

# Jefferson County Historic Landmarks Commission

## Landmarks Nomination Report: *Barleywood*

### Physical Description:

The Barleywood property is located off Ambler Road in central Jefferson County, West Virginia. The farm consists of agricultural fields and historic buildings set back from the public road. Together with its neighboring agricultural properties, Barleywood forms an expansive cultural landscape of rural agriculture in the lower Shenandoah Valley.

### Historic Description:

Originally part of the Harewood holdings of Samuel Washington, brother of George Washington, the standing mansion house built in 1842 by Robert & Millicent McPherson. Millicent McPherson was the daughter of William Thornton Washington and it is by this association that the Barleywood is known as a “Washington House”. The farm was sold to the Keyes family in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century when it was one of the largest holdings in the county. Eventually, the Keyes passed it onto the Amblers, for whom the road is named.

The farm has been nominated for inclusion the National Register of Historic Places by the State Historic Preservation Office.

### Historic Resources:

Barleywood has several historic resources. The main house is a rare rural example of a side-entry, Greek Revival house. The 3-bay main block has a 2 bay, 2 story service wing. The brick exterior is laid in Flemish bond on the front elevation topped by a corbelled decorative cornice. The dwelling has fine interior features such a pediment casings and grain painted doors. The outbuildings include a bank barn foundation, historic log smokehouse, frame tenant house and brick granary. In addition to the standing buildings, the site would likely provide excellent archaeological information.

### Nomination Criteria:

The JCHLC nominates this property under Criteria C and D for inclusion on the list of registered county landmarks. Criteria C states that a site may be nominated if, in the opinion of the JCHLC, it embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values. Criterion D states that a site may be nominated if, in the opinion of the JCHLC, it has yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history. Owners, Eric & Stacy Lindberg, have agreed to have the property listed as Jefferson County Historic Landmark.

### Nomination Action:

The JCHLC voted unanimously to add Barleywood, under Criteria C and D, to the rolls of registered Jefferson County Historic Landmarks on May 17, 2007.