

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCRS use only

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic The Allstadt House and Ordinary

and/or common

**2. Location**

Located in the SE quadrant of the intersection of US Route 340  
street & number and Jefferson Co. Route 27, two miles west of Harper's Ferry.

city, town Harper's Ferry  vicinity of congressional district

state West Virginia code 54 county Jefferson code 037

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Vacant

**4. Owner of Property**

name Dr. and Mrs. James Gregg Gibson

street & number "Needwood Farm" Rt 3, Box 1018

city, town Harper's Ferry  vicinity of state West Virginia

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Jefferson County Courthouse

street & number Washington Street

city, town Charles Town state West Virginia

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title None has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			N/A

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The John Allstadt House and Ordinary is located on US Route 340 just off the intersection with Jefferson County Route 27, two miles west of the Harper's Ferry National Historic Park. The complex of buildings consists of the Allstadt house, which is a two story, four bay, "L" shaped building constructed of stuccoed brick nogging, a three bay, two story, stone house of coursed rubble construction, a large bank barn of stone and frame, and the Allstadt cemetery.

The Allstadt house is situated close to the stone house in a nearly flat yard with a lot of old shrubs and trees. The "L" shaped building measures sixteen feet x thirty-two feet and the ell, twenty-seven feet x twelve-and-a-half feet. It began originally as a one-and-a-half story, four bay building with a gable roof and central brick chimney serving two fireboxes, now of Rumford design. There was a one story detached kitchen. This house was constructed circa 1790 or earlier and is intact, being the ground floor of the present two story house. Entrances are on the gable ends and there are only two rooms, both well finished and nearly identical. Both have very fine period mantels. The mantels are Georgian with heavily molded mantel shelves over a long flat panelled frieze. The firebox openings are accented with an architrave molding with a quirked ovolo as the backband. The effect is very fine. Both are flanked by the connecting door between the two rooms and a two tiered, panelled four door recessed cupboard. These are situated back to back. Both rooms are highlighted by a rather fancily molded chair rail. Door and window trim have an inner edge bead and the quirked ovolo backband.

The small one story kitchen located just off the west side of the house was later attached by adding a connecting room giving the house its present "L" shape. This was probably done circa 1830 when the second full story was added to the house.

The enclosed two flight winder staircase that led to the loft was then opened and a Federal period balustrade added consisting of a newel post with neck molding and hand knob. Under the molded handrail are two square-in-section spindles per step.

The second floor has two bedrooms and a hall. The one fireplace has a Federal period mantel with a finely molded shelf edge over a series of bed moldings. The plain frieze is flanked by plain end blocks over plain pilasters. The mantel is not fancy but is a nice representation of its era.

An enclosed winder stairs leads to the attic of pegged rafters. The original chimney top is evident with its drip mold which is now an interesting detail on the extended chimney.

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The original construction mode of stuccoed brick nogging was utilized when the second story was added. The resulting two story, four bay, central chimney building is a quite nice representation of the Federal period. The windows are double hung 6/6 sash and the trim is beaded with a quirked ovolo backband. A four bay, one story porch was added to the east side c. 1930.

The two story, three bay stone building was constructed c. 1830 and measures nineteen-and-a-half feet x twenty-six feet. Originally, a two tiered entrance porch was on the south side. Barge boards highlight the gable ends and a corbelled brick cornice decorates the north facade. The inside end chimney serves two large open fireplaces, one on each floor. Windows are 6/6 double hung sash and all jambs are splayed. The interior trim is very plain, including the mantels, and all doors are heavy board-and-batten. There are two rooms on each floor. The attic is finished as a single large plastered room under the eaves and is accessible by a ladder. The striking characteristics of this building are its excellent proportions, solidity, and plainness.

The large stone bank barn of sixty-four-and-a-half feet x forty-one feet also dates from the 1830 period. It served a dual purpose since it was a farm building but all the stalls have heavy iron bars that can be pinned inside to keep the tavern customers' horses secure. The board-and-batten stall doors are of one piece (the top half does not open) and are set on strong iron strap hinges. Huge chamfered columns support the barn jetty overhanging the stall entrances, an impressive and decorative feature. This was a barn used by the public.

