed journals on Federal Hill agriculture since the late 1800s. In addition, the property itself provides a wealth of opportunities for research, as evidenced by over 1000 college professors and students who have participated in experiential learning projects there.

## Conclusion

In conclusion, the Evergreen property provides a missing piece of Western Maryland history not represented on the National Register. Only four of the properties currently listed for Allegany County pre-date 1800. Two of the four are pre-historic: the Barton archeological site and the Oldtown Shawnee Village. The other two,

<sup>125</sup> Mount Savage Historical Society, "Brick Yard," accessed 11 May 2012, [www.mountsavagehistoricalsociety.org](http://www.mountsavagehistoricalsociety.org).

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classified as representing 1750-1799, are in eastern Allegany County (the Breakneck Road District in Flintstone and the Cresap House in Oldtown). In addition, the Evergreen property showcases regional history in the late 1700s and portrays its evolution in coal mining and agriculture during the early and late 1800s and on into the early 1900s. It also offers integrity in terms of location (on original Military Lots, the deeds for which on display), setting (on a rural mountainside), building materials (native stone and timber), and design (from each of the noted time periods). The Evergreen property is a rare historical resource that successfully conveys the rich history of the settlement and evolution of western Allegany County.

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## Geographical Data

### UTM References:

Frostburg MD-PA and Cumberland, MD-PA-WV Quads

- 1) 17-681289-4395175
- 2) 17-682767-4394539
- 3) 17-681822-4393749
- 4) 17-681308-4394453

### Verbal Boundary Description:

The property is described among the Land Records of Allegany County, Maryland in Liber 1472, folio 337, and shown as Parcel 25 on Allegany County Tax Map 13.

### Boundary Justification:

The nominated property, 167 acres, comprises the remnant of the acreage historically associated with the resource, and encompasses the contributing elements within their historic setting. The large acreage is appropriate because of the property's direct history as Revolutionary War Military Lots. The property is currently used for environmental and historical education.

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## Index to Photographs

Unless specified otherwise, the following information applies to all photographs which accompany this documentation:

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP) Number: AL-V-A-031

Name of Property: Evergreen

Location: Allegany County, Maryland

Photographer: Peter Kurtze

Date taken: July 26, 2013

Location of original digital files: MD SHPO

MD\_AlleganyCounty\_Evergreen\_0001.tif

House, view from southwest

MD\_AlleganyCounty\_Evergreen\_0002.tif

House, view from southeast

MD\_AlleganyCounty\_Evergreen\_0003.tif

Stair hall, camera facing N

MD\_AlleganyCounty\_Evergreen\_0004.tif

Stair detail

MD\_AlleganyCounty\_Evergreen\_0005.tif

View of stair hall and south parlor from north parlor

MD\_AlleganyCounty\_Evergreen\_0006.tif

Parlor mantel

MD\_AlleganyCounty\_Evergreen\_0007.tif

Dining room

MD\_AlleganyCounty\_Evergreen\_0008.tif

Dining room fireplace detail

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MD\_AlleganyCounty\_Evergreen\_0009.tif  
Northeast bedroom, second floor

MD\_AlleganyCounty\_Evergreen\_0010.tif  
Barn, view from southeast

MD\_AlleganyCounty\_Evergreen\_0011.tif  
United Big Vein Coal Company Mine No. 2 opening (Photo by Janice Keene, 2012)

MD\_AlleganyCounty\_Evergreen\_0012.tif  
United Big Vein Coal Company Mine No. 3 opening (Photo by Janice Keene, 2012)

MD\_AlleganyCounty\_Evergreen\_0013.tif  
Mount Union Mine opening (Photo by Janice Keene, 2012)

MD\_AlleganyCounty\_Evergreen\_0014.tif  
Slate Bank (Photo by Janice Keene, 2012)

MD\_AlleganyCounty\_Evergreen\_0015.tif  
Mule Stable (Photo by Janice Keene, 2012)

MD\_AlleganyCounty\_Evergreen\_0016.tif  
Blacksmith Forge (Photo by Janice Keene, 2009)

