

Slave Housing Data Base

Building Name: Pharsalia/Brick kitchen-laundry-quarter

Evidence Type: Extant

Historical Site Name: Pharsalia

City or Vicinity: Massie's Mill

County: Nelson

State: VA

Investigators: Douglas W. Sanford; Dennis J. Pogue

Institutions: University of Mary Washington; University of Maryland

Project Start: 8/14/17

Project End: 12/27/17

Additional Investigators: Edward Chappell

Project Start: 8/14/17

Project End: 8/14/17

Summary Description:

The Pharsalia brick outbuilding is located at what was the Pharsalia plantation home farm. The structure is less than 100 feet distant from the main house, and almost certainly served as a kitchen as well as a slave quarter, and possibly as a laundry as well. The brick building is in line with a nearby substantial log structure that served in the capacity of a duplex slave quarter. The property is listed on the National Register of Historic Places (2009) because of its association with the locally prominent Massie family and for the architectural significance of the main house (Criteria B & C); both the log and brick structures are listed in the nomination as contributing resources, and are dated to ca. 1834 on the basis of documentary evidence.

The single-pile brick building is 1.5 stories in height, supported on a roughly-coursed stone foundation, with a moderately-pitched side-gable roof (now covered with standing-seam metal) and a central brick chimney base and stack. The south-facing façade is laid in Flemish bond; the other three walls are composed of a combination of 5:1 and 6:1 common bond. The façade is asymmetrical, with three irregularly spaced doorways, and one window with a 3/3 sash casement positioned to light the east room, and two horizontal, sliding windows (each with two 3/3 sashes) on the second level. There are three windows on each floor in the rear (north) wall, and one window on each level in the east and west end walls. The center windows on the rear elevation are fixed sashes, 2/4 on the first floor and 2/2 on the second. The other first-floor windows and those on the end walls are 6/6 single-hung sashes; the second floor windows on the north are horizontal sliding sashes, to match those on the façade. The doors are all board-and-batten, and most of them are hung on original H-L hinges.

The irregularity of the fenestration relates to the layout of the plan, which consists of two main rooms on each level, with those on the east substantially larger than the ones on the west. The larger first-floor room (#2) has a substantial fireplace that is outfitted with gudgeons and a cooking crane, along with an internal trammel bar, and given the

proximity thus likely served as the kitchen for the main house. Room 1 also has a substantial fireplace with a trammel bar and what appears to be an original herring-bone-pattern brick floor (the floor in Room 2 has been covered with concrete); given proximity to the main house one likely function for this space would have been as a laundry. Single exterior doorways in the façade provide access to the first-floor rooms; a third doorway (D2) is positioned near the center of the elevation and enters into a lobby with a lateral staircase leading to the west second-floor room. A winder staircase is inserted in the southeast corner of the east room. On the first floor, a closet is positioned between the fireplace base and the north wall, which is lighted by a small window with a 2/4 fixed sash (W4), and the casement window (W1) provides light to the cooking area. The doorway (D1) for Room 1 is off-set toward the southwest corner of the building to accommodate the placement of the interior stairway leading to Room 3. The ceilings in both rooms are currently plastered and whitewashed, but in Period 1 the joists and undersides of the floorboards were exposed and whitewashed.

On the second floor, both rooms are heated by standard domestic-sized fireplaces; a closet between the fireplace and the north wall is accessible only from Room 3; east of the fireplace mass the space is divided into a room (#4) separated by wood partitions from the stairway running against the east exterior wall, and from a narrow (@5'-wide) corridor/closet running against the north exterior wall. A doorway is positioned in each of the partitions at the head of the stairs, both of which were outfitted with wood box locks. The studded walls above the brick knee walls and the ceiling in both main upstairs rooms are covered with butted boards; the boards and the brick knee walls are whitewashed in Room 4 and covered with a combination of whitewash and red paint in Room 3. The corridor/closet is also enclosed with horizontal planks, which were never whitewashed or painted; the knee wall bricks are whitewashed. The fireplaces in both rooms 3 and 4 have been infilled with brick; filled circular holes mark the former locations of stove pipes.

