

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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001-MJ-227
Inventory No.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Spangler/Benner Farm
other name/site number: N/A

2. Location

street & number: 230 Benner Road
city/town: Mt. Joy Township not for publication: N/A
state: PA county: Adams code: 001 vicinity: N/A
zip code: 17225

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: private Number of Resources within Property:
Category of Property: district

	Contributing	Noncontributing	
	<u>9</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
	<u>2</u>		sites
			structures
			objects
	<u>11</u>	<u>1</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

4. Ownership

see continuation sheet.

David Edwin Benner, 230 Benner Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325

5. Reserved (leave this space blank)

=====
4. State/Federal Agency Certification
 =====

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this ___ nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. ___ See continuation sheet.

 Signature of certifying official Date

 State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. ___ See continuation sheet.

 Signature of commenting or other official Date

 State or Federal agency and bureau

=====
5. National Park Service Certification
 =====

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| _____ entered in the National Register
_____ See continuation sheet. | | |
| _____ determined eligible for the
National Register
_____ See continuation sheet. | | |
| _____ determined not eligible for the
National Register | | |
| _____ removed from the National Register | | |
| _____ other (explain): _____ | | |

 Signature of Keeper Date
of Action

6. Function or Use

Inventory No.: 001-MJ-227

Historic Functions

Agriculture/Subsistence
Agriculture/Subsistence
Agriculture/Subsistence
Domestic

Sub: agricultural field
animal facility
processing
single dwelling

Current Functions

Agriculture/Subsistence
Agriculture/Subsistence
Agriculture/Subsistence
Domestic

Sub: agricultural field
animal facility
processing
single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Materials:

19th century vernacular farm
house

foundation sandstone
walls vinyl
roof tin

Other Description 19th century
vernacular barn

other wood vertical board siding

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

The Benner Farm, containing approximately 145 1/2 acres lies along Benner Road in a bend of Rock Creek, west of PA Route 134, about six miles southeast of Gettysburg, in Adams County, PA. The farm consists mostly of open agricultural land devoted to grain and hay production and to pasture. The farmstead is located at the end of Benner Road, slightly west of the center of the farm. Buildings include the sided log farmhouse built in 1870, a frame bank barn dated 1864 and numerous sheds and outbuildings filled with antique tools and equipment used in the day to day operation of the farm. A log summer kitchen is believed to be one of the original buildings from the establishment of the farm in 1802. The farm is populated by a variety of livestock including beef cattle, sheep, hogs, geese, turkeys and horses and mules which are used to run the farm.

X see continuation sheet.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

name of property: Spangler/Benner
Farm

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=====

own entrance to the outside as does the northwest room, a kitchen. This kitchen contains an early 20th century cookstove which still operates. The parlor (southeast room) contains a small Gothic Revival mantelpiece and a 1920s electric ceiling light fixture.

The other principal structure on the property is the barn. Built in 1864, it is a large timber framed structure on red sandstone foundations. Typically, it includes a ramp or bank at the back to allow access by wagons to the threshing floor, and the front or south elevation has a cantilevered forebay, creating a covered walkway along the stable entrances. The barn is sheathed with vertical board siding and has sets of louvered vents placed at regular intervals in its walls. The interior of the barn shows the timber framing system with pegged mortise and tenon joints. The barn also houses a variety of horse drawn farm wagons and equipment and a fringe topped surrey. Most of these pieces have been in the Benner family for several generations and are still used in the present farm operation.

Near the barn is a wooden silo and a metal windmill, erected in 1900 which continues to pump water for use in the barn.

The farmstead also includes a variety of domestic and agricultural outbuildings which continue to be used. Among these buildings is a summer kitchen of log construction, said to be the only remaining building in the complex from the original 1802 farmstead. There is a smoke house, still used to cure ham and bacon, a spring house, wagon sheds, tool sheds and machine shops. These buildings contain an enormous collection of antique equipment and tools many of which are still in use on the farm. A partial list of these items includes: an early lawn mower, patented in 1850; horse drawn cultivators, corn planters, corn binders, a grain drill, 4-horse wagons and beds, hayrakes, mowers, a hay tedder, a sleigh, buggy, bobsled, a horse breaking cart and a 1918 cavalry saddle.

