

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuations sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Habecker, Christian, Farm
other name/site number Brubaker, Abraham, Farm; 071-19-0088

2. Location

street & number 2301 Spring Valley Road (East Hempfield Township) na not for publication
city, town Lancaster na vicinity
state Pennsylvania code PA county Lancaster code 071 zip code 17603

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building (s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>12</u>	<u>1</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
		<u>12</u>	<u>1</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing Historic Farming Resources of Lancaster County
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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.

Donna Williams *Donna Williams* 7/11/94
Signature of commenting or other official Date
Assistant Executive Director
State or Federal agency or 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 or 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 the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: Farm

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: Farm

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling

7. DescriptionArchitectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: Pennsylvania style farmhouse

OTHER: Pennsylvania barn

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE: Limestone

walls BRICK

roof STONE: Slate

other WOOD

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Christian Habecker Farm is located in a low stream valley at the northwest corner of the intersection of US Route 30 and Rohrerstown Road in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. The farm lies on either side of Spring Valley Road, a secondary road extending northwest from Route 30, and is surrounded by commercial and residential development. As it presently exists, the farmstead includes a brick farmhouse, a frame Pennsylvania bank barn, a brick tenant house, two frame tobacco barns, a summer kitchen, a pigsty, a milkhouse, a creamery, a springhouse, a noncontributing garage, and a noncontributing aircraft hangar, all of which are oriented around Spring Valley Road.

Site

The 90.4 acre property is diagonally bisected by Spring Valley Road and is generally bounded to the south by Timber Line Drive and Spring Valley Road, to the west by adjacent woodland and farmland, to the north by Spring Valley Road and residential development, and to the east by Rohrerstown Road. The farmstead is located at the center-east of the farm on both sides of Spring Valley Road. The farmhouse and barn are prominently located at the southern end of the farmstead and are sited to face south, roughly perpendicular to the road. Domestic outbuildings, including the pigsty, garage, summer kitchen, and springhouse, are located to the north, east, and south of the farmhouse on the east side of Spring Valley Road. The tobacco barns, tenant house, and creamery are across the road to the north of the barn. The tenant house and its summer kitchen face the road, as does the hangar, which is located across Spring Valley Road approximately one hundred yards to the north. The eastern portion of the farmstead is bounded to the east by a narrow strip of wetlands that extends eastward into the cropland. A small church cemetery is located along Rohrerstown Road and is under separate ownership. With the exception of a woodlot at the southwest corner of the site, the remaining land is cropland.

Farmhouse

The principal farmhouse, the Christian Habecker House, is a typical Lancaster County farmhouse from the mid to late nineteenth century. The house is a rectangular two-and-a-half story brick dwelling with a lateral gable slate roof with end chimneys. A one-story shed porch, with simple square wooden posts, extends full-width across the facade. A secondary rear one-story brick tee wing has a cross gable roof and a two-story porch along its southwest elevation. The principal block of the house is five bays wide with a central entrance at the first floor level flanked by two two-over-two double hung sash windows. Windows are located in all five bays of the upper level.

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Christlan Habecker Farm

The principal entrance has a rectangular transom and retains its historic door. A modern aluminum storm door has been added at the principal entrance and the date "1876" is incised into its sill. Windows on the first level retain historic panelled wood shutters and those on the second have wooden blinds. All windows have simple stone lintels.

The southwest elevation of the main block is two bays wide with two-over-two sash windows at both levels and two single lower profile two-over-two sash windows at the attic level. The five-bay deep rear wing extends to the northwest and has a full-width two tier porch along its southwest elevation. Entrances with transoms are located in the rear bay of the first level and center bay of the second level. All remaining bays have windows similar to those on the facade. A historic farm bell, on a wooden platform, is located at the second level of the porch. A secondary entrance, accessed by a simple stoop, is located at the rear bay of the northeast elevation. Windows, similar to those of the facade are located at all remaining bays of the northeast and northwest elevations. A datestone is located in the foundation of the main block and remains from an earlier house on the site; it reads: "Erbauet durch/ABRAHAM BRUBAKER/und Frau MARIA/in jahr/1795 [translation: Built for/Abraham Brubaker/and wife Maria/in the year/1795]."