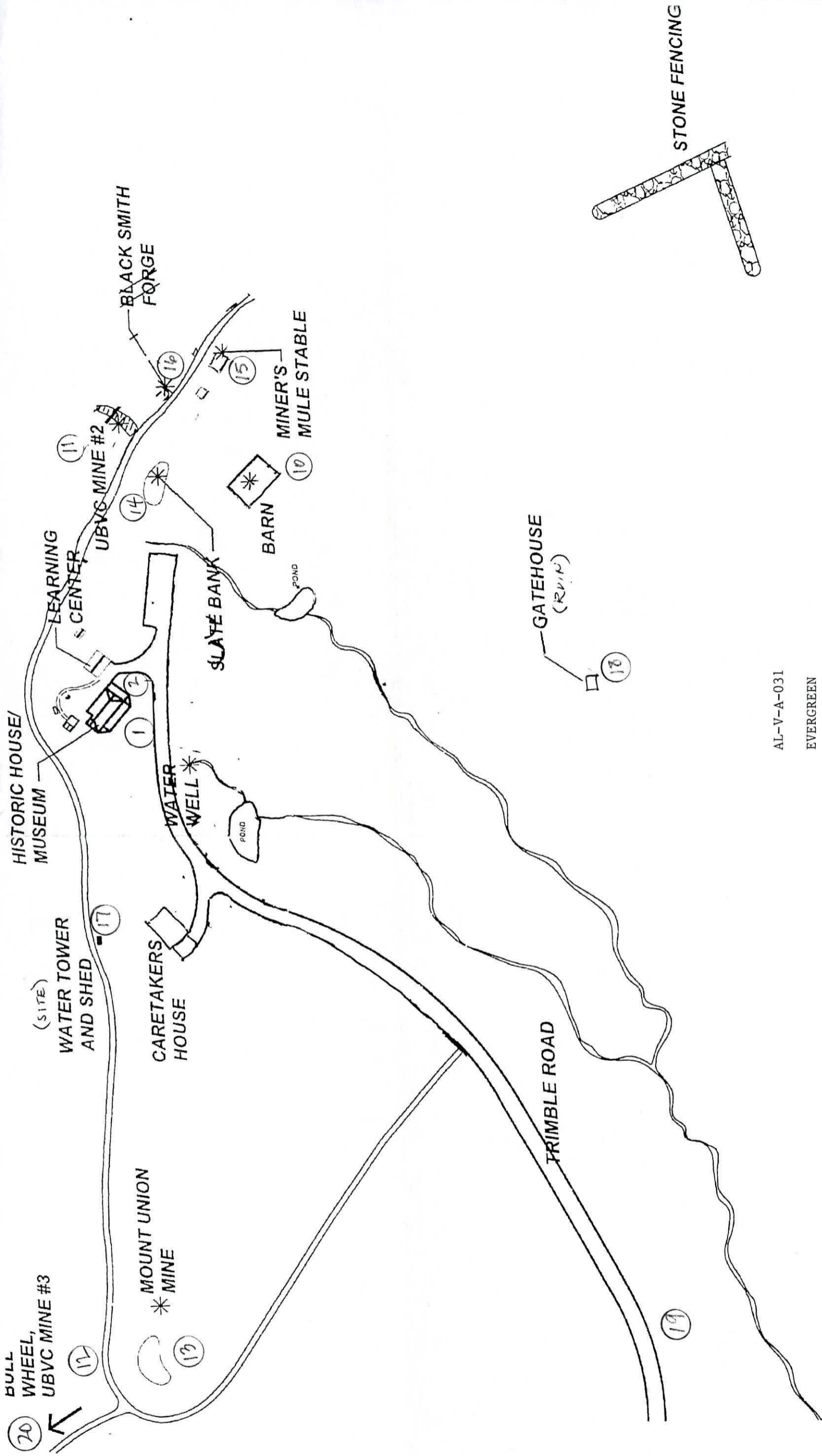
MD\_AlleganyCounty\_Evergreen\_0017.tif  
Trough at site of former Water Tower and Shed (Photo by Janice Keene, 2012)

MD\_AlleganyCounty\_Evergreen\_0018.tif  
Gatehouse foundation (Photo by Janice Keene, 2012)

MD\_AlleganyCounty\_Evergreen\_0019.tif  
Trimble Lane (Photo by Janice Keene, 2012)