The property is in excellent condition and continues as a viable agricultural business employing historic farming methods and organic production without the use of herbicides or pesticides.

The buildings reflect the process of change over time with structures ranging in construction date from 1802 through the early 20th century. The buildings retain a high level of

X see continuation sheet.

8. Statement of Significance

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Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: local

Applicable National Register Criteria: A

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : N/A

Areas of Significance:

Agriculture

Period of Significance

1802-1942

Significant Dates

1864 - Barn
1870 - House

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person(s):

Architect/Builder

N/A

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

The Benner Farm is significant for the way of life it portrays and preserves with the use of historic farming methods and technology and without the application of chemicals to the land or livestock. The farm preserves the cultural landscape of Adams County and an important area of south central Pennsylvania that served as a cultural "hearth" for a large part of the Middle Atlantic region. The Benner Farm has been in continuous ownership by one family since 1802 and has been designated as a Pennsylvania Century Farm.

Historical Context

Although Adams County was created in 1800 from York County, it has a history which extends far back into the 18th century. Initial settlements occurred as early as the 1730s with steady development continuing through the late 18th and 19th centuries. Located on the southern border of Pennsylvania, west of the Susquehanna River, Adams County is nearly square in shape being 27 miles in its north-south dimension and 24 miles in its width, east to west. The western part of the county is mountainous, its border being formed by South Mountain. Most of the eastern two thirds of the county consists of rolling farmland.

X see continuation sheet.

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CONTINUATION SHEET Farm

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Three major groups of pioneers moved into what is now Adams County during the middle third of the 18th century. They were the English, Scotch-Irish and Germans. The majority of the German settlers took up lands in the southern and eastern parts of the county, while the Scotch-Irish tended to prefer the northern and western sections. The English, less populous than the other two groups were scattered around the county.

In the south central area of the county, where the Benner Farm is located, the Penns decided to lay out a reserve of land for themselves in 1739, called "Manor of Maske." The boundaries for the manor were not actually set until 1776, at which point the manor contained 43,500 acres. The Benner Farm is located on what was once the eastern edge of the Manor of Maske. This would explain the Penn marker tree on the property as late as 1801.

The majority of the population of Adams County in the 18th and 19th centuries was involved in farming or farm-related industries. Today, Adams County remains to a large extent an agricultural area with orcharding and food processing as significant industries. Important industries in the 19th century included milling: grist and flour mills and also saw fulling, plaster and oil mills.

According to survey data, log, stone, brick and frame were all used for construction in Adams County in the 18th and 19th centuries. Most of the pre-Civil War housing in the county was of log, stone or brick construction with most frame construction consisting of balloon framing of the late 19th century and later. For farm houses, three, four and five-bay-wide structures were typical. A favorite four bay arrangement in the county was the window, door, door, window plan like that of the Benner House. This housing type which was prevalent from the late 18th through the early 20th century appears to have evolved out of the transition from the traditional central chimney continental house type to the more symmetrical and formal English-Georgian influence. Typically in this arrangement one of the two front doors opened into the kitchen or in German, the küche and the other into the parlor or stube. A house following this plan was built on the Benner Farm in 1870.

Historic sites survey records for Mount Joy Township which is entirely rural, list 193 houses and 108 barns. Of the barns, 105 or 97% are frame, similar to the barn on the Benner Farm. Of the houses, 67 or 64% were judged to have been built between 1860

X see continuation sheet.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Adams County Historic Sites Survey Files.

