

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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DATE ENTERED

31

**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 *SPRING GROVE FARM AND DISTILLERY*

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Greencastle - Williamsport Pike

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN
*Antrim -
Greencastle Vicinity*

VICINITY OF

055

STATE
Pennsylvania

CODE
42

COUNTY
Franklin

CODE
9

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME *Mr. and Mrs. Duane B. Dillard*

STREET & NUMBER
Route 4, Box 302

CITY, TOWN
Greencastle

VICINITY OF

STATE
Pennsylvania *17225*

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

TITLE
Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places

DATE
6-28-78

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS *Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission*

CITY, TOWN
Harrisburg

STATE
Pennsylvania

77 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input 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 Spring Grove Farm, formerly Spring Grove Distillery is located on the west side of the Williamsport-Greencastle Pike, about two miles southwest of Greencastle in Antrim Township, Franklin County, Pennsylvania. The buildings are grouped around a small spring fed stream with the house facing east and the barn south. The complex includes a brick dwelling and related domestic outbuildings; a secondary dwelling, also of brick, a brick bank barn, carriage house and agricultural outbuildings; and ruins of a stone mill and distillery.

The house said to have been built in 1867 is a 2 story T-shaped brick structure resting on low fieldstone foundations. The walls are constructed in American or common bond at the side and rear elevations with the front wall displaying a more refined all stretcher bond. The back wing forming the stem of the T is four bays in length with recessed double porches included under its main roof span along both its north and south elevations. Part of the double porch at the south elevation has been enclosed to accomodate modern plumbing systems.

Over all, the house has a symmetrical exterior appearance, with the openings spaced evenly in the walls. Windows have narrow frames below wide wooden lintels and hold 6 over 6 pane double hung sashes. Windows at all elevation follow this pattern with those at the first story having pairs of three panel shutters. All second story windows have shutters with movable louvers. Small four light windows in the gables illuminate the attic. Full sized windows in the west end wall at the first and second story levels help to light the recessed porches and give the west facade an appearance of symmetry.

The main entrance is located in the center bay of the front elevation. The doorway is recessed several feet in an entrance way. The opening in the facade wall has an architrave with recessed trim. The lintel, although rectangular is finished with a pointed top piece, a motif which appears on interior woodwork as well. Inside the entrance way is the door which has six vertical panels arranged in 2 tiers of three panels each. On either side of the door is a half round fluted pilaster which divides the door from single paned side lights above molded panels. Above the door and side lights is a broad two pane transom. The floor of the recessed entrance area is of random width boards.

Sheltering the main entrance and the window on either side of it is a three bay, one story porch with a hipped roof. The porch is supported by square posts each decorated with two kinds of brackets. One type, applied to the fronts of the posts are elaborately cut and scrolled. The second set of brackets form wide triangular areas between the posts and the frieze of the porch. These spaces are filled with wooden lattice works.

Other entrances are located at both the first and second story levels of the 2 double porches. Each of these entrances is topped with a single pane transom. Several of the doors appear to have been replaced.

The double porches along both the north and south elevations are supported by square posts. Above the porch railing the posts have a slightly pointed convex chamfer. The balustrade consists of a plain handrail with square balusters.

The roof of the house extends beyond the end walls. It is of slate with decorative imbrication on all but the southwest slopes. At the front part of the roof the imbrication consists of round cut slates arranged in five triangular patterns, one above each window. The eaves and barge areas are trimmed with curvilinear gingerbread which also appears at the eaves of the front porch. At the front elevation, pairs of brackets extend from the eaves to each of the upper story windows and are found beneath the returns at the end walls.

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SPRING GROVE FARM AND DISTILLERY

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Brick chimneys trimmed with corbels are located inside the north and south end walls. A third chimney extends from the interior of the wing near its center.

The main entrance opens into a central stair hall with two rooms to its south and one large room to its north. The staircase has a massive turned newel post from which extends a heavy hand rail supported by turned balusters, two per step.

The southeast room has a fireplace with a painted slate mantelpiece having a rounded opening trimmed with a cartouche. In the fireplace is a round cast iron parlor stove which was in the house when it was purchased by the present owners.

The southwest room has a simpler fireplace mantelpiece of wood with a wide pointed arch above the rectangular opening. Some trimwork such as the crown moldings have been added.

The large parlor north of the stair has received new fireplace treatment and woodwork trim. This area originally consisted of two small rooms each with a fireplace and divided by large doors.

