National Park Service

# FINAL ARCHINES

## National Register of Historic Places **Registration** Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin (6A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional contries and narrative items on combination sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

#### 1. Name of Property

Glen Burnie historic name other names/site number VDHR file no. 032-0017

#### 2. Location

E. side US Rt. 15 0.25 mi. N. of Palmyra street & number N/A not for publication city or town Palmyra X vicinity state Virginia code VA county Fluvanna code 065 zip code 22963

#### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this <u>X</u> nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_\_\_\_ nationally \_\_\_\_\_\_ statewide X\_\_\_\_\_ locally. ( \_\_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

These Aprison 6/29/2000 certifying official/Title Date 11A DEPARTMENT OF HISTORIC RESOURCES Tikeria Auson Signature of certifying official/Title

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_\_\_ meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria. ( \_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

# 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is: Signature of the Keeper Date of Action entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet. determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet. determined not eligible for the National Register. removed from the National Register. other (explain):

Glen Burnie Name of Property

pond (man-made)

# 5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Clack only use box)	(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)			
X private public-local public-State public-Federal	X building(s) district site structure object	Contributing <u>1</u> <u>1</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u>	Noncontributing           0           1           0           0           0           0	buildings sites structures objects	
		2	1	Total	
Name of related multiple property listing (Emar "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)		Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register			
N/A		_0_			
6. Function or Use					
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)		Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)	S		
Category	Subcategory	Category	Subcategory		
DOMESTIC FUNERARY	single dwelling cemetery	DOMESTIC FUNERARY	single dwelling cemetery		

## 7. Description

#### Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Mixed

# Materials (Enter categories from instructions) foundation Brick walls Brick

LANDSCAPE

roof Metal other Wood

# Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and correct condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

# Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- X C Property embudies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- \_\_\_\_D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

# Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

#### ARCHITECTURE

# Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

#### Property is:

A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes. B removed from its original location.

\_\_\_\_ C a birthplace or a grave.

\_\_\_ D a cometery.

B a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F a commemorative property.

\_ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past fifty years.

# Period of Significance

#### 1829-1950

.

## **Significant Dates**

1829

#### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterius B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

<u>N/A</u>

Architect/Builder Cocke. John Hartwell

#### Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

# 9: Major Bibliographical References

#### Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other nances used is preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

# Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- \_\_\_\_ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- \_\_\_\_ previously listed in the National Register
- \_\_\_\_ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- \_\_\_\_ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
  # \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

#### Primary location of additional data:

- X State Historic Preservation Office
- \_\_\_\_ Other State agency
- \_\_\_\_ Federal agency
- \_\_\_\_ Local government
- \_\_\_\_ University
- \_\_\_\_ Other

# Name of repository:

<u>Fluvanna, Va.</u>

County and State

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approximately <u>150</u> acres

#### UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing				
1 17 741230 4194960	3 17 741950 4194580				
2 17 741710 4194920	4 17 741540 4194470				
X See continuation sheet.					

# Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

# **Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Marvin F. Moss	1	
organization street & number city or town	Route 7 Box 4340 Palmyra state VA	date telephone zip code	<u>February 11, 2000</u> (804) 589-4839 22963

# Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

# **Continuation Sheets**

#### Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

# Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

# Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

# **Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name	Marvin F. Mo	<u> 285</u>				
street & number	Route 7 Box 4	<u>4340</u>	telepho	one	(804) .	<u>589-4839</u>
city or town	Palmyra	state	<u>VA</u>	zip cod	le	22963

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Properties Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et acq.).

Estimated Barden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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#### NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

#### Summary

Glen Burnie is situated on a tract of approximately 150 acres located on the east side of U. S. Route 15 a short distance north of Palmyra, the seat of Fluvanna County, Virginia. The house was built in 1829 for Elizabeth Cary, almost certainly to the design of General John Hartwell Cocke. It possesses an eclectic mix of late Federal and Greek, Gothic, and Jacobean revival features. The house is a two-story, three-bay, gable-roofed brick structure with gable-end chimneys and a Flemish bond facade, mousetooth cornice, unusual pivoting windows, and corbeled gable ends. The house, built on a cruciform plan with projecting towers and one-story porches on the south and north facades, is typical of Cocke's designs. The interior features a double-pile, center-passage plan with original wood trim, fireplaces, and built-in cupboards. Unusual interior features include three dividing arches on the first floor and corner fireplaces in the four second-floor bedrooms. The surrounding acreage features lawns shaded by ornamental trees around the house with pasture and mixed evergreen and hardwood woods comprising the remaining acreage. The house is reached by a narrow gravel driveway that extends from Route 15.