MD\_AlleganyCounty\_Evergreen\_0020.tif  
Incline Plane (Photo by Janice Keene, 2012)





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EVERGREEN

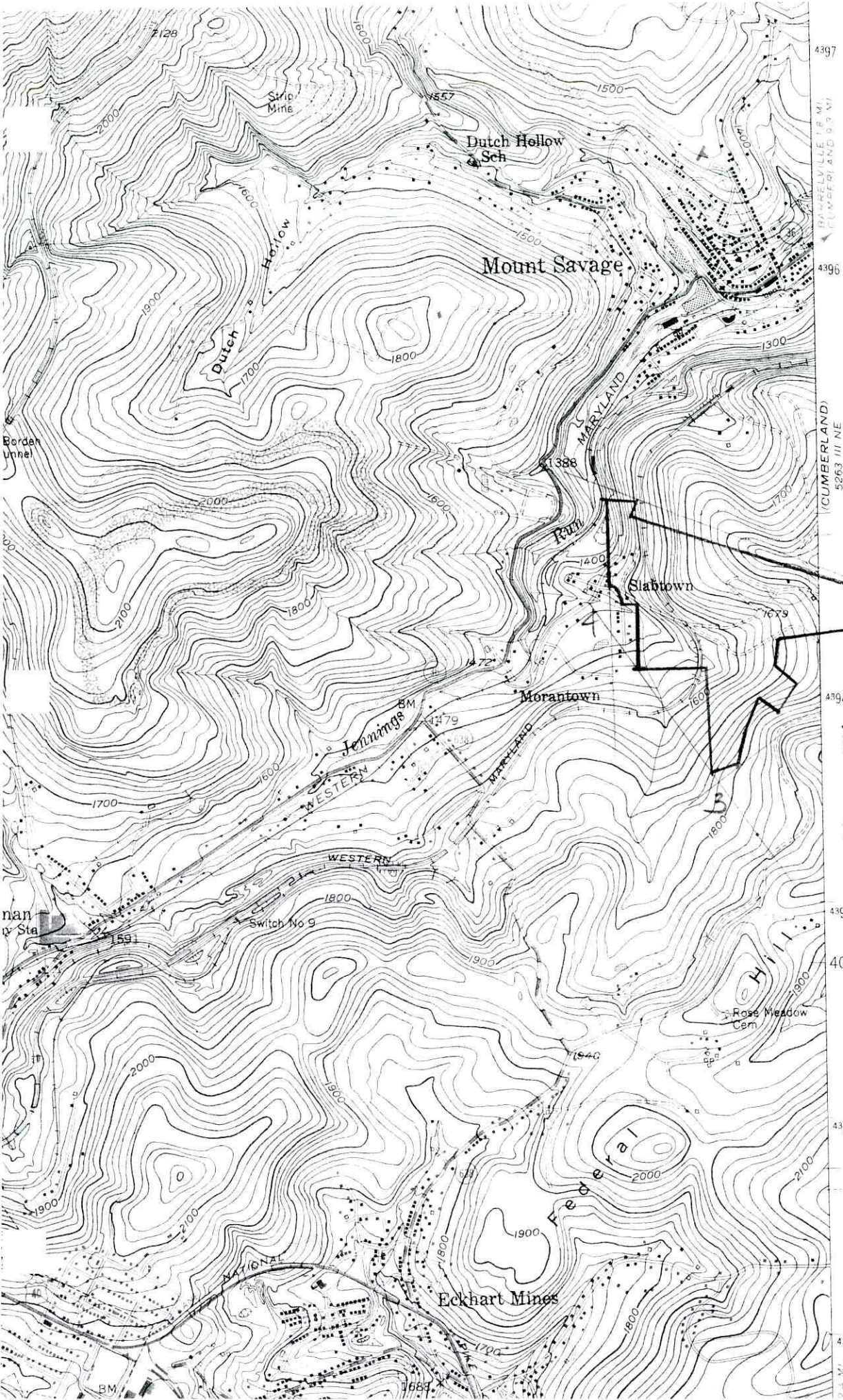
ALLEGANY COUNTY, MARYLAND

SKETCH SITE PLAN (not to scale)

showing relative locations of principal elements

circled numbers denote photograph locations





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 EVERGREEN  
 ALLEGANY  
 COUNTY,  
 MARYLAND