The back wing of the house is partitioned into two main rooms, each with separate doors to the exterior.

Clustered around the house are several brick and frame outbuildings of various sizes and functions. The largest of these structures is a two story, four bay brick building located immediately behind the house. Apparently dating from the late 19th century, it is said to have been a cooper's shop and residence. Displaying American or common bonding at all elevations, this structure has segmental arches above its windows and doors. Paneled shutters with curved tops to fit the arched windows are present. Two central entrances are located side by side in the front elevation, one apparently leading into the residence section and the other into the shop area. Three doors are located in the north end wall, one at each story level and one within the gable. Apparently this end of the building was where the barrel making took place. A central chimney constructed of brick divides the building.

South of the house are a series of three domestic outbuildings. The westernmost structure is a one story, 2 bay brick summer or out kitchen. East of it is a brick smoke house which displays an unusual variety of Flemish bond with courses of stretchers separating the rows of standard Flemish bond. A small frame pump house sheathed with German siding is the third outbuilding.

West of the house, on the opposite side of the spring run is a large brick end band barn. Its end walls are pierced with decorative open work in geometric patterns for ventilation. Unlike most barns in this area, the overhanging forebay is sheathed with German siding. More usual among Franklin County barns are long vertical boards for siding. The barn has a slate roof.

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West of the barn is a frame wagon shed. Adjoining it is a two story brick late 19th century carriage house with a steeply pitched roof and overhanging forebay. Its walls are laid in American bond with segmental arches above most openings. In the south gable which faces toward the main house and across the frame forebay are a series of "horse shoe" arched windows with diamond shaped panes. The forebay is sheathed with shingles, their lower edges trimmed in repeated scaloped or zig-zag patterns. Extending from the center of the roof peak is a hip roofed cupola with small decorative brackets. A two story, six bay brick wing extending to the west which may have been an addition probably dates from the late 19th century. It has a centrally placed brick chimney. The carriage house roof is of slate.

Some distance southwest of the barn and house complex is a stone mill built in 1803 and the site of the Spring Grove Distillery. All that remains of the distillery building is a large tapered brick stack surrounded by some rubble. Apparently the stone mill was adapted to use in the distilling process, its south wall being linked to another building since removed.

The mill is a two and $\frac{1}{2}$ story structure of coursed native limestones. Above its openings are flat arches of finely dressed angle cut upright stones. Its openings have wide frames with ovolo molded trim and corner joints secured with pegs. Part of one nine over six pane sash remains. Recently the building received a new roof and German siding across the open area in its south wall.

An engraving in McCauley's History of Franklin County, Pennsylvania dated 1876, depicts the entire complex. Notably it shows several buildings that are not seen today and indicates that a number of buildings that are part of the present complex were not standing in 1876. The house and barn appear in the engraving much as they do today. The cooper's shop and the carriage house were not depicted. The wagon shed and small adjoining building are shown on the location of the carriage house and a small outbuilding stands on the site of the cooper's cottage. The stone mill appears similiar with an attached one story shed roofed structure between it and the brick stack. In the engraving a group of 4 buildings appear in the area behind the present carriage house. None of these is standing today. Presumably they were part of the distillery.

The buildings as they appear today are in excellent condition. They stand on a farm containing 78.14 acres.

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1867

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Robert Johnston

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Spring Grove Farm and Distillery Site is an extensive 19th century complex which derives significance from its architecture and its contribution to local agriculture, commerce and industry. It appears to have been a thriving business complex during the mid and late 19th century.

Most of the buildings in the group date from the second half of the 19th century and form a unified architectural group. According to local histories the house was built in 1867 by Robert Johnston whose family had owned property in the vicinity since the 18th century. Architecturally, the house reflects the building techniques and design trends of the 3rd quarter of the 19th century. It shows a degree of refinement which makes it unusual among rural dwellings of the period in Franklin County. The house represents a transition in regional architectural style between the Greek Revival influence of the mid 19th century and the later gingerbread of the Victorian period. The Greek Revival style is represented by the formality of the house, its general proportions and symmetry. Other features normally associated with the Greek Revival period are the wide wooden lintels over the openings and the broad transom and sidelights at the main entrance. Characteristic of the mid 19th century in the Cumberland Valley region is the use of recessed double porches and American bond with numerous rows of stretcher bricks between header courses. Typical of Pennsylvania or areas where Pennsylvania influence is strong is the use of paneled shutters at the first story level and louvered shutters at the second story. The presence of all stretcher bond at the front elevation is a refinement that replaced the earlier use of Flemish bond at the principal facade.