#### Inventory

- 1. Glen Burnie. 1829. Contributing building.
- 2. Glen Burnie Cemetery. 1905. Contributing site.
- 3. Pond. Ca. 1953. Noncontributing site.

#### Exterior

Glen Burnie is a two-story, three-bay, gable-roofed brick house built on a full English basement with gable-end brick chimneys. It is oriented south-north, with its principal facade on the south. There are entrances on the south, north and east elevations with one-story porches on the south and north elevations.

Built for Elizabeth Cary in 1829, almost certainly to the design of General John Hartwell Cocke of Bremo, the house is an eclectic mix of late Federal and Greek, Gothic, and Jacobean revival features. The south facade is laid in Flemish bond, except below the unexpressed water table where it is laid in three-course American bond. The brick is soft and porous, and there is some faint evidence of white pencilling in the mortar joints. The cornice consists of a row of projecting bricks laid at an angle in a mousetooth pattern consistent with the cornices on several Cocke buildings at Bremo, the Old Stone Jail in Palmyra and his church in Fork Union. The north

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Glen Burnie Fluvanna, Va.

## Description (continued)

elevation is similar except that it is laid entirely in three-course bond.

The house is built on an unusual cruciform plan with the long arms on the east and west and shorter bays on the south and north. The central bays of the south and north facades project forward and up to create a gable-roofed "tower." The north tower is deeper to accommodate the stairwell. The brick cornice of each tower is corbeled out five courses, creating a winged effect, and two rows of brick coping run along the top of the gable ends, suggesting a Jacobean profile. These towers are seen elsewhere in Fluvanna County only at the Old Stone Jail in Palmyra and at Carysbrook, both also designed by General Cocke.

The east and west gable ends feature three-course bond, a corbeled cornice that is squared off at the ends above the eaves, and a row of brick coping. On the attic story of each gable end are two four-hole vents undoubtedly designed to be both decorative and practical (the same feature is seen at the Old Stone Jail). Three different types of fenestration are found on the north and south elevations of the house. The basement windows (found only on the north and south elevations) have small three-over-three sashes with thick molded frames and are faced with a row of five horizontal wooden slats. Windows on the first story have nine-over-six sashes with molded surrounds. Some early shutter-cocks remain, but the shutters have been removed. The present owner discovered the original pivot windows on the second story in a circa 1900 photograph of Glen Burnie. In restoring the house, he has replicated the pivot windows and removed the two-pane casements installed sometime in the 1950s. All windows are topped by rubbed-brick jack arches.

The entrances on the north and south elevations feature double doors, early-twentieth-century screen doors, and a four-light, rectangular transom over the south door. There are two entrances on the basement level of the east elevation. Each entrance has a heavy wooden lintel and vertical-board doors with large iron strap hinges. An entrance at the basement level of the north elevation was inserted at the northwest corner in the early to mid-twentieth century.

The raised, open, north and south porches are not original, although they appear to date to the antebellum period. The porches are reached by a wide set of steep steps. Each porch runs the entire width of the center bay and features paired wooden piers with simple caps and bases, thick wooden slats, rear pilasters, and a flat roof with Chinese Chippendale railing (which may not be original to the porches). In the early or mid-twentieth century, the bottom level of the south porch was enclosed and brick piers built to replace the earlier supports.

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Glen Burnie Fluvanna, Va.