The first floor plan of the interior consists of a central hallway flanked by two rooms with a additional room and a secondary stair in the rear wing. Rooms typically retain their original window and door surrounds, cupboards, panelled doors, and exposed wood flooring. The stair retains its historic balustrade. The second floor plan consists of four rooms grouped around the stairhall. Detailing on the upper level is similar, yet somewhat simpler in design, to that of the first floor. The stair continues to an unfinished attic level.

The house is in good condition. Alterations have generally been limited to modifications of secondary spaces for use as a kitchen and bathrooms.

Summer Kitchen, Garage, Pigsty, Springhouse

The site is divided by Spring Hollow Road. Domestic outbuildings surrounding the farmhouse include: a one-story frame kitchen building (circa 1876) with a front-facing slate gable roof, located to its northeast; a frame garage (circa 1930) is set to its northwest; a pigsty (circa 1900) to its west; and a springhouse (circa 1876) to its east.

Bank Barn

A large frame bank barn, constructed in 1869, is located to the southwest of the house, across Spring Hollow Road. Its forebay faces southeast onto a small barnyard enclosed by a low stone wall. The original rectangular core of the barn has been expanded with the addition of a crib and tobacco barn to the southwest and two sheds to the northwest. The barn has a lateral gable slate roof, a frame upper level with vertical board siding, and a stone lower level. The forebay is frame clad with vertical wood siding and has a series of simple cargo doors and decorative louvered ventilators. The lower level below the forebay includes entrances, typically with board and batten doors and open transoms with a grillwork of simple bars, interspersed with rectangular windows with

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board and batten shutters. Two datestones, placed one atop the other, remain. The upper stone reads: "REBUILT/BY THE HEIRS/OF/CHRIST B. HABECKER/A.D. 1869." and the lower stone reads: "Erbauch durch/ABRAHAM BRUBACH^{er}/UND SEINE FRAU/MARIA BR./im jahr/1797 [translated: Built for/Abraham Brubacher/and his wife/Maria Brubacher/in the year/1797]."

Both frame endwalls have simple rectangular windows at the stone lower level, one tier of two double arched louvered vents within rectangular surrounds at the frame upper level, and a single similar ventilator near the top of the gable. The five bay northwest elevation has frame outshed additions at its first (east) end fourth bays. Remaining bays have simple double board and batten barn doors.

The interior is typical of Pennsylvania barns, with a lower level stable, threshing floors and hay mows at the single upper level, and a granary within the outshed.

The barn has seen very little alteration other than the additions of cribs and tobacco sheds to its western end and is in generally good structural condition.

Tenant House (circa 1880)

A two story, four by two bay brick tenant house is located to the northwest of the barn. It has a lateral gable slate roof with brick end chimneys. The principal northeast facade has paired entrance doors, with rectangular transoms and four-panel doors, set within a shed porch. Remaining openings have six-over-six double hung sash windows. A small frame kitchen building is located at the southern corner of the house. The tenant house has seen little alteration and is in good condition.

Creamery (circa 1910)

A one story frame creamery, on a raised brick basement, is located within cropland to the northwest of the tenant house. The building is three bays wide and three bays deep and has a front-facing gable roof with a boxed cornice with returns. Windows are typically wooden with six-over-six double hung sash set within rectangular openings with simple shouldered surrounds. The interior includes a single room on the first floor level. A spring enters through the basement and flows out to the east.

Tobacco Barn (circa 1920)

A frame tobacco barn is located between the barn and the tenant house and a small frame milkhouse is located immediately east of the barn.

Noncontributing Resources

Across Spring Valley Road, immediately southeast of the creamery, is a frame airplane hangar that was added to the site in recent years to serve a simple runway extending eastward through the cropland.