X See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: approximately 145 1/2

USGS quad: Taneytown (MD-PA)

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>18</u>	<u>309700</u>	<u>4402020</u>	B	<u>18</u>	<u>309320</u>	<u>4400860</u>
C	<u>18</u>	<u>308720</u>	<u>4401680</u>				

see continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: The nominated property includes all of that which is included as part of this property as shown on Adams County Tax Map F-17, Parcel 27.

see continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification: With the significance of the rare survival of historic farming practices and the ownership of one family of this farm since 1802, the entire acreage of the property is included.

see continuation sheet.

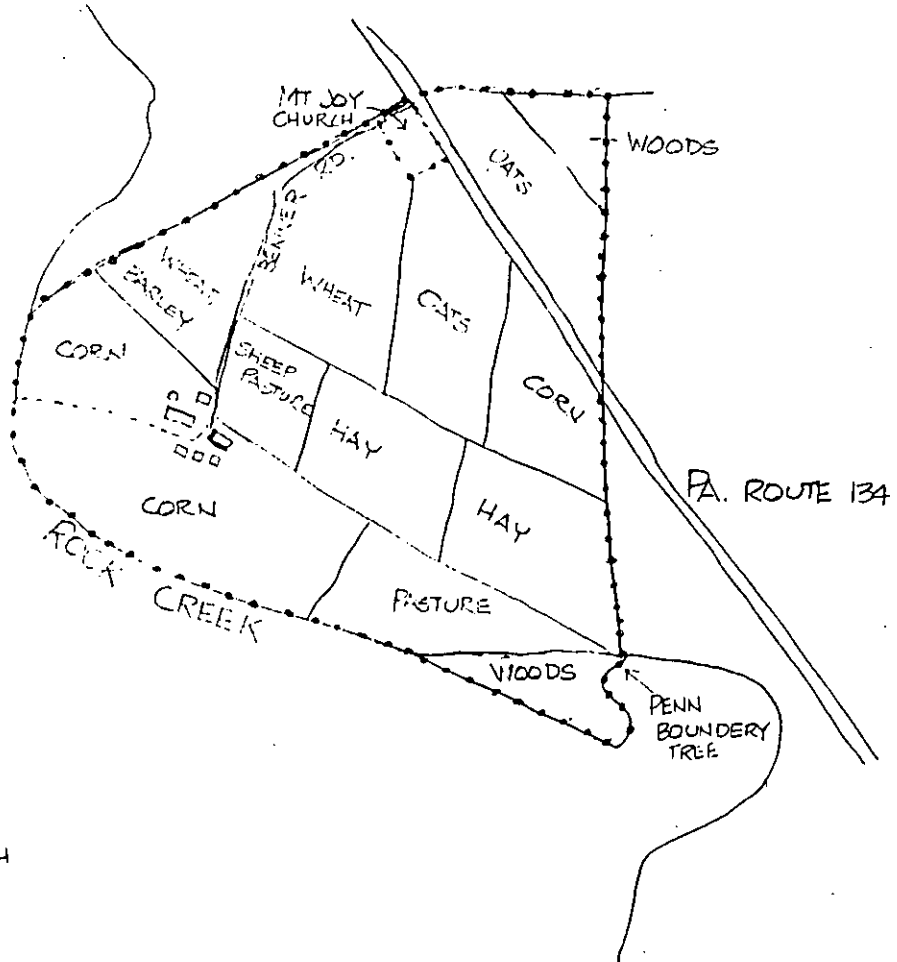
11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Paula S. Reed, PhD, Architectural Historian