- 1) 17-681289-  
4395175
- 2) 17-682767-  
4394539
- 3) 17-681822-  
4393749
- 4) 17-681308-  
4394453

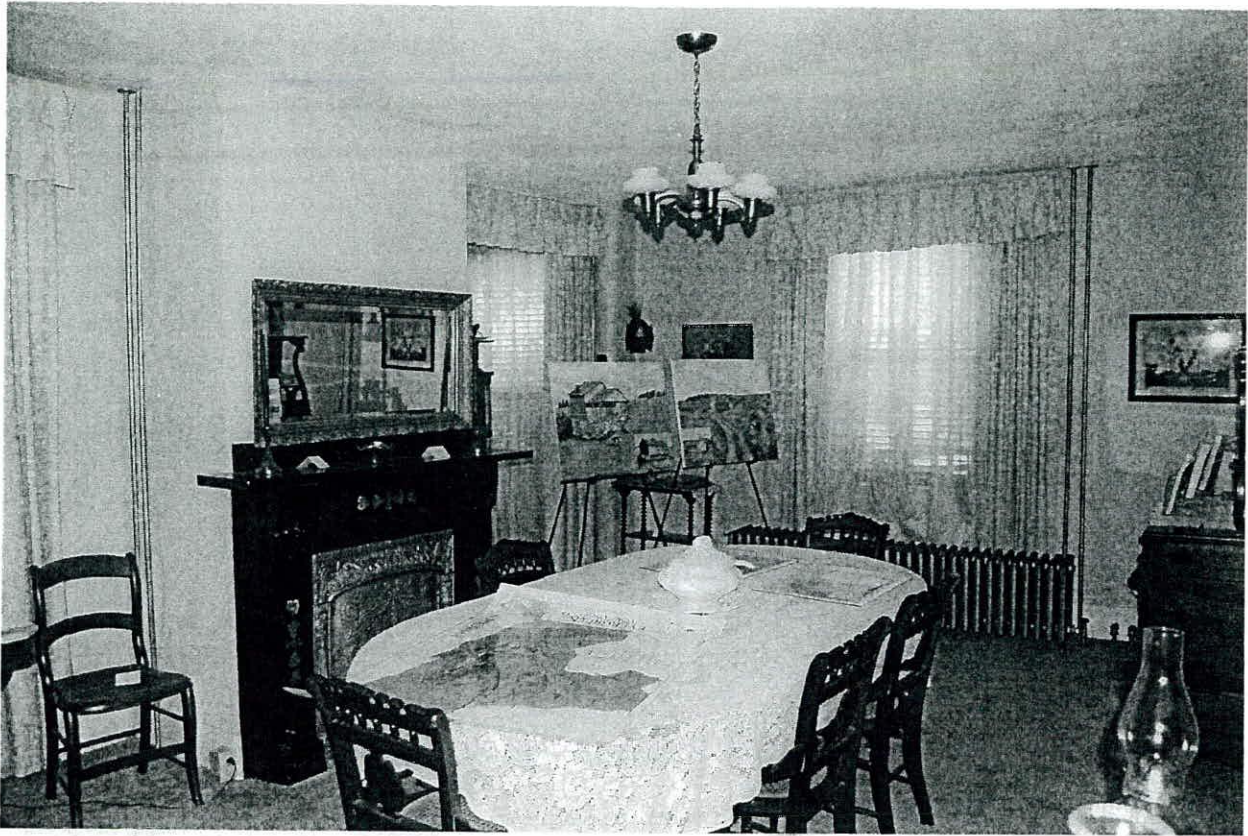
FROSTBURG,  
 MD-PA ROAD



Exterior



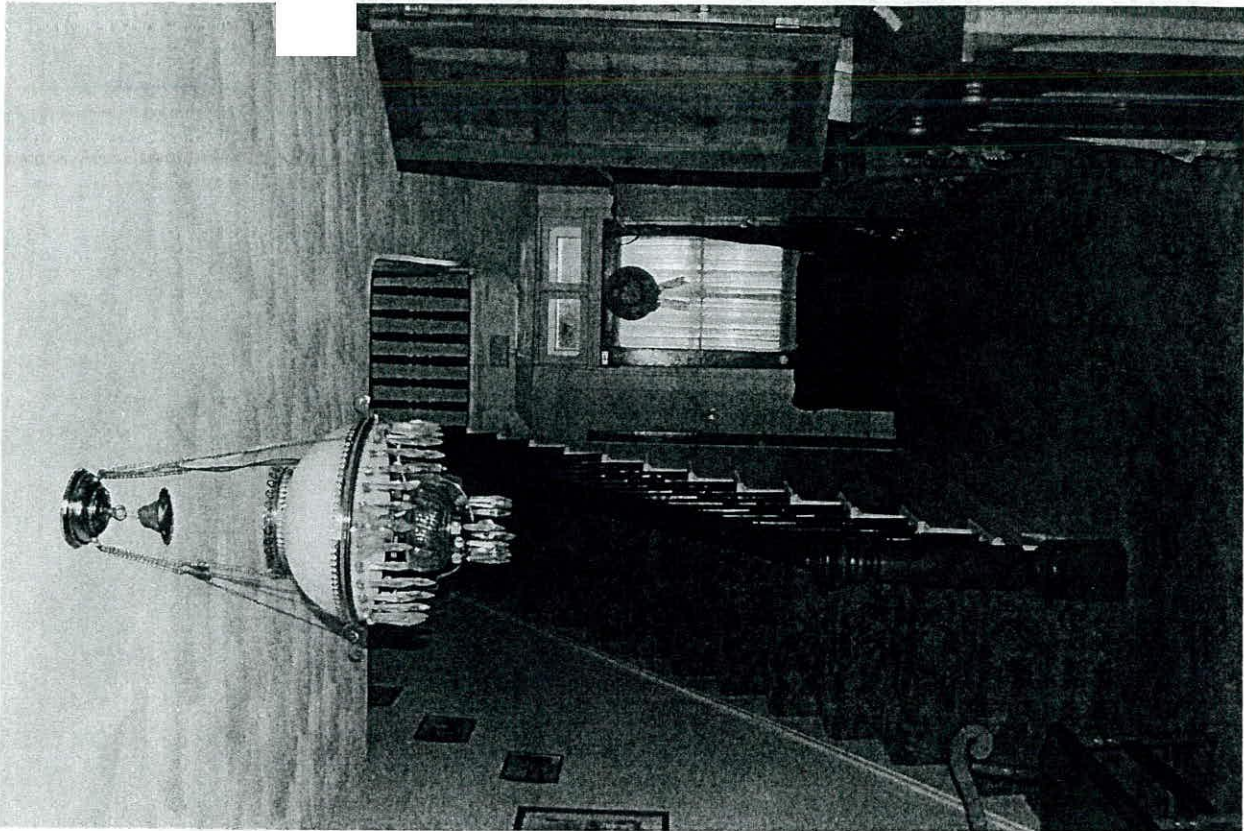