The Victorian influence appears in the use of gingerbread at the eaves & barge areas, the brackets on the porch and at the eaves at the front of the house and the decorative slate work on the roof. The interior displays early Victorian woodwork and trim. The floor plan, however, with its formal central hall with rooms on each side represents an older tradition. In contrast the rounded painted slate mantel piece, the wooden mantel piece with the pointed arch trim, the newel and stair balustrade and the interior doors and original hardware all represent stylish 1860's design.

The cooper's residence and the carriage house with their segmentally arched windows and the steep roof and decorative shingle work of the carriage house suggest the later 19th century, probably the 1890's.

The barn, a "Pennsylvania brick ender," is significant as a well maintained regional type. Barns like this one with geometric open work in their brick walls for ventilation are frequently seen in Pennsylvania and in areas where a Pennsylvania influence is strong.

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Although most of the structures associated with the distillery are gone now, archaeological evidence of these buildings no doubt remains as well as the visual evidence provided in the 1876 engraving. The stone mill; said to have been built in 1803 predates the other structures in the complex and offers a contrast to the later 19th century architecture represented. Constructed of the native limestone it is an example of an important part of the landscape. Typical of the late 18th and early 19th century the stones are coursed and fairly uniform in size with flat arches of dressed stones present above the openings. The presence of this old mill suggests that possibly an earlier complex of buildings stood on this location.

According to McCauley's Historical Sketch of Franklin County, Pennsylvania, the grist mill located on the property was quite old and Robert Johnston (also spelled Johnson) refurbished it and introduced steam power. The history further states that the distillery was built in 1838 by Philip Weaver. A bonded warehouse was added in 1867 and the barn was built in 1872. Robert Johnston was well to do and to quote McCauley, "Mr. Johnston has everything he could desire to enjoy life, which he no doubt does."

The distillery ceased to operate in 1920 at the time of national prohibition. Peak sales were recorded a year earlier when nearby Maryland in 1919 prohibited the purchase of whiskey and Maryland residents came to the Johnston Distillery to buy spirits.

Both grist milling and distilling were important industries related to the local agriculture. Grain was a major crop in the Cumberland Valley and milling and distilling were two ways it was processed into easily marketable products. In addition to the industries which operated on this property, it was as well a working farm as evidenced by the commodious barn and agricultural outbuildings. The grain mash, a byproduct of the distilling process was nutritious food for pigs and cattle.

Part of this property was in the Johnston family from the 18th century by patents until 1971 when it was purchased by the present owners. Another part, presumably that on which the distillery stood was out of Johnston ownership from about 1810 until 1866 when purchased by Robert Johnston. In the intervening years it was owned by Samuel Hunter who bought this tract from Dr. Johnston in 1810. In 1835 the distillery property was purchased by Philip Weaver who apparently began the business. It was then owned by Joseph Whitmore, Michael Zellers, Henry Miller and John H. Hartle respectively before returning to Johnston ownership.

The Johnston family were among the early settlers of Antrim Township.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Atlas of Franklin County, 1868.

Franklin County Land Records.

Franklin County Probate Records.

McCauley, I.H., Historical Sketch of Franklin County, Pennsylvania. Chambersburg, Pennsylvania D.F. Pursel, 1878. SEE CONTINUATION SHEET.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 4.6 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Williamson, Pa. QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 18 262620 4404540

B 18 263780 4404530

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C 18 263740 4404360

D 18 263560 4404400

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Starting at a point on farm road moving south for 125 feet then west for 540 feet, then north along banks of crkks for 750 feet, then east for 375 feet, then south for 375 feet crossing farm road to starting point.

