

VLR-6/15/82 NRHP-2/24/83

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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

For HCRS use only
received
date entered

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

1. Name

historic Oakley

and/or common N/A

2. Location

street & number U.S. 50

N/A not for publication

city, town Upperville

vicinity of ~~Congressional District~~

state Virginia

code 51

county Fauquier

code 061

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<u>N/A</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
			<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mrs. Archibald Cary Randolph

street & number Oakley

city, town Upperville

N/A vicinity of

state Virginia 22176

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Fauquier County Courthouse

street & number N/A

city, town Warrenton

state Virginia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
Survey 30-46

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1982

federal state county local

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

city, town Richmond

state Virginia 23219

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

Oakley stands on a gradual rise of land overlooking the fields and grazing pastures of northern Virginia's finest hunt country. The pastoral setting is especially beautiful. The house is a well-preserved example of the Italianate style prevalent in America during the 1850s. Its articulated openings, low-pitch overhanging roof with brackets, long porches, and pronounced details such as its semi-hexagonal bays, quoins, decorative sawn-work, and spiral stair distinguish the house as one of the most notable examples of the style in the region.

ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS

Completed in 1857 Oakley is a brick residence stuccoed and scored to resemble stone. The three-bay, T-shaped building rises 2½ stories above an English basement. A bracketed cornice outlines the standing-seam metal roof pierced by tall decorative-paneled chimneys. The roof also has a glazed cupola to provide light for the interior stairwell.

Anthemions decorate the gable ends of the building's main block and the central projecting pavilion. This motif is repeated directly below in the shouldered surround of the second-story center window. The flanking second-story windows have similar surrounds that step up into semi-rounded heads with no anthemions. Plain, shouldered surrounds encase the first-floor windows. Throughout the main block the windows are casements divided by cross-shaped mullions. The rear ell and additions are lit by a variety of casement and hung-sash windows.

The central two-story pavilion dominates the facade (north). The pavilion contains the entrance with paneled double doors and sidelights surmounted by a broad elliptical arch. Sheltering the entrance is a porch which was at one time a single bay but now extends the length of the facade. Chamfered posts support a modillion block frieze and decorative sawn-cut balustrades on the first and second stories. The corners of the front (north) and side (east and west) elevations are articulated by corbeled brick imitating rusticated quoins.

The most dramatic feature of Oakley is the two-level porch which wraps around the rear (south) ell. Originally rising the full two stories without interruption, the porch was altered in 1975 by the addition of a second floor with a decorative sawn-cut railing. The alteration was very carefully carried out in the spirit of the original fabric. The attenuated chamfered posts with brackets forming capitals exhibit stylistic similarities to the tall, slender columns at nearby Welbourne, Loudoun County, also originally a Dulany family property. Welbourne, listed on the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places, was enlarged during the mid-19th century when its present porch was added. Although not identified, the same builder is thought to have been employed at the two houses.

Semi-hexagonal bays embellish the east and west elevations. These projections were each built as a single story, but the west bay was enlarged in 1960. Pilasters separate the recessed round-arched window openings on each side. One- and two-story rear additions to the east and south elevations were constructed during the early to mid-20th century.

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

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 1857 Builder/Architect Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Oakley, which sits grandly amid the rolling hills of northern Virginia's scenic countryside, is a sophisticated and well-preserved example of an Italianate country house. While generally popular in mid-19th-century America, Italianate houses are comparatively rare in rural Virginia which saw little building immediately before the Civil War. The picturesque romanticism expressed by the house is symbolic of the life style of its builder, Richard Henry Dulany, a country gentleman. Dulany was founder of the Upperville Colt and Horse Show, the oldest horse show in the country and now the highlight of equestrian life in the Commonwealth's most prestigious hunt country.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

In 1853 Richard Henry Dulany, prominent citizen and horseman of Loudoun County, purchased 878 acres of land just east of Upperville in Fauquier County from G.W. Carlyle Whitney. Since the wife of the grantor in this transaction was a Dulany, it can be assumed this property had been in the Dulany family for some time. Shortly after his purchase, Richard H. Dulany built the present house called Oakley ~~for his son, Henry Grafton Dulany~~. Completed in 1857, the house clearly was the seat of a family of substance; its taxed value was listed as \$6,000. Because of stylistic similarities between Oakley and Richard Dulany's Loudoun County mansion, Welbourne (NRHP 1971), which was greatly enlarged ca. 1857, it would appear that Dulany engaged the same craftsmen for both places. Title to Oakley was not transferred to ^athe younger Dulany until 1862.

