



Landmarks Nomination Report

Jefferson County Historic Landmarks Commission

Shenandoah Oaks

2576 Warm Springs Rd.

Kearneysville, WV, 25442

Physical Description:

Shenandoah Oaks is located on Warm Springs Rd. just east of Kearneysville and south of the intersection of Warm Springs Rd. and Kearneysville Pike (WV-480). The property includes a Greek Revival style farmhouse, guest house, and a barn.

Historic Description:

Shenandoah Oaks sits on land that was originally part of a 1069 acre tract granted to John Pagan in 1753 as part of the Fairfax Land Grants. In 1764 Pagan sold the tract to Scottish immigrant Adam Stephen¹, who would go on to serve Virginia as a Major General in the Revolutionary War, as a representative in the Virginia House of Delegates, and as the sheriff of Berkeley County until his death in 1791. In 1780, Adam Stephen transferred 600 acres to his friend, comrade, and son-in-law Capt. Alexander Spotswood Dandridge², and upon his death in 1785 the property passed to his widow Anne Stephen and their young son Adam Stephen Dandridge. Dandridge died in 1821 at the age of 38 leaving the property to his widow and heirs, who in 1848 sold a 313 acre tract to Robert M. J. Hunter³. In 1851, Hunter entered an agreement with Thomas Licklider whereby Licklider would take over and farm the land while paying Hunter for the property⁴. Licklider established what was then called the “Thomas Licklider Farm” in the present day location of Shenandoah Oaks. The 1860 agricultural census valued the Thomas Licklider

¹ Frederick County Deed Book 9 Page 132

² Berkeley County Deed Book 5 Page 499

³ Jefferson County Deed Book 29 Page 498

⁴ Jefferson County Deed Book 33 Page 375

Farm at \$10,400, with \$1,265 worth of livestock and \$225 in equipment on 248 acres.⁵ In May 1876, Licklider suffered “an attack of paralysis,”⁶ and in 1877 he declared bankruptcy. An advertisement in the Spirit of Jefferson newspaper in January 1878 reads: “256 acres and 38 poles. The improvements are 2 good dwelling-houses, corn crib and wagon shed, carriage house and all necessary out-buildings...”⁷ The farm had been put into the trust of Licklider’s neighbor and fellow farmer Daniel Getzendanner after the bankruptcy in 1877, and in 1881 he would oversee the sale of the property to Shepherdstown merchant and Civil War veteran Benjamin S. Pendleton.⁸ Pendleton was responsible for building an addition onto the original house at some point during his ownership. Initially, Pendleton put the property in trust for his young son Harvey⁹, but then sold it to M. M. Stanley in 1898.¹⁰ Under Stanley’s ownership the property was known as the “Home Farm,” and after his death in 1919 it remained with his family until 1960. Tom and Ann Trumble purchased the property in 1999 and immediately began restoring the house which had fallen into disrepair. They have done an exemplary job restoring and maintaining the property, and are also responsible for the name “Shenandoah Oaks.”

Historic Resource: Shenandoah Oaks is a two story house built in the Greek Revival style popular in the United States between 1830-1860. The 1851 portion of the house is two rooms wide and one room deep, and the addition added by Benjamin S. Pendleton is three rooms wide and one room deep, giving the structure an L-shape. Both sections have a side-gabled roof, and the south-facing section sports a single story entry porch with a hipped roof and Doric columns. There is a contributing Pennsylvania-style bank barn just south of the house, constructed around the same time as the Pendleton addition.

Nomination Criteria:

The JCHLC nominates this property under the following designation, Criterion C: *property, structure, or site representative of an architectural and/or landscape type which exemplifies a period, style, craftsmanship, method of construction or use of local materials and retains a high degree of integrity.*

Nomination Action

Jefferson County Landmarks Commission’s AmeriCorps Member, Jake Blackall, presented the nomination at its general meeting on April 10, 2024. The commission voted unanimously to add Shenandoah Oaks to the rolls of registered Jefferson County Historic Landmarks. The property owners, Tom and Ann Trumble, have agreed to have the property listed as a Jefferson County Historic Landmark.

