

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 for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word process, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Rock Creek/White Run Union Hospital Complex  
other names N/A

2. Location

street & number Baltimore Pike. Goulden Road. White Church Road N/A  not for publication  
city or town Mount Joy and Cumberland Townships N/A  vicinity  
state Pennsylvania code PA County Adams code 001 zip code 17325

3. 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments).  
Brent D. Glass April 11, 2000  
Signature of certifying office/Title Date  
Brent D. Glass, Executive Director, PA Historical & Museum Commission  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments).  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying office/Title Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. State/Federal Agency 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
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____

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**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private | <input type="checkbox"/> building(s)         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-local       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-State       | <input type="checkbox"/> site                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal     | <input type="checkbox"/> structure           |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> object              |

Contributing	Noncontributing	
11	28	buildings
13		sites
		structures
		objects
24	28	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

**number of contributing resource previously listed in the National Register**

Adams County properties Associated with the Battle of Gettysburg, July 1-3, 1863

0

**6. Function of Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/agricultural field  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/outbuilding  
DEFENSE/battlefield  
FUNERARY/graves/burials  
HEALTH CARE/hospital

DOMESTIC/single dwelling  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/field  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/outbuilding

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other/Pennsylvania Vernacular Farmhouse

foundation Stone  
walls Brick  
roof Metal  
other

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Rock Creek/White Run Union Hospital Complex  
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## Physical Description:

### Summary

The Rock Creek/White Run Union Hospital Complex is located southeast of Gettysburg along Rock Creek, White Run and various tributaries. The nominated area is mostly pasture, cropland and woods with clusters of farm buildings. This rural historic landscape consists of 13 contiguous properties, with mostly open farmland, eight farmsteads, and White's Church that served as hospitals for the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 6th and 12th corps, Army of the Potomac, during the weeks immediately following the Battle of Gettysburg. The district boundaries follow current property lines, natural features and political boundaries. In general, the boundaries follow property lines north of the Baltimore Pike to low Dutch Road, US Route 15, Rock Creek, Littles Run. The 13 hospital sites are clustered in a compact ring within these boundaries. While there are additional significant Union hospital sites near the battlefield, they are scattered and separated from this cluster and from one another by some distance. The Rock Creek Hospital cluster is unified by its location, confined by Rock Creek and its tributaries and proximity to Baltimore Pike. The Rock Creek/White Run Union Hospital Complex occupies for the most part high ground which rises fairly sharply from the creeks. Approximately 1-1/2 miles to the west are higher ridges, Round Top, Little Round Top and Culp's Hill, the chain of hills which were occupied by the Union line during the Battle. In the heart of the district, Whites Run and Rock Creek converge. The district includes 11 contributing buildings, 13 contributing hospital sites, and 28 non-contributing buildings (newer residential infill). The open historic cultural landscape is the dominant feature of the district. It retains integrity of location, setting, materials, feeling and association and illustrates the reasons why this area was particularly attractive as a hospital location, and thus accommodated so many of the wounded. Within this landscape may be numerous potential archaeological sites associated with the hospitals, such as amputation sites, food preparation areas, patient wards, staff wards, refuse disposal areas, latrines and burial sites both for full human burials or for disposal of amputated body parts. Finally, the district also contains some modern elements, mostly mid and late 20th century housing. The nominated area contains approximately 550 acres. The boundaries were drawn as tightly as possible to encompass the hospital sites and their setting and yet exclude as much non-contributing development as possible. The district retains integrity as a historic landscape. Most of the farmsteads retain buildings from the battle era, but changes have occurred, some as a direct result of battle damage.

### General Description

Eight farmsteads remain in the hospital cluster, which retain some or all of the buildings present at the time of the battle. These are (using historic names from the battle era, map reference number, and including Pennsylvania Historic Resource Survey identification numbers in parenthesis):

1. Schwartz Farm, (001-MJ-102)
2. Shaeffer Farm, (001-MJ-109)

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3. Trostle Farm , (001-MJ-101)
4. Lewis Bushman Farm, (001-CU-159)
5. Diener Farm, at jct. of Sachs and Goulden Rds. (001-CU-160)
6. Conover Farm, (001-MJ-159)
7. Lightner Farm, (001-MJ-125)
8. Beitler Farm, (001-MJ-126)

Following are descriptions of the eight farms/farmsteads listed above.