Organization: Preservation Associates, Inc. Date: June 17, 1992

Street & Number: 117 S. Potomac Street Telephone: 301-791-7880

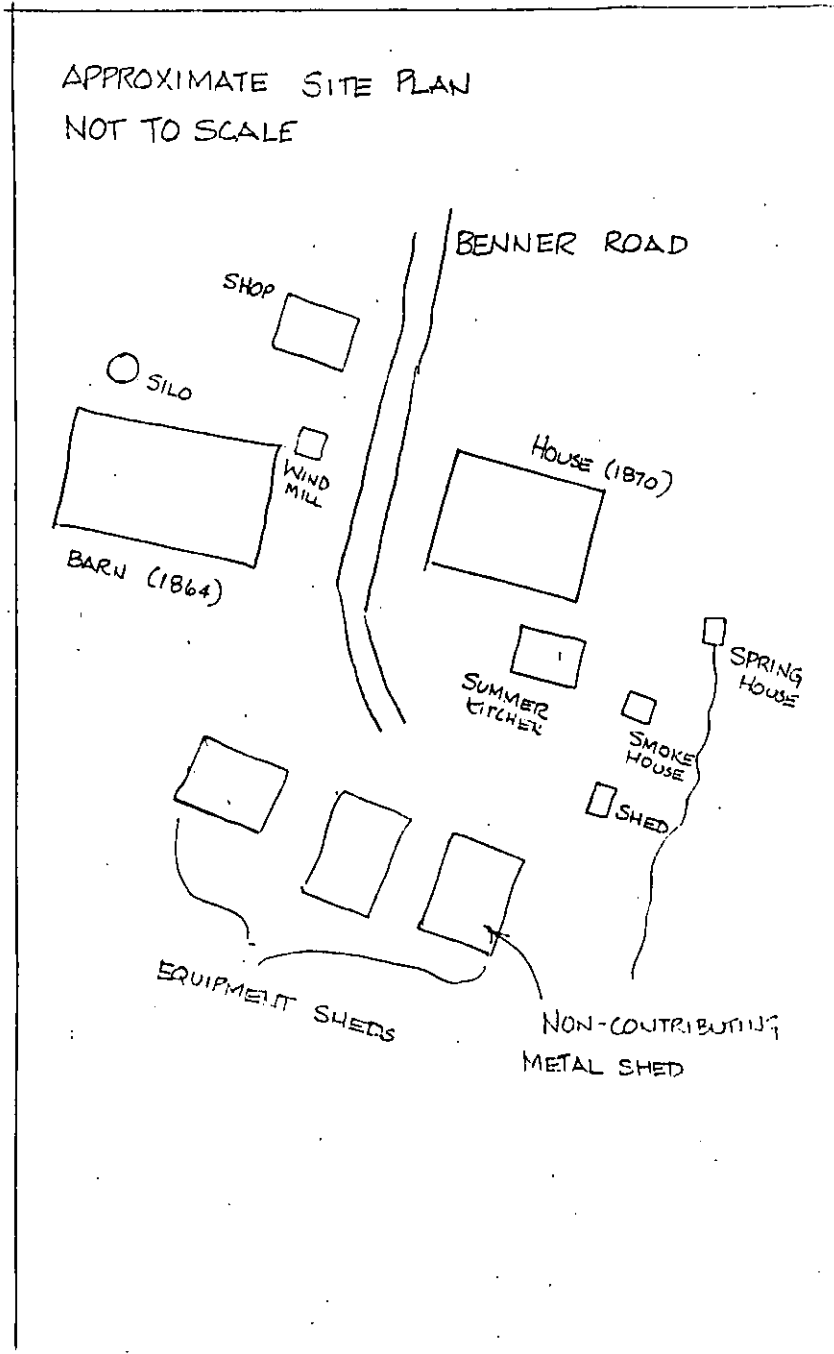
City or Town: Hagerstown State: MD ZIP: 21740



