

VLR-12/14/82

NRHP-2/10/83

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
EXP. 12/31/84

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic HENRY MISH BARN (PREFERRED)

and/or common Mish Barn; Heritage Hill Barn

2. Location

street & number Route 876

N/A not for publication

city, town Middlebrook

vicinity of

~~congressional district~~

state Virginia

code 51

county Augusta

code 015

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. Bobby N. Cline

street & number Route 1, Box 125

city, town Middlebrook

vicinity of

state Virginia

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Augusta County Courthouse

street & number N/A

city, town Staunton

state Virginia 24401

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
title Survey

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1973, 1980

federal state county local

depository for survey records Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, 221 Governor Street

city, town Richmond

state Virginia 23219

7. Description

Condition
 excellent deteriorated
 good ruins
 fair unexposed

Check one
 unaltered
 altered

Check one
 original site
 moved date N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance
SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The Henry Mish barn is an impressive Pennsylvania-type brick bank barn erected ca. 1849 measuring approximately 50' x 100'. The ends of the barn are distinguished by decorative brick lattice vents in lozenge patterns. Typical of bank barns, the Mish barn has a projecting wood-frame forebay. Some of the original interior fittings have been removed or rearranged, but many of the doors and the majority of the original framing system remains intact. The barn remains in regular use and is in a good state of preservation. It is scenically sited along Back Creek, a mile north of the village of Middlebrook (National Register Historic District) in the beautiful countryside of central Augusta County. Included in the nomination is the Mish House with its surrounding outbuildings, a typical Augusta County antebellum complex of no special distinction, but necessary for providing an appropriate context for the barn.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates Ca. 1849 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Erected ca. 1849 for Henry Mish, a native of York County, Pennsylvania who settled in southwestern Augusta County in 1839, the Henry Mish Barn illustrates the diffusion of the forebay, bank barn from southeastern Pennsylvania into the Valley of Virginia. Although the bank barn became the standard barn form in Augusta County during the 19th century, this is one of the only known examples of brick barns in the Valley, where barns were systematically destroyed by Union forces during the Civil War. Masonry construction had been popular in Pennsylvania but local examples are generally of frame or log. The decorative brick ventilator patterns and the heavily-trussed interior preserve the architectural integrity of this early Augusta County barn. The barn has remained in continual use on this family farm, which also includes a brick farm house, log tenant house, and many outbuildings.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Henry Mish Barn stands on part of five hundred acres of land in Augusta County sold by William and Mary Dean to Hugh Davis of York County, Pennsylvania in 1768. In 1800, James Davis, the eldest son and heir of Hugh Davis, sold the tract to James Hathorne of Washington County, Virginia. Windel Grove, Sr., a large Augusta County landholder, purchased 561 acres including the original Dean tract from Hathorne in 1805. In 1814, Grove sold the property to George Mish, a resident of York County, Pennsylvania.

Mish continued to reside in Pennsylvania until his death in 1829. Although the Augusta County land tax records indicate improvements on the property valued at \$200 in 1820 (an evaluation that remained fairly constant over the next two decades), it would be unreasonable to conclude that the present brick barn dates to George Mish's proprietorship. Not only is it unlikely that a landowner not residing in the state would erect such a substantial barn, either for himself or for a tenant, but the smallest brick structures of this period in Augusta County were seldom assessed for less than \$1,000. Because the 1820 land tax records are silent as to the nature or origin of these improvements, it is also possible that the improvements antedated Mish's purchase of the property. It would, therefore, be more reasonable to assure that the 1820 index refers to a dwelling of frame construction, possibly built by Mish for a tenant, which has not survived.