The Allstadt Cemetery is located further past the barn and is surrounded by a stone wall.

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There were several Allstadt farms in the area and the Allstadt Cemetery was the central burial place. Names on the markers include, other than Allstadt, Cromwell, Russell, Smith, Garrett, and Butler. Most of these are known to be families of Allstadt daughters. One stone marks the grave of five Russell infants who died in the 1830s, probably of diphtheria. The earliest grave is dated 1821 and the latest, 1880. The markers are small and there are about thirty of them. The cemetery is surrounded by a stone wall and measures approximately thirty feet x eighty feet.

The Restoration: During the 1830 remodelling of the Allstadt house, a two tiered porch was constructed on the north gable wall. This was removed when the four bay, one story porch was added to the east side in the 1930s. The current restoration is based on an illustration by William D. Eubank of the Allstadt house as published in Charlotte Fairbairn's book, Historic Harper's Ferry. This illustration was obtained through the Harpers Ferry National Historic Park and revealed the appearance of the building at the time of the John Brown Raid.

Using Eubank's illustration as a guide, restoration of this two-tiered porch has now been completed as has the removal of the long one story, four bay porch on the east side. Other restoration efforts include the repair of the stucco walls which, because of a poor roof and guttering, were in poor condition and the roof has been replaced with oak shakes, a shake roof being indicated in Eubank's illustration. The Allstadt house now appears as it did on October 16, 1859, the day of the raid.

The house is to be used as a two unit rental; the ell as an efficiency and the two story house as a rental house. The mantels, cupboards, floors, stairs, trim, and other features will all be left intact and, since the existing floor plan of the building lends itself to such an adaptation, room sizes will not be altered. Restoration of the ordinary is planned to begin in the spring of 1985 and is to be as exacting as that of the Allstadt house.

Close to the barn is a small frame shed roofed outbuilding that does not contribute to the historic buildings complex and is not included.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates c. 1790, c. 1830 Builder/Architect Lee /Allstadt

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Allstadt house, located two miles west of Harper's Ferry, is historically significant for being situated on an area of land totalling 1,675 acres that was part of the land speculations of the Lees of Virginia, including Philip Ludwell Lee, Richard Bland Lee, and Henry Lee, the transactions occurring in 1786, 1790, and 1804. The architecture indicates that the ground floor of the Allstadt house was constructed circa 1790 when ownership was by the Lees. It was then sold to Jesse Moore who sold 114 acres and the house at the crossroads in 1811 to the Jacob Allstadt family of Berks County, Pennsylvania.

Jacob's grandfather Martin Allstadt with wife Anna were among 180 palatine passengers arriving in Philadelphia on the ship "Mortonhouse" in 1729. Jacob's father Adam Allstadt served as Captain of Fourth Co., Fifth Battalion of the Pennsylvania Volunteers in Berks Co. in 1780 and Jacob served as a member of Captain Strouch's Company, Sixth Battalion, Berks County Militia in 1780. After Jacob moved to Jefferson County, Virginia, he obtained a license in 1811 to run an ordinary. He also operated the tollgate on the Harper's Ferry-Charles Town Turnpike. The house was enlarged by the Allstadt's c. 1830. The main historical significance occurs on October 16, 1859, during John Brown's famous raid when John Allstadt (Jacob's son) resided in the stucco house.