1. Schwartz Farm I: The Schwartz Farm, containing approximately 151 acres, is reached by a long dirt lane extending west from Gouldens Road. The lane crosses Whites Run on a plank bridge and continues to the complex of buildings. The current complex of buildings consists of a brick house dating from the 1890-1910 period, a frame Pennsylvania forebay bank barn, believed to be the one present during the battle and a frame wagon shed/corn crib, also believed to have been present during the battle. The three buildings face south on a slope, which rises to the north, behind them. The house is two stories high, of brick construction with a side gable roof. Openings are topped with segmental arches of brick, a feature clearly associated with the turn of the century period. The barn has exposed brick foundations and board and batten siding with two tiers of louvered vents and arched topped gable vents. The siding and vents system is of a type frequently associated with the late 19th century and may indicate that the barn was resided. The wagon shed is timber framed with lapped siding. It is open with corncrib enclosures on either side. The ridge behind these buildings, known as Red Hill or Slaty Ridge, was the site of most of the hospital, although patients were also housed in the buildings. Burials from the hospital were located high on the ridge behind the buildings. Resource Count: 2 contributing buildings (barn and wagon shed); 1 non-contributing building (house); 1 contributing site (hospital site on surrounding land). The farmstead and surrounding landscape retain integrity of location, setting, materials and association.

2. Sheaffer Farmstead: The Daniel Sheaffer Farmstead is located on the south side of the Baltimore Pike, just east of White Run. Currently, the buildings are retained on an 8-acre parcel. (At the time of the battle, the property contained 69 acres.) Buildings currently on the property consist of an 18th century brick house and a frame stable, which appears to post-date the Civil War. The house is a two story, four bay building which is oriented to face northeast, toward the road. It follows a traditional Germanic exterior plan with an off-center front door located in the second bay from the west end. Significant architectural features include a brick watertable and segmental arches over the cellar windows, both indications of pre-1800 construction. The front elevation displays Flemish bond brickwork. One story gabled extensions are attached to the rear of the building. At the time of the battle, the property also included a sawmill on White Run. The Civil War era barn was described as a double log building, according to Greg Coco in A Vast Sea of Misery. Resource Count: 1 contributing building (18th century house); 1 non-contributing building (late 19th century barn); 1 contributing site (hospital site on

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accompanying grounds). Although the farm has been reduced to 8 acres, the house retains a high degree of integrity to the 18th century and the surrounding land retains its historic setting.

3. Trostle Farm: At the end of a private lane extending from Goulden Road, to the south along Rock Creek, is the Trostle farm, today containing approximately 130 acres, which was the site of the Sixth Army Corps hospital. However, since the Sixth Corps did not suffer heavy casualties in the battle, their site was also used by other corps, the Second, Third and Fifth. According to Sanitary Commission reports, about 300 men were treated there. Members of the First Division were treated in and around the house, the Second and Third Divisions were sheltered in tents. The Trostle place continues as a working farm and the entire farm is included within the district. Historic buildings include the house, probably of log construction, sided, with a stone extension, and possibly dating (in part) from the late 18th century; a frame forebay bank barn on stone foundations, early-mid 19th century, and domestic and agricultural sheds and outbuildings (19th and early 20th century). Some modern (late 20th century) non-contributing agricultural outbuildings are also present. The house is a two story, four bay L-shaped building with the lower portion of the rear wing constructed of stone. First and second story windows of the front section are not aligned, suggesting that the second story was added. The buildings are situated on high ground above the creek and face south. Greg Coco's *A Vast Sea of Misery* reports that 58 identified Union burials and eleven Confederate were located on this farm at a place described as "Walnut Row." Resource Count: 2 contributing buildings (house and barn) 1 contributing site (hospital site on surrounding grounds). Sheds and outbuildings are not counted. The land is still farmed, maintaining the historic landscape, and the buildings, although altered over time retain integrity of materials, feeling, location and association.

4. Lewis Bushman Farm: Located about one fourth mile south of Goulden Road, just east of Route 15, is this farmstead with a west facing two story L-shaped brick house, and an east facing frame forebay bank barn. They form the building complex for a farm, which today contains approximately 64 acres. According to historian Greg Coco, the present house was built after the battle. Its appearance suggests construction during the third quarter of the 19th century. It is five bays wide with an all-stretcher brick façade, and windows with wide molded wooden lintels. The present house is said to have replaced an earlier wooden dwelling, located several hundred feet to the east. This property is the closest of those in the hospital complex to the July 2 heavy action on Little Round Top, Devil's Den and the Wheatfield. Resource Count: 1 contributing building (early-mid 19th century barn), 1 non-contributing building (post Civil War house); 1 contributing site (hospital site on surrounding grounds). The land associated with this property is still farmed and retains its character as a historic landscape.