The heirs of George Mish undertook no improvements to the property until 1839 or 1840, in which year the property increased in value by \$1,800 through added building. Three years later the property began to be taxed in the name of Henry Mish, the son of George Mish, who was then thirty-three years old, a native of York County, Pennsylvania, and known to have removed to Augusta County by this time. Given Henry Mish's obvious need for a residence, together with the striking similarity of the present brick dwelling house on the nominated property to the Kerr-Brandenberg House, dated 1836 (also a brick I-house with a Greek Revival portico and brick ell) this building campaign probably in-

9. Major Bibliographical References

Augusta County Land Tax Records, 1810-1850.
 Farrar, Emmie F. and Hines, Emilee. Old Virginia Houses - Shenandoah. Charlotte: Delmar Publishing Co., 1976.
 Hotchkiss, Jedediah and Waddell, Joseph A. Historical Atlas of Augusta County. Evansville: Unigraph, 1980.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 97
 Quadrangle name Greenville, Va. Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	<u>1</u> <u>7</u>	<u>6</u> <u>5</u> <u>5</u> <u>9</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>2</u> <u>1</u> <u>4</u> <u>6</u> <u>6</u> <u>0</u>	B	<u>1</u> <u>7</u>	<u>6</u> <u>5</u> <u>6</u> <u>3</u> <u>6</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>2</u> <u>1</u> <u>4</u> <u>2</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<u>1</u> <u>7</u>	<u>6</u> <u>5</u> <u>6</u> <u>1</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>2</u> <u>1</u> <u>4</u> <u>0</u> <u>4</u> <u>0</u>	D	<u>1</u> <u>7</u>	<u>6</u> <u>5</u> <u>5</u> <u>6</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>2</u> <u>1</u> <u>4</u> <u>0</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u>
E	<u>1</u> <u>7</u>	<u>6</u> <u>5</u> <u>5</u> <u>3</u> <u>3</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>2</u> <u>1</u> <u>4</u> <u>3</u> <u>4</u> <u>0</u>	F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification Beginning at a point on W side of VA 876 about 400' SE of the intersection of VA 876 and VA 700; thence extending about 1000' SW; thence about 1700' W; thence about 1350' NW; thence about 2200' NE to a point on the W side of VA 876, approximately 1200' SSE of its intersection with VA 712; thence about 2000' SE along W side of VA 876 to point of origin. (See Continuation Sheet # 2)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	N/A	code
state	N/A	code	county	N/A	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff
 organization Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission date November 1982
 street & number 221 Governor Street telephone (804) 786-3144
 city or town Richmond state Virginia 23219

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature H. Bryan Mitchell
 H. Bryan Mitchell, Executive Director
 title Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission date DEC 14 1982

For NPS use only
 I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register
 date
 Keeper of the National Register
 Attest: date
 Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

HENRY MISH BARN, AUGUSTA COUNTY, VA

Continuation sheet #1

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8. SIGNIFICANCE -- Historical Background

volved construction of the house, and not the barn. By 1849 the value of buildings on the property had increased by an additional \$1,680, thus dating completion of the brick barn.

The Henry Mish farm, including the handsome brick barn, escaped injury during the Civil War, a period of Valley history in which more than two thousand barns and seventy mills were destroyed by Sheridan's troops alone. George C. Mish, born March 9, 1856, inherited the property from his father after his marriage to Ella Moore Smith in 1878. A picture of the barn, farmhouse, and other outbuildings under his proprietorship was included in Jed Hotchkiss and Joseph Waddell's Historical Atlas of Augusta County (1885). At that time the farm consisted of 280 acres.

Newton Jefferson and Roberta Clemmer Baylor acquired this property in 1915. Their son and his wife, Willis Newton Baylor, Sr. and Edith Showlater Baylor, acquired the farm when R.C. Baylor left in 1925. Their son Willis Newton Baylor, Jr. and wife Louise Clemmer lived here when they were first married. The house was rented to tenants for twenty-two years before their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Cline, purchased the property of 244 acres in 1972.

AMcC/RAC

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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HENRY MISH BARN, AUGUSTA COUNTY, VA