Exterior2



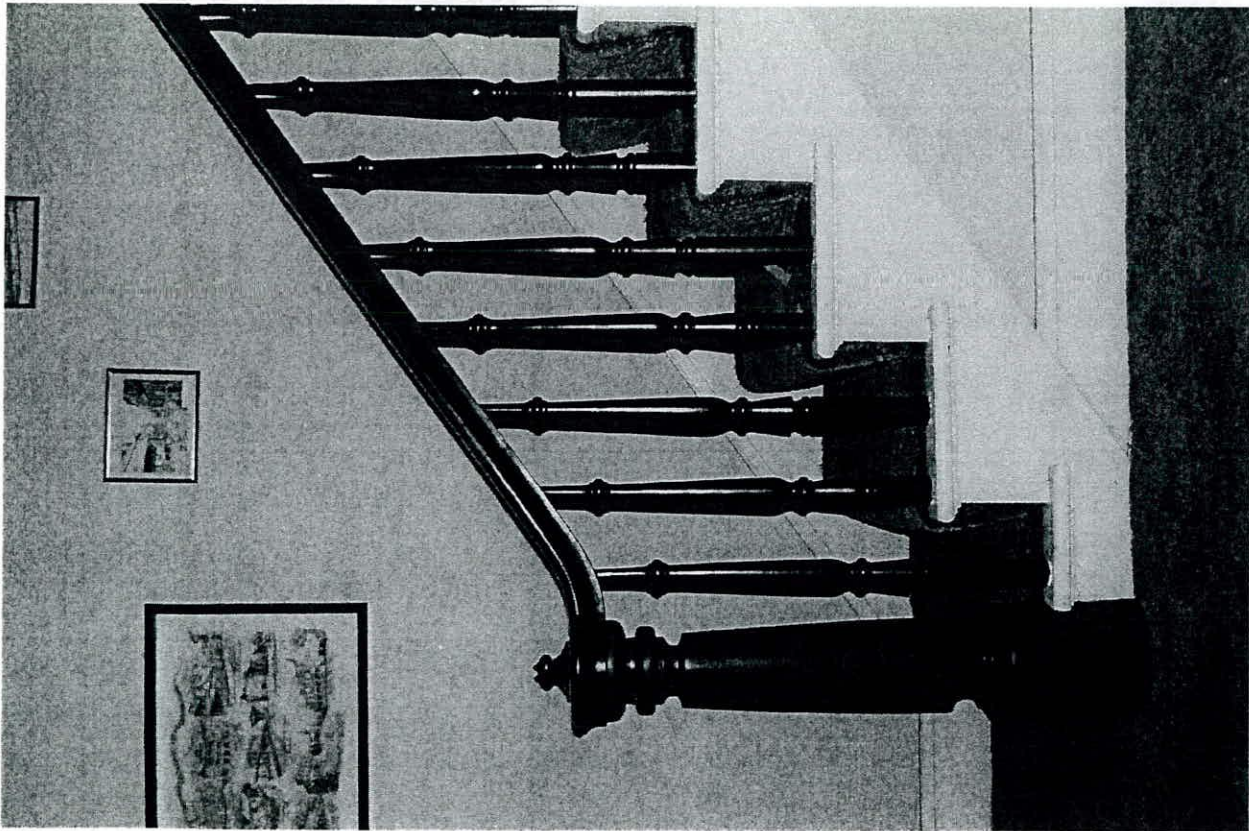
Dining room



