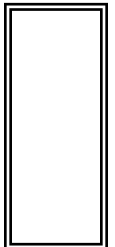




WEST VIRGINIA HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM

Street Address Box 12 A South Branch River Road	Common/Historic Name/Both ☐ ☒ ☐ Fort Kuykendall	Field Survey # HM-1284	Site # (SHPO Only) HM-1284 same as HM-0083
Town or Community Romney vicinity	County Hampshire	Negative No. WV_HampshireCounty_HM-1284.tif	NR Listed Date
Architect/Builder Kuykendall, John	Date of Construction 1754	Style Log fortress	
Exterior Siding/Materials Lapped wood over logs	Roofing Material Metal	Foundation Stone	
Property Use or Function Residence ☒ Commercial ☐ Other ☐	NAD83 UTM# 17S 0688189E/4348817N		
Survey Organization & Date Rasmussen and Rasmussen Fall 2010	Quadrangle Name Romney		
	Part of What Survey Hampshire County, Phase III		

Sketch Map of Property
Or Attach Copy of USGS Map



Site No.

Present Owners Hicks, John Phone #	Owners Mailing Address
Describe Setting Large original land grant to John Kuykendall along the South Branch River. Lot 7 of the Fairfax South Branch River Survey, conveyed to Kuykendall by Thomas Lord Fairfax on June 15, 1749. It was the site of two armed exchanges with Indians and served as a publicly supported fortress during the colonial Indian Wars and the French and Indian War. 400___ Acres _X_ Artifacts	
Present 	
Description of Building or Site (Original and Present) 2 Stories 5 Front Bays This building has evolved in four iterations, the first being the original fort, the second being a settler's cabin that was attached to the fort, an 1840 addition, and a 1987 kitchen addition. There are many outbuildings including an original slave dwelling. The original fort was a two story log house surrounded by a stockade and was centrally located on the broad bottom lands. It was built and used by the several Kuykendall families who settled there after 1749. <u>See continuation sheets</u>	
Alterations ☐ Yes ☒ No	
Additions ☒ Yes ☐ No Only the 1987 addition is not historic	
Describe All Outbuildings Multiple barns, two of which are derelict and are being torn down. <i>(Use Continuation Sheets)</i>	
Statement of Significance This building offers much information about settlement patterns, building styles and life ways of more than 250 years along the South Branch River. The fort and its activities are well documented in the public records and historical accounts. Individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. <i>(Use Continuation Sheets)</i>	
Bibliographical References Ansel, William H. Jr. 1984. <i>Frontier Forts Along the Potomac and its Tributaries</i> , Parsons: McClain Printing Co. <i>(Use Continuation Sheets)</i>	
Form Prepared By: Barbara Rasmussen Date: December 1, 2010 Address: 224 Wilson Avenue, Morgantown, WV 26501 Phone #: (304) 292 7652	



West Virginia Division of Culture and History
State Historic Preservation Office

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WEST VIRGINIA HISTORIC PROPERTY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

NAME Fort Kuykendall HM-1284



Camera looking west



Camera looking north



Camera looking southeast

DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE & HISTORY
THE CULTURAL CENTER
CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25305

RATING ~~CENTER~~
CONTEXT ~~1000~~

NE

UTM Ref:

USGS Quad:

Neg No(s):

Theme(s):

File No:

DISTRICT...SITE...BUILDING...STRUCTURE...OBJECT

~~HM-86~~

1. NAME(S), historic/common: John Kuykendall House/
Breakneck Farm
2. LOCATION, street/road: 1000' west of River Road
6 miles south of Romney
city/town: Romney, WV
(incorporated/unincorporated)

HM-0083
same as HM-1284

3. USE/FUNCTION, present: Abandoned
original: Settlers' home/Fort (?)
4. OWNER/ADDRESS, present: John I. Pancake Estate
Romney, WV
original: John Kuykendall

(public/private,
restricted)

(public/private)