#### **Description (continued)**

#### Interior

Glen Burnie's interior features a double-pile center-passage plan with the stair located at the northwest corner of the passage. The rooms on the first floor are all of unequal size, with the largest room, or parlor, located on the southeast corner. The center passage is divided into two unequal parts by a door framed by fluted pilasters and topped by a fluted semicircular arch with fluted keystone and open tympanum. The dining room is separated from the library by an identical door frame or arch. The passage archway has louvered doors that are original to the house.

The stair rises in three runs from the rear of the passage. It features a molded newel post, a molded handrail, scrolled tread brackets, and two narrow banisters per tread. Woodwork around baseboards, doors, and windows consists of a simple stepped molding of Greek Revival design. A small bathroom added in the twentieth century was removed from the rear of the passage during recent renovations.

The front parlor has a fireplace at the east end with a brick hearth and wooden mantel of simple Greek Revival design. The mantel features a molded surround, molded mantel shelf, and frieze. Windows have splayed reveals and wide ledges. There is a small, two-door, built-in cupboard behind the door from the passage. A wide elliptical arch with fluted surrounds, fluted keystone, and fluted pilasters separates the parlor from a small rear room. A door leads from this room to the stair passage.

The room at the southwest corner, perhaps a dining room or sitting room originally, has a fireplace with a brick hearth and Federal-style mantel. The fireplace is flanked by plain pilasters with molded caps and bases and has a plain frieze topped by a molded mantel shelf. There is a small, two-door, built-in cupboard at the southeast corner of the room. In the center of the wall, between this room and a small rear room (now a library), is an arched door similar to that in the center passage with fluted surrounds, fluted pilasters, and a semicircular arch with fluted keystone and open tympanum. Steps lead from this room to the first landing of the center stairway.

The plan of the second floor is similar to that of the first floor. The rooms on the south are larger than those on the north. The plan features four bedrooms and a bathroom opening onto a wide center passage. The ceilings are seven feet high on this floor instead of the ten-foot height on the first floor. Each bedroom has its original baseboard and window trim and original

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Glen Burnie Fluvanna, Va.

#### **Description (continued)**

unvarnished pine floors. The two bedrooms in the southern half of the house have small, twodoor, built-in cupboards.

Each bedroom also has a corner fireplace with a brick hearth and a mantel with plain pilasters with molded caps and bases, a plain frieze, and a molded mantel shelf. Corner fireplaces such as those found at Glen Burnie appear to have been a favorite device in houses designed for members of the Cary family. They were used at the Palmyra-vicinity house Carysbrook, designed by Cocke in 1827, and at Caryswood, built in 1853 near Dillwyn in Buckingham County.

Steps lead to the basement behind the main staircase. The basement contains three rooms: a large beamed great room that may have served as a kitchen in the nineteenth century, a modern kitchen, and a small modern utility room.

#### Landscape Features

All outbuildings formerly associated with the house are missing. A photograph from about 1890 shows a wooden building, probably a summer kitchen, that stood to the east of the house, and a carriage house that was torn down in the 1950s. Scattered about the property near the house and at the entrance to the driveway on US 15 are pairs of brick gate pillars with iron hardware that probably date to the early twentieth century. The driveway gate pillars have wood gates of traditional design dating to the 1990s.

At the base of the slope in front (to the south) of the house lies a pond with earthen dam created about 1953. On a hillside on the other side of this pond is a small cemetery established in 1905 upon the death of William Beverley and Arabella Spears Pettit. Their grave is marked by a granite obelisk measuring approximately ten feet in height with a rusticated base, a Gothic letter "P" carved on the shaft, and inscriptions including a list of the Pettit's children. Grouped around the obelisk are the simple granite headstones of several of the Pettit's children (among them that of Delegate Pembroke Pettit [d. 1928]) dating from the early twentieth century through the end of the century. Ornamental trees include a magnolia and a chamaecyparis, and the entrance to the cemetery is marked by brick gate pillars.