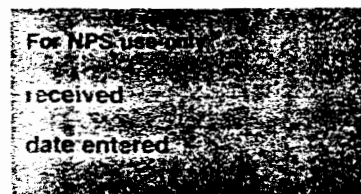
John Brown ordered a detachment under John Cook to take certain important persons as prisoners. Among these were Colonel Lewis Washington at "Beall Air" along with three of his Negroes. On the way back to Harper's Ferry, this entire party stopped at Allstadt's where John Allstadt, his 18 year old son John Thomas, and seven slaves were also taken prisoner and loaded into Colonel Washington's wagon. They were guarded at the Harper's Ferry Armory by the Negro raider Shields Greene, alias "Emperor" who was brutal and threatening. John Thomas Allstadt, on May 17, 1861, was mustered into Company K (Floyd Guards) of the Second Virginia Infantry of the Stonewall Brigade, Army of Northern Virginia. He died in 1923, age 83, the last survivor of John Brown's raid (tombstone inscription). At his death, his home was sold out of the family. In 1940, it was purchased by the Gibson family who are aware of the historical significance of the Allstadt house and ordinary.

The Allstadt complex is architecturally significant as an interesting survivor of the "ordinary" or tavern. In March of 1984, the Gibsons received a letter from Hilda Staubs of the Harper's Ferry National Historic

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201 12/31/04

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Park. Enclosed was a copy of a picture of the Allstadt house drawn by the illustrator William D. Eubank, for Charlotte Fairbairn's book, Historic Harper's Ferry. Mz. Staubs believes that the drawing may be based on a newspaper sketch of the home published during the time of the John Brown Raid. The sketch reveals that the house has been changed only by the addition of a porch on the east side and removal of the two story porch on the north side, for which a restoration is planned.

The one story stuccoed brick nogging house was built first as a dwelling c. 1790. It was well finished and has remained architecturally intact, since it was useful to Jacob Allstadt who purchased the property in 1811. He resided in a large stone house located further down Route 27 so it was here, at the intersection, that he ran his ordinary. This is why the second story was added to this building and why the two story stone building in the yard was constructed. Both were served by two-tiered entrance porches. The stone building has a very large fireplace with cooking crane on the ground floor and this room was probably the actual tavern, the other rooms in the two buildings being bedrooms.

As an ordinary, the two buildings have a special architectural significance since they were special use buildings. The floor plans are basically unchanged, fireplaces and cupboards are intact, original trim of the two building periods is intact, original floors are throughout, and room access was predominantly from the two two-tiered porches. Architecturally, the use of these buildings as an ordinary is significantly very evident. In later years, the stucco house was used as a residence and the stone house as a slave house and outbuilding.

There is further architectural significance in the stone and log bank barn, particularly in the rare chamfered columns and iron bar locks on the stalls. The Allstadt Cemetery also has other residents who could have been travelers or servants.

It is noteworthy that such a complex would survive so well.

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Although the beginnings of the Allstadt complex date from an earlier period, restoration efforts are geared toward the Civil War era. The Harpers Ferry National Historic Park, which is famous for the John Brown Raid, has chosen as its policy to restore and furnish the "Harper House" to the Civil War period when the McGraw family lived here, even though the building was built by 1782 and was visited by both Thomas Jefferson and George Washington when it was a tavern ("Harpers Ferry, a tour guide," pamphlet published by the Eastern National Park and Monument Association). Since the Allstadt House and Ordinary also achieved not only present size but major historical significance from the raid, the era was also chosen as the restoration period, and the Eubank's period illustration was used as a guide.

The Allstadt property, privately owned, has been shed of later architectural trappings and is now representative of this Civil War period with which it is so closely aligned. The complex is located only two miles west of the National Park with which it shares such mutual associations, architecturally and historically, so that the restoration of such a complex is especially noteworthy. In addition to the historic Allstadt house, the supporting structures of the ordinary, barn, and cemetery have also survived and contribute. Each structure has its own individual significance but, as a complex, the interpretive significance is greater. As an adjunct to the National Historic Park at Harpers Ferry, the significance is greater still.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

1. Report of the Select Committee, headed by Mr. Mason, of the Senate of the United States on the Harper's Ferry Invasion, Senate printing June 15, 1860, Rep. Com. #278, testimony of John H. Allstadt p. 40-45.
2. Bushong, Millard K., Historic Jefferson County, Boyce, Va.: Carr Publishing Co., 1972.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 4.09 acres  
Quadrangle name Charles Town

