

Internal Rating: NE

WEST VIRGINIA HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM

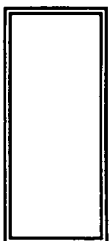
Street Address. Mill Creek District Mud Run Road, Purgitsville, West Virginia	Common/Historic Name/Both ☐ ☒ ☐ Kelley House	Field Survey # OLD FIELDS QUAD-RANGLE, WV	Site # (SHPO Only) HM-0122
Town or Community Purgitsville, WV	County Hampshire County	Negative No. #2	NR Listed Date Not Applicable
Architect/Builder Larkin C. Kelley	Date of Construction 1856 +	Style MID-19TH CENTURY	
Exterior Siding/Materials yellow pine shingles	Roofing Material tin	Foundation stone	
Property Use or Function Residence ☒ Commercial ☐ Other ☐	UTM # USGS Map Included	Photograph (2" x 3" Contact)	
Survey Organization & Date Quad Environmental Technologies 05/28/03	Quadrangle Name OLD FIELDS/GLENGARY		
	Part of What Survey/FR# N/A		

Sketch Map of Property
or Attach Copy of USGS Map

Copy of USGS Map included.

Kelley House: UTM 17 678729E 4345508N

Berkeley County Location: UTM 17 742752E
4368012N



Site No.

WEST VIRGINIA HISTORIC PROPERTY FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET

NAME Kelley House

SITE # _____



(Kelley House)

(Narrative Description)

The Kelley House is a single dwelling log house. The house dates from the 1850's. The 2 ½ story house is constructed of 6''x 8'' yellow pine hand-hewed logs. The dimensions of the structure are 16 feet by 28 feet. It was constructed in the West Virginia forest near pasture land and a stream. The stream is approximately 200 yards from the structure. The Kelley House is divided into four large rooms. Two rooms are on the second story. Two rooms are on the 1st story. An attic, which is approximately ½ stories, lies on the upper level. A stairway provides a link to the 2nd story from the hallway located in the center of the home. Each room is divided by yellow pine tung and groove paneling forming a wall. A closet lies under the stairs with an opening/door toward the back of the house (NW). A door opens in the front of the house (SE) toward the stairs and to the back of the house from the hallway. A door opens to a room to the left upon entering. A passageway opens to the right into a room containing a stone fireplace facing NE. Each bottom room has two windows: one in the back and one in the front of the room. The stairs have a railing.

An upstairs hall lies between the two upstairs rooms. A small passageway to the attic lies above the hall. At the end (SE) of the hall, a window opens to the front of the house. A closet with a door sits on the SE side of the hall opening toward the NE. A window lies in the front and back of the left room. A window lies in the front and side of the right room. A door opens to the outside of the right room suggesting the earlier existence of a porch or log two-story structure. Both upstairs rooms have windows in the SE and NW walls. However, only the NE room has a window on the NE side (i.e. the SW room has no SW window).

Yellow pine floorboards and ceiling boards are presently on the first and second story floors. Yellow pine paneling exists in all four rooms, which appear to be added at a later date.

The log house is sided with yellow pine shingles. The roof is protected by tin. A porch extends off the front of the house where a stairway extends down toward the ground. The entrance door to the house opens to the center of the porch. A roof protected by tin covers the porch. Four large wooden supports hold the porch roof.

A door exits the NW bottom room into the backyard. A rock foundation remains in this area suggesting that a log kitchen once stood there. A stone root cellar, which is approximately six feet high, supports the log house. The stones are approximately twelve inches wide and twenty-four inches long with a height of six to eighteen inches. The stone is limestone. Eight logs in the ceiling of the root cellar, approximately six inches in diameter, support the floor. The logs span the width of the log house. A door opens to the outside from the right of the root cellar. Two six-inch high windows open to the SE and NW walls.

It can be assumed that over the years the surrounding forest had been cleared for the log home, firewood, and pastureland. This clearing of the land has led to the present surroundings of the log house. The house SE door faces a pasture and dropping in elevation gradually to a stream is met.

David Pancake of the Hampshire County Historical Society (and Hampshire County Development Board) examined the home in December of 2002 (see receipt). He assessed the home to have been built in the 1850's. Based upon the deed search performed that would make the builder and owner to be Larkin C. Kelley. He purchased the land from Fredrick High on September 30, 1856 (Deed Book #50, pg. 320). On May 16, 1885, the property and Kelley House were sold to Joseph and James Kelley by the Special Commissioner Dailey (Deed Book #75, pg. 106). The Kelley House is in poor condition. It has undergone weather damage. The home must be disassembled, logs replaced, and the structure rebuilt. The shingles and tin must be replaced. The wood must be treated for fungus and insects to preserve the structure.

The past owners have permitted the removal of the log home by the end of June (see signed statement). This removal will preserve the Kelley House. The move is presently in progress. The shed and exterior attachments are being removed, as well as that of the siding and inside paneling. The house will be moved in components to Berkeley County, West Virginia (Hedgesville, WV). The location is a forested mountain area with a stream downhill in a valley approximately 150-200 feet away from the house. The historic and new sites are very similar with both facing a valley in a wooded mountainous area.