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#### NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

#### Summary

Glen Burnie, built in 1829 for Elizabeth Cary, is significant under Criterion C in the area of architecture for its association with General John Hartwell Cocke and is one of a small number of houses and other buildings in Fluvanna County attributed to him. It is remarkable for its excellent condition and integrity both on the exterior and in the interior. Cocke (1780-1866), statesman, social reformer and agricultural innovator, had a strong interest in architecture. Several residences on Cocke's Bremo farm, including Bremo Recess, Lower Bremo, and a number of dependencies and barns he designed in the 1820s and 1830s display features of the Gothic and Jacobean revival styles and are among the first buildings constructed in these styles in Virginia. Distinctive features of Cocke's buildings include the use of brick coping, corbeled cornices, steeply pitched roof lines and decorative brick vents on the gable ends. In addition, Cocke sometimes designed buildings in a cruciform plan, which he is known to have employed at the stone Fluvanna County jail in Palmyra and at the Gothic-style Morris House in Bremo Bluff. Many of these features are seen at Glen Burnie, including the cruciform plan with projecting front and rear bays, brick coping, corbeled cornice and decorative vent holes in the gable ends. The interior plan, consisting of a central hall flanked by two large rooms and two smaller rooms, is similar to that found at Carysbrook, another Cary family house some four miles from Glen Burnie dating from the same period and designed by Cocke.

#### **Historical Narrative**

Glen Burnie and many other surrounding properties near Palmyra are associated with the Cary family, once prominent in Fluvanna and Virginia public affairs. The first of the family in Virginia was Miles Cary, who emigrated from England in 1645. Perhaps its most illustrious member was Archibald Cary, a Burgess from Cumberland County who served as Speaker of the Virginia Senate after the Revolution. In 1727 a 10,000-acre tract on both sides of the Rivanna River in what was then Goochland County (now Fluvanna) was patented by Miles Cary III and named Carysbrook. The farm descended to his brother Wilson (1703-1772) and then to Wilson's son, Colonel Wilson Miles Cary (1734-1817), a member of the Virginia Convention of 1776. Colonel Cary built a small frame house at Carysbrook on the west side of the Rivanna River, which was used as a hunting lodge by the Carys during trips from the family seat in Warwick County. In 1782 his son Wilson (1760-1793) married Jane Carr, daughter of Dabney Carr and niece of Thomas Jefferson, thus establishing a close link between the Jefferson and Cary

Glen Burnie Fluvanna, Va.

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Glen Burnie Fluvanna, Va.

#### Statement of Significance (continued)

families.1

"A Carysbrook Memoir," written between 1863 and 1864 by Jane Blair Cary Smith (1808-1888), great-granddaughter of Col. Wilson Miles Cary, gives a fascinating account of life at Carysbrook during the early nineteenth century. When her father Wilson Jefferson Cary (1784-1823) and his wife, the former Virginia Randolph of Tuckahoe, moved their family to Carysbrook in the early 1800s, Fluvanna County was still considered an upcountry frontier area. According to Mrs. Smith, "there were but three patrician families" in the area (undoubtedly among them were the Carys). Their house at Carysbrook was described as "rude and primitive, with only the simplest furniture," and although the farm was possessed of good bottomland, farming was never very profitable in the area.<sup>2</sup>

Around 1810 the family was joined at Carysbrook by Wilson Jefferson Cary's brother Miles Cary, his wife Elizabeth, her mother Lockey Curle, and their seven children. Miles Cary (1789-1827), who was described by his niece Mrs. Smith, as "indolent" and a "poor farmer," had married the former Elizabeth Curle in 1810, a reputed heiress "but where the fortune lay or in what it consisted no one could say."<sup>3</sup>

After the death of their grandfather Wilson Miles Cary at Carysbrook in 1817, Miles Cary inherited several tracts near Wilmington, as well as the 1,200-acre Oak Hill farm south of Palmyra, to which the family moved shortly thereafter. Because of financial difficulties Miles Cary was forced to sell his farm and nearly all his slaves in 1827 to Gideon Strange and move to a tenant house on Strange's land, the future Glen Burnie. The house on this property, according to Mrs. Smith "had not a plastered wall, being clapboard on the inside as well as the outside and consisting of two rooms and lean-to's on all sides." This house was replaced by the present Glen Burnie in 1829.<sup>4</sup>

Among the Cary family's closest friends were General John Hartwell Cocke and his wife, Anne

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Farrar and Hines, Old Virginia Houses: The Heart of Virginia, 50.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Smith, "Carysbrook Memoir," 23 and 58.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ibid., 32.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Ibid., 86; Fluvanna County Deed Book 9, p. 168.