Bibliography:

Pharsalia National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (No. 1024-0018), Sandra F. Esposito (2009)

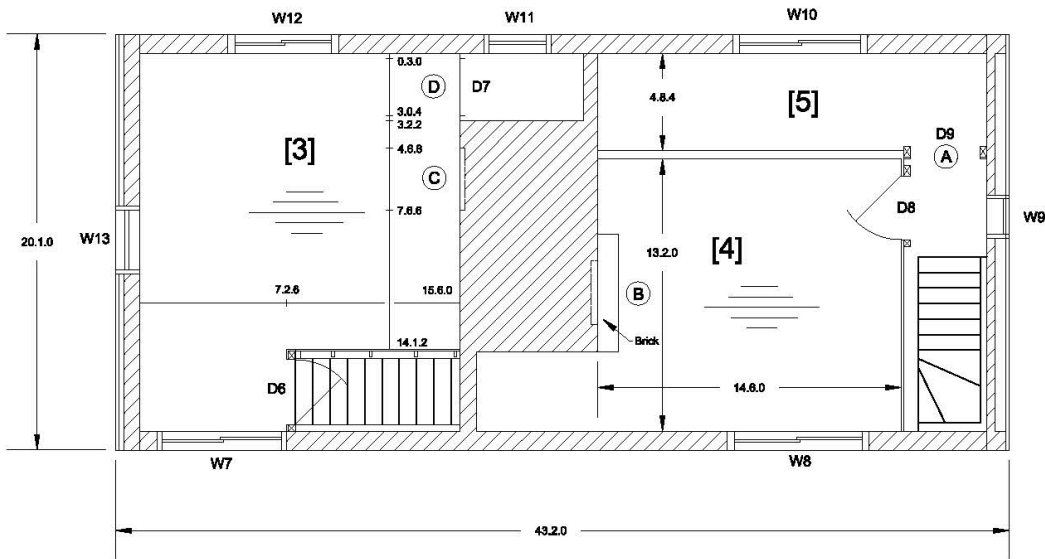
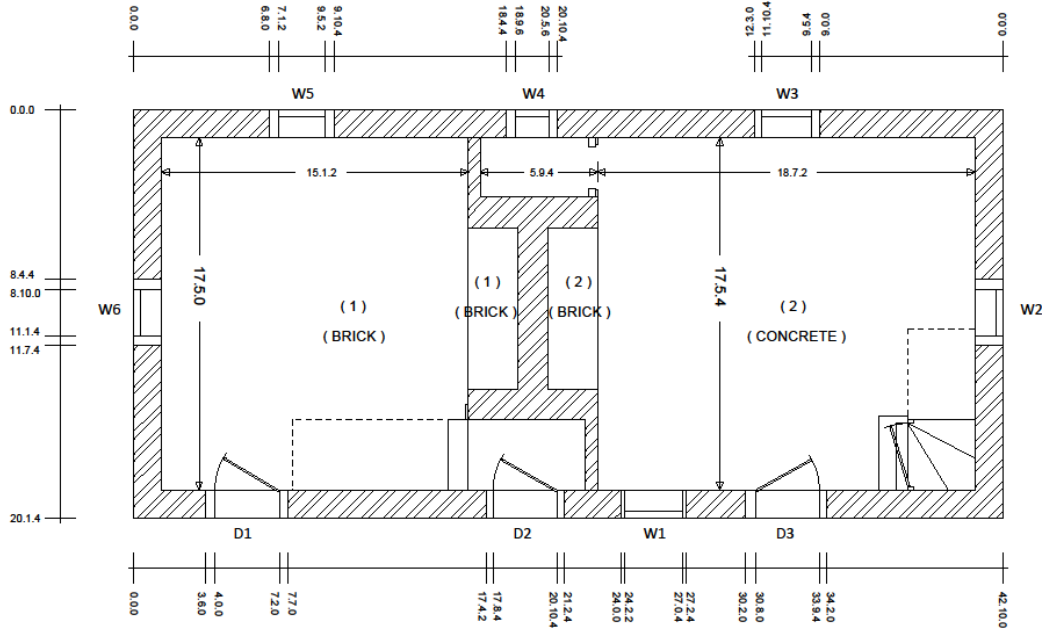
Principal Construction Type: Masonry – Brick walls, stone foundation

One and One-Half Story

Footprint:



PHARSALIA, NELSON CO.
 BRICK KITCHEN - QUARTER 1 ST FLOOR
 DJP/DWS 10-10-17



Number of Rooms: 5 total: 2 down, 3 up

- Dimensions:** (1) West room downstairs: 17.5.0 (N-S) x 15.1.1 (E-W), 7.3.0 (H)
 (2) East room downstairs: 17.5.2 (N-S) x 18.7.1 (E-W), 7.3.0 (H)
 (3) West room upstairs: 18.2.0 (N-S) x 15.6.0 (E-W), 8.8.2 (H);
 (14.1.1 (N-S), between stairwell partition and north wall).
 (4) East room upstairs: 13.2.0 (N-S) x 14.6.0 (E-W), 8.8.1 (H)
 (5) Storage room (larder?) upstairs: 4.8.2 (N-S) x 18.10.3 (E-W);
 8.8.1 (H)