The new site borders Sleepy Creek Recreation Area. The new location is near Glengary Historic District in the Backcreek area. The Kelley House will be restored as close as possible to its original state. The wood shed is being reconstructed. The log kitchen will be added at a later date, as finances permit. Stonemasons will place the rock for the foundation (rock, logs, and paneling have been marked for the Kelley House can be reproduced as it was in the 1850's) to reproduce the root cellar, which is unique for this period. Likewise, the masons, using the labeled stones, will reproduce the fireplace.

In summary, the interior and exterior will look as they did in the 1850-60's. The only significant changes to the Kelley House will be that new treated logs and yellow pine siding will be used to replace that which has been damaged/destroyed.

(Kelley House)

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Distinctive Characteristics of a Type, Period, and Method of Construction

The Kelley House possesses a unique hand-cut stone root cellar of much larger proportions than was known during this period in time. The sandstone was cut in large blocks approximately 12 inches in width, 12 inches in height, and 24 inches in length. The pieces of stone were cut in a manner that they fit together in a similar way as a jigsaw puzzle does. Any gaps between the stones were filled with mortar. The dimensions of the root cellar are 16 feet wide by 28 feet long by 6 feet high. Two sets of windows are built in the SE and NW walls, parallel to each other. The bottom window seal is at ground level with the top seal sitting approximately 24 inches above. The time and effort needed to build this root cellar is very unique to West Virginia, especially to a West Virginia farm family. It is an example of a distinctive characteristic of a pre-civil war/civil war farmer's house, which must be preserved for future generations can appreciate the skilled workmanship occurring at a time when cranes, hydrologics, and power tools did not exist.

Association with Events that Have Made a Significant Contribution to the broad Patterns of our History

On December 5, 1791, the Commonwealth of Virginia granted land to Andrew Woodrow (Wodrow) and his wife Mary Ann Wilson. This land (400 acres) by Patterson Creek and Mud Run was sold to John Plumb and Rachel on April 10, 1793 for 10 pounds of Virginia currency (Deed Book #9, pg. 110). The 363 acres, which was the draining of the Patterson Creek and Mud Run, was sold to John Shoaf and Elizabeth for 35 pounds of Virginia currency (Deed Book #13, pg. 307) on July 18, 1803. On October 13, 1814, 363 acres was sold to Fredrick S. High and Heurietta (heirs of Patrick Kelly and Aurie) via James Dailey, John McDowell, and William Tayler for \$1,089.00 US (Deed Book #18, pg.489).

The land by Muddy Run, which was a drain of Mill Creek, was sold to Larkin C. Kelley of Virginia for \$85.00 US on September 30, 1856. The Hampshire County Tax Assessor dates the Kelley House as being constructed in 1850. Based upon a historical examination and inspection by David Pancake of Hampshire County Development Board and Hampshire County Historical Society, the Kelley House was built in the 1850's. This assessment was based upon the construction of the fireplace, root cellar, doors, and the door handles. This agrees with *Historic Hampshire* by Selden W. Brannon (1976), Hampshire County American Revolution Bicentennial, Inc. This book states that the thriving trading village, Purgitsville-Mill Creek Valley, had an early family homestead of Kelly (Kelley). The names Kelly and Kelley have been used interchangeably for the same family in the written history of the area. It is assumed that the Kelley (Kelly) family of Purgitsville is an original homesteading family. Correlating between the Deed

Search, the historical assessment, and *Historical Hampshire's* record of history, it is almost certain that the Larkin Kelley family built the Kelley House in the late 1850's.

After Larkin Kelley past away, his 360 acre Mill Creek estate was sold on May 16, 1885 to Joseph & James Kelley to pay a bank debt. In 1900, the property was transferred to Joseph A. Kelley and Mary M. of Hampshire County, West Virginia by R.W. Dailey, Jr., special commissioner (Deed Book #75, pg. 106). In June of 1908, 350 acres was sold to Louis Batie of Mineral County, West Virginia for \$2,500 (Deed Book #79, pg. 188). An unanswered question is how Joseph A. Kelley, veteran of the Virginia cavalry, took possession of the property when the West Virginia constitution stated that all who fought for the confederacy could not own land in West Virginia?

The Census of 1850 lists the three Kelley families in Mineral County (prior to the creation of Hampshire County). Larkin C. Kelley (farmer) was married in 1828 by surety (Marriage Bonds of Hampshire County, Virginia). The Larkin Kelley family consisted of Larkin (42), Frances (32), Sarah (12), Eveline (10), Patrick (9), Joseph (7), William (5), Jasper (3), and Thomas (1/12). [A Thomas (15) exists in the James Kelley from Ireland (Laborer) family]. The Census of 1860 of Hampshire County lists the Larkin C. Kelley family. At this time, the Larkin family consists of Larkin (53)-farmer, Frances (42), Eveline E. (20), Patrick (18)-farmer, Joseph (17)-farmer, William (15), Thomas I. (10), Hannah C. (8), James H. (5), and George W. (3).