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Glen Burnie Fluvanna, Va.

#### Statement of Significance (continued)

B. Cocke, who settled at Bremo in lower Fluvanna County in 1801. Mrs. Cocke wrote in her diary of "the charming young people Wilson and Virginia Cary who had come into the wilds to cheer and help to dispel our loneliness." The Cockes and the two Cary brothers' families were frequent visitors in each others' homes.<sup>5</sup>

Born in 1780, Cocke was the son of one of the wealthiest landowners in Virginia and inherited vast acreage. He joined the army during the War of 1812 and attained the rank of Brigadier General. His magnificent Palladian house, Bremo, was started in 1819. Formerly attributed to Thomas Jefferson, Bremo was in fact the product of several consultations between Cocke and St. George Tucker, refined by Mr. Jefferson, and executed by builders James Dinsmore and John Neilson. Most of the other buildings at Bremo are directly attributable to Cocke, however, and were built in several different styles. Among these were Bremo Recess and Lower Bremo, both of which were built in the Jacobean Revival style, unusual for this period in Virginia.

In 1823 Cocke travelled to Albany and Schenectady, New York, where it is said he first observed Dutch influenced architecture of the area. A stone barn built at Bremo in 1832-1833 illustrates several features Cocke incorporated in his architectural designs after his trip to New York, including the steeply pitched gables, corbeled cornice and brick coping, and the gable ends that were squared off at the eaves.<sup>6</sup>

In 1826 the house at Carysbrook burned and Cocke invited his close friend Virginia Cary and her family to stay at Bremo Recess while a new house was being built (Wilson Jefferson Cary died in 1823, leaving Mrs. Cary a widow). The brick house designed by Cocke at Carysbrook for Mrs. Virginia Cary was built between 1827-1828, as documented by extensive workmen's records. The house is two stories over a full basement with Flemish bond brickwork, a rounded water table, and corbeled eaves. The gable parapets are topped by rounded brick coping. The north facade facing the Rivanna River has a two-story projecting gable with brick coping extending above the roof. This projection accommodates part of the interior stairwell. According to one writer, "this is Cocke's first use of projecting or tower gables, and the idea became a favorite of the General's." Several architectural historians have also pointed to Bacon's Castle, a seventeenth-century Jacobean house in Surry County as another source for this building feature.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Smith, "Carysbrook Memoir," 30.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Miyagawa, "John Hartwell Cocke's Architectural Legacy," 24.

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Glen Burnie Fluvanna, Va.

#### Statement of Significance (continued)

Other notable features of Carysbrook included the arched entrances in the interior and the use of corner fireplaces.<sup>7</sup>

On November 8, 1827, Miles Cary died during a trip to visit relatives in Alabama, leaving his widow and family with various scattered tracts of land but little money. In September 1828 Elizabeth Cary purchased 87.75 acres of the land formerly rented to them (the present Glen Burnie) from Gideon Strange for \$500. The property tax records for the following year note \$1,800 for "new improvements--a brick house," providing strong evidence for the 1829 date for Glen Burnie.<sup>8</sup>

The attribution of the design of Glen Burnie to John Hartwell Cocke is not documented, but his close association with the Cary family and its many similarities with Carysbrook and the Fluvanna County Jail (designed in 1828) leave little doubt of Cocke's responsibility. All three buildings feature the distinctive use of a projecting tower or towers, and both Glen Burnie and the jail have identical gable end profiles with decorative vent holes. On the interior, the two Cary family houses share many similarities, including the use of corner fireplaces, hand-carved dividing arches, and rooms of unequal size. The only mystery appears to be how Mrs. Cary afforded this well built house with her meager inheritance.