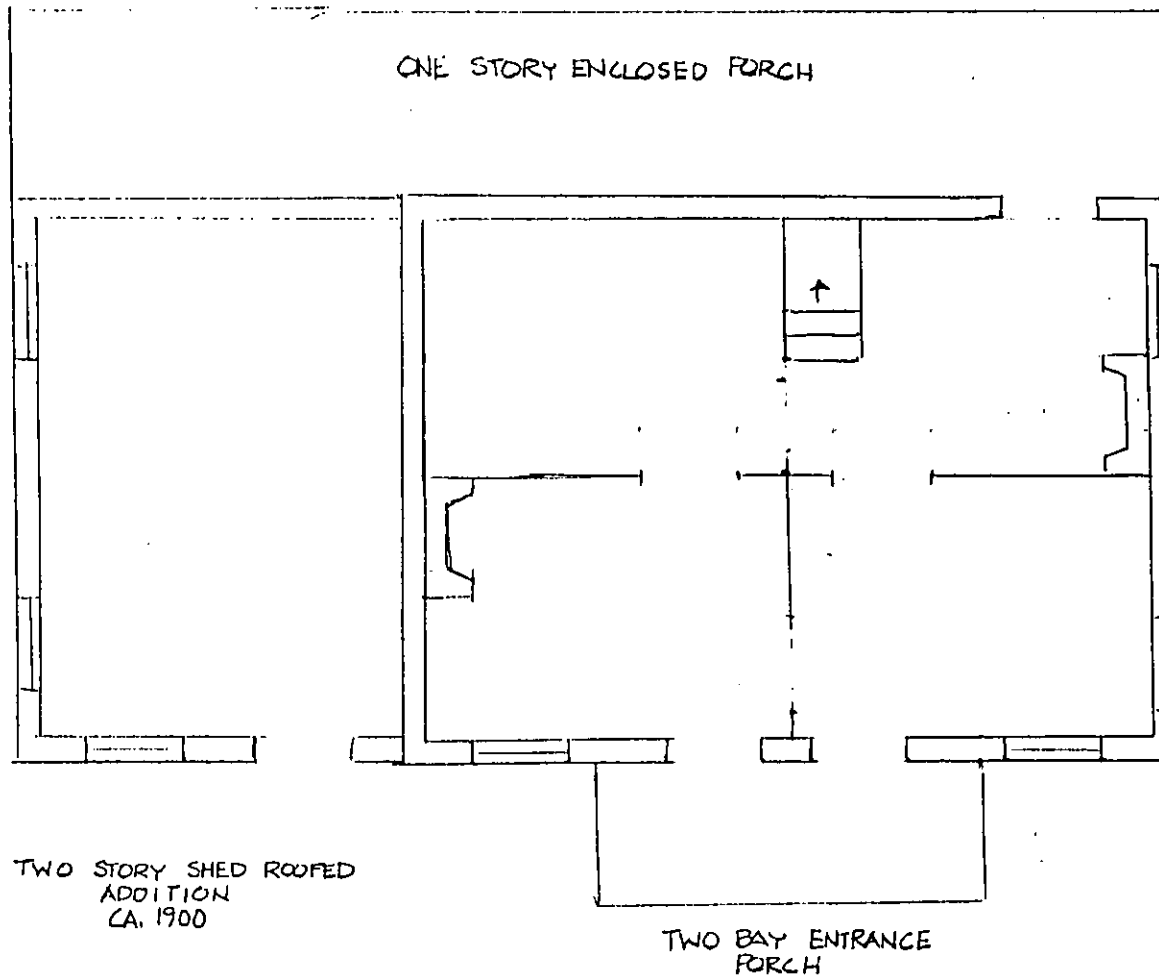
A
NORTH

SPANGLER - BENNER FARM
MT JOY TWP ADAMS CO., PA

APPROXIMATE FIELD LAYOUT
NOT TO SCALE



THE BENNER FARM
230 BENNER ROAD
GETTYSBURG VICINITY
MT JOY TWP
ADAMS CO. PA