5. Diener Farm: The property known as the Diener place is a small farmstead located along the south side of Goulden Road. The current tax parcel contains approximately 59 acres, and all of it is located within the historic district. The house is a two story three bay brick building which appears to date from the 1860s. It has a central entrance and six over six light windows. Openings are topped with wide wooden lintels. A frame forebay barn is located west of the house and faces east. The Diener place

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may have accommodated wounded from the Fifth Corps in the house, barn and immediate grounds. In Coco's A Vast Sea of Misery, this property is discussed along with the Louis Bushman farm and therefore does not have its own map designation number. Resource Count: 2 contributing buildings (house and barn); 1 contributing site (hospital site on surrounding grounds). The house, barn and surrounding farmland contribute to the historic rural landscape.

6. Conover Farm: The Peter Conover Farm is located east of White Church Road and south of the Baltimore Pike, near Little Run. Presently the farm buildings include a two-story brick house, which appears to postdate the Battle (probably early 20th century), a modern ranch-style dwelling and two frame barns. The main barn, a frame forebay bank structure with attached granaries dates from the Civil War era, and retains a date stone inscribed "P. Conover, 1859." A commemorative marker (one of several cast iron markers dating from the early 20th century commemorative period that are planted throughout the district) at the corner of White Church Road and the Baltimore Pike states that this farm served as the site of the hospital for the First Corps. Gregory Coco's research indicates that the Second division was probably here, and possibly the Third as well. The current tax parcel for the property contains approximately 111 acres, which are still farmed. The historic landscape remains intact. The buildings, however, are extensively altered or replaced. Lots along the Baltimore Pike have been parceled off with resulting non-contributing residences, which are included within the boundaries of the district. Resource Count: 1 contributing building (pre-Civil War barn), 3 non-contributing buildings (two houses and barn); 1 contributing site (hospital site on surrounding farmland). Sheds and outbuildings are not counted. There are also 7 non-contributing 20th century dwellings along the Baltimore Pike.

7. Lightner Farm: The Lightner farm is located on the north side of the Baltimore Pike, just northeast of the White Church and contains a brick house and domestic outbuildings. The original frame bank barn is said to have been removed about 1970. The house is now used as a bed and breakfast. The house is a two story, five bay brick building with a raised basement. It rests on stone foundations. The front elevation is symmetrical with a central entrance with a broad transom and sidelights. The bricks at the front elevation are laid in Flemish bond while those at the side and rear elevations are in common bond. Windows have six over six sash with wide wooden lintels. Three-part attic windows blend Palladian and Greek Revival influences. The house is said to have been built in 1862 and the exterior architectural evidence certainly supports that date attribution. A damage claim filed by Isaac Lightner after the war describes the house as 40x31 feet, three stories high including the basement, containing ten rooms, cellar and garret. Also remaining from the original set of buildings is a stone beehive bake oven. The parcel upon which the Lightner house is located contains slightly more than 19 acres. The rest of the farm has been sold off over the years. All of the current acreage is included within the district. Resource Count: 1 contributing building (main house and bake oven); 1 contributing site (hospital site on surrounding grounds).

8. Beitler Farm: This small farm is located at the corner of the Baltimore Pike and Low Dutch Road, north of the Pike and west of the smaller road. The house is a two story framed building five bays

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wide with a central entrance. The door has a broad transom and sidelights. Windows have two over two-pane sash. A one-story kitchen wing extends to the rear. East of the house and placed perpendicular to it is a frame forebay bank barn with vertical siding and louvered ventilator openings. The type and style of these buildings are typical of the third quarter of the 19th century in Adams County, suggesting that if the present buildings were standing at the time of the battle, they were quite new. There is also a modern garage. An eyewitness account from July 3, 1863, describes amputations going on in the wagon shed at this property with the severed arms and legs being placed in the corncrib then hauled off by the wagonloads. This wagon shed is gone. Resource Count: 1 contributing building (house); 1 non-contributing building (post Civil War barn) 1 contributing site (hospital site on surrounding grounds.) The garage and sheds are not counted.

