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

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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 Church Hill Farm

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 8941 Kings Lane

not for publication

city, town Peters Township

vicinity of

congressional district 9

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 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:

4. Owner of Property

name Mrs. Thomas G. Burkey and Miss Suellen Burkey

street & number 12 Kenwood Road

city, town Chambersburg

vicinity of

state Pennsylvania 17201

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Franklin County Courthouse

street & number Memorial Square

city, town Chambersburg

state Pennsylvania

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Pennsylvania

title Inventory of Historic Places

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date July 9, 1979

federal state county local

depository for survey records Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

city, town Harrisburg

state Pennsylvania

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

This farmstead is located at 8941 King's Lane, Mercersburg, Pa. on the north side of the Williamson Road just east of the settlement of Church Hill in Peters Township. The house faces south and the barn behind it faces east.

The house is a two story, three part stone and frame dwelling. The main or front part of the house consists of two three bay stone sections set on an axis. They appear to be of nearly contemporary age probably dating from the 1820's or 30's. Extending to the rear of the easternmost stone part is a two story frame extension dating from the 1840-1900 period. Both parts are constructed of roughly coursed native limestone with chiseled surfaces of fairly uniform size used at the front wall of both the east and west stone sections. Both stone parts feature wedge shaped "keystones" centered above the first story openings of the principal or east facade. Each of the stone sections has three bays. The east part had a center door which has since been changed to a window. The west part has a side front entrance in its easternmost bay adjacent to the east section.

Both parts of the house have wide door and window frames with their corner joints secured with exposed pegs. Ovolo molding trims the frames. First story windows have nine over six light sashes while those at the second story level have six over six pane sashes. Window frames retain shutter hardware.

The present main entrance which is the door in the west section has a four panel door beneath a transom. The door has a cast iron elbow lock.

The roof of the house is covered with slates. Brick chimneys are located inside the east and west gable ends. A third brick chimney is located inside the west gable end of the east section.

Although both stone sections exhibit similar construction techniques, physical evidence indicates that the east section was built first. The west part is actually a three sided structure attached to the west end wall of the east portion of the house. In the attic original exterior finish pointing can still be seen on the former outside surface of the gable wall of the east section. Additionally, the east section functions as a total unit with a kitchen while the west part serves only as additional living space: a parlor and a bedroom.

The main entrance in the west section opens into a formal stair and entrance hall. The stair has a turned newel post and square balusters. Delicate scroll trim decorates the ends of the risers.

To the west of the hallway is a formal parlor. The most prominent architectural feature in this west room is the fireplace mantelpiece in the west wall. It shows stylistic influence of the late Federal period having delicate moldings and reedings. A central tablet has an oval inset with carved trim in the form of a fern or palm frond motif. Similar carving trims capitals above reeded colonnettes. The fireplace front retains its presumably original plastered surface. Window and door architraves have symmetrical moldings with decorated corner blocks. The window jambs are paneled with ogee molding with an astregal.

On the opposite side of the hallway is the eastern stone section. It consists of two rooms at the first story level. The more westerly room has a fireplace in its west wall. It has delicate ogee moldings and features a plain square tablet beneath a mantel shelf with multiple moldings. Beside the fireplace is a set of cupboards having paneled doors with ogee trim.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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The second or more easterly room has a large kitchen service fireplace in the east end wall. It has hinged vertical board doors which close off the fireplace. The opening is trimmed by a simple architrave with a narrow shelf. North of the fireplace is an enclosed staircase leading to the second floor. An exterior door is located in the east end wall. Door and window architraves have ovolo trim.

Trim work throughout the remainder of the house is consistent with that already described.

Other buildings in the complex consist of a large frame bank barn with granaries resting on stone foundations, a frame out kitchen and agricultural sheds and out buildings.

All of the structures appear to be in good condition. This nomination includes the buildings and their immediate surroundings.

Associated Buildings:

1. Barn: Located to the east and rear of the house is a large frame and brick barn. Set on large cut stone foundation, the barn is covered with vertical siding and has a gable roof. Rectangular ventilators pierce the walls.
2. Out Kitchen: Located to the east and rear of house, is a one story, one room out kitchen with horizontal siding, raised-seem tin, gable roof, and the remain of an exterior brick fireplace.
3. Corn Barn: Between out kitchen and barn, is a long frame barn, vertical siding, with a gable roof, used for corn and equipment storage.
4. Wagon Shed: Located to the west and rear of the house, is a 2 story frame wagon shed, vertical siding and gable roof.