In 1831 Elizabeth Cary, described as "a woman of little cultivation," who nevertheless "possessed good sense," died, leaving her home at Glen Burnie to her mother, Lockey Curle. The terms of Elizabeth Cary's will were disputed by her children, who forced their grandmother to sell the house and land to Edmond George in June 1835. The farm is referred to as "Glen Burnie" in the deed of sale, indicating that the name was Mrs. Cary's.<sup>9</sup>

In the 1840s the property was bought by William Shepherd who rented it to Abram (or Abraham) Shepherd (1809-1880), a member of one of Fluvanna County's most prominent families and sonin-law of Walker Timberlake, the founder of Palmyra. Abram and his wife Mary Lucy

<sup>9</sup> Smith, "Carysbrook Memoir," 97; Fluvanna County Deed Book 11, pp. 91-93.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Ibid., 38.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Fluvanna County Will Book 2, pp. 222-223 and 397-398; Deed Book 9, pp. 418-419; and Land Book, 1829-1830.

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Glen Burnie Fluvanna, Va.

## Statement of Significance (continued)

Timberlake (1814-1885) lived at several different homes during his life, including White Rock, Rocky Mount, Solitude, and Glen Burnie where Mary decorated the parlor "with curtains, boards, and blinds to make it domestic, not . . . fine or showy." Shepherd served as county clerk for nearly fifty years and was memorialized on his death in 1880 in the Lynchburg News:

"While speaking of the death of this old and faithful clerk, it may not be improper to mention the fact that Fluvanna had but two County Clerks in 92 years--John Timberlake, from 1784 to 1831, and Abram Shepherd from 1831 to 1876."

In addition to his civic and commercial interests, Abram remained active in Fluvanna politics, and just before his death the Virginia General Assembly appointed him Fluvanna County judge.<sup>10</sup>

After 1863 Abram and his family moved to Mountain View, another Shepherd family home near Palmyra. In 1878 Glen Burnie was sold to Colonel William Beverly Pettit, whose family owned the property until 1991 except for a brief period in the 1930s. Colonel Pettit (1825-1905) served in the Civil War and was elected commander of the Fluvanna camp of Confederate veterans in 1894. A collection of Colonel Pettit's papers is located at Washington and Lee University, which recently published *Civil War Letters of Arabella Spears and William Beverly Pettit* in two volumes. The collection includes photographs of Glen Burnie taken soon after the Pettit purchase which provide verification of the exterior condition of the house in the nineteenth century and clearly show the pivoting windows on the second floor.<sup>11</sup>

Colonel Pettit, an attorney, practiced law in Palmyra, and he was elected Commonwealth's Attorney in 1874 and served as a president of the Virginia Bar Association. "As chairman of the county Democratic party and the county's elder statesman he was held in high regard throughout the state." In 1901 Pettit was elected to the Virginia Constitutional Convention, for which he served as a temporary chairman. Each member of the convention received a pin oak seedling, and this oak still stands at Glen Burnie.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Bearr, "At a Place called Palmyra," 32-33.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Fluvanna County Deed Book 22, pp. 416-417.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Bearr, "At a Place called Paimyra," part II, p. 63.

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Glen Burnie Fluvanna, Va.

#### Statement of Significance (continued)

In the early 1900s Vera Pettit, daughter of Colonel Pettit, operated a summer camp and school at Glen Burnie. The camp was advertised in an illustrated pamphlet entitled "Summer at Glen Burnie," which stated:

"No course of study is prescribed, but the young ladies will be entertainingly instructed in Ornithology, Forestry, and Botany . . . The endeavor will be to make the summer life a cultured, restful home life, such as the most earnest parent would desire."

