UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME
HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON
Archibald Shearer House

2 LOCATION
STREET & NUMBER
At the end of Route 11/3. Turn off US 11 onto 11/3. Go to end.

CITY, TOWN
Falling Waters

STATE
West Virginia

STATE CODE
54

COUNTY
Berkeley

COUNTY CODE
003

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY
DISTRICT
BUILDING(S)

_ STRUCTURE

OBJECT

OWNERSHIP
PUBLIC
PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION
IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

X OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

PRESENT USE

X PRIVATE RESIDENCE

AGRICULTURE

COMMERCIAL

EDUCATIONAL

ENTERTAINMENT

GOVERNMENT

INDUSTRIAL

MILITARY

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Mr. & Mrs. John Ziegler

STREET & NUMBER
Falling Waters, WV 25419

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Berkeley County

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN
Martinsburg, WV 25401

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

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

DATE
1973-78

FEDERAL

STATE

COUNTY

LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

Berkeley County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN
Martinsburg, WV 25401

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

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

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

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<th>PERIOD</th>
<th>COMMUNITY PLANNING</th>
<th>LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE</th>
<th>RELIGION</th>
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### AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE – CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

### PECIFIC DATES

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

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

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

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

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

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

GEORaphICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1 acre
QUADRANGLE NAME: Williamsport

UTM REFERENCES
A [1, 82, 532, 80] B [4, 318, 316, 50]
C ZONE EASTING, 30° 1 NORTHING
D EASTING, 30° 1 NORTHING

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

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

FORM PREPARED BY
NAME/TITLE: Don C. Wood, Genealogist, Historian, Historic Archeologist
ORGANIZATION: President, Berkeley County Historical Society, Chairman, Berkeley County Historical Landmarks Commission
STREET & NUMBER: Route 3, Box 79
CITY OR TOWN: Martinsburg, WV 25401

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:
NATIONAL __________ STATE __________ LOCAL __________

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

DATE

NPS USE ONLY
HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION
DATE