

ADDENDUM TO:  
JOSEPH SHERRICK FARM  
Antietam National Battlefield  
Burnside Bridge Road (Rural Route 1)  
Sharpsburg vicinity  
Washington County  
Maryland

HABS No. MD-935

HABS  
MD  
22-SHARP.V,  
3-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C St. NW  
Washington, DC 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

SHERRICK, JOSEPH, FARM HABS NO. MD-935

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3-

Location: Antietam National Park, Burnside Bridge Rd., Sharpsburg Vicinity, Washington County, Maryland

Significance: The significance of the Sherrick Farm lies in its association with The Civil War Battle of Antietam Creek as well as its value as a relatively pristine example of early nineteenth century architecture.

Description: The house is situated on the northeast corner of Branch Avenue and Burnside Bridge Road. The two-story, five-bay rectangular brick structure rests on a high two-story cellar, the bottom of which contains a spring. Like several other more elaborate homes in this region, the Sherrick house is constructed with Flemish bond on the front elevation only. Common bond is used on the rear and side walls. The main entrance is located on the west facade and is covered by wood, two columned Doric portico with a balustrade. The veranda, along the main floor on the south wall, is supported on piers at the cellar level over the spring. This is due to the sloping grade on which the house is situated. Six-over-six-light sash windows are situated below the hipped roof which is broken by two interior brick chimneys on the north and south walls. The north chimneys rise higher in the roof.

On a whitewashed stone base, the smokehouse is a brick one-and-one-half story structure. Ventilation for the attic is provided by diamond shaped patterns in the gables and a small attic window located over the door. The first floor has a window on each side and a fireplace in the rear wall. The roof is gabled with wood shingles.

History: The Sherrick Farm was first purchased in 1796 and remained in the Sherrick family until 1905. According to the National Register of Historic Places, the house was constructed ca. 1830. From the original deed, evidence suggests that the smokehouse existed prior to the 1796 purchase and therefore was built by its first owner, Henry Orndorff, one of the early settlers of the Valley. Heavy fighting occurred around the grounds of the house although the house received only minor damage

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After the battle, the house was occupied by Federal troops and used as a hospital. Today the Sherrick House remains essentially as it was in 1862. Some restoration occurred in 1970, primarily to the deteriorating brick of the Smoke House. The barn was burned in 1985.

Sources: Antietam National Battlefield Site, National Register of Historic Places nomination form, 1981

Antietam National Battlefield Site, Historic Structures Report, by Francis F. Wilshin, Division of History, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation.

Historian: Martha V. Wagner  
HABS  
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