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Christian Habecker Farm

Integrity

The Christian Habecker Farm has retained its basic form and function throughout its history. The mid to late nineteenth-century complex maintains integrity of location, setting, feeling and association despite its general position within a late twentieth-century commercial and residential area. The farm's historic buildings retain a high degree of integrity of design, materials, and workmanship, as seen in the dwelling's restrained exterior ornamentation, the Pennsylvania bank barn's design, and the workmanship of the miscellaneous outbuildings.

8. Statement of Significance

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

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Agriculture

Architecture

Period of Significance

1869- 1945

1869

1876

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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

The Christian Habecker Farm is significant under National Register Criteria A and C. It is an example of the property type "the farm" under the "Historic Farming Resources of Lancaster County" multiple property National Register nomination. The farm is part of a 230 acre tract acquired by Abraham Brubaker in 1793 and on which he began to construct a permanent farmstead in 1797. Since 1853, the farm has been owned by the Habecker family and all existing buildings date from their occupancy. Although surrounded by commercial and residential development, the now ninety acre site remains under cultivation as a working farm.

History

The Christian Habecker Farm was created out of a larger tract of land acquired from the 1760s to 1770 by Jacob Brubaker, the youngest of three Mennonite brothers who left Germany and settled in this area in 1717 as part of the main Mennonite migration to Pennsylvania of the early eighteenth century.¹ Upon the settlement of his father's estate in 1793, Jacob's son Christian acquired 230 acres and immediately sold them to his sister Mary and her husband Abraham Brubaker. Abraham Brubaker (1761-1808) was the son of Hans Jacob Brubaker, thought to be a cousin to Hans Brubaker who also settled here in 1717.² The couple constructed the first farmstead on the tract, completing a house in 1795 and a barn in 1797; neither building remains.³

After the death of Abraham Brubaker, the property passed to his daughter Elizabeth (1798-1823) and her husband Christian Mellinger on 6 February 1817. In 1840, the Mellingers sold the property to Michael Seitz who in turn sold it as a 116 acre farm to Christian B. (1828-1858) and Elizabeth K. (1825-1902) Habecker on 15 March 1853. After Christian's death in 1858, the property remained in the possession of his wife and heirs.⁴ The 1864 county atlas lists the then 114 acre property as belonging to the estate of Christian Habecker. The present barn bears a datestone that reads: "REBUILT/BY THE HEIRS/OF/CHRIST B. HABECKER/A.D. 1869."

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Christian Habecker Farm

The farm was later acquired by Christian and Elizabeth's son Christian H. Habecker (1853-1941) who married Susan Fry Shenk (1852-1924) in 1876. According to its datestone, which serves as the sill to the front entrance, the present farmhouse was constructed for them later that year. By the time of the 1899 county atlas, the property was listed as 109 acres under the ownership of Christian Habecker .

Christian Habecker died on 1 January 1941 and the property was sold by his estate to his son John Shank Habecker (1892-1972) on 19 April.⁶ After John's death in 1972, the farm passed to his wife, its current owner, Mary Huber (1892-).

Architecture

The Christian Habecker Farm retains its primary buildings, the Christian Habecker House and barn, and most of the outbuildings historically associated with the Habecker family's farming operations. The farmstead is centered on a ninety acre working farm. The Christian Habecker House is an excellent example of a late nineteenth-century Pennsylvania style farmhouse, as described in the "Historic Farming Resources of Lancaster County" multiple property National Register nomination. Among the Habecker House's characteristics that are common to this vernacular form are its two and one half story height, five bay width, relatively restrained exterior ornamentation, lateral gable roof, brick construction, and four room plan. The house retains good overall integrity and includes excellent Victorian style interior elements, including window and door surrounds, staircase, and doors. The barn, constructed in 1869, is a typical late nineteenth-century Pennsylvania Barn that, other than the several secondary additions, retains good integrity. The site also includes a contributing two story brick tenant house, two frame tobacco barns, a summer kitchen, a pigsty, a creamery, and a springhouse. A one story frame garage and a one story frame aircraft hangar are non-contributing. The Habecker complex is a fine example of a working Lancaster County farm that has retained its architectural and agricultural significance in the midst of the suburban growth that surrounds it.