Doors: 9

	Rm. 1 (1)	Stairs (2)	Rm. 2 (3)
Type:	Board & batten; vertical boards, chamfered battens	Board & batten; circular-sawn vertical boards, wire nails	Board & batten; vertical boards, chamfered battens
Dimensions:	3.2.2 (W) x 6.3.1 (H), 0.1.0 thick	3.1.0 (W) x 6.3.1 (H), 0.0.3 thick	3.3.0 (W) x 6.6.0 (H); 0.1.0 thick
Hardware:	H-L hinges (3 knuckle), repaired w/5-knuckle brass butt hinges & iron butterfly hinges	3-knuckle butterfly hinges w/wire nails, modern screws	H-L hinges w/screws, repaired w/3-knuckle butt hinges w/wire nails
Swing:	In	In	In
Replacement:	No; note former iron stock lock	Yes	No. Similar exterior frame & molding as Door 1. Note wood stock lock.

	Rm. 2 closet (4)	Rm. 2 stairs (5)	Rm. 3 stairs (6)
Type:	Board & batten; vertical boards, chamfered battens	Board & batten; vertical beaded boards, chamfered battens	Board & batten; vertical beaded boards, double beaded battens
Dimensions:	2.1.3 (W) x 6.4.2 (H), 0.1.0 thick	3.0.1 (W) x 5.2.0 (H), 0.0.3 thick	3.0.1 (W) x 6.4.0 (H), 0.0.3 thick
Hardware:	H-L hinges w/screws; iron stock lock	H-L hinges, reset w/modern screws. Wood stop latch.	3-knuckle H-L hinges w/screws
Swing:	Out (into Rm. 2)	Out (into Rm. 2)	Out (into stairwell)
Replacement:	No. Battens w/clinched wrought nails. Door removed, but stored within closet.	No. Battens w/clinched wrought nails.	No. Battens w/clinched wrought nails.

	Rm. 3 closet (7)	Rm. 4 (8)	Rm. 5 (9)
Type:	Board & batten; vertical beaded boards, battens w/clinched wrought nails	Board & batten; vertical beaded boards, double beaded battens	Unknown, removed.
Dimensions:	2.9.2 (W) x 6.1.0 (H), unknown thickness	3.2.1 (W) x 6.5.3 (H), 0.0.3 thick	Doorway: 3.2.0 (W) x 6.5.2 (H), unknown thickness
Hardware:	H-L hinges w/screws	H-L hinges. Large wood stock lock.	Probably H-L hinges (hinged on east side); keeper for lock bolt.
Swing:	Out (into Rm. 3)	In	In
Replacement:	No.	No. Battens w/clinched wrought nails.	No. Battens w/clinched wrought nails.

Windows: 13

	Rm. 2, S (1)	Rm. 2, E (2)	Rm. 2, N (3)
Type:	3/3 casement (single, hinged sash)	6/6, single-hung sash	6/6, single-hung sash
Dimensions:	2.10.1 (W) x 3.4.3 (H) Opening widened	2.4.2 (W) x 3.9.3 (H)	2.4.3 (W) x 3.10.0 (H)
Hardware:	Hinged on west side, wood stop latch on east side. 3-knuckle butt hinge.	None	None
Shuttered/Slide/Swing:	Swings in.	Older exterior frame, w/wood corner pegs.	Same exterior frame as Window 2.

	Rm. 2, closet (4)	Rm. 1, N (5)	Rm. 1, W (6)
Type:	2/2 fixed sash	6/6, single-hung sash	6/6, single-hung sash
Dimensions:	1.7.2 (W) x 1.11.0 (H)	2.4.0 (W) x 3.10.0 (H)	2.3.2 (W) x 3.10.2 (H)

Hardware:	None	None	None
Shuttered/ Slide/ Swing:	Similar interior casing as Windows 2 and 3.	Rebuilt interior casing, painted white. Interior sill looks original.	Older, exterior frame w/wood corner pegs, w/repairs, circular- sawn sill. Rebuilt interior casing as W5.

	Rm. 3, S (7)	Rm. 4, S (8)	E. stairs (9)
Type:	2 sash slider; each sash 3/3	2 sash slider, each sash 3/3	2/4, single fixed sash
Dimensions:	Each sash 2.10.2 (W) x 1.7.1 (H); window 5.7.2 (W) x 1.7.1 (H) overall	Each sash 2.9.3 (W) x 1.7.2 (H); window 5.6.0 (W) x 1.7.2 (H) overall	1.10.0 (W) x 3.1.1 (H)
Hardware:	None	None	None
Shuttered/ Slide/ Swing:	Slide	Slide	NA. At east gable end wall.