In addition to the above named properties is Mark's German Reformed Church, (Map # 9, the White Church, 001-MJ-098). The present red brick church dating from the late 19th century replaced a white-painted, weather boarded log building which was present at the time of the battle, and may have dated from the late 18th century. The Jane Clapsaddle farm, (Map # 10), located on the east side of White Church Road and north of Littles Run, retains portions of a log house which predates the battle. These remnants are incorporated into a newer building. The Michael Fiscel Farm, (001-CU-159), although it was a prominent hospital in the complex has been excluded from this nomination because the barn has been removed, the house postdates the Civil War and the landscape has been altered by construction of a golf course. Therefore, it no longer retains enough integrity to be eligible for the National Register. Other hospital sites in the district were on open land, not associated with the above-mentioned buildings. These include the Jacob Schwartz farm II, and the portion of the George Bushman located east of US Route 15.

Other properties within the district:

9. Marks Church (or St. Mark's Church). Map # 9. This red brick church, known as White Church at the time of the battle, is a late 19th century replacement of an early log or frame building. It is on a on a property containing 2.37 acres at the corner of Baltimore Pike and White Church Road. Resource Count: 1 non-contributing building (church); 1 contributing site (cemetery and hospital site on surrounding grounds).

10. Jane Clapsaddle Place. Map # 10. Currently this property consists of an early or mid 19<sup>th</sup> century log house with later additions on a parcel containing approximately 22 acres. The house has lost integrity through alteration, but the site along Littles Run retains integrity as a historic landscape. Resource Count: 1 contributing site (hospital site on surrounding grounds); 1 non-contributing building (house).

11. Jacob Schwartz Farm II. Map # 11. This farm retains tilled land and wooded area along Whites Run. The current parcel includes approximately 35 acres adjoining the Jacob Schwartz I farm.

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The buildings on the property, a frame two-story house and a frame forebay bank barn appear to date from the late 19th century, post-dating the battle. The farmland retains its historic agricultural appearance. Resource Count: 1 contributing site (hospital site); 3 non-contributing buildings (house and barn and separated from the farm complex, and located along Rock Creek is a separate house site occupied by a mobile home.) Sheds and small outbuildings are not counted.

12. George Bushman Farm. Map # 12. Only the portion of this farm located east of US Route 15 is located in the district. The land is approximately 50 acres on two separate parcels (tax parcels 4 and 30). The buildings for the George Bushman farm are located on the west side of US Route 15 and are to be included in another district. The property included in this district is farmland and wooded landscape bordering Rock Creek. Resource Count: 1 contributing site (hospital site)

13. Property between the Sheaffer Farmstead and Mark's Church (map # 13, tax parcel 8). This property is included in the district because of its farmed landscape, which was once part of the Sheaffer farm. A late 19th century Queen Anne style house is on the property, along with a frame bank barn. Resource Count: 1 contributing site (open farmland and woodland); 2 non-contributing buildings (post Civil War house and barn). Outbuildings, small in scale, are not counted.

14. Scattered through the district are parcels that over time have been subdivided from the larger farms. Upon these have been constructed recent non-contributing dwellings. These add 6 non-contributing buildings to the count. Outbuildings are not counted. There are also various parcels of open land or woodland not included in the main farms in the district. All open, woodland or tilled land within the district is considered contributing, but not counted.

15. Commemorative markers, cast iron tablets mounted on granite bases, are located along White Run and Gouldens Roads at the various hospital sites. They appear to date from the early 20th century, but are not included in the resource count.

The district, consisting mostly of cropland and woods retains a high level of integrity. It is defined not in terms of the buildings, which are upon the land, but by the land itself as the location of this group of very large hospitals. The largeness of the landscape with hills, woodlots and field patterns masks the impact of scattered modern elements.



**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a Significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history.
- B** Property associated with the lives of persons Significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property as yielded, or is likely to yield, information Important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious Purposes.
- B** Removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

**Area of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Military

**Period of Significance**

1863

**Significant Dates**

1863

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

**Previous documentation on files (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

Name of repository:

\_\_\_\_\_

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### Statement of Significance:

#### Summary

The Rock Creek/White Run Union Hospital Complex encompasses the largest cluster of corps hospitals associated with the Civil War Battle of Gettysburg. The district is therefore significant under National Register Criterion A in the area of military history. While there were many hospital sites in and around Gettysburg to accommodate the more than 27,000 wounded from the battle, the group which constitutes the Rock Creek/White Run Complex forms a cohesive cluster, within a landscape relatively uninterrupted by intrusive modern elements. Although some of the buildings in the district postdate the battle, the overall landscape, illustrating the terrain and other natural features that made this place an attractive choice for a cluster of hospitals survives intact. The property type associated with this district is Military Hospital Sites. They meet registration requirements because the above-ground terrain and landscape are reasonably visually intact and represent as closely as possible the 1863 period. Contributing buildings, while not prominent for this nomination generally portray the period of Civil War occupation. The natural and man-made features of historic sites retain their basic 1863 configurations. Although there have been no archaeological investigations, there is high archaeological potential associated with these hospital sites. They appear to have intact soils over a landscape, which approximates the 1863 land conditions.