⁵ 1860 Agricultural Census, USDA Census of Agriculture Historical Archive

⁶ Spirit of Jefferson Newspaper May 9th 1876

⁷ Spirit of Jefferson Newspaper January 8th 1878

⁸ Jefferson County Deed Book “K” Page 513

⁹ Jefferson County Deed Book “K” Page 514

¹⁰ Jefferson County Deed Book 85 Page 388



Front view of Shenandoah Oaks.



Shenandoah Oaks west façade.



Foyer.



Library.



Sitting room.



Sun room (converted sleeping porch) facing north.



Kitchen.



Master bedroom.



Barn at Shenandoah Oaks.

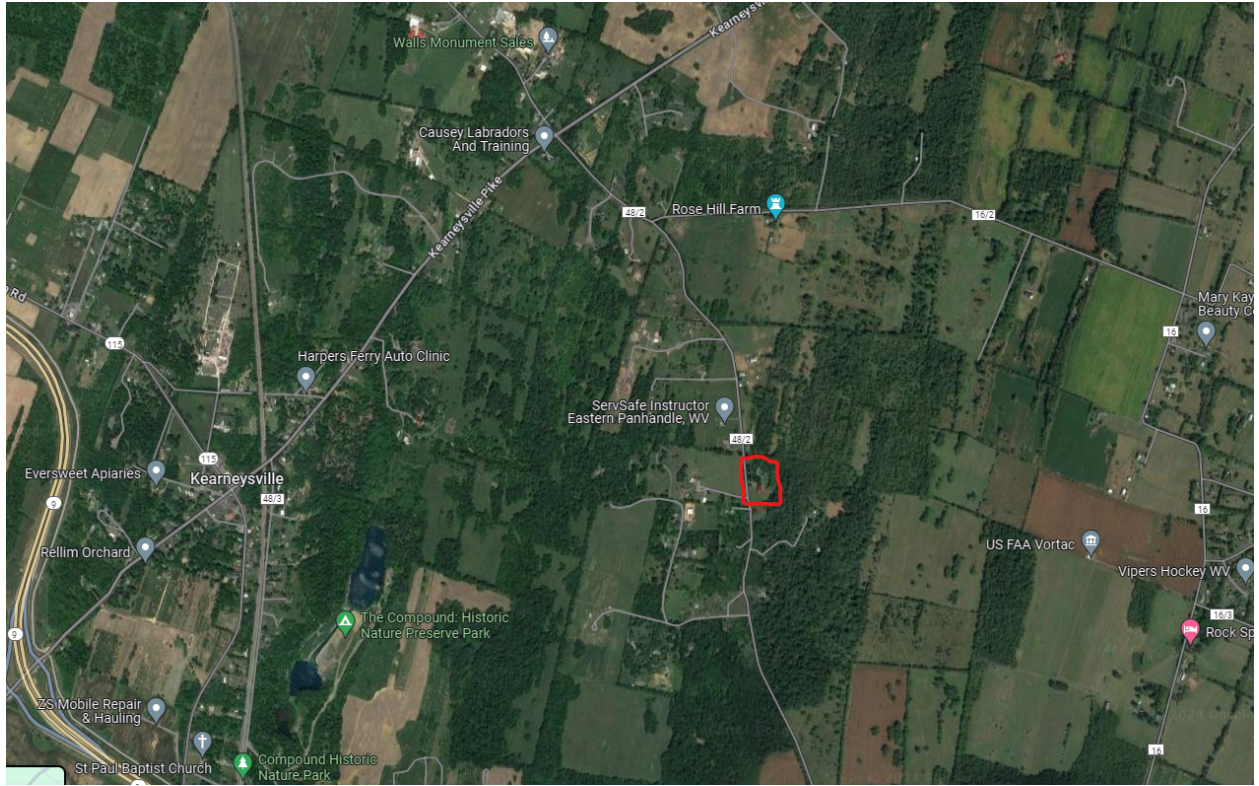


Image of Shenandoah Oaks location, highlighted in red, with Kearneysville and WV-9 to the west and Kearneysville Pike (WV-480) to the north.