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, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Preservation Associates

DATE

June 1978

STREET & NUMBER

109 West Main Street

TELEPHONE

301-432-5466

CITY OR TOWN

Sharpsburg

STATE

Maryland 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

Ed Weintraub

TITLE Ed Weintraub
State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 6-11-79

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	DATE
ATTEST:	DATE
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION	

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10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 78.14 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME _____

QUADRANGLE SCALE _____

UTM REFERENCES

A

ZONE	EASTING								

B

ZONE	EASTING								

C

D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION _____

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STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE _____

TITLE *Ed Weintraub
State Historic Preservation Officer*

DATE _____

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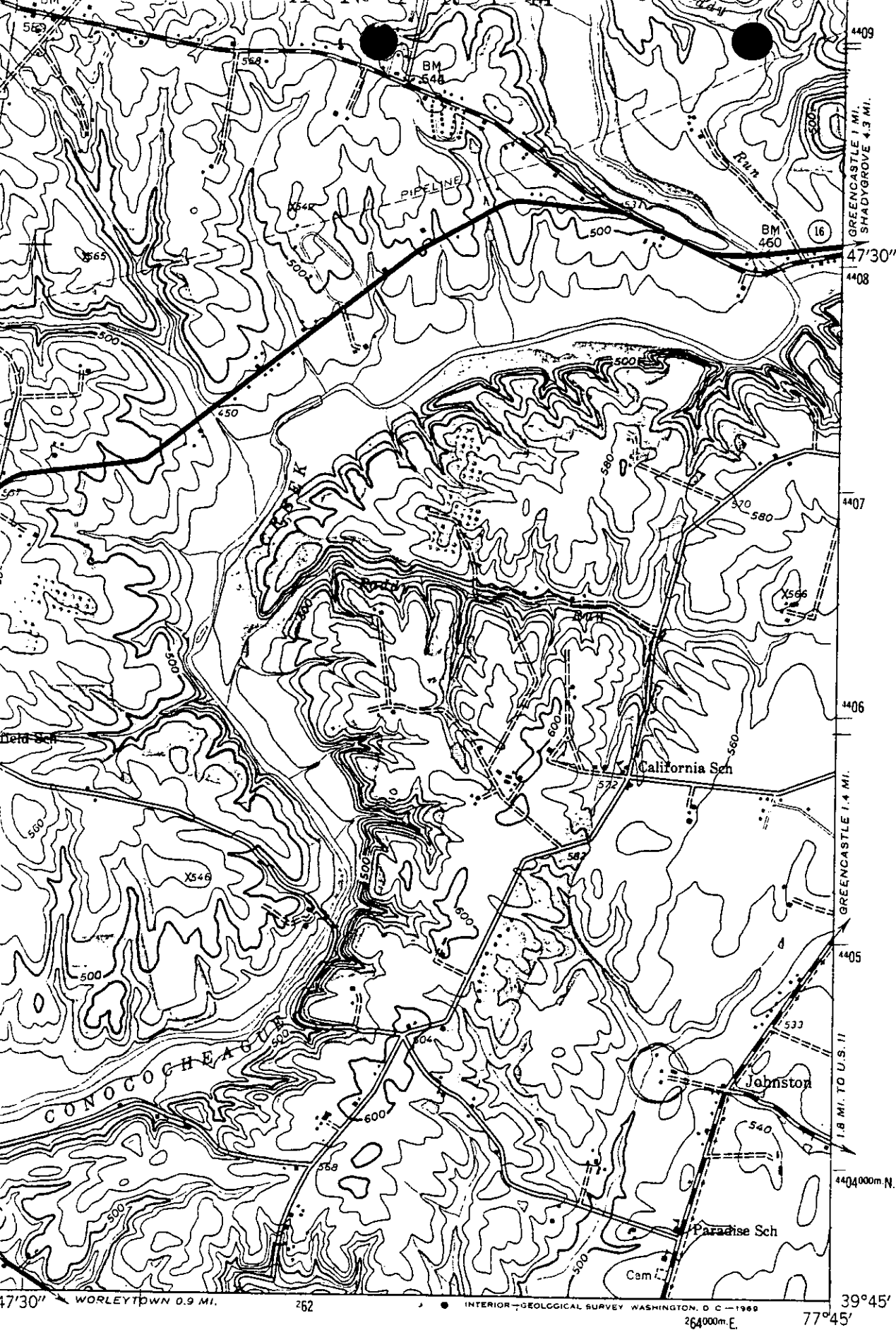
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE _____

ATTEST: *KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER*

DATE _____

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION



Spring Grove Farm & Distillery
 Antrim Township, Franklin, Co.
 Williamson Quadrangle

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	—————	Light-duty	-----
Medium-duty	—————	Unimproved dirt	-----

○ State Route

(HAGERSTOWN)
 5453 11 NW