



## The Historical Significance of Evergreen

The Evergreen Heritage Center has been listed on the Maryland Inventory of Properties since 1976. It was also accepted on the National Register of Historic Properties in 2016, based on meeting two criteria used in historical evaluation. First, under Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) Criterion A, the Evergreen property is **significant in terms of its contribution to the successful settlement of western Allegany County** beginning circa 1780 when Edward Grimes migrated west from Frederick and built the original Evergreen House and Barn on four fifty-acre “military lots”. By 1794, Mr. Grimes was one of the first County Commissioners from the newly formed County, and his son-in-law (also a County Commissioner) was operating the area’s first sawmill. Two other County Commissioners subsequently owned the property: William Ridgeley who filed the first layout of the town of Frostburg and fostered the partnership between the B&O Railroad and the C&O Canal, and George Winter who operated one of the area’s first woolen mills and a nearby inn on America’s first National Road. In 1869, the property was acquired by the Trimble family, became part of the area’s largest farm (over 1100 acres), and was given the name Evergreen for the fledging evergreen trees planted there. All five of these families facilitated the growth of Allegany County, the state of Maryland, and in terms of commerce and transport, the new nation.

Secondly, under MHT Criteria C, the Evergreen Barn displays many of the **classic architectural features of an 18<sup>th</sup> century colonial-style bank barn**. With its steep asymmetrical roof, open forebay, cantilevered broad-axed beams, wooden pegs, hand-wrought nails, mortise and tenon construction, and log troughs, the Barn represents the design and workmanship of the period and showcases the land’s stone and timber materials.