The Census of 1860 lists the real value of Larkin Kelley to be \$2,500.00 and personal value to be \$590.00. Comparing the Larkin family listing of 1850 with that of 1860, it can be concluded that Sarah was married and moved away. Also, it appears that Jasper, who would have been 13 years old, past away during this 10-year period.

Joseph A. Kelley was a confederate cavalry soldier in Company D 11th Virginia Calvary of the Confederate States of America. He was born in 1844 and died on March 25, 1922. His brothers, John T. and Patrick fought in this 7th Virginia Calvary (1861) Company F of Romney, West Virginia. Patrick was wounded near Berryville, Virginia. The brother, Thomas fought in the confederate 13th Virginia volunteer infantry, 'Frontier Rifles' which was a Hampshire County Company, 1861. Brother, William C. was a private in Company H of the 10th West Virginia Volunteer Infantry (Philippi, 22). He was mustered at Buckhannon on May 8, 1862 and died on June 14, 1864 of disease. Brother, Jasper was a private in Company H of the 10th West Virginia Volunteer Infantry (Winchester, 23). He was mustered on August 22, 1863 and killed July 24, 1864 at Winchester.

The 1865 Society of the Confederate Soldiers of Hampshire County lists confederate soldiers between 1861-1865. Both Thomas and Joseph Kelly (Kelley) are listed. Joseph Kelly (Kelley) enrolled as an ex-confederate soldier on September 5, 1883. Joseph A. Kelley received the Cross of Honor on Wednesday June 3, 1903 from the Confederate Veterans of Hampshire County.

Conclusion

Hampshire County and neighboring counties (i.e. Berkeley County) remained rural, agricultural areas after the civil war. Due to federal politics Hampshire County became part of the state of West Virginia. The county was linked to the Shenandoah Valley with a colonial heritage providing the people with strong ties to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

During the Civil War, "Stonewall" Jackson had an early campaign in the county to cut the union government's transportation link to the western states along the Potomac River, which was Hampshire County's northern boundary. In fact Romney changed hands 56 times during the Civil War. In 1863, the Ringgold Calvary (union) ambushed the McNeill Rangers in Purgitsville-Mill Creek Valley. In fact Hampshire County had thirteen confederate companies and one union company. On September 26, 1867, Hampshire County's citizens dedicated a confederate memorial in Indian Mound Cemetery in Romney.

The Kelley House is an example of the importance of the West Virginia family. The strong architecture existed in the turbulent times of the period, which was known as the War Between the States. The large stone root cellar, which is very unusual for West Virginia, was built with much effort and time. It forms a solid foundation for the large log house and a large family of ten. The Kelley House is strong and bold! The Kelley House supported a "West Virginia Home" when a "West Virginia Family" needed a "Home", the most. Children of the Kelleys were born, married off, died young, housed the wounded, and had perished in a conflict that would forever change the United States of America and lead to the creation of the State of West Virginia. The Kelley House is as much a symbol to the importance of the family to West Virginians, as it is an example of the building methods of the Civil War era.

The people of West Virginia that are most significant, but often forgotten, are those that worked with their hands to keep the towns and soldiers fed, clothed, sheltered, and provisioned. Often the lives of the "commoners" are forgotten or overlooked in favor of the politicians, wealthy, and/or aristocrats. The Kelley House is an example of how the "commoners" of West Virginia lived. It is of utmost importance that the People of West Virginia and the United States know how "commoners" lived in the past to be able to appreciate the quality of life West Virginians have today.

(Kelley House)

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the Kelley House and its Hampshire County "yard" can be stated in general terms. The "yard" extends 50 yards to the back (NE) of the home where it touches the forest of the mountain slope. Toward the front (SE) of the home, the "yard" extends to a dirt road 10 yards down a gentle slope. Further than the road, a significant downward slope extends 200 yards through a pasture to a stream. On the NW side of the home, the "yard" extends uphill 10 yards, then drops significantly downward through a grass/wood area. On the SW side of the home, the "yard" extends very slightly upward for 100 yards through a grassed area. An outhouse lies on the far side of this grassed area.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the Kelley House were chosen to properly describe an 1850's living environment. The boundary includes all the needed support entities; i.e. outhouse, water, etc. The boundaries of the Berkeley County site are very similar. The house will be oriented in a similar manner; i.e. SE-NE. The "yard" will include more woods than presently exist at the Hampshire County site. However, it was believed that in the 1850's/60's many more trees existed at the Hampshire County site. In particular, since the Kelley House is constructed of yellow pine logs, it is reasonable to assume that yellow pines occupied the Kelley House's yard. Presently, hard wood trees lie toward the back (NE) of the Kelley House. Virginia pine and hard wood trees occupy the Berkeley County site. The Berkeley County site includes a stream approximately 200 yards down a slope. An outhouse (non-working) will be placed at the Berkeley County site at a later time. Like the Hampshire County site, the Berkeley County site has a pasture approximately 200 yards from the house site.