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 checked="" 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

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

This farmstead is primarily significant for its architecture as an example of early 19th century vernacular construction which retains a significant amount of its original fabric. It is also important for its role in the early Scots-Irish community in southwestern Franklin County.

The stone section of the house was built in two parts, but architectural evidence suggests that the addition was made within a short time of the initial construction. The masonry is consistent on both parts of the house, an indication that the same mason was responsible for each part, and the woodwork for both sections is contemporary. Both parts show evidence of dating from the 1820's. In the addition or west section, the woodwork is more stylish, more refined and more elaborate than that used in the east section. The parlor mantelpiece in the west section is particularly significant because of its fine carving inspired by the federal style.

It would appear that the east section of the house was built and the family established there prior to further construction. The west section apparently followed within a short time and was very likely planned along with the initial construction as suggested by the obvious consistency in the masonry from one side to the other.

It is difficult to ascertain who built the house as ownership changed during the period that it was most likely constructed. The property was initially acquired by William McClelland by patent dated November 1, 1753. (A/20) William McClelland after conveying part of his land to his son John, willed in 1812 his property to his sons William, John, and James. (L/69) William received 95 1/2 acres including the "mansion house" in which his father resided. It was stipulated that William was not to have his brother John's house. Sons James and John together received 190 acres in their father's will.

In 1816 through a series of legal instruments, James and John divided their inheritance which actually turned out to be 194 acres and 100 perches, each receiving 97 acres and 50 perches. (10/484) At this time James sold his inheritance to David Elliott (10/485). Subsequently David Elliott sold the 97 acres and 50 perches to John Humphreys on November 2, 1829 (15/77). It is apparent that the present house stands on what was James McClelland's inheritance. Since the house appears to date from the ca. 1820 period, the builder could have been James McClelland, constructing it possibly as an investment just prior to sale; or David Elliott whose ownership falls during the time the house was most probably constructed; or, less likely, by John Humphreys after his purchase in 1829.

All of the families involved with the early history of the property were of Scots-Irish descent and this farmstead gains further significance from its association with Scots-Irish settlement of Franklin County. This ethnic group was a prominent force in the initial development of Franklin County. Church Hill, less than one half mile west of this farm was the site of an 18th century Presbyterian Church which served the neighboring Scots-Irish settlers.

Church Hill Farm
Franklin County, Pennsylvania

Addendum to # 8 Significance Section
(To be added after paragraph # 1 of the significance section)

Church Hill Farm's house is one of a sizable group of limestone structures which were built in the Cumberland Valley of Pennsylvania, Maryland and the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. This area is underlain with vast deposits of limestone. Most of the buildings of this stone date from the late 18th to the mid 19th century. The buildings used by Scots-Irish settlers are perhaps not as easy to identify as those of other ethnic groups such as the Germans who were prominent in the same area. This house however does not display any typically German characteristics. The practice of building structures one room deep may be a traditional Scots-Irish plan.

The outstanding qualities of this house are . . . that it remains in nearly original condition and that it is an excellent example of what is emerging among some architectural historians as the Pennsylvania Scots-Irish house type.

10 Verbal Boundary Description.

The approximate description for the estimated five acres which includes the complex of buildings at Church Hill Farm begins at a point on the north slope of Kings Lane, east of the house and extends in a northerly direction in a straight line east of the buildings to a point northeast of the barn; then west to a point northwest of the buildings; then south in a straight line west of the buildings to a point on the north side of Kings Lane; east along the north side of Kings Lane to the place of beginning.

9. Major Bibliographical Reference

Franklin County Land Records
Franklin County Probate Records

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 5

Quadrangle name Williamson, Pa.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

1	1	8
2	5	1
5	8	1
8	1	8
1	0	

4	4
1	1
3	6
6	1
0	0

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation sheet

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 Paula Stoner

organization Preservation Associates, Inc. date

street & number 109 W. Main St. (Box 202) telephone 301-432-5466

city or town Sharpsburg, MD 21782 state Maryland

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 Ed Weintraub

title ED WEINTRAUB, Director
Office of Historic Preservation date 12-10-79

For HCRS use only I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	date
Keeper of the National Register	date
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

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UMT References

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4	1	4	1	1	3	6	1	0	1	0
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B

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C

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Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation sheet

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title date

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date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

Sent 12/9/80

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

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

Church Hill Farm, Franklin County
Continuation sheet

Item number 10

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Verbal Boundary Description:

Starting at a point on the northside of Kings Lane moving NW 467 feet;
then southeast 467 feet; then SW 467 feet to the northside of road;
then NW along northside of road 467 feet to starting point.

Church Hill Farm
Franklin County
Zone 18 E25588

