

## **Slave Housing Data Base**

**Building Name:** Spring Hill Farm 2 – Frame Duplex Building (southern); Tenant House

**Evidence Type:** Extant

**County:** Culpeper

**State:** Virginia

**Investigators:** Andrew Stempel; Doug Sanford; Gary Stanton

**Institutions:** Center for Historic Preservation, University of Mary Washington

**Project Start:** 7/12/07

**Project End:** 7/12/07

### **Summary Description:**

This frame, one-story, side-gable-roofed duplex building is oriented north-south and situated to the south of another similarly constructed slave duplex (Spring Hill Farm 1). After the Civil War the structure was altered significantly, when it was raised to 1½ stories. The building was converted into tenant housing, with wiring and plumbing added, and it later received two rear additions that have shed roofs. All sections of the building are covered with a standing seam metal roof, indicating a later replacement. Surviving evidence points to the exterior having been originally composed of lapped horizontal clapboards.

The original duplex building measures 32 ft. 1 in. long (N-S) by 17 ft. 1 in. wide (E-W). It is symmetrically arranged, with rooms on the first floor sharing a central chimney of brick, with each room having a door and a window on the (east) façade. The original partition prevented communication between the two rooms; a later doorway was inserted on the west side of the chimney. There were two corresponding unheated rooms in the garret, later expanded to a half-story in height. Evidence for the original stairs survives on the end wall of each room, opposite the fireplace and towards the corner. A replacement stair exists in the south room (Room 1), while only ghost marks of the former stairs remain in the north room (Room 2). Evidence surviving beneath the current staircase suggests the original rooms had horizontal boards with whitewash.

Dating evidence largely consists of fully formed machine-cut nails, which places the construction date to the 1830s or later; the northern duplex has been dendro-dated to circa 1858, and the many similarities between the structures (duplex arrangement, placement of doorways, windows, and stairs, and building materials and methods, etc.), suggest a similar date for this dwelling.

The building has replacement exterior siding, attached with wire nails. Two rooms have been added on the rear, and there are two poured concrete pads that presumably relate to non-extant modern porches that were attached to the facade. The interior has later wall plaster, while Room 1 (to the south) has a plywood ceiling. It is currently abandoned and in dilapidated condition.

A section of the original whitewashed board partition on the east side of the chimney in the north attic room is visible through a hole in the wall. The floor boards in the north attic room are wider (10-11 in.) than the replaced floor boards in the south attic (3 in. wide).

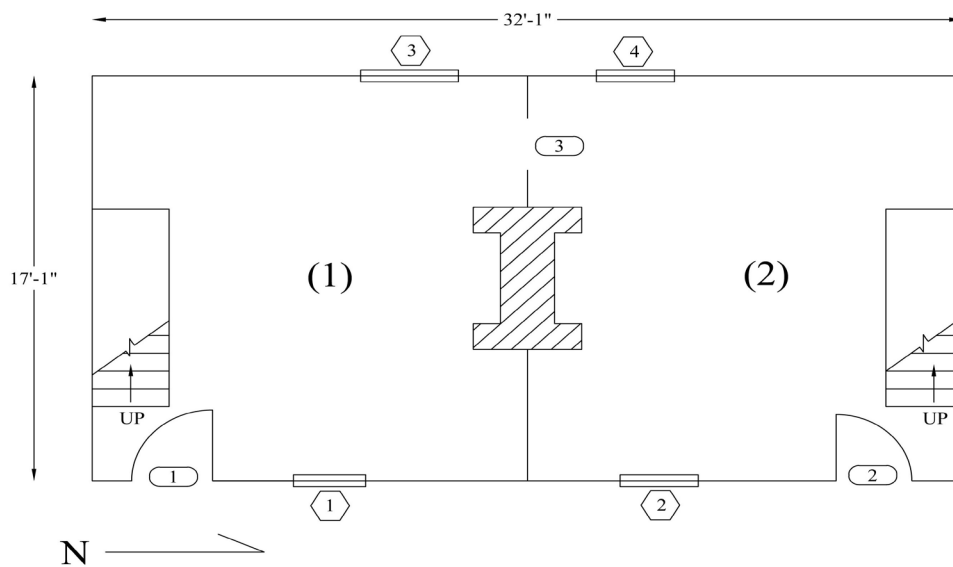
**Bibliography:**

Owner has some period documentation, including from Civil War occupation and use of the house/property.

**Principal Construction Type:** Frame

**One Story – with Garret (originally; later raised to 1.5 stories)**

**Footprint: Period I**



**Number of Rooms:** 7 (2 down, 2 up, 3 in modern rear additions)

- Dimensions:**
- (1) South room: 16 ft. 4.5 in. (E-W) x 15 ft. 3 in. (N-S); 6 ft. 10.5 in. (H)
  - (2) North room: 16 ft. 2 in. (E-W) x 15 ft. 2 in. (N-S); 6 ft. 10.5 in. (H)
  - (3) South attic room: 16 ft. 2.5 in. (E-W) x 15 ft. 3.5 in. (N-S); 6 ft. 5.5 in. (H)
  - (4) North attic room: 16 ft. 4 in. (E-W) x 15 ft. 4 in. (N-S); 6 ft. 6.5 in. high