From July 2 to the middle of August 1863, a number of corps and division hospitals were in operation at sheltered places behind the Union battle lines. These facilities included "the First Corps along the Baltimore Pike, south of an including White Church (2,379 patients); the Second Corps located west of Rock Creek southeast of the George Bushman Farm (3,152 patients); the Third Corps along the south side of White Run near its junction with Rock Creek (2,500 patients); the Fifth Corps along White Run, the Baltimore Pike and Two Taverns (1,400 patients); the Sixth Corps near the John Trostle House on Rock Creek (315 patients); and the Twelfth Corps at the George Bushman farm and near Rock Creek (1,200 patients)" (Coco, 1988: xv). The patients were sheltered in houses, barns, and outbuildings or in tents erected by the Army. Most of the land that was occupied by these hospitals is included within the nominated area for this district. The complex of hospitals was established in this location because of the protection afforded by the hilly terrain, distance from the combat area and artillery fire zone, and the availability of water from Rock Creek and White Run and their tributaries (Coco, 1988:57). The landscape features that made this site desirable for hospital use are still quite evident in the converging creeks, network of farm and township roads, and well-drained high ground located conveniently close to water. In mid August of 1863, the corps and division hospitals were broken up and the remaining patients were consolidated at one huge facility, Camp Letterman, which was located along York Pike, east of Gettysburg (Coco: xvi).

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The hospital sites in the Rock Creek/White Run Union Complex served the US First, Second, Third, Fifth, Sixth and Twelfth Corps, as well as a few Confederates. The northeast part of the district was the location of the First Corps hospitals at Mark's Church, the Isaac Lightner farm, the Peter Conover Farm and the Henry Beitler farm. Together, these properties accommodated over 2,000 wounded. The center of the district was used by the Second Corps at the Jacob Schwartz farm I, at the confluence of Rock Creek and White Run and the Third Corps at the Jacob Schwartz farm II, the Daniel Sheaffer farm and the Michael Fischel farm. (The Fischel Farm has been excluded from the district because it has been converted to a golf course and has lost integrity to the point that it no longer represents the period of significance.) Toward the western part of the district are the hospital sites of the Fifth, Sixth and Twelfth Corps. The Fifth Corps were on the Jane Clapsaddle farm, the Lewis Bushman farm and the Deiner farm, all located along Goulden Road. The Sixth Corps was at the John Trostle Farm, and the Twelfth Corps was at the George Bushman farm. Today, the George Bushman farm is bisected by modern US Route 15. This district includes the portion of the Bushman farm that is located along Rock Creek on the east side of the highway.

Most of the hospital sites in the district were established on July 2 and 3, behind the Union lines. It was critical that good water be readily available, and so these hospitals are gathered along Rock Creek and White's Run. This district does not include all of the Union hospitals, but it does encompass some of the major treatment areas. Other hospitals were further removed from this concentration or are separated by modern elements such as the Route 15 bypass. These hospitals were in operation until Camp Letterman was established in late July. After Camp Letterman was opened, it took several more weeks before the transfer of patients to that new facility was complete. Centrally located in the district is the Jacob Schwartz Farm, which according to historian Greg Coco became the center of Federal Corps hospital activity about July 3 and remained as such until mid August, 1863. While the property was generally designated as a Second Corps hospital, it spread to include parts of the First and Twelfth Corps and perhaps the Third and Fifth as well. Historian Coco considers the Schwartz farm site as the most important field hospital of all, except for Camp Letterman, the General Hospital, established on July 20 to consolidate the wounded from all of the field hospitals. The Schwartz Farm alone accommodated nearly 3,300 wounded of which close to 1,000 were Confederates, mostly from the action of July 3. This Union Hospital complex encompasses an important part of the Battle history, care of the approximately 27,000 wounded and the impact of that activity on the local citizens. The large collection of incapacitated men had to be fed, treated for wounds and their complications and sheltered from the elements. All farms in the immediate area were pressed into service to provide for the care of the wounded for days or weeks after the three day battle. A fuller representation of the historic context for the Union Hospital complex will be found in the multiple property documentation form, "Adams County Properties Associated with the Battle of Gettysburg, July 1-3, 1863."