5. PHOTO/SKETCH OF:

7. PLAN (include approx. dimensions):

Attached

6. LOCALE/ENVIRONMENT(map):

No. 7 on map

8. ACREAGE (approx):

400 acres

COUNTY: HAMPSHIRE

Survey Region:	_____
Planning District:	_____

~~HM-86~~

a. Exterior Fabric

stone _____
 brick _____
 concrete _____
 stucco _____
 weatherboard X beaded & plain
 clapboard _____
 board & batten _____
 shingle _____
 other _____

b. Structural System

masonry _____
 frame _____
 log X 3 bldgs. of old
 meta' wing.
 other Newer south wing
c. 1840 mort. & tenoned
heavy frame.
 foundation Stone, cellar
under part

c. Roofing Material

wood _____
 metal X standing seam
 slate _____
 tile _____
 asphalt _____
 composition _____
 other _____

d. Associated Structures (usetype):

outbuildings _____
 dependencies _____
 other Kuykendall tombstones (cem.?)
1000' s.e. of house
Pancake family cem. 1700'
s.e. of house

e. Integrity (include dates):

original site/relocated Orig. exc. north rm.
which may be a relocated strc.
 alterations House consists of 3 joined
together log structures & a
fourth frame one, the latter
 additions joined to the others by a
2 story porch. None of the
four appear contemporaneous.

f. Condition:

excellent _____
 good _____
 fair _____
 deteriorated X
 abandoned _____

g. Threats: Maintenance neglect

10. SIGNIFICANCE (use additional sheet if necessary):

a. Architect/Builder/Engineer:

b. Style/Period: Farmhouse
 c. Date(s): 1750's (?)
to 1840

11. BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Interview with John W. Pancake

Brannon, S. W. (Ed.). Historic Hampshire. Parsons, WV: McClain, 1976

12. FORM PREPARED BY Eugene Williams **EUGENE H. WILLIAMS** DATE 9-84
 a. Address 92 RIVER ROAD
 b. Organization ROMNEY, WEST VA. 26757

WEST VIRGINIA HISTORIC PROPERTY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET

NAME J. Rykendall Hse
(Breakfast Farm)

SITE # HM-87 HM-0083



John Kuykendall House

John Kuykendall was the original grantee of this land, in 1749, from Lord Fairfax. During the French and Indian War in 1756, then Colonel George Washington ordered a detachment to John Kuykendall's. Washington referred to "Kuykendall's fort" in other war-time communications.

From existing evidence it cannot be said with certainty whether the present house is on the location of Fort Kuykendall. The fort may have been an adaptation of John Kuykendall's original home, and may make up part of what now stands.

The only complete log building is two stories high with logs carefully hewn to approximately 6" x 12" and joined with a complex, well-executed dovetail.* This section was remodeled and reroofed when the south wing was built, circa 1840.

Attached to the north end of the two-story log house are two one-story log buildings, neither of which has a south wall. Apparently these both were altered at time of connection, but a sequence is hard to establish.

The central log house is built over a partial basement and around a stone chimney, and would appear to be on its original site. While its corner joints are not visible, its original rafters are. They are hewn square, lapped and pinned at the ridge, and have crudely-joined horizontal binders.

The north-most log room appears to be only half of a house, possibly relocated. Its joists, half of them stubs, bear on a central log beam. It has no old rafters and its logs are concealed by modern siding.

The south wing, circa 1840, is a post-and-beam structure. Its walls are filled with mud and board ends.* Its interior is original and consists of two rooms and large hallway with staircase. The wood trim is Greek revival, closely related to that of Sycamore Dale-an 1839 house five miles to the North. The rafters in the Kuykendall south wing are peeled pine rounds, nailed to a ridge board.

This house has strong ties to the settlement and French and Indian War periods, but lacks solid evidence to identify and date its earliest part. If a restoration occurs, many questions could be answered.

The south wing is one of the latest of the post-and-beam structures in this survey. It is the site where, according to family history, escaped Confederate Lt. John Blue assumed another's identity when Union troops searched the house. .

*see detail photo