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A 

1	8	92	0	2	60	2	4	0	4	3	55
Zone	Easting		Northing								

C 

Zone	Easting		Northing								

E 

Zone	Easting		Northing								

G 

Zone	Easting		Northing								

B 

Zone	Easting		Northing								

D 

Zone	Easting		Northing								

F 

Zone	Easting		Northing								

H 

Zone	Easting		Northing								

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Nominated property includes 4.09 acres in the SE quadrant of the intersection of US Route 340 and Jefferson County Route 27. (See continuation sheet, Item No. 10, p.5, Sketch Map)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
N/A			

## 11. Form Prepared By

name title Frances D. Ruth, Consultant, Historic Architecture

organization -

date July, 1984

street & number Rt 2, Box 320

telephone 754-7097

city or town Martinsburg,

state West Virginia

## 12. 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date February 8, 1985

For HCERS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



EXP. 12/31/84

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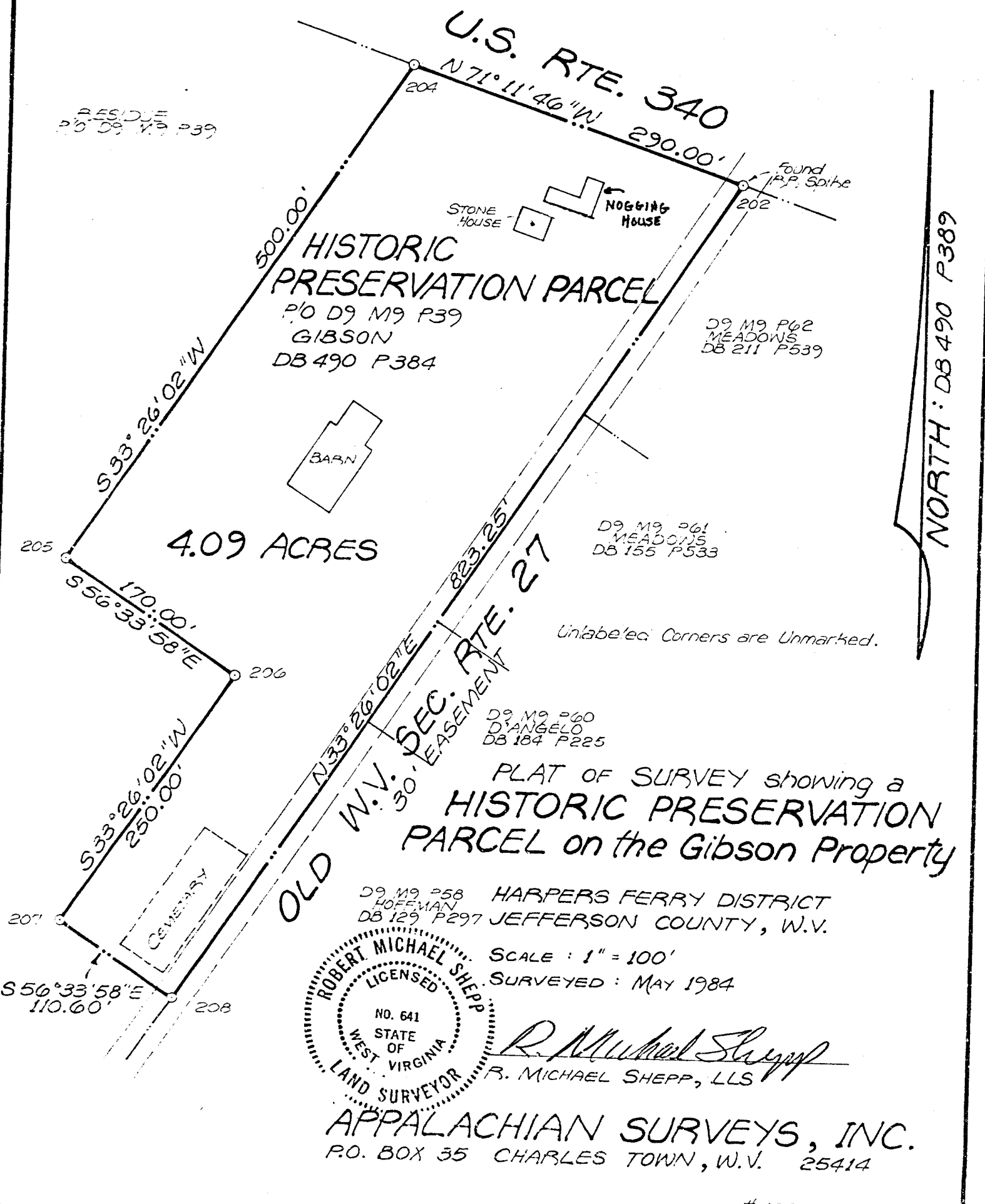
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3. Egle, William H., MD, Names of Foreigners Who Took Oath of Allegiance to the Province and State of Pennsylvania 1727-1775, Baltimore, Md.: Geneological Publishing Co., 1926.
4. Fairburn, Charlotte J., Historic Harper's Ferry, Ranson, W.Va.: Whitney & White, no date.
5. Pennsylvania Archives, Third Series, Volume 6, p.4: Fifth Series, Volume 2, p. 254, and Volume 5, p. 215.
6. National Archives, Index of Revolutionary War Pension Applications, Publication #40, Micro copy #M-804, Roll #47.