Richard Henry Dulany is best known as the founder of the Upperville Colt and Horse Show. The show grounds, located nearby, were the site of the first recorded horse show in America in June of 1852. Perhaps mindful of the historic importance of the occasion, Dulany had traveled to New York and engaged Mr. Tiffany himself to design the silver cup for the winner. Dulany's show was reorganized in 1869 and has continued ever since as a highlight of the equestrian and social life of the Loudoun-Fauquier area. Oakley and its surrounding fields have traditionally been the site of hunts and horse shows. Apparently Mr. Dulany's interest in thoroughbreds began when he found a near-frozen horse and saved its life. He worked for much of his life thereafter to improve the care and breeding of fine horses.

At the time the house was built, the villa-type house had become a popular form in American domestic architecture especially for country houses. A.J. Downing in his The Architecture of Country Houses (New York, 1850) notes the following on villas:

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OAKLEY, FAUQUIER COUNTY, VA

Continuation sheet #1

Item number 7, 8

Page 1, 1

7. DESCRIPTION -- Architectural Analysis

The interior room arrangement consists of a central hall providing access to the three major first-floor rooms. The focal point of the hall is a graceful stair which spirals to the third floor. It features a heavy squared newel with carving on each face topped by a finial, carved tread brackets, and a paneled spandrel. The black-and-white tile floor is a recent addition. Each of the first-floor rooms including the hall has heavy molded baseboards, broad flat architrave trim with a rounded backband, and vertical panel doors with applied moldings.

Sliding paneled double doors separate the hall from the parlors to the east and west. The fireplaces in the two rooms are set into projecting chimney breasts and finished with black marble mantels comprised of simple pilasters and a plain frieze. Each parlor opens into the semi-hexagonal-ended bay, the east bay finished with its original panels and applied molding below the windows. Located behind the hall is the dining room. The marble mantel in this room has a round-arched opening, paneled spandrels, and centered cartouche. Narrow, floor-to-ceiling windows flank the mantel.

The second-floor rooms used for bedrooms are simpler versions of the first-floor rooms. The original water system was removed in 1950 when the attic story was finished for living accommodations. Rainwater collected in a lead-lined tank on this level was piped to various rooms of the house.

The original smokehouse and an early building, possibly a tenant house that now serves as guest quarters, stand at the rear of the building. The well-landscaped yard is bordered by a rubblestone wall on the west and wood rail fence on the east separating the lawn from the fields and pastures. The house is approached by a long, straight avenue leading from Route 50. Located on the property are a variety of modern barns and tenant houses.

MPM

8. SIGNIFICANCE -- Historical Background

More strictly speaking, what we mean by a villa, in the United States, is the country house of a person of competence or wealth sufficient to build and maintain it with some taste and elegance...The villa, or country house proper, then, is the most refined home in America --the home of its most leisurely and educated class of citizens.¹

Dulany fit Downing's image of a person of competence and wealth and the picturesque style of Oakley became symbolic of such a life style.

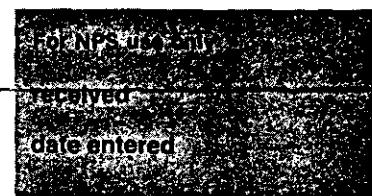
A lively diary kept by Ida Dulany, young wife of Henry Grafton Dulany, indicates that Oakley housed Confederate troops during the Civil War. Mrs. Dulany notes that she watched several cavalry skirmishes from the balcony of her room at Oakley and that the house was also occupied by Union officers. A 1931 interview with Rozier Dulany, grandson of Richard Henry Dulany, revealed that Oakley had one of the earliest water systems in

(See Continuation Sheet #2)

EXP. 12/31/84

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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OAKLEY, FAUQUIER COUNTY, VA

Continuation sheet #2

Item number 8

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8. SIGNIFICANCE -- Historical Background

Fauquier County. The system consisted of a lead-lined tank in the attic which was filled with rainwater and then piped to various parts of the house.