Rooms 5 through 7, in west rear additions, were not recorded

**Doors: 6**

	(1)	(2)	(3)
<b>Type:</b>	Panel and glass	Panel and glass	None present
<b>Dimensions:</b>	2 ft. 11 in. (W) x 6 ft. 6 in. (H)	2 ft. 9.5 in. (W) x 6 ft.	2 ft. 1 in. (W) x 5 ft. 6.75 in. (opening)
<b>Hardware:</b>	Modern butt hinges	Modern butt hinges	Iron pintles
<b>Swing:</b>	In	In	In (to south)
<b>Replacement:</b>	Modern replacement	Modern replacement	Later insertion through original partition wall

	(4)	(5)	(6)
<b>Type:</b>	None present	Board & batten	None present
<b>Dimensions:</b>	2 ft. 6.5 in. (W) x 6 ft. 1.75 in. (H) – opening	1 ft. 7.25 in. (W) x 4 ft. 9.25 in. (H)	2 ft. 9.5 in. x 6 ft. 2 in. (opening)
<b>Hardware:</b>	Not present	Modern butt hinges	Not present
<b>Swing:</b>	Out	Out	Unknown
<b>Replacement:</b>	Doorway inserted at original window location	For closet beneath stairs in south room	For partition in attic

**Windows: 9**

	(1) Rm. 1	(2) Rm. 2	(7)
<b>Type:</b>	6/6 double-hung sash	6/6 double-hung sash	None present
<b>Dimensions:</b>	2 ft. 9 in. (W) x 4 ft. 5 in. (H)	2 ft. 9 in. (W) x 4 ft. 5 in. (H)	1 ft. 7 in. (W) x 3 ft. 10 in. (H)
<b>Hardware:</b>	None	None	None
<b>Shuttered/Slide/Swing:</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A

	(8)	(9)
<b>Type:</b>	6/6 double-hung sash	4/4 double-hung sash (double window with 2 sections each, 4 total)
<b>Dimensions:</b>	2 ft. 4 in. (W) x 3 ft. 8.5 in. (H)	3 ft. 8.5 in. (W) x 3 ft. 9 in. (H) overall, with each section 1 ft. 7.5 in. wide
<b>Hardware:</b>	None	None
<b>Shuttered/ Slide/ Swing:</b>	North attic room, gable end	N/A

## EXTERIOR

### Foundation:

**Masonry Piers:** Stone (piers at corners; areas between later filled in with cinder blocks).

**Number:** 4

**Dimensions:** @ SW corner: 1 ft. 5.5 in. wide

**Height:** 1 ft. 7 in.

**Mortar Type:** Unknown

**Joint:** N/A

**Repaired:** Yes

**Shed/Porch:** Yes, 3 porches

**Location:** 2 front (east) porches (with concrete pads) and 1 screen porch on rear at NW corner. All porches are later additions; front porches non-extant.

### Roof:

**Roof Form:** Gable

**Roof Covering:** Standing seam metal; modern replacement.

**Roof Framing:** Cannot be fully observed due to modern ceiling materials.

Through a hole in the ceiling, can observe dimensional lumber for rafters and a ridge board, corresponding to the roof replacement when the building was raised to 1.5 stories and a new roof installed.

**Exposed:** No

**Form:** Common rafters (dimensional lumber)

**Collar Ties:** No

### Walls:

**Frame:**

**Material:** Wood

**Cladding:** Horizontal, lapped, circular sawn siding (4.5 in. wide) with wire nails at present, a later replacement. Note surviving, possibly original exterior horizontal siding on west side of Room 2, with machine-cut nails.

**Beaded:** No

**Chimney(s):**

**Chimney (1):**

**Material:** Brick

**Location:** Interior/Center; overall, chimney measures 6 ft. (E-W) x 4 ft. Chimney stack in attic measures 2 ft. 3 in. (E-W) x 3 ft. (N-S). There are no hearths in the attic rooms.

INTERIOR

**Wall Framing:** Exposed

**Wall Finish:** Lath and Plaster – which is a modern replacement in the north room; south room has modern fiber board.

**Fireplace (1):** Center, Room 1

**Fireplace Material:** Brick and stone (stone seen in interior, at rear).

**Fireplace Opening Dimensions:** originally, 3 ft. 10.5 in. (W) x 3 ft. 5.5 in. (H) x 1 ft. (D). Altered fireplace narrowed to 3 ft. wide, with same height and depth.

**Fireplace (2):** Center, Room 2

**Fireplace Material:** Brick

**Fireplace Opening Dimensions:** originally, 3 ft. 10.5 in. (W) x 3 ft. 5.5 in. (H) x unknown depth (filled in). Altered fireplace measures 3 ft. (W) x 2 ft. 7.5 in. (H) x unknown depth.

**Stairs:** Yes, 2 originally, with one surviving in the south room.

**Type: Room 1 (south)** Stringer stairs enclosed beneath, with closet. Later replacement.

**Stairwell Dimensions:** 2 ft. 10 in. (W) x 8 ft. 4 in. (L); stair begins 3 ft. 1.5 in. from east wall; and ends 13 ft. 10 in. from the east wall.

**Number of Treads:** 12

**Room 2 (north) stairs:** These stairs do not survive, but evidence consisting of marks on the north wall indicate that stairs began 5 ft. from the east wall, ending at 9 ft. 7 in. from the same wall.

**Subfloor Pit:** No

**Floor:** Wood

**Dating:**

**Dendrochronology Date:** None, but 1858 for adjoining building

**Other Date:** Post circa 1830s

**Dating Evidence:**

**Saw Marks:** Hewn and sash-sawn timbers in Period I construction

**Nails:** Fully formed machine cut