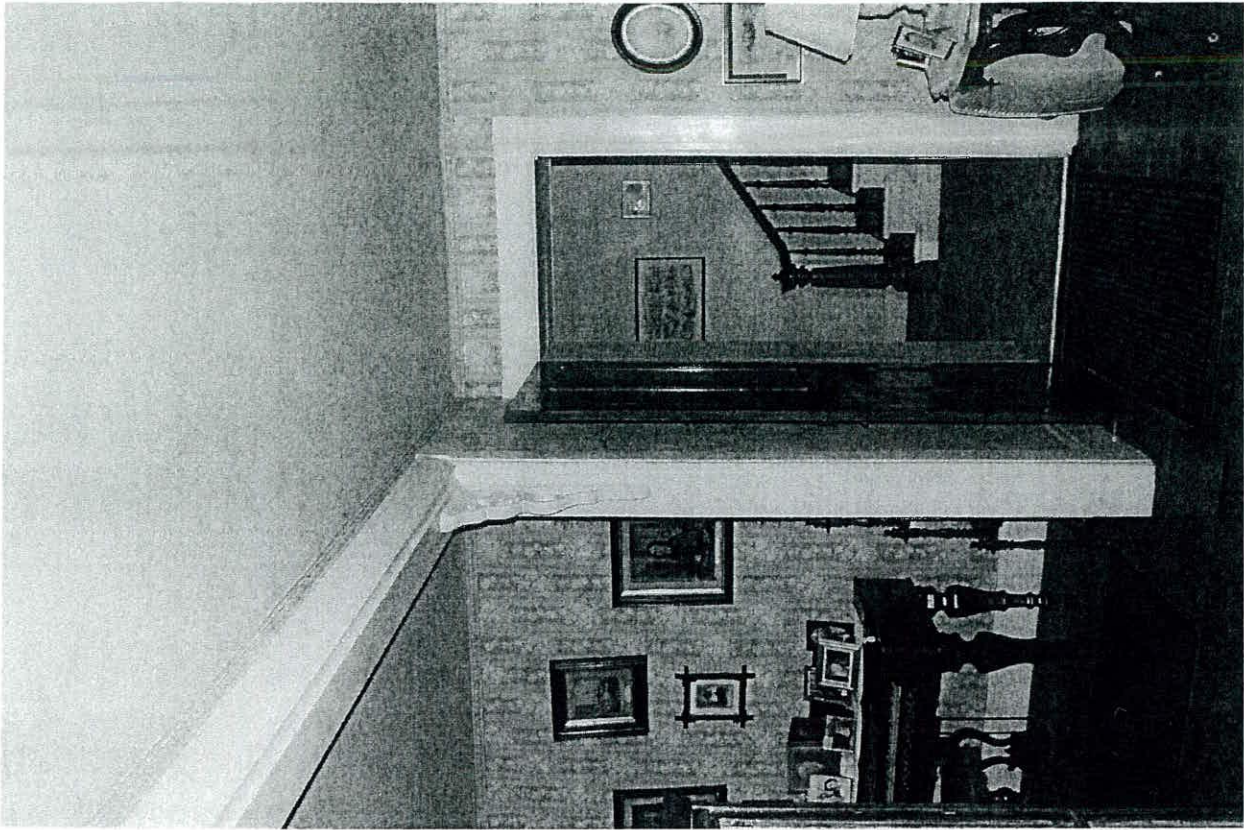
Dining room mantel



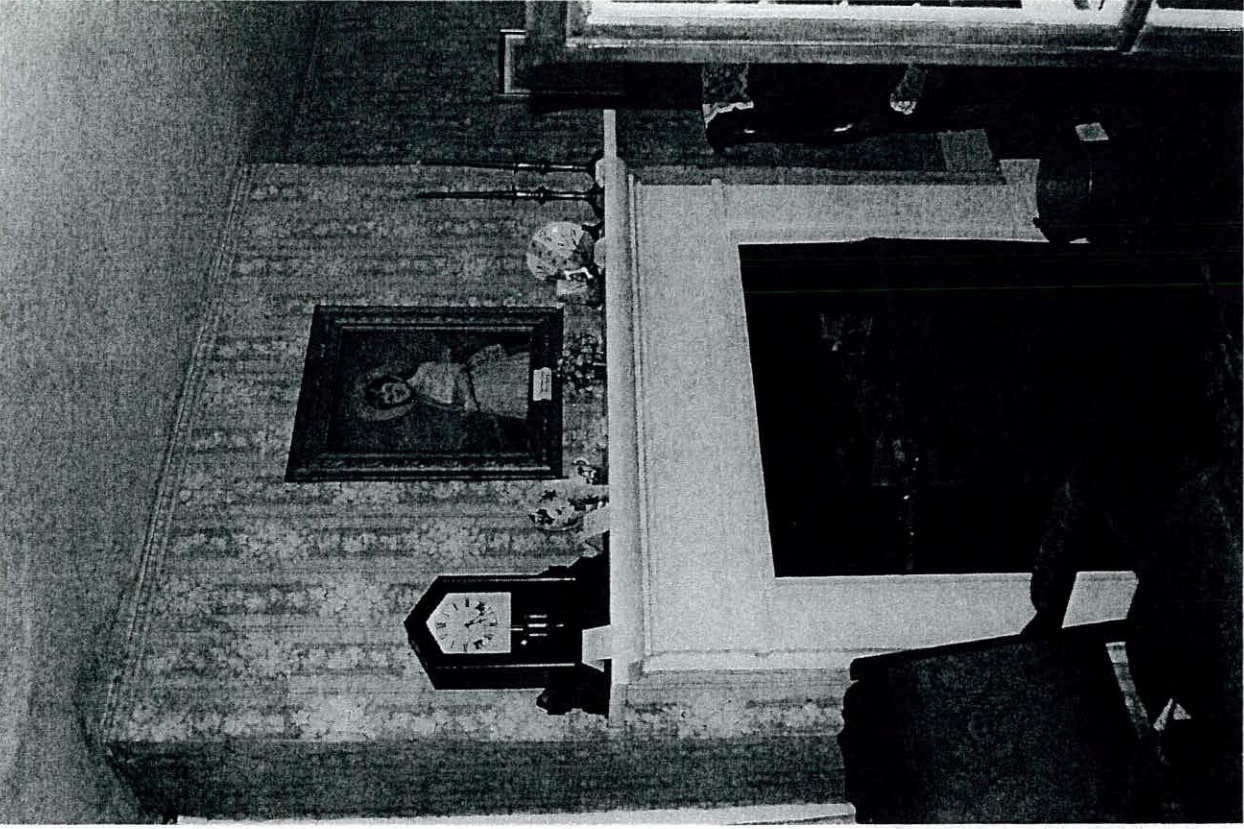
Stair hall