Oakley stands in the beautiful hunt country of Fauquier County as both a reminder of late-antebellum plantation grandeur and a symbol of the fine horsemanship indigenous to the northern Virginia area. Today Oakley is owned by Mrs. Archibald Cary Randolph who has encouraged and continued Oakley's use as a setting for famous Virginia hunts and horse shows.

MTP/MPM

¹A.J. Downing, The Architecture of Country Houses (New York, 1850), pp. 257-8.

9. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Washington, D.C. US Department of the Interior. National Park Service. National Register of Historic Places Inventory. Nomination Report, Welbourne, Loudoun County, Virginia, 1971.

Years of Anguish - Fauquier County, Virginia, 1861-1865. Compiled for the Fauquier County Civil War Centennial Committee, 1965.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA -- Verbal Boundary Description and Justification (continued)

line, paralleling a landing strip on the adjacent farm. The eastern boundary extends from the southeastern corner along a straight line for 1000 feet then easterly for 300 feet, then northerly for 1500 feet, then in a curve to the west for approximately 500 feet, then northerly along a straight line for approximately 1400 feet. The northern boundary of the main tract follows a fence line for approximately 2300 feet east to west. The tract also includes a narrow strip of land along either side of the approach road extending from the main tract approximately 3000 feet to the farm entrance to U.S. Route 50. The strip is approximately 300 feet wide. (Fauquier County Tax Map 8, Parcels 15 and 27A)

Boundary Justification: The entire tract of approximately 221 acres has been included in the Oakley nomination in order to provide a protected entrance and an appropriately rural setting for the house. The house stands in an elevated position in the center of the tract with completely unobstructed views across the surrounding open fields to the adjacent farms and mountains in the distance. The house remains the center of an important equestrian operation and thus requires sufficient land attached to it to maintain its integrity as a rural landmark. The strip of land including the approach road from U.S. Route 50 has been included in order to maintain the view and approach to the house from the main entrance to the farm. The house is plainly evident down the approach road and forms a striking vista termination. No other buildings other than the historic outbuildings in the main house yard have been noted as being of significance to the nomination. The numerous buildings noted on the topographic map scattered through the farm are all modern farm buildings or tenant houses. Most of the boundaries of the property are defined by fence lines stretching across open pasture.

9. Major Bibliographical References (See Continuation Sheet #2)

Downing, A.J. The Architecture of Country Houses. New York, 1850 .
 Fauquier County Deed Books 54, 59. Land Tax Books 1854-1870.
Loudoun-Fauquier Magazine, Summer 1931.
 Scheel, Eugene M. The Guide To Fauquier. Warrenton: Warrenton Printing and Publishing Co., 1976.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 221 acres
 Quadrangle name Rectortown, VA Quadrangle scale 1:24000
 UMT References

A	1,8	2,5,2,0,2,0	4,3,1,9,2,0,0	B	1,8	2,5,2,2,4,0	4,3,1,8,0,0,0
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	1,8	2,5,2,2,6,0	4,3,1,7,3,2,0	D	1,8	2,5,2,0,1,0	4,3,1,7,0,6,0
E	1,8	2,5,1,3,6,0	4,3,1,7,4,6,0	F	1,8	2,5,1,4,7,0	4,3,1,8,4,0,0
G	1,8	2,5,1,9,2,0	4,3,1,9,2,2,0	H			

Verbal boundary description and justification The boundaries for Oakley conform to those which currently comprise the Oakley Farm tract and which are recorded in the Fauquier County Deed Book. For the main part of the tract, the western boundary is a straight line extending 3000 feet through open fields. The southern boundary extends for 2500 feet along a straight

(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 June 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

