

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC Stewart, David, Farm; White, Mrs. Robert, House

AND/OR COMMON
Rock Valley Farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Dallas Pike, County Route 43

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN
Dallas

VICINITY OF

First

STATE
West Virginia

CODE
54

COUNTY
Ohio

CODE
069

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Mr. and Mrs. William A. Childers

STREET & NUMBER
R.D. #1, Box 144

CITY, TOWN
Triadelphia

VICINITY OF

STATE

West Virginia 26059

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Ohio County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
City-County Building, 1200 Chapline Street

CITY, TOWN
Wheeling

STATE

West Virginia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The name Rock Valley Farm is eminently suitable for this stout stone farmhouse that was constructed about 1812 on a knoll overlooking rises, falls and folds along the Appalachian Plateau near the border between West Virginia and Pennsylvania. Not only are large and small blocks of roughly coursed sandstone laid well to form the dwelling, but huge boulders and outcroppings nearby attest to strata underlying the soil.

Style was not an obvious consideration in the plan of Rock Valley Farm. While it contains elements common to the era, this rectangular, single-pile, center-hall structure of two stories plus basement with a one-story ell is somewhat bulky and rather severe in design. Windows on the second floor of the five-bay front are crowded against a frieze board and cornice and the gable ends are without openings. Yet the building is attractive in a solid way, with its large corner stones reminiscent of quoins and its keystone lintels on the first floor ruggedly decorative. Perhaps most significance should be attached to the method of construction, however, where an approximately four inch air pocket is located between separate and distinct inner and outer walls of about eight inch thickness that sit atop a solid foundation.

Both interior and exterior features are now representative of evolutionary style changes of late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Stone chimneys with drip courses retain original character and return cornices are still at the gables, but windows are now 2/2 double-hung sash (probably 6/6 initially) and doors include glass panels. In addition, there is a one-story porch, with turned posts and balusters and a lattice-work infill at basement level, across the front (south) and along most of the west side. It is this porch and the cornices that provide primary external relief features and combine with the stonework itself to form what decorative elements there are on the outside.

While the interior has changed in types and styles of wall coverings, ceiling materials and mantel designs to an extent, basic outlines of the original remain. Wide-board flooring is still evident throughout (except in the center hall); the pleasing character of an open-well, two-run stair with well-proportioned balusters and rail has been retained; and excellent (if simple) workmanship is noticeable in walnut doors of presses or closets.

Major alterations have come about in the form of modernizations and accretions of frame sections to the rear of the main stone house. During late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, a second floor was added above the old one-story kitchen area, a winding stair was installed beside the large fireplace, and a double window was put into a side wall. Access to the upstairs of the frame part is also

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available through a doorway from the stair landing of the main section. Porches that had been built on the interior of the ell were enclosed at various times to form what are now a commodious dining room and kitchen on the first floor with bathroom facilities above. Such changes have allowed for provision of electricity, central heating and interior plumbing in this century, but by using additions and adapting construction features of the old stone house, fundamental integrity has been assured.

Because it has been an operating farm for over 150 years, need for numerous outbuildings and dependencies has been continuous. Although the variety required in the nineteenth century has diminished, Rock Valley Farm does retain a few early structures, including a springhouse with workshop above, corncrib, washhouse and old barn. The springhouse is built of sandstone and stands about 100 feet from the southwest corner of the dwelling. The frame workshop atop it has apparently been used for a long period for such things as repairing farm machinery. Besides these outbuildings, the complex includes a large modern barn and garage.

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Shortly after the Civil War the farm passed from Stewart hands to families named Henderson and Moss, finally being purchased at a trustee's sale on the steps of Ohio County's courthouse in 1890 by William Buchanan, a man whose descendants retain ownership today. It was Buchanan who undertook major repairs and renovations to dwelling and outbuildings; he added a new slate roof, frame sections to the rear, and front and side porches. General farming occupied much of Mr. Buchanan's time, as well as that of Robert White, his son-in-law who lived here after 1907 and whose wife later was deeded the property. While concentrating on dairy farming for the local market, the family grew wheat, corn, hay, oats and also raised hogs. Both Buchanan and White were leaders in community work, the former having been a founder and director of what is now the First National Bank of Elm Grove and the latter having participated in such activities as playing cornet in the Dallas band and serving on election boards. Robert White was also a director and treasurer of a local cemetery, long-time president of the Ohio County Farm Bureau and soil conservation service, and a member, for fifty years, of sessions of the Dallas Presbyterian Church.