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Christian Habecker Farm

Notes:

¹ Frederic Klees, *The Pennsylvania Dutch* (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1950), p. 15.

² Phares Gible Brubaker, *History and Genealogy of the Brubaker-Brubacher-Brewbaker Family in America* (n.p.: Eastern Pennsylvania Brubaker Association, 1951; Landis H. Brubaker, *The Brubakers and Their Lands in East Hempfield Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Mennonite Heritage*, April 1982, p. 21.

³ Datestones for both have been incorporated into the present buildings. The datestone for the house is set within the foundation of the farmhouse at its northwest elevation. The datestone for the barn is located immediately below the datestone for the existing barn.

⁴ Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Lancaster County Recorder of Deeds, Deed Books: H-5, p 277; Z-6, p. 16; and B-8, p. 368.

⁵ Deed Book C-35, p. 381.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Atlas of Surveys of the County of Lancaster. Philadelphia: Graves and Steinbarger, 1899.

Bridgens, H. F. *Atlas of Lancaster Co., Penna.* Lancaster, PA: 1864.

Brubaker, Phares Gible. *History and Genealogy of the Brubaker-Brubacher-Brewbaker Family in America*. n.p.: Eastern Pennsylvania Brubaker Association, 1951.

Brubaker, Landis H. "The Brubakers and Their Lands in East Hempfield Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania," *Pennsylvania Mennonite Heritage*, April 1982.

Ellis, Franklin, and Samuel Evans. *History of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania*. 2 vols. Philadelphia, 1883; reprint ed., Apollo, PA: Closson Press, n.d.

Everts & Stewart, *Atlas of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania*, 1875; reprint ed., Knightstown, IN: Bookmark, 1976.

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 the Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by the Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Specify repository _____

10. Geographic Data

Acreage of property 90.4 acres

UTM References

A	<u>1</u> <u>8</u>	<u>3</u> <u>8</u> <u>4</u> <u>1</u> <u>1</u> <u>5</u>	<u>4</u> <u>4</u> <u>3</u> <u>5</u> <u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>5</u>	C	<u>1</u> <u>8</u>	<u>3</u> <u>8</u> <u>3</u> <u>1</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>4</u> <u>3</u> <u>9</u> <u>4</u> <u>6</u> <u>5</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
B	<u>1</u> <u>8</u>	<u>3</u> <u>8</u> <u>3</u> <u>1</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>4</u> <u>3</u> <u>5</u> <u>2</u> <u>8</u> <u>5</u>	D	<u>1</u> <u>8</u>	<u>3</u> <u>8</u> <u>3</u> <u>1</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>4</u> <u>3</u> <u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>4</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated property includes the entire parcel numbered 12H-6-1 in the office of the Tax Assessment Office, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire current tax parcel only, which represents the remaining acreage of the farm complex which, throughout the subject's period of significance, included between 230 and 90.4 acres. The current acreage is sufficient to reflect the historic character of the site and continues to represent a working farm complex.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title David B. Schneider; Heidi M. Pawlowski

organization Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County date 02/25/93; revised 05/25/94

street & number 123 North Prince Street telephone (717) 291-5861

city or town Lancaster state Pennsylvania zip code 17603

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Christian Habecker Farm

Graves and Steinbarger, *Atlas of Surveys of the County of Lancaster*. Boston and Philadelphia:
Graves and Steinbarger, 1899.

Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County. "Historic Farming Resources of Lancaster
County," multiple property nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, n.p., 1994.

Klees, Frederic. *The Pennsylvania Dutch*. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1964.

Klein, H. M. G. *Lancaster County, Pennsylvania: A History*, 4 vols. New York: Lewis Historical
Publ., 1924.

Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Lancaster County Historical Society. Lancaster City and County Directo-
ries, 1885-1945.

Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Lancaster County Recorder of Deeds. *Deed Books*.

Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County, Historic Sites Survey
Files, Christian Habecker Farm.

Roddy, H. Justin. *Physical and Industrial Geography of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania*. Lancas-
ter, PA: New Era Printing Co., 1916.

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Brubaker Farm, UTM References:

E	<u>1</u> <u>8</u>	<u>3</u> <u>8</u> <u>4</u> <u>0</u> <u>5</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>4</u> <u>3</u> <u>5</u> <u>2</u> <u>6</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
F	<u>1</u> <u>8</u>	<u>3</u> <u>8</u> <u>4</u> <u>0</u> <u>1</u> <u>5</u>	<u>4</u> <u>4</u> <u>3</u> <u>5</u> <u>4</u> <u>1</u> <u>5</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
G	<u>1</u> <u>8</u>	<u>3</u> <u>8</u> <u>4</u> <u>0</u> <u>4</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>4</u> <u>3</u> <u>5</u> <u>4</u> <u>6</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

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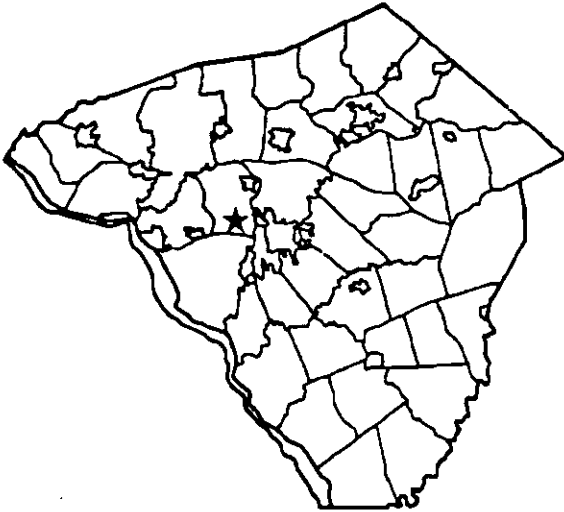
Accompanying Documentation, Continuation Sheet #2