Item No. 10 - Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property includes the following:

That parcel beginning at the southwest corner of the intersection of U.S. Route 340 and W.Va. Sec. Route 27, and bounded by a straight line 290 ft. long (N 71° 11' 46" W); by a straight line 500 ft. long (S 33° 26' 02" W); by a straight line 170 ft. long (S 56° 33' 58" E); by a straight line 250 ft. long (S 33° 26' 02" W); by a straight line 110.60 ft. long (S 56° 33' 58" E); and by a straight line 823.25' (N 33° 26' 02" E), inclusive of 4.09 acres.



RESIDUE  
P/O D9 M9 P39

U.S. RTE. 340  
N 71° 11' 46" W  
290.00'

found  
P.P. Spike

STONE HOUSE  
LOGGING HOUSE

HISTORIC PRESERVATION PARCEL

P/O D9 M9 P39  
GIBSON  
DB 490 P384

D9 M9 P62  
MEADOWS  
DB 211 P539

BARN

4.09 ACRES

D9 M9 P61  
MEADOWS  
DB 155 P533

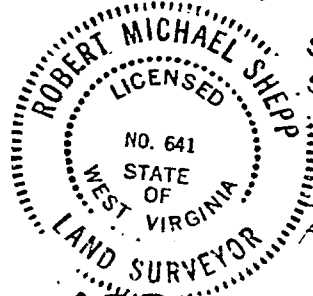
Unlabeled Corners are Unmarked.

D9 M9 P60  
D'ANGELO  
DB 184 P225

PLAT OF SURVEY showing a  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
PARCEL on the Gibson Property

D9 M9 P58  
HOFFMAN  
DB 129 P297 HARPERS FERRY DISTRICT  
JEFFERSON COUNTY, W.V.

