

MOORE HOMESTEAD, HOUSE
.1 miles south of the intersection of State
Route 16 and Stewart's Run Road
Harrisville
Ritchie County
West Virginia

HABS No. WV-295-A

HABS
WVA
43-HARVL,
1A-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

National Park Service
Northeast Region
Philadelphia Support Office
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

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Location: .1 mile South of the intersection of State Route 16 and Stewart's Run Road. Harrisville, Ritchie County, West Virginia

USGS: Harrisville, West Virginia Quadrangle
UTM: 17.496880.4342700

Present Owner: Little Kanawha Soil Conservation District
Route 5 Box 1000
Parkersburg, West Virginia

Present Use: Vacant

Significance: This two-story frame residence is constructed in a Vernacular Victorian style and represents a typical circa 1900 rural residence. At the time of this project the house was vacant but in good condition. The house retains a great deal of historic fabric and integrity.

Historical Information

1. Date of construction: The two-story frame house located at the Moore Homestead was constructed in 1905. A tax assessment in October 1905 shows a \$250 increase in the value of the buildings on the homestead.
2. Architect: Not known.
3. Builder, contractor, suppliers: Unknown.
4. Original plans and construction: No plans or other construction details survive.
5. Alterations and additions: The two-story rear addition dates from the 1930s.

Descriptive Information

A. General Statement

1. The Moore Homestead consists of a circa 1905 Folk Victorian house, wash house, and barn. The residence is a two-story five bay I-Style house with a two-story addition on the rear. The side-gabled house has a full front porch with six equally spaced turned posts and spindle work brackets. It is covered with weatherboard siding and has a moderately pitched standing-seam metal roof. A two-story addition is flush with the north facade and forms an L-plan. Two bays are centered on the addition. A single-story shed roof addition has been added for a kitchen on the south side of the L. A bathroom addition with a shed roof is connected to the ell behind the kitchen. A mud room addition has been added to the rear of the L. At the time of this report, the house was in good condition and retained much of its historic fabric and integrity.

2. Condition of Fabric: The house appears to be in good structural condition.

B. Description of Exterior

1. Overall dimensions: The residence is asymmetrically massed with the north elevation measuring 36 feet, the south elevation measuring 22 feet, 6 inches, the east elevation measuring 19 feet, 3 inches, and the west elevation measuring 32 feet. There is a porch on the west [front] elevation that measures 6 feet, 10 inches by 28 feet, 8 inches and a backroom/mudroom addition on the east [rear] elevation that measures 15 feet, 3 inches by 6 feet, 7 inches.

2. Foundation: The foundation of the older section of the house is rusticated block. The newer additions of the house also use a rusticated block, but of a more modern variety.

3. Walls: The exterior of the house has lap clapboard siding.

4. Structural systems: Unknown

5. Porches:

a. Front Porch: The house has a full front porch with six equally-spaced turned posts and spindle work brackets covered with a standing-seam metal roof.

b. Kitchen Porch: The kitchen entry porch has a hipped metal roof and a single square support post.

6. Chimneys: The residence has two chimneys.

7. Openings:

a. Front facade: Four symmetrical windows and the front-door are found on the first story. A transom window with six lights is found above the front door and the first-story windows have two-over-two lights in double-hung wood sashes. The second story has four windows that follow the configuration found on the first floor. The second story configuration is unique in that there is no central window above the front door.

b. L-Addition: Two bays are centered on the north facade of the i-addition, The windows have two-over-two lights in doublehung wood sashes.

c. Kitchen: A four-panel door and a one-over-one light double-hung window are found on the south side of the kitchen addition.

d. Backroom/Mudroom Addition: Two fixed windows are on the rear facade, and a four-panel entry door is found on the south side of this edition.

e. Second story bedroom: Three double-hung two-over-two light wood sash windows are found on the second story on the rear of the homestead. These windows are similar to the other residence windows with the same configuration,

8. Roof:

a. Shape, covering: The house has a standing-seam metal roof that is moderately pitched with an intersecting gable on the two-story ell addition. Three shed roof additions are found on the rear of the house.

b. Cornice and eaves: The rake and eaves have plain fascia and soffit and a plain frieze extends from the soffit to the top of the window casing trim. The corner trim of the house is capped with a cornice trim detail.

C. Description of Interior

1. The earliest part of the Moore Homestead house interior is of modest Folk Victorian styling and reflects the historic development of the homestead. At the time of inspection the interior retained much of its historical detailing. On the first floor is a living room, front room, dining room, kitchen, bathroom, and a back room. Three bedrooms are found on the second floor. The two-story ell addition reflects a later vernacular style. The shed roof additions are the most recent additions most likely added circa 1940s-50s.