Historic Context

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The Rock Creek/White Run Hospital Complex as a collection of farms is typical of the agricultural development in Adams County. From the late 18th through the 19th century crop farming dominated in the district, with principally production of small grains - wheat, oats and rye. The many flour and gristmills depicted on 18th and early 19th century maps of the county are evidence of the importance of grain farming in Adams County. In the 18th and early 19th centuries, a typical farm had less than 200 acres, a few cows, sheep, and hogs, an orchard with various fruit trees and fields of clover, corn and grain. Pasture and wood lots occupied much of the land. Cash crops were grains, sold in bulk or processed into flour or meal. Fruit and livestock were mostly grown for family use. According to Robert L. Bloom's History of Adams County, "Gordon's Gazetteer reported that in 1830 alone, the farm output [of Adams County] included 100,000 bushels of wheat; 300,000 of rye; 175,000 of oats; 300,000 corn, 70,000 of potatoes; and 3,000 of buckwheat." By 1850, Adams County yielded 318,848 bushels of wheat, 261,779 of oats, and 183,978 of corn. These figures show a marked increase between 1830 and 1850 of wheat and oats production, with a concurrent reduction of corn production, illustrating the importance of flour milling as a leading aspect of the emerging regional agricultural economy. The county's industries and production were agricultural-based through the 19th century. Flour, saw and fulling mills dominated, and continued throughout the 19th century. A major market for processed or unprocessed farm produce was Baltimore. The Baltimore Pike, along the north edge of the district provided good access to the markets for the farms which eventually became hospitals for many of the Union casualties.

The impact of the battle and the extended use of these properties as hospitals intruded upon the agricultural pursuits of the farmers. The battle occurred just as the wheat crop was ready for harvest. Much of it was lost to the trampling and foraging army. Fence rails, an important and expensive component of all farms, were taken for firewood, and livestock was butchered. Residents had little choice but to put up with the situation. They did have the option of filing damage claims, but most payments were well under claimed values and compensation was not made until 15-20 years after the war. In Adams County in general and in this district in particular, houses and barns were often replaced or substantially renovated in the 1870s and 1880s. While this modernization had to do with the change in the technology of farming and shift from wheat to dairy production, the renovations seem also to coincide with payment of damage claims, which may have given farmers the financial where-with-all to renovate.

### Criterion A (Military)

An important part of military action, and an aspect that is frequently overlooked, is the impact of a battle on the surrounding community. Aside from the actual destruction of life and property, is the effect of the need to care for the wounded, bury the dead, and to accommodate military encampments. The Battle of Gettysburg in its magnitude placed major burdens on the surrounding population, taxing

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both the human and natural resources. A staggering statistic is that the number of wounded from the battle was nearly three times the population of the town of Gettysburg.

The nature of the activity in the aftermath of a major battle depends to a large extent on who is left in control of the battlefield. At Gettysburg, the Confederates were forced to withdraw. Although they took with them a seventeen mile long wagon train of wounded men, many were left behind in both Confederate and in Union field hospitals. Due to the position of the two armies, Confederate hospitals were generally located to the west of Gettysburg, while Union Hospitals were located to the east. Whether by chance, or by design, the Union hospitals tended to be clustered while those of the Confederates were more scattered on the landscape. When the Confederate army withdrew from Pennsylvania, their wounded who were unable to travel were left behind to be cared for by the local population, or were placed into Union field hospitals and eventually Camp Letterman. So, it came to be that a portion of the wounded at the Rock Creek/White Run Union Hospital complex were Confederates.

Army corps established hospitals, and in the vicinity of Rock Creek and Whites Run, the First, Second, Third, Fifth, Sixth and Twelfth Corps all had hospitals. These are identified below by the name of the Civil War era owner or historic name, and include, when available, information on military unit, number of wounded treated, medical officer, dates of operation and number of deaths (from Coco 1988 and 1995).

### First Corps

Mark's German Reformed Church "White Church" hospital was supervised by General Patrick, Provost Marshall. This hospital served 1229 wounded and also accommodated several hundred wounded rebels. The surgeon was A.J. Ward.

