

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Hedges, Samuel, House

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

County Route 9/10 (Mountain Road)

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Hedgesville

 VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Second

STATE

West Virginia

CODE

54

COUNTY  
Berkeley

CODE

003

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

H.P. Thorn Heirs (Mrs. Nell Thorn Baynham, et al)

STREET &amp; NUMBER

111 S. Raleigh Street

CITY, TOWN

Martinsburg

 VICINITY OF

STATE

West Virginia

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Berkeley County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

King and Queen Streets

CITY, TOWN

Martinsburg

STATE

West Virginia

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Berkeley County Historical Society and Berkeley County Historical Landmarks  
Commission Survey

DATE

1973-1974

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Berkeley County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Martinsburg

STATE

West Virginia

# DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

EXCELLENT

GOOD

FAIR

DETERIORATED

RUINS

UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED

ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE

MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Samuel Hedges House is an "L"-shaped, three-bay farmhouse; the original main block (34' 4" x 22' 2") is of a coursed rubble (largely native limestone) and the later ell is a weatherboarded frame addition. Except for the irregular fenestration of the raised basement, the front (south) elevation of the two-story structure is symmetrical, with a central door and two 9/6 windows on the main floor and three 6/6 windows on the second. The gabled roof has two large stone interior end chimneys symmetrically placed at the ridge of the main block and a smaller brick chimney on the ell.

The pedimented entrance porch (almost certainly not original) is supported by two narrow, free-standing and two engaged Roman Doric columns; steps leading from the ground to the raised porch are no longer extant. A two-tiered porch extends the length of the east side of the ell, providing a rear entrance to the stone section on both levels.

The basic plan of the original block is a central hall separating two rooms. A single fireplace is found in the west first-floor room, but the east room, with twin fireplaces, has had a dividing partition at one time. Two rooms placed laterally in the ell have fireplaces on their common wall. The large fireplace in the west end of the basement indicates that this part of the stone house may have been the original kitchen. The plan of the second floor basically follows that of the first, except for a partitioning of the east room in the stone unit.

The original part of the house was apparently built by Samuel Hedges shortly after his acquisition of the property from his father in 1772. The rear ell was added by his kinsman, Thomas Van Metre, during the 1850s. It seems that few changes have been made since that time.

A coursed-rubble, 1½-story outbuilding which may have served as a dairy (where milk and milk products were stored near a spring or well) is to the south-east of the entrance front. This building possibly dates from the time of the main stone house, and is still in rather good condition. A deteriorating log smokehouse is found to the west of the ell.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1772

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Samuel Hedges House is an example of the typical farmhouse which was constructed in the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia prior to the commencement of the nineteenth century. High and narrow and built of native limestone, it is indicative of the evolution of the early settlers, for the influx of the period 1735-1760 had become established enough by the time of the Revolutionary War to have a decent farm of cleared land and a substantial house of a more permanent nature than the first log dwellings.

By the beginning of the eighteenth century, pressures were growing for the exploration, opening and development of the interior areas of the American colonies. The vast expanses of Virginia's claims to the west were a lure to many, and treks of the adventurer in search of trade and the unknown had been giving way more and more to those who would clear the land, farm, raise families and go about their living. The Northern Neck proprietary, which included today's Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia, was no exception, and by the 1740s the area witnessed an earnest settlement. Controversies over the issuance and acceptance of land grants and patents to the contrary, there were enough settlers by the 1750s to warrant the creation of a number of concentrations of farms and the erection of several forts for protection during the French and Indian War.

Joshua Hedges was among the first group of permanent homesteaders to enter what is now Berkeley County, West Virginia. Included in his land holdings prior to the conflict of the 1750s and 1760s was a 1020 acre tract along Tulissus Branch at the foot of North Mountain. This area had been purchased in 1743 for the sum of £46 from Morgan Bryan, and it was a grant in conflict with Lord Fairfax and his proprietary claims. At least 200 acres of this land was sold to Joshua's son, Samuel, in 1772, and it was on this plot that the latter soon built his substantial stone farmhouse.

The Hedges who settled near North Mountain were not among the largest landholders, the most prosperous economically, or the social or political elite of the area, but they, like the majority of settlers, were of the hearty stock who carved out farms and slowly came to be the backbone of new communities. Their name soon permeated the activities of these foothills, however, and Fort Hedges was among the list of small stockades constructed prior to the French and Indian War for protection against Indian raiders. Hedgesville, located at the gap of North Mountain where Fort Hedges and Hedges Chapel were known as landmarks for generations, was platted in 1830, established in 1836 and incorporated in 1854. It was founded by Josiah Hedges, son of Samuel.

The rolling farmland along Tulissus Branch was apparently a family stock operation, for the most part, under the hand of Samuel. The native limestone house he built consisted of an open basement in which was located a large fireplace on the west wall, probably the area which served as the kitchen. On the two main floors were a central hall with a large room to either side. These rooms may have been partitioned at times, as is evidenced by an existing separation in the east room of

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE one

8. SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

the second floor and indications of one on that side of the first floor. The outbuildings, especially the dairy or springhouse, show that the operation must have included dairy cattle.

Samuel continued here, with a brief interruption for service during the Revolutionary War, until his death, when the property was willed to his fourth son. Since that time, there have been several families in ownership, and the frame rear section of the house was added by the Van Metre inhabitants around 1850.

Although the building has deteriorated over the years, there is renewed effort at stabilization and restoration today. Once again the house serves as a farm residence, and the land once owned by Samuel Hedges is continuing in the same purpose for which it was settled more than 200 years ago.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (continued)

\_\_\_\_\_. "Settlement of the Town of Hedgesville," The Berkeley Journal, Issue Three (1974), 73-95.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Doherty, William T. Berkeley County, U.S.A. Parsons, W.Va.: McClain Printing Co., 1972. (pp. 1-30)  
 Martinsburg, W.Va. Berkeley County Courthouse. Deed Books 1, 47, 49, 61, 111, 169. Will Books 7, 22, 27. Land Book 1827.  
 Wood, Don C. "The Early Hedges, Their Land and Homes," The Berkeley Journal, Issue Three (1974), 48-72.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 8	2, 4, 2, 3, <sup>2</sup> 0	4, 3, 7, 9, 4, 4, 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

# LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE: James E. Harding, Research Analyst

ORGANIZATION: West Virginia Antiquities Commission DATE: May 14, 1976

STREET & NUMBER: P.O. Box 630 TELEPHONE: (304) 296-1791

CITY OR TOWN: Morgantown STATE: West Virginia

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:  
 NATIONAL  STATE  LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE: Leonard M. Lewis DATE: September 13, 1976

TITLE: West Virginia State Historic Preservation Officer

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION DATE

ATTEST: DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

HEDGES, SAMUEL, HOUSE  
HEDGESVILLE VICINITY,  
BERKELEY COUNTY,  
WEST VIRGINIA  
UTM REFERENCES:  
18/242300/4379440