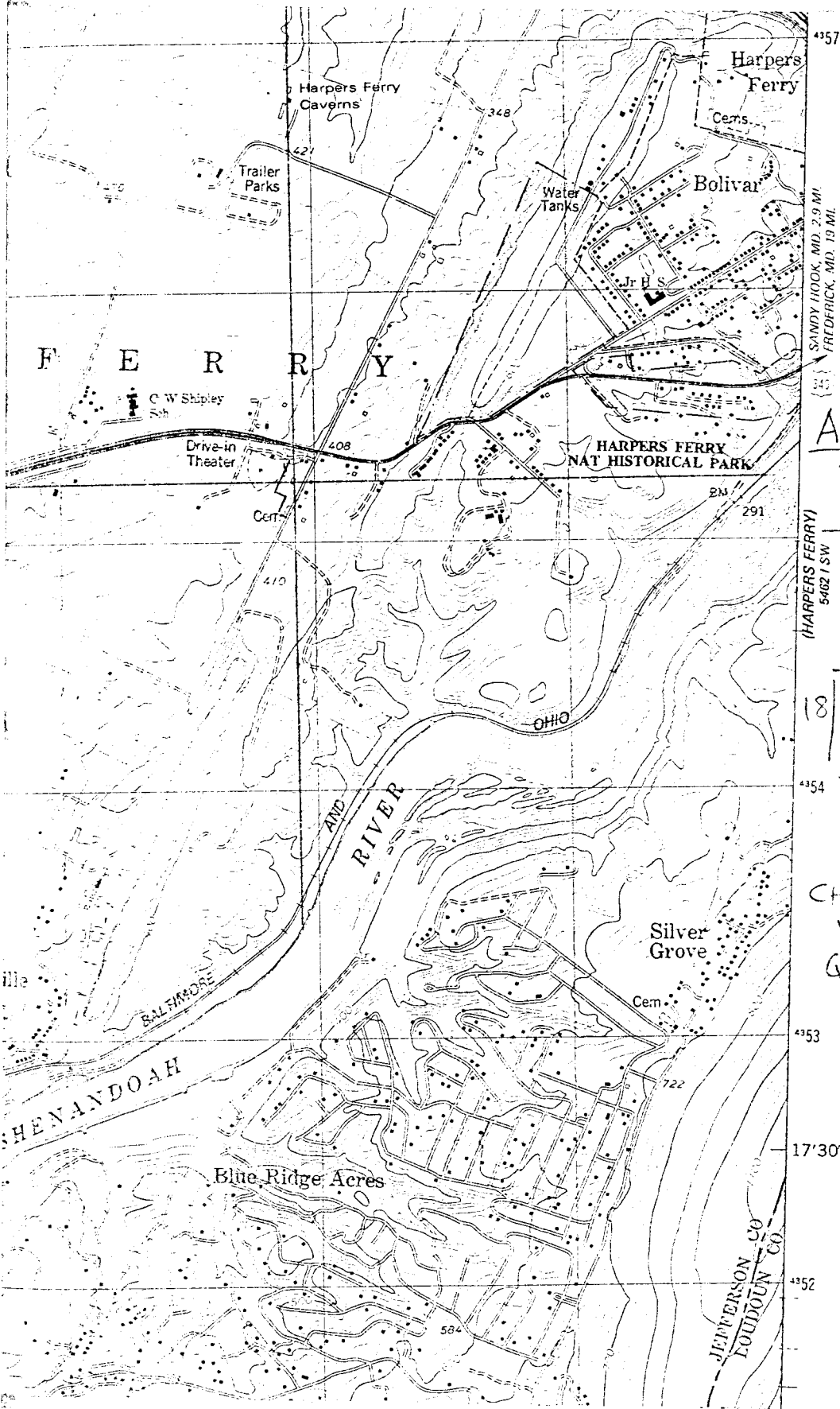
SCALE : 1" = 100'  
SURVEYED : MAY 1984



*R. Michael Shepp*  
R. MICHAEL SHEPP, LLS

APPALACHIAN SURVEYS, INC.  
P.O. BOX 35 CHARLES TOWN, W.V. 25414

NORTH : DB 490 P389



4357  
SANDY HOOK, MD. 2.9 MI.  
FREDRICK, MD. 19 MI.

ALLSTADT HOUSE  
← AND  
ORDINARY  
U.S. RT. 390 &  
CO. RT. 27  
HARPERS FERRY  
UTM: VIC,  
18920260/2904355

4354 JEFFERSON CO.,  
WEST VIRGINIA  
CHARLES TOWN  
W.VA., MD., VA.  
QUAD.  
7.5 MIN.

4353  
17'30"  
4352  
JEFFERSON CO  
LOUDOUN CO