The Isaac Lightner Farm operated from July 2 - July 20, 1863. The farmhouse, barns and outbuildings and hospital tents accommodated the wounded, under the care of surgeon A. J. Ward. The hospital established here was for the First Army Corps, probably the First Division. According to Mr. Lightner's damage claim, his dwelling, barn, and outbuildings were used from July 2 to July 20 as a First Corps hospital and that a large number of hospital tents were set up on his property. One of his buildings was used as a bakery and it was fueled by wood from his fence rails.

The Peter Conover Farm may have housed 616 wounded in the farmhouse, barns and outbuildings. The surgeon was A.J. Ward. Eleven identified burials were recorded here, four of them Confederates. Recorded on an army voucher dated July 4, 1863, Peter Conover sold the US Government 75 gallons of milk and 510 pounds of meat used to feed the wounded in the hospital.

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The Henry Beitler Farm provided its farmhouse, barns and outbuildings for the wounded under surgeon A.J. Ward. An eyewitness reported amputations going on in the wagon shed at this property with the severed arms and legs being placed in the corncrib then hauled off by the wagonloads. In addition to being a hospital, the farm was also an encampment site for Hall's 5th Maine Battery on July 1 and 2, and was General Alfred Pleasonton's headquarters on July 2 and 3.

### Second Corps

The Jacob Schwartz Farm I served approximately 2,300 Union wounded and 1,000 Confederate wounded in the farmhouse, barns, and outbuildings and in hospital tents on the ridge behind the buildings. The surgeon was Justin Dwinell. This large hospital was in operation from July 3 to August 8, 1863. Approximately 500 burials were made on "Red Hill" also known as "Slaty Ridge," behind the buildings. The entire Second Corps used Red Hill or Slaty Ridge for their hospital until they removed to Camp Letterman in August. Burials were high on the ridge to the north of the buildings. Four hundred thirty seven patients died at this hospital, of whom 197 were Confederates.

### Third Corps

The Jacob Schwartz Farm II, held approximately 3,000 wounded in the farmhouse, barns and outbuildings. Thaddeus Hildreth was the surgeon.

The Daniel Sheaffer Farm, accommodated wounded in the farmhouse, barns and outbuildings. The surgeon was Thaddeus Hildreth. Damage claim records indicate that the Third and Twelfth corps of the Army of Potomac occupied the farm, then containing 69 acres. The claim also states that General Sickles was hospitalized here overnight, and there is some evidence that it was at the Sheaffer farm where his leg was amputated.

The Michael Fiscel Farm, although not in the district because its integrity has been compromised by the construction of a golf course, was also a Third Corps hospital through August 2, 1863. Approximately 186 burials were made on the property. Thaddeus Hildreth was the surgeon.

### Fifth Corps

The Jane Clapsaddle Farm served as a hospital until August 2, 1863. Wounded were kept in the house, barns and outbuildings. The surgeon was A.M. Clark.

The Fifth Corps also used the Lewis Bushman Farm and the Diener farm. Colonel Strong Vincent, and General Weed died from their injuries at the Lewis Bushman farm.

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## Sixth Corps

The John Trostle Farm was the site where 315 wounded from the Sixth Corp were treated in the farmhouse, barns and outbuildings. The surgeon was Cyrus N. Chamberlain. Records show that approximately 69 burials were made on the farm.

## Twelfth Corps

The George Bushman Farm served as a hospital for the Twelfth Corps from July 2 - August 5, 1863. Approximately 1,200 wounded were treated in the farmhouse, barns and outbuildings and in hospital tents in the surrounding fields. The surgeon was H. Earnest Goodman. (Only the portion of this hospital located east of US Route 15 is located in this district.)

The Rock Creek/White Run Union Hospital Complex meets Criterion A as representing this important phase of military history at Gettysburg and also as a record of health care practices as they pertain to military personnel. Nearly 10,000 men were treated within the boundaries of this complex, making it the largest concentrated area of treatment of battle wounds at Gettysburg. These hospital sites could also potentially meet National Register Criterion D for archaeological significance. However, no archaeological investigation has taken place to indicate what material may remain. The fact that the sites received such intensive usage for more than a month, and that burials and amputations took place at the hospital sites certainly indicated a likelihood for archaeological potential.

As a historic landscape, the hospital complex meets registration requirement because the terrain and agricultural usage remains intact. The natural features that contributed to the site's importance as location for a clustered group of hospitals are still present in a little altered setting.