Balustrade



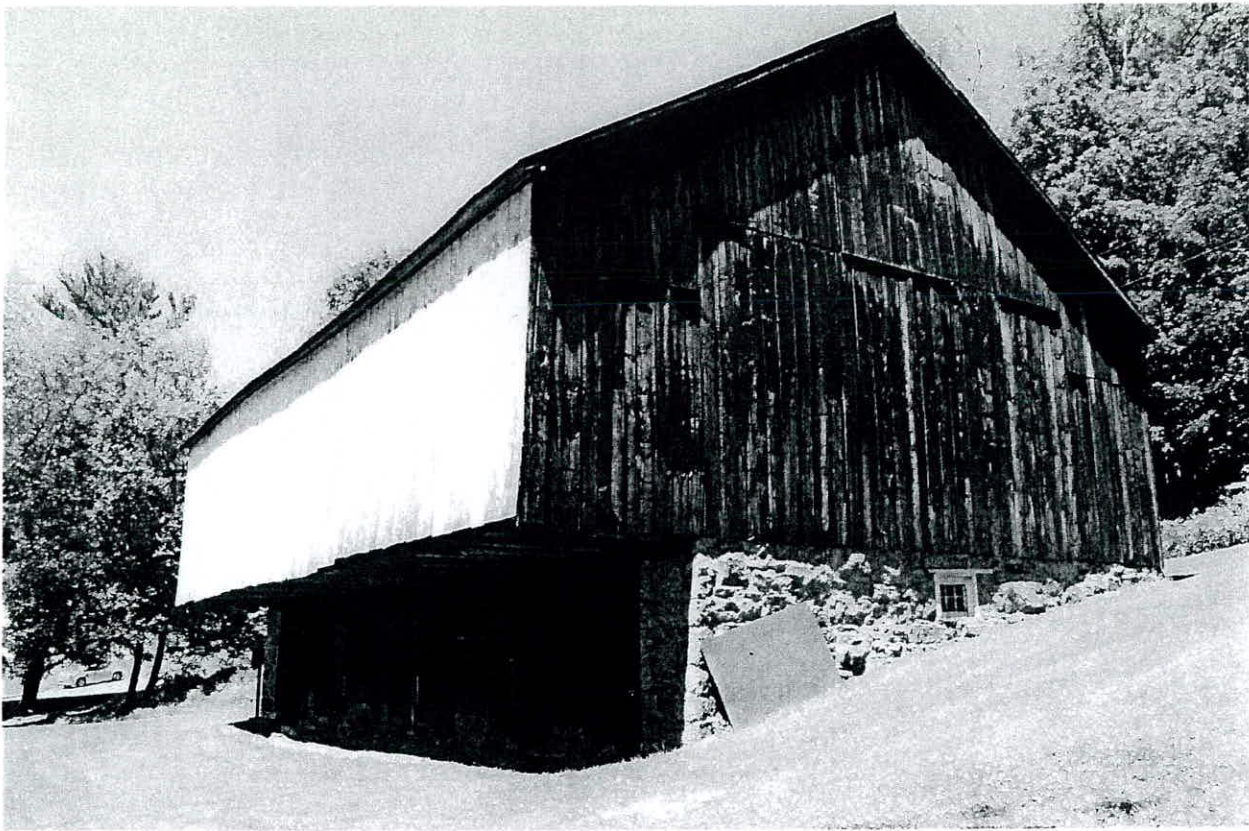
Double parlor



Parlor mantel



Bedroom



Barn