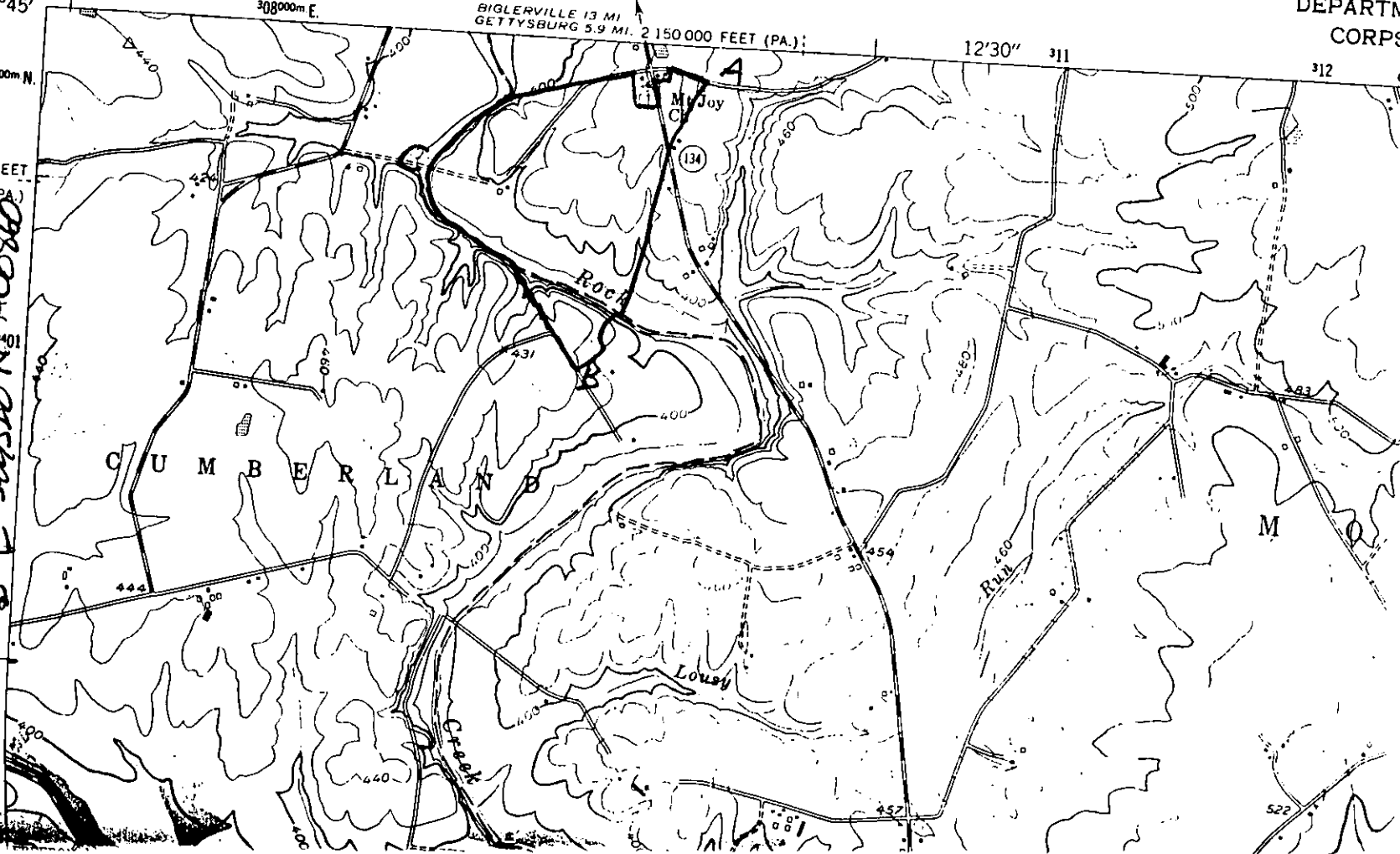
MAIN HOUSE - 1870

SKETCH PLAN, FIRST FLOOR

NOT TO SCALE

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
CORPS



Springer/Benice
Adams County
Zone 15 - 1900000000
A E 304700 N 440100 E 30000
B E 304310 N 440080