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### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 550

#### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	1   8 Zone	3   1   1   8   0   0 Easting	4   4   0   7   9   4   0 Northing	3	1   8 Zone	3   1   3   1   8   0 Easting	4   4   0   6   7   4   0 Northing
2	1   8 Zone	3   1   2   7   6   0 Easting	4   4   0   5   4   8   0 Northing	4	1   8 Zone	3   1   0   5   4   0 Easting	4   4   0   5   4   8   0 Northing

See continuation sheet

#### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

#### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

### 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paula S. Reed, Ph.D., Architectural Historian and Thomas R. Lewis, Archaeologist  
organization Paula S. Reed and Associates, Inc. date 12/97, 4/98, 3/99, 12/99  
street & number 105 N. Potomac Street telephone 301-739-2070  
city or town Hagerstown state Maryland zip code 21740

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

#### Continuation Sheets

#### Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

#### Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

#### Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

### Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO)

name \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Paperwork Reduction Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et. seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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## UTM Coordinates

5) 18 309860 4406160

## Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundaries for the Rock Creek/White Run Union Hospital Complex are depicted on the enclosed scaled ( 1:400) tax map. The boundary follows Route 15 on the west, Littles Run and property boundaries on the south and property boundaries on the east and north. All property lines and tax parcel numbers are shown on Adams County Tax map G-15. Beginning at a point on the east edge of US Route 15 at an unnamed tributary of Rock Creek and extending in a northeasterly direction to the northern boundary line of Parcel # 4.

Following the north and east boundary lines of Tax Parcel # 4 to meet the north boundary line of Tax Parcel # 31 at or near the east bank of Rock Creek.

Follow the north boundary of parcel # 31 to the west edge of White Church Road.

Follow the west edge of White Church Road north to the south boundary of parcel # 12.

Follow the south boundary of Parcel #12, and the south then southwest boundary of parcel # 8 and # 7 to the northwest boundary of Parcel # 7.

Follow the northwest boundary of parcel # 7 northeast to the south edge of the Baltimore Pike.

Follow the south edge of the Baltimore Pike in a southeasterly direction to a point opposite the west boundary line of parcel # 14, just east of the intersection with White Church Road.

Follow the outline of Parcel # 14 until it returns to the Baltimore Pike.

Follow the south edge of the Baltimore Pike to the west boundary of Parcel # 35.

Follow the west boundary of Parcel # 35 in a southerly direction to its south boundary and continue with the south boundary east along the south boundaries of Parcels # 36 and 37 to the east

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boundary of Parcel # 37. Follow the east boundary north to the south edge of the Baltimore Pike to exclude Parcels # 35, 36 and 37 from the district.

Follow the Baltimore Pike southeast to a point opposite Parcel # 19's west boundary line to return to the north edge of the Baltimore Pike.

Cross the Baltimore Pike to the west boundary of Parcel # 38. Follow the west and south boundaries of Parcel # 38 and those of Parcel # 39 to the east boundary of Parcel # 33.

Follow the east boundary of Parcel # 33 to its south boundary, then follow the south boundary to the east boundary of Parcel # 54.

Follow the west boundary of Parcel 54 and the north boundary of Parcel 53 westerly to meet the east edge of White Church Road.

Follow the east edge of White Church Road north to a point opposite the north edge of Goulden Road.

Follow the north edge of Goulden Road in a westerly direction to the west boundary line of parcel # 56. Turn south along the west property line of Parcel # 56, then east along its south line to exclude it from the district.

Follow the east property line of Parcel # 46 to an unnamed tributary of Rock Creek. Follow the tributary in a westerly direction to meet Rock Creek.

Follow the east edge of Rock Creek north to a point opposite an unnamed tributary from the west. Follow the unnamed tributary in a westerly direction to the point of beginning.

## Boundary Justification:

The boundaries have been chosen to include the main concentration of hospital sites while excluding as much modern development as possible. The district has a barrier feature along its west side in the form of the US Route 15 bypass, a non-historic limited access highway. Other parts of the district's boundaries follow existing property lines, as shown on official county tax maps, and road edges. At the southwest side of the district, natural features (creeks) form the district's boundary. This latter boundary eliminates open farmland. The more ragged northern boundary has been drawn specifically to eliminate as much modern housing as possible.

ROCK CREEK / WHITE  
RUN UNION  
HOSPITAL COMPLEX

GETTYSBURG QUAD

ZONE 18

47°30"

A 311800 4407940

B 313180 4406740

C 312760 4405480

D 310540 4405480

E 309860 4406160

