

FEB 1 RECD

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

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

1. Name

historic Findlay Farm

and/or common N/A

2. Location

street & number 6801 Findlay Road

N/A
not for publication

city, town Peters Township N/A vicinity of Congressional district 9th

state Pennsylvania code 42 county Franklin code 055

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 type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: Rental

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. & Mrs. Clarence D. Ward

street & number 3215 Cathedral Ave. N.W.

city, town Washington D.C. 20008 N/A vicinity of state D.C.

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Franklin County Court House

street & number Memorial Square

city, town Chambersburg state Pennsylvania

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Pennsylvania Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date 12/29/77 federal state county local

depository for survey records Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

city, town Harrisburg state Pennsylvania

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input checked="" 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 <u> N/A </u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Findlay Farm is located along the west side of Findlay Road and along the east side of the Conococheague Creek about two miles east of Mercersburg in Peters Township in the southwest corner of Franklin County in southcentral Pennsylvania. The farm consists of a circa 1825- 1830 restored gable roofed two and a half story rubble limestone rectangular structure with a five bay symmetrical facade (south elevation) which has an early twentieth century one story frame porch stretching the length of the entire elevation and a late nineteenth century frame gable roofed barn which stands to the east of the house. The house had undergone little alteration over the years making accurate restoration easier. The buildings are situated on land gently sloping westward from Findlay Road to the creek.

The house is a two and one half story, five bay structure built of roughly coursed native limestone. Above the windows are large blocks flanking smaller wedge-shaped stones which resemble stylized keystones. On one corner of the house, a bulge in the wall has been anchored with tie rods which appear to have been inserted many years ago. Much of the masonry shows evidence of repointing.

Windows and doors are arranged symmetrically in the front elevation. Window casings are moderately wide with pegged joining concealed with applied ogee molding. Six over six pane sashes are used at the upper and ground levels while nine over six sashes are present at the main story. Hinge pins in the frames indicate that shutters were used and they have been installed. On the south slope of the roof are a pair of gabled dormer windows. They have six over six light sashes flanked by small flat pilasters which suggest the Doric order. The dormers would appear to be original to the house. Windows are set in both of the end walls. At the rear or north elevation, the window and door arrangement is slightly less symmetrical than at the front of the house. The center window at the upper story is lower than its companions, placed at the interior stair landing. Beneath it a door is offset slightly to the west, again a concession to the interior stair location. A door at the east end of the north wall is framed differently from the other openings and does not appear to be original.

The main entrance is located in the center bay of the main story of the front elevation. The door is framed similarly to the windows and is hung beneath a three light transom. It has eight panels with matching trim on paneled jambs.

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Continuation sheet Findlay Farm, Franklin County Item number 7

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The roof is sheathed with asphalt shingles and extends beyond the end walls. Inside the gables are large brick chimneys where the brick work can be seen beneath the gable peak as well.

The interior of the house has four rooms on each of the main stories divided by a central stair hall. The woodwork is consistent throughout the house featuring symmetrically molded architraves and trim with decorated corner blocks. Interior doors have six panels with applied trim. Fireplace treatment varies from room to room with all showing elements of Greek Revival stylistic influence. An unusual feature of this house is the completely finished attic and cellar. Although simpler, the woodwork in both of these areas is similar to that throughout the house suggesting that the entire interior of the structure was completed at one time.

In a photograph of the Findlay House which appears to date from the late 19th or early 20th century, the house is pictured with a one bay, flat roofed entrance porch supported by square Doric type pillars between which runs a balustrade. This porch may have been original to the house. Also shown are pairs of four panel shutters painted white or a light color at the first story and louvered shutters in a dark color at the second story level. These shutters have been restored to the hinge pins and are once again hanging. The photograph is published in "Old Mercersburg" by the Woman's Club of Mercersburg.

The barn, located near Findlay Road with its east end facing the road is a large frame structure on stone foundations. Beside it is a wooden silo with a conical roof topped with a wooden finial.