2. Living Room: Entry from the front door is through the living room. The stairs to the second story separate the living room on the left and the front room to the right. The living room's main feature is the Vernacular Victorian fireplace opposite the stairs on the exterior wall. The wooden fireplace mantel has a jagged fascia and square pilaster columns create the vertical elements. The column capitals are made from door casing trim found throughout the homestead. Closets are found to the right and left of the fireplace. The closet doors and the door to the front room have four panels with the upper panels approximately twice as long as the lower ones. The door casing has two centered rounded beads and extends to the floor. The upper corners have bulls-eye corner blocks. Two sash windows from the front facade are found in the living room and have similar trim to the closet doors. The bulls-eye corner blocks and window casing are the same style, and the rounded window stool and apron for the windows are squared on the ends and are even with the window casing. The stairs to the second floor have an open stringer, rounded treads, and a boxed newell with a stepped pyramid cap. The banister has square balusters with angled trim at their base. A rounded arched doorway with plain trim connects the living room to the dining room at the rear of the homestead.

3. Front Room: The front room is found to the right of the front door and steps to the second floor. It has two windows on the front facade, one window to the rear of the house, and an interior closet. The door in the front room has the same trim packages that are found in the living room, while the windows have plain casing across the top and a detailed apron.

4. Dining Room: The dining room, which links the living room, kitchen, bathroom, and back room, is part of the two-story ell. Later additions to the house were attached to the dining room. The bathroom addition has a modern tub-shower combination and toilet. Two windows on the north facade provide a great deal of light for the room. The window casing in the living room is squared with a rounded window stool.

5. Kitchen: The kitchen for the homestead is found in the earliest shed-roofed addition. The back door enters through the kitchen on the south facade. Two wooden cabinets with two

hinged doors are located on both sides of a centered window that is set in a plain casing with a squared cap molding. Three rounded shelves are found on both sides of the window. The kitchen cabinets most likely date to the 1930s-40s. Two curved brackets soften the transition from the ceiling to the upper corners of the hanging cabinets. The double-tub enameled sink is recessed in a green counter top with stainless steel trim. Directly under the sink is a pair of hinged cabinets, Continuous base cabinets are centered under the window and sink. To the right are a set of four drawers with half-moon handles; to the far right are two hinged cabinet doors topped with a drawer that extends the full length of the unit. To the left is found a second four-drawer set and a two-door hinged cabinet with a full-length drawer.

6. Back Room: The back room appears to be the most recent addition to the homestead, The room has panel walls, square fixed-panel windows, and an exterior door. The room may have been used as a mud room.

7. Second Story and Southeast Bedroom: Three bedrooms are found on the second story of the Moore Homestead. The stairway window leading to the upstairs has bulls-eye corner blocks like those found in the living room, but the casing is plain with a slightly rounded edge. The window apron board also has a halfround molding detail on the bottom edge. The southeast corner bedroom has a four-panel door and two windows on the front facade. The door panel configuration is similar to the other doors in the house, except the panels are flat and not raised and beveled as found throughout the house. The door casing surrounding the door is plain with square corners. The horizontal casing at the top extends one-half inch beyond the vertical casing. Window trim in this room is the same as the exterior windows found in the living room.

8. Northeast Bedrooms: The northeast bedroom has two double-hung sash windows that extend to the baseboard trim, The casing for the window and doors are squared. Two closets have six beveled horizontal panels. An attached bedroom is found in the western corner of the house. This bedroom has three doublehung sash windows with plain squared trim. A closet with a four-panel door is found to the rear of the room.

9. Northwest Bedroom: Three windows are found in the bedroom in the northwest corner of the residence. Windows have two-over-two double hung sashes and extend to the top of the room baseboard. The door to the room has four panels, and the casing for the door and windows are squared and plain.

D. Site:

1. The Moore Homestead is located on a flat plain adjacent to Stewart Run and flanked by steep hillsides to the north, east, and west. Stewart Run is a perennial run that transverses the homestead lot and empties into the North Fork of the Hughes River. The homestead site is bordered to the North by Stewart's Run Road (County Road 16/9). An unnamed drainage parallels Stewart Run Road to the south and empties into Stewart's Run on the homestead site to

provide a physical barrier. All of the structures found on the homestead are located to the south of this drainage. The flat plain along Stewart Run continues to the south beyond the Moore Homestead property line. West Virginia State Route 16 provides the western boundary to the homestead. The house, barn, and washhouse are located in a sharp curve of the road caused by steep hills to the west.

Sources of Information

Cochran, Wes, Martha Metz, Linda Camp. *Ritchie County Census 1860*. Parkersburg, W.Va.: Wes Cochran.

Cochran, Wes. *Ritchie County Census 1900*. Parkersburg, W.Va.: Wes Cochran, 1992.