Rock Valley Farm has also been a social center of sorts, hosting numerous weddings and receptions from that of David Stewart's daughter in the early nineteenth century to that of a daughter of Robert and Clara White in the twentieth century. The house has been a focal point of "modernization" in this area, too, for the first iron cooking stove is said to have lured neighbors who were somewhat hesitant to go near it, and before "real" electricity was available in 1930, acetylene lights were used and later replaced by a Delco battery system. Even with the addition of such items that make living easier, the old dwelling retains basic character and integrity instilled about 1812, a character yet evident in wooden treenails of basement joists and the patina of plumb sandstone walls.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Milton, Charles J. Landmarks of Old Wheeling and Surrounding Country.
 Wheeling, W.Va., 1943.
- Molnar, Al. "If the Old Stone House Could Talk!" Wheeling (W.Va.)
 News-Register, Feb. 10, 1963.
- Newton, J.H., G.G. Nichols and A.G. Sprankle. History of the Pan-
 Handle. Wheeling, W.Va.: J.A. Caldwell, 1879.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Approximately 5 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Valley Grove, W.Va.-Pa.

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 17 539950 4430380

B

ZONE EASTING

NORTHING

ZONE

EASTING

NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated area includes outbuildings and land surrounding the dwelling as well as the house itself. This stretches from a point about 20 feet south of the springhouse/workshop, in an eastward

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

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

James E. Harding, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Historic Preservation Unit
 Dept. of Culture and History

DATE

January 2, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

The Cultural Center
 Capitol Complex

TELEPHONE

(304) 348-0244

CITY OR TOWN

Charleston

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Clarence Morrow

3/26/79

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (continued):