Students were encouraged to use the "Mansion house, where a classical library, the best current literature, and pianos for practice will be available to the young ladies, who will sustain to the household the relation of guest." The camp was praised in a testimonial by Judge Grimsley of Culpeper who claimed that "I know of no place where a young woman could pass a more profitable or pleasant vacation than in your delightful 'Old Virginia Home' with its pleasant surroundings and air of culture and refinement."<sup>13</sup>

In 1934 Vera Pettit sold the farm to Horace Bigelow, whose widow sold it to W. A. C. Pettit Jr., grandson of Colonel Pettit, in 1951. The Pettit family sold it to the present owner, Mr. Marvin Moss, in 1991. He has undertaken extensive restoration of Glen Burnie and its grounds. Mr. Moss is considering donating a preservation easement on his property. There are also long range plans to build a small Eastern Orthodox monastery approximately 1,000 feet northeast of the house. The house and the monastery would be screened from each other by distance and vegetation, and the monastery would be reached by a new driveway leading off of SR 663, which forms the east boundary of the nominated acreage (rather than from the present driveway leading to Glen Burnie).<sup>14</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Pettit, "Summer at Glen Burnie."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Fluvanna County Deed Book 22, p. 364; Deed Book 43, pp. 202-203; and Deed Book 220, p. 663.

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#### **UTM References (continued)**

5. E741540 N4194040 6. E741320 N4194120 7. E740860 N4193860 8. E740880 N4194040 9. E740680 N4194080 10. E740850 N4194630

#### **Verbal Boundary Description**

The nominated acreage consists of Fluvanna County Tax Map parcels 30-100A, 30-108, 30-109, and 30-110 and is depicted on the 1:600-scale map that appears as an exhibit in this report. The boundaries coincide in part with US Route 15 and state routes 632 and 663.

#### **Boundary Justification**

The nominated acreage consists of four adjoining parcels that are presently associated with Glen Burnie and its cemetery.

NPS Form 10-900-a (8-86) United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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#### **PHOTOGRAPHS**

The following information is the same for all photographs:

Subject: Glen Burnie Location: Fluvanna County, Virginia Photographer: J. Daniel Pezzoni Photo Date: January 2000 Negative number: VDHR #17919; all negatives archived at the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia

Photo 1 of 7 View: Front (south) elevation of house. View looking north.

**Photo 2 of 7** View: House with pond and brick gate pillars in foreground. View looking north.

Photo 3 of 7 View: House, north and west elevations. View looking southeast.

Photo 4 of 7 View: Mantel in first-floor southeast room.

Photo 5 of 7 View: Archway at rear of first-floor center passage.

Photo 6 of 7 View: Base of stair on first floor.

Photo 7 of 7 View: Glen Burnie Cemetery. View looking southeast. OMB No. 1024-0018

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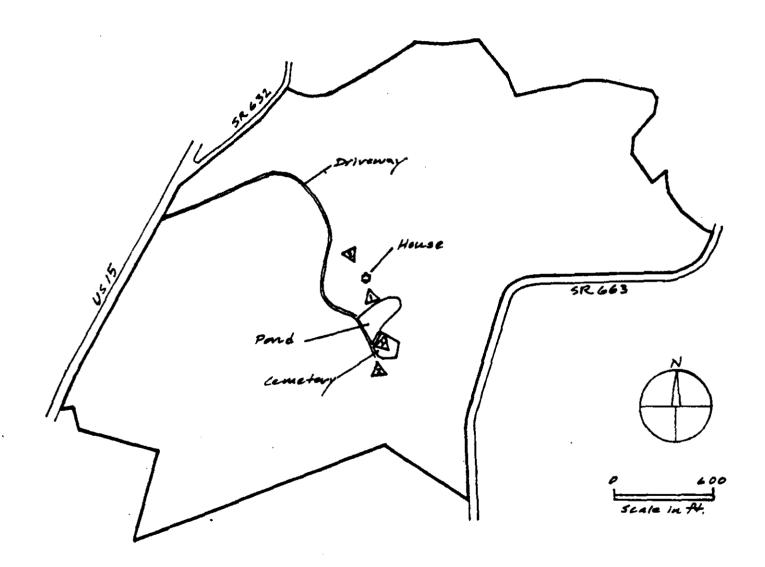


Exhibit A: Map of Glen Burnie. Scale: 1 inch equals 600 feet. Nomination boundary indicated by heavy line. Number and direction of view of nomination photographs indicated by triangular markers.