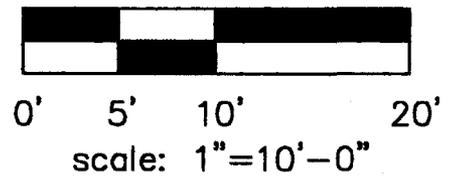
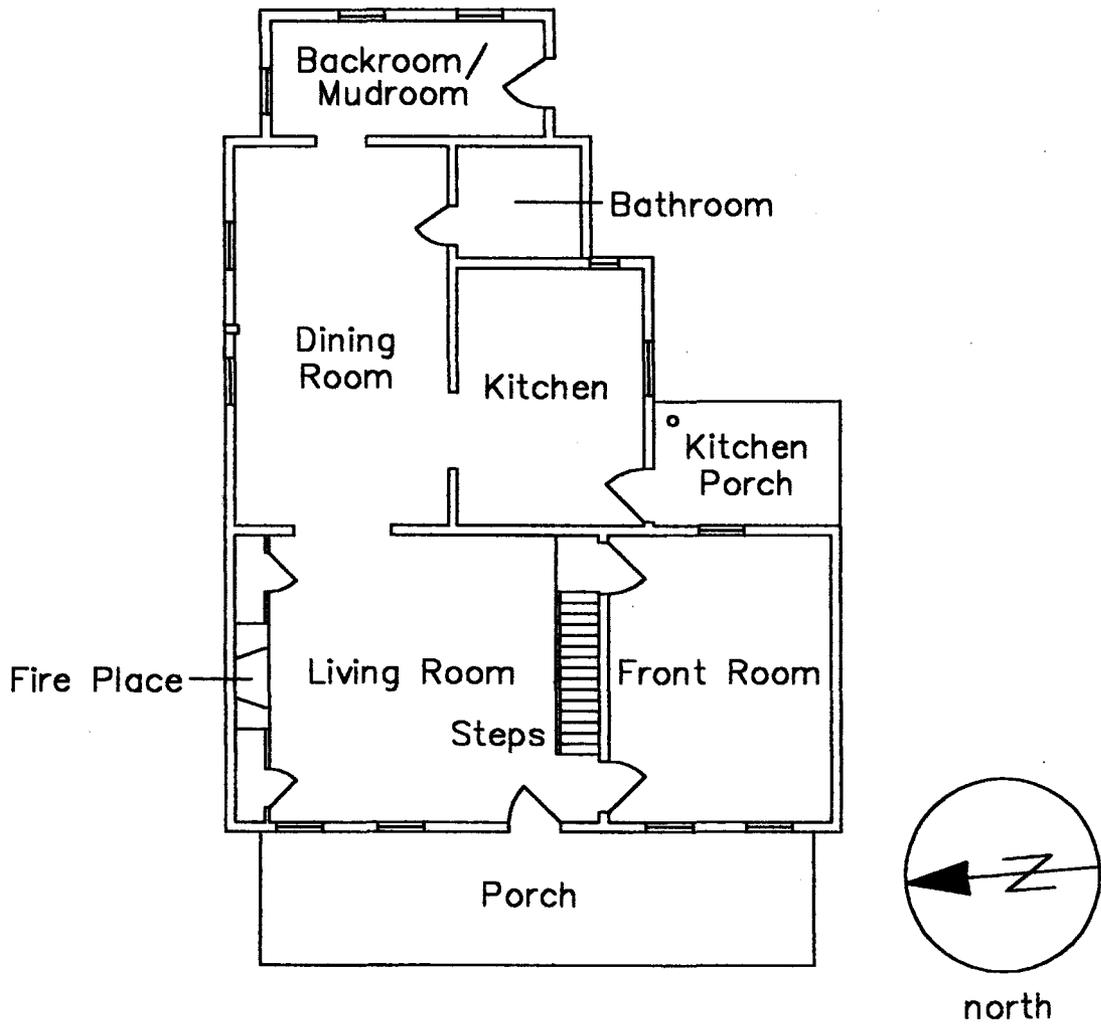
Gray & Pape, Inc. *Phase II Cultural Resources Investigations on the North Fork Hughes River, Ritchie County, West Virginia*, Volumes I, II, and III. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 1995.

Project Information

This homestead is part of a larger mitigation study undertaken at the behest of the Natural Resources Conservation Service in connection with their projected reservoir scheme. Since this structure will be below the 100 year flood level and has been declared historically significant, site recording was a necessary mitigation. This structure is expected to be demolished.

Bryan Ward, Historian
Past & Present
The Kemp Group, Inc.
April 1998

First Floor Plan



Second Floor Plan
and Roof Plan