	Rm. 5, N (10)	Rm. 3, closet (11)	Rm. 3, N (12)
Type:	2 sash slider; each sash 3/3	2/2, single fixed sash	2 sash slider; each sash 3/3
Dimensions:	Each sash 2.10.2 (W) x 1.6.3 (H); window 5.6.1 (W) x 1.6.3 (H) overall	2.3.0 (W) x 1.0.2 (H)	Each sash 2.10.3 (W) x 1.7.1 (H); window 5.9.2 (W) x 1.7.1 (H) overall
Hardware:	None	None	None
Shuttered/ Slide/ Swing:	Slide	NA	Slide

Rm. 3, W (13)

Type:	6/6, single-hung sash
Dimensions:	2.1.0 (W) x 4.3.1 (H), but has been narrowed, likely 2.4.2 (W) originally
Hardware:	None
Shuttered/ Slide/ Swing:	NA

EXTERIOR

Foundation:

Continuous Masonry: Stone (predominantly greenstone, some schist/gneiss and slate); projects @3" beyond face of brick walls

Height: 0.6.2 at SW corner; 3.0.0 at SE corner

Bond: Random size, irregular coursing

Mortar Type: Sand w/limestone

Joint: ~Flush

Repaired: Yes – repointed with Portland cement mortar

Shed: No

Roof:

Roof Form: Gable

Roof Covering: Standing seam sheet metal (modern)

Roof Framing:

Exposed: No

Form: Common Rafters (based on nail patterns)

Rafter Number: Not accessible

Collar Ties: Not accessible

Building Height: not obtained

Walls:

Masonry: Brick

Bond: Flemish on front (south) façade; 5:1 and 6:1 common bond on side, rear walls

Mortar Type: Sand – Clay, w/limestone and brick fragments

Joint: Undercut – Flush

Repaired: Repointed with Portland cement mortar

Chimney(s):

Chimney (1):

Material: Brick stack and base

Location: Interior – Center

Height: not accessible

INTERIOR

Wall Framing: Exposed brick; studded gables

Wall Finish: Whitewash on brick (lathe and plaster ceiling)

Fireplace (1): Center (east wall)

Fireplace Material: Brick

Fireplace Overall Dimensions: Flush with wall

Fireplace Opening Dimensions: 8.0.3 (W) x 4.7.3 (H) x 2.5.2 (D)

Lintel measures 1.1.0 (H), 1.0.0 (D)

Hearth Material: Brick (flooring goes up to fireplace)

Fireplace (2): Center (west wall)

Fireplace Material: Brick

Fireplace Overall Dimensions: Flush with wall

Fireplace Opening Dimensions: 8.0.0 (W) x 4.7.0 (H) x 2.7.2 (D)

Lintel measures 1.1.2 (H)

Hearth Material: Modern cement floor goes to edge of and into fireplace

Fireplace (3): Center (east wall -- offset)

Fireplace Material: Brick

Fireplace Overall Dimensions: Flush with wall

Fireplace Opening Dimensions: 3.0.0 (W) x 2.10.0 (H) x unknown depth

Hearth Material: Unknown, inaccessible

Fireplace (4): Center (west wall -- offset)

Fireplace Material: Brick

Fireplace Overall Dimensions: Flush with wall

Fireplace Opening Dimensions: 3.1.2 (W), 2.9.2 (H) x unknown depth

Hearth Material: Brick

Hearth Dimensions: 1.5.2 (E-W) x 5.8.0 (N-S)

Stairs: 2

Stairs 1: Stairwell entered through front (south) façade's Door 2 (between Rm. 1 below and Rm. 3 above)

Type: Enclosed stairwell, with vertical planks on north side.

Stairwell Dimensions: 3.6.0 (N-S) x 7.11.0 (E-W)

Number of Treads: 10

Stair Tread Dimensions: 3.3.3 (L) x 0.11.0 (W) x 0.8.2 (H)

Stairs 2: Stairwell in SE corner of Rm. 2 (between Rm. 2 below and Rooms 4, 5 above)

Type: Enclosed winder

Stairwell Dimensions: 3.0.0 (E-W) x 8.0.2 (N-S)

Number of Treads: 2 treads to door; 3 winders; 6 treads up to second floor

Stair Tread Dimensions: 2.11.0 (L) x 0.9.2 (W) x 0.7.2 (H)

Subfloor Pit: No

Floor: Room 1: herringbone-patterned brick; Room 2: concrete; Rooms 3-4-5: wood – tongue-and-groove boards

Floorboards Dimension: Rooms 3, 4, 5: 10.5 inches wide

Dating:

Other Date: Ca. 1834 (documentary)

Dating Evidence:

Saw Marks: Sash Sawn

Nails: Hand wrought in doors; machine-headed cut nails used to attach ceiling lathe