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 type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates c1825-30 **Builder/Architect** N/A

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Findlay Farm achieves significance through the architectural character of the farmhouse that stands on the property. Erected about 1825-30, the house embodies the distinctive features of a type of domestic structure that was erected in the rural areas of Franklin County in southcentral Pennsylvania in the second quarter of the nineteenth century. This type of building, of which the house on the Findlay Farm is an excellent example, consists of a gable-roofed rubble limestone structure with large proportions and simple Greek Revival influenced interior decorative detailing, particularly in the principal rooms of the first story. Of special note in this house are the mantelpieces in the first floor parlor rooms which are indicators of the level of craftsmanship that existed in the county at the time of construction and an awareness on the part of the craftsmen with the current stylistic matter in the urban centers of the east coast.

In contrast to the two houses in the vicinity which are on the National Register, one is a much smaller and more primitive type of house while the other although somewhat larger does not have the finely detailed elegance of the interior wood work of the Findlay Farm nor does it have the high degree of interior integrity of the original construction as does the Findlay Farm.

The exact date of the construction of the house on the Findlay Farm is not known. The stylistic features, which are applied to a form that was commonly used in the region in the late eighteenth century and through the nineteenth, are simplistic rural type found in other houses in the area that were erected in the second quarter of the nineteenth century. No evidence indicates that the house was not finished at one time.

By tradition, the house is believed to have been built for Benjamin Jordan who along with Edward Crouch purchased the property in 1823 from William Findlay (Franklin County deed books 13/294, 64/172, 64/176). Jordan is thought to have been a farmer.

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Section 8 Significance continued.

Although the building is not being nominated in association with the Findlay Family it seems worthwhile to note for historical purposes that the property upon which the building is located has local significance from association with the Findlay family who owned the property before the existing house was erected.

William Findlay whose name appears of the deed transferring title of the land to Jordan and Crouch, was a Governor of Pennsylvania 1817-1820 and later U.S. Senator from Pennsylvania. His brother John was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from the 5th District of Pennsylvania and served from 1821-1829. A third brother James served in the U.S. House of Representatives from Ohio from 1825-1833.

The following information is extracted from "Old Mercersburg", the Woman's Club of Mercersburg, Grit Publishing Co., Williamsport, Pa. Pages 67 and 68.

"The Findlay Family with Particular Reference to Governor William Findlay."

One of the things which best shows the migratory nature of the American people is the fact that of a family prominent in Pennsylvania in the closing years of the 18th century and the early years of the 19th century, not one person of the name is now living in that State. There are direct descendants of the line in the state, but the Findlay name has passed out of the State's life.

"Thus Mercersburg has the remarkable record of having three brothers from one of her families in the United States Congress at one time, a record that has been duplicated but once in our Nations's history."

Section 11 continued Form Prepared by

Ronald L. Andrews
649 Philadelphia Avenue
Chambersburg, Pennsylvania 17201

Paula Stoner Reed
Preservation Associates, Inc.
109 West Main Street, Box 202
Sharpsburg, Maryland, 21782
301 432 5466

Findley Form

9. Major Bibliographical Reference

Franklin County Land and Probate Records, Courthouse, Chambersburg, Pa.

The Woman's Club of Mercersburg. Old Mercersburg, Evansville, In, Unigraphic, IN, 1975 (originally published 1911)

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 3.6

Quadrangle name Williamson, Pa

Quadrangle scale 1: 24,000

UTM References

A

1	8	2	54	8	0	0	4	4	12	6	9	0
Zone		Easting			Northing							

B

Zone		Easting			Northing							

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

See continuation sheet

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

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Ronald L. Andrews / and Paula Stoner Reed,

organization none/Preservation Associates, Inc. date 1982

street & number 649 Philadelphia Ave./109 W.Main St. Box 202
telephone

city or town Chambersburg/ Sharpsburg state Pa/Md. 17201/21782

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



title Larry E. Tise, State Historic Preservation Officer date 3/16/03

For NPS 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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Franklin County Land and Probate Records, Courthouse, Chambersburg, Pa.

The Woman's Club of Mercersburg. Old Mercersburg, Evansville, In, Unigraphic, IN, 1975 (originally published 1911)