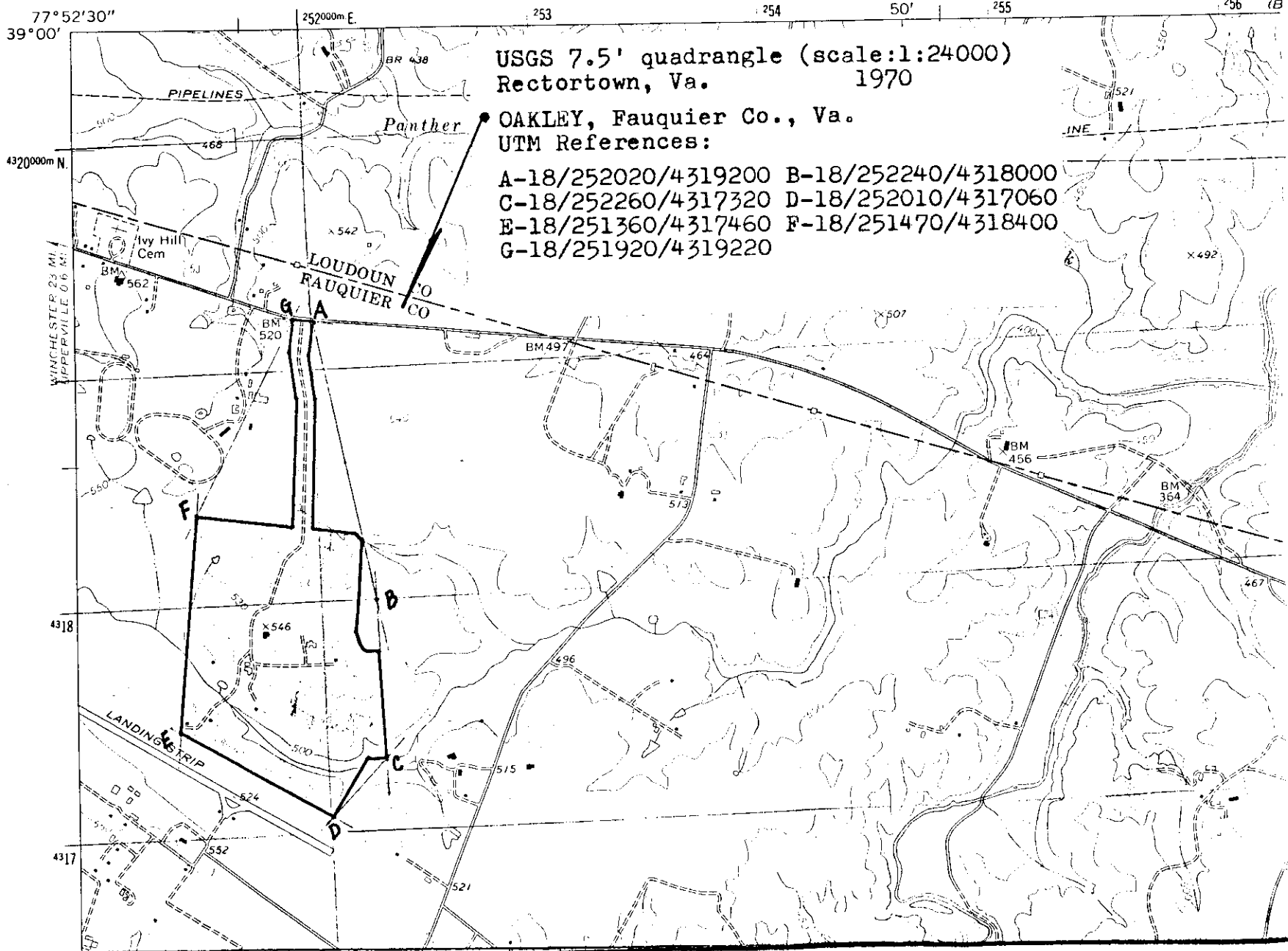
State Historic Preservation Officer signature H. Bryan Mitchell
 title Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission date JUN 15 1982

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

542 (1) SW
(ASHBY GAP)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
DIVISION OF MINERAL RESOURCES
JAMES L. CALVERT



USGS 7.5' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)
Rectortown, Va. 1970

OAKLEY, Fauquier Co., Va.
UTM References:

- A-18/252020/4319200
- B-18/252240/4318000
- C-18/252260/4317320
- D-18/252010/4317060
- E-18/251360/4317460
- F-18/251470/4318400
- G-18/251920/4319220