Continuation sheet # 2

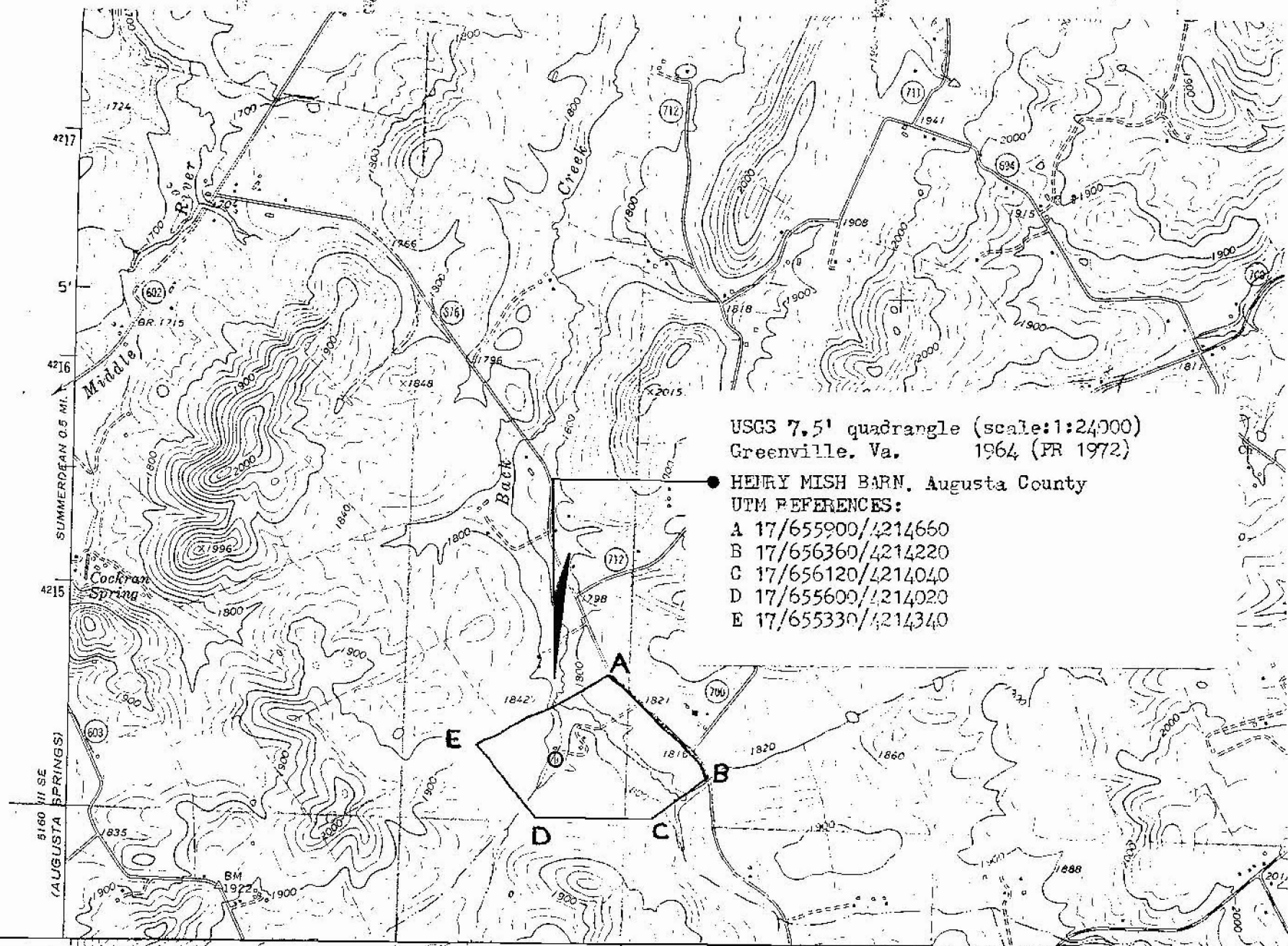
Item number 10

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10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Boundary Justification: The Henry Mish Barn nomination includes approximately ninety-seven acres necessary for providing an appropriately rural setting for the barn. The barn sits in open country on low ground and is clearly visible from the county road coming north from the village of Middlebrook (National Register Historic District). Scenic views of the barn and its pastoral setting can be obtained all along the road within the nominated boundaries. The boundaries have also been drawn to include the Mish house and its several outbuildings, structures not of great significance in their own right, but ones that give a meaningful agrarian context to the barn.



USGS 7.5' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)
 Greenville, Va. 1964 (FR 1972)

● HENRY MISH BARN, Augusta County
 UTM REFERENCES:

- A 17/655900/4214660
- B 17/656360/4214220
- C 17/656120/4214040
- D 17/655600/4214020
- E 17/655330/4214340