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Quadrangle scale 1: 24,000

UTM References

A

1	8	2	54	8	0	0	4	4	12	6	9	0
Zone		Easting				Northing						

B

Zone		Easting				Northing						

C

Zone		Easting				Northing						

D

Zone		Easting				Northing						

E

Zone		Easting				Northing						

F

Zone		Easting				Northing						

G

Zone		Easting				Northing						

H

Zone		Easting				Northing						

Verbal boundary description and justification

See continuation sheet

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

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

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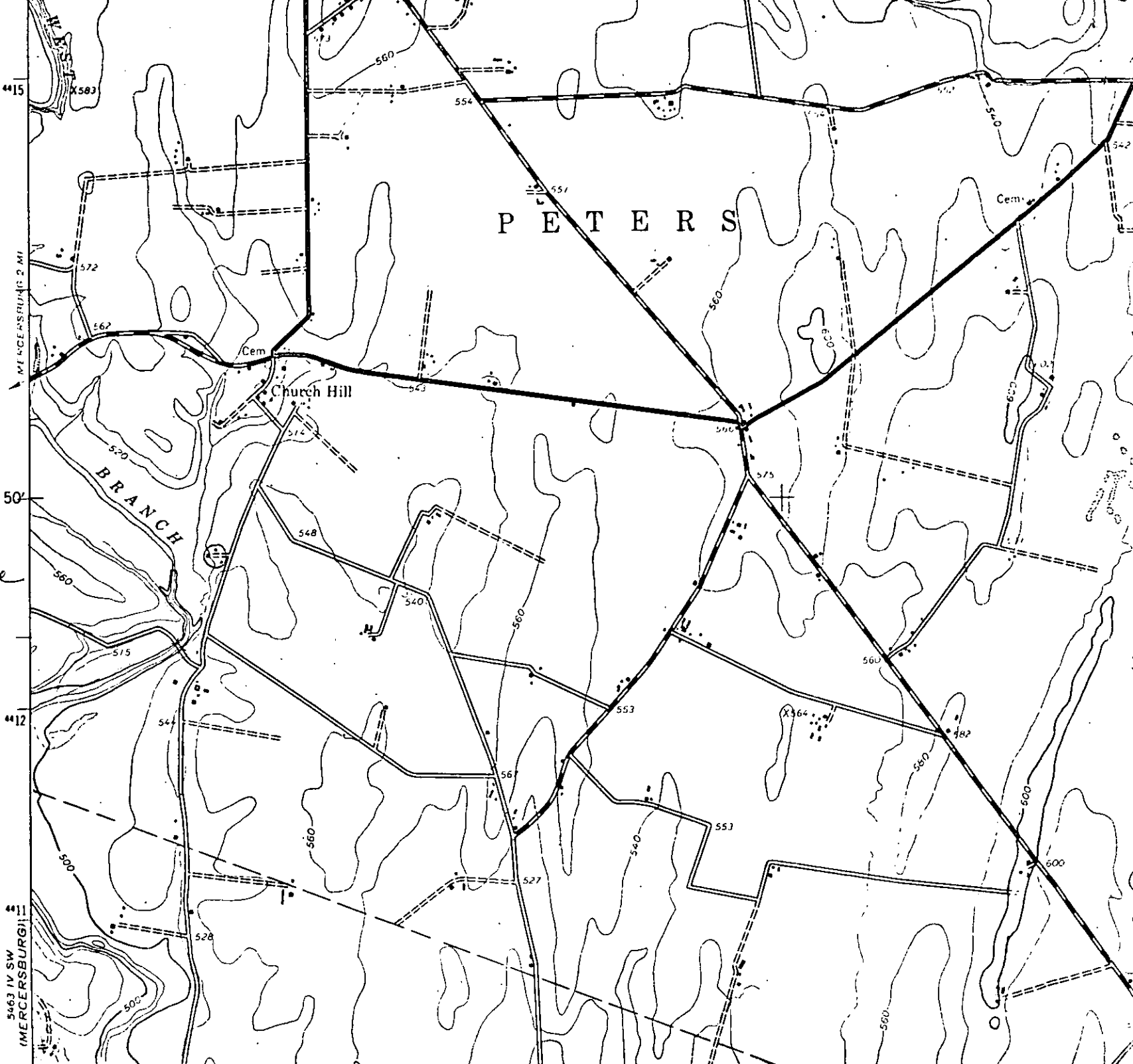
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Continuation sheet Findlay Farm Item number Page

Boundary Description

Beginning at a point on the east side of Findlay Road, south of the barn and leading west approximately 400 feet to a point southwest of the house; then north approximately 400 feet to a point northwest of the house; then east approximately 400 feet to the west side of Findlay Road; then south along the west margin of Findlay Road to the place of beginning to include the house, barn and other outbuildings, to contain approximately four acres.



Williamson quadrangle