Section number _____ Page _____

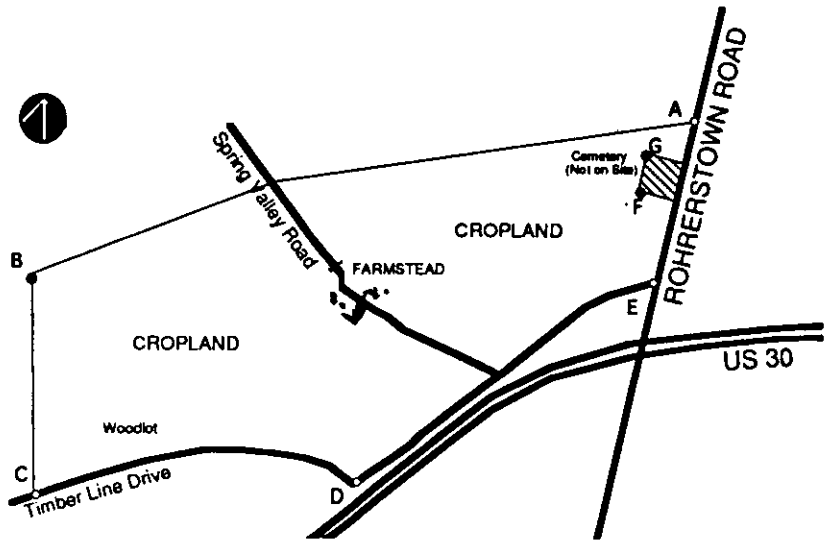
Christian Habecker Farm

Christian Habecker Farm

Spring Valley Rd., East Hempfield Twp., Lancaster County, PA
071-19-0088

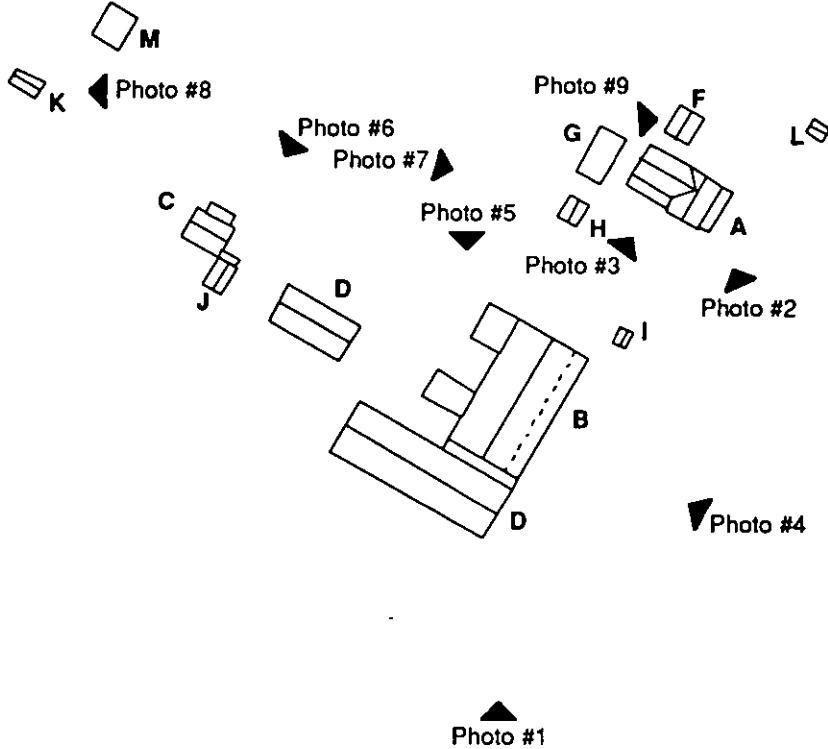


Location & Site Plans Sketch Plan (Not to Scale)



Key:

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| A Farmhouse | H Pigsty |
| B Barn | I Milkhouse |
| C Tenant House | J Summer Kitchen |
| D Tobacco Barn | K Creamery |
| E Tobacco Barn | L Springhouse |
| F Summer Kitchen | M Hangar (non contributing) |
| G Garage | |



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Accompanying Documentation, Continuation Sheet #3

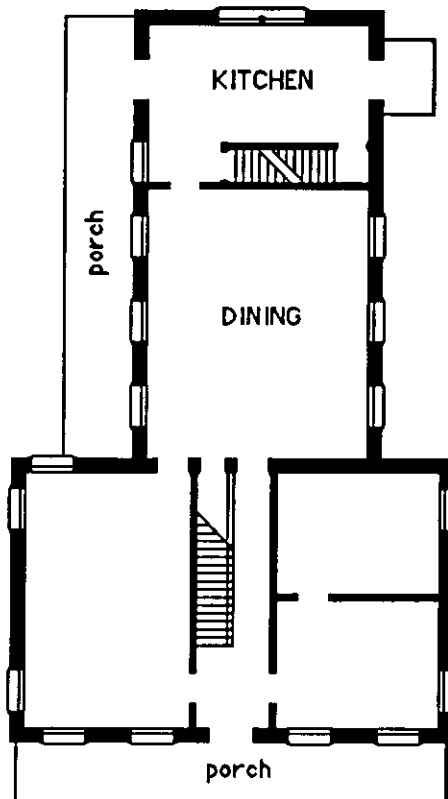
Section number ____ Page ____

Christian Habecker Farm

Christian Habecker Farm

Spring Valley Rd., East Hempfield Twp., Lancaster County, PA
071-19-0088

Farmhouse, First Floor Plan
Sketch Plan (Not to Scale)



11
 am farm
 Henfield
 1/2
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 rkr
 angle
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 owners:
 4115
 433495
 435285
 43100
 4324465
 433-143
 384050
 435260
 43015

