# <u>Jefferson County Historic Landmarks Commission</u> Landmarks Nomination Report: *Fair View, Rees-Daniels Farm*

## Physical Description:

The Fairview property is located in Hidden River subdivision in western Jefferson County, West Virginia. The property consists of residential and agricultural buildings near Opequon Creek and Route 51.

## Historic Description:

Originally part of John Briscoe's Fairfax Grant of 1760, Fairview lies adjacent to Opequon Creek. Briscoe sold the property in 1775 to John Rees, a Quaker. There was a house and mill on the property in 1788 when Rees sold the land to John Daniel. The 1798 Berkeley County house tax lists Daniel as having a house valued at \$210, typical of a one or two room structure. It is unknown whether the present house was built by Daniel or Rees, but it has features of 18<sup>th</sup> century construction. In 1805, the property passed to William Flood who continued the milling operations on the Opequon. The existing house appears on the 1809 Varle map under the name W.P. Flood. Flood served as a delegate from Jefferson County to the Staunton Convention of 1816. The property passed to Anthony Rosenberger in 1828 and then ten years later to William Cameron, of Caledonia. George W. Tabb purchased the property in 1851 and held it until the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

### Historic Resources:

Four historic buildings remain on this early farm. The initial part of this 3-bay, frame house was built in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. The house has three large exterior stone chimneys. Inside the earliest part of the building, beaded floor joists are visible on the first floor ceiling. An stone smokehouse, or meat house, is close to the house. This building is one of the only gable roofed meat houses in the county, and it may be the earliest example that has survived. There is also a large stone bank barn that dates to the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. This building's design, with enclosed fore-bay, is unusual. The county has no other stone barn with this arrangement.

#### Nomination Criteria:

The JCHLC nominates this property under Criteria C 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. Owner, Michelle Palencar, has agreed to have the property listed as Jefferson County Historic Landmark.

## Nomination Action:

The JCHLC voted unanimously to add Fair View (Rees-Daniels Farm), under Criteria C, to the rolls of registered Jefferson County Historic Landmarks on September 20, 2007.

Fairview: The Rees-Daniels Farm