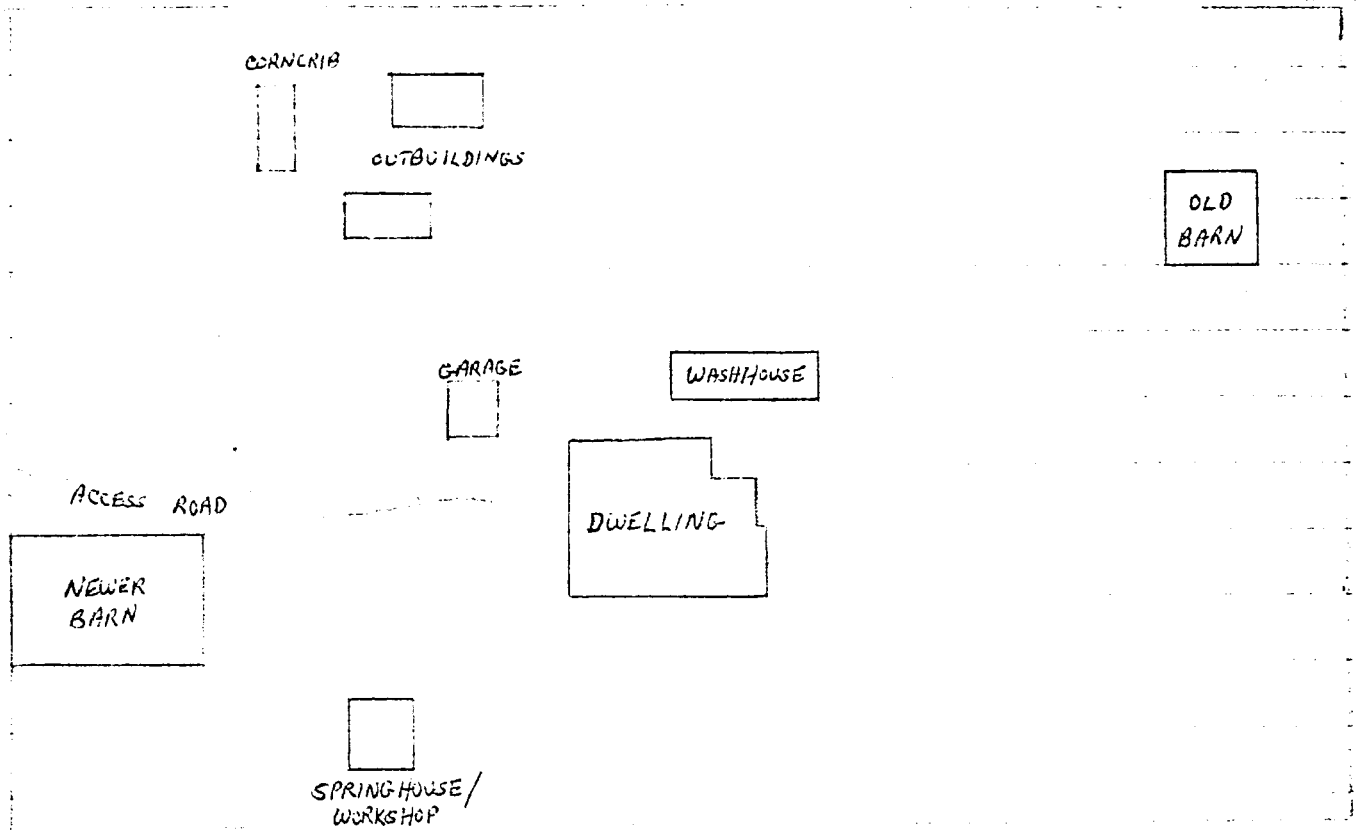
Wheeling (W.Va.) News-Register, April 8, 1976.

Wheeling, W.Va. Ohio County Courthouse. Deed Books 2, 15, 21, 50,
78 and 83. Deed of Trust Book 24. Will Book 3.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION (continued):

direction to a fenceline approximately 150 feet east of the house, northward along that line about 100 feet to a point north of the old barn, then westward along the ridge line behind the corncrib to an area approximately 50 feet west of that structure, and then southward to a point about 20 feet west of the newer barn near the springhouse (see accompanying map). Also included is the access road that runs from the house about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile to the Dallas Pike (County Route 43).

ROCK VALLEY FARM
DALLAS VICINITY, OHIO COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA



Approximate relationship of outbuildings to dwelling. Red line represents rough estimation of boundary of nominated area.

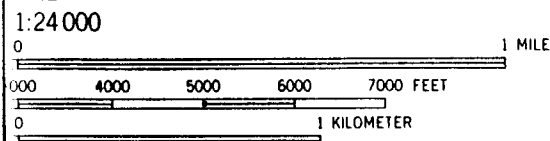
DAVID STEWARD
FARM

UTM #
17 539985
4430400



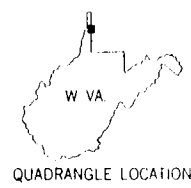
CLAYSVILLE E.
4430
260 000 FEET
(PA.)
4429
4428000m N.
40°00'
80°30'

CLAYSVILLE) 1738 1739 32°30' 1:220 000 FEET (PA.) INTERIOR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY RESTON, VIRGINIA, 1982 542000m E.



VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
S AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- Primary highway, hard surface
- Secondary highway, hard surface
- Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
- Unimproved road
- Interstate Route
- U. S. Route
- State Route

VALLEY GROVE, W. VA.—PA.

N4000—W8030/7.5

1959
PHOTOREVISED 1981
DMA 4864 II SE—SERIES V854

Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled in cooperation with Commonwealth of Pennsylvania agencies from aerial photographs taken 1977 and other sources. This information not field checked. Map edited 1981

WIND RIDGE
N. V. 5957
4962 N. N.W.

