

VLR - 9/15/99 NRHP 12/9/99
NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 16A). 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name: **EVERGREEN (CALLAWAY-DEYERLE HOUSE)**
other names/site number: **33-214**

2. Location

street & number: 536 Coles Creek Road, Route 643 not for publication N/A
city or town Rocky Mount vicinity X
state Virginia code VA county: Franklin code 067 Zip 24151

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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.)

M. Catherine Sussner 10/19/99
Signature of certifying official Date
Virginia Department of Historic Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

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 Date
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

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

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action _____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

| | |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| Contributing | Noncontributing |
| <u> 3 </u> | <u> </u> buildings |
| <u> </u> | <u> </u> sites |
| <u> 1 </u> | <u> 1 </u> structures |
| <u> • </u> | <u> </u> objects |
| <u> 4 </u> | <u> 1 </u> Total |

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

 N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Cat: Domestic/Commerce _____ | Sub: Single Dwelling/Boarding House _____ |
| Domestic _____ | Sub: Single Dwelling _____ |
| Agriculture _____ | Sub: Silo _____ |
| Agriculture _____ | Sub: Barn _____ |

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Cat: Domestic _____ | Sub: Single Dwelling _____ |
| Domestic _____ | Sub: Vacant/Not in use _____ |
| Agriculture _____ | Sub: Vacant/Not in use _____ |
| Agriculture _____ | Sub: Barn _____ |

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

MID-NINETEENTH CENTURY (GREEK REVIVAL)
LATE VICTORIAN (Italianate)

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Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation: BRICK
Roof: METAL
Walls: BRICK
Other: N/A

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

8. Statement of Significance

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

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies 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.

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

- 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 cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE
COMMERCE
AGRICULTURE

Period of Significance ca. 1840- 1923

Significant Dates ca. 1840
ca. 1861

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder BENJAMIN DEYERLE (?)

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 sources used in 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

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State agency

Federal agency

Local government

University

Other

Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 17.81

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

Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

1: 17 591000 4096990 2: 17 591430 4097000

3: 17 591440 4096740 4: 17 591410 4096730

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: MOLLY MEREDITH

organization: N/A

street & number: 6551 LABAN ROAD

city or town: ROANOKE

date: JULY 9, 1999

telephone: 540-366-6950

state: VA zip code 24019

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: Mr. Carl G. and Odessa C. Poff

street & number: 536 Coles Creek Road telephone: 540-489-7339

city or town: Rocky Mount state: VA zip code: 24151

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 request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden 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

Evergreen, currently located on a 17.81-ac. parcel along the fertile bottomlands of Blackwater River in Franklin County, Virginia, is a two-story, T-shaped brick farmhouse built ca. 1840 and ca. 1861 facing the south side of Coles Creek Road (SR 643). Originally built for William Callaway on a 4500-acre parcel, with an addition attributed to second owner Benjamin Deyerle, Evergreen has gone through various recent owners, but has retained its shape and historic fabric. A recent owner made minor changes to the interior and razed the historic brick kitchen behind the house (Exhibit C). The current rear ell was the original ca. 1840, vernacular Greek Revival dwelling, rectangular in shape with a 5/1 brick bond on a raised basement with a porch running the length of its front facade. The ca. 1861 Italianate addition faces the road with a gable-front-and-wing plan. Boxwoods line a brick path and wide stone steps lead up to the elaborate porch across the wing. A ca. 1861 brick silo stands on the ridge behind the house to the south, a ca. 1920 frame barn is alongside the road, and a ca. 1930 one-story frame tenant house is across the creek to the west. Evergreen is framed between the bottomlands of Blackwater River and the undivided Coles Creek Road (Route 643) to the north (front) and Coles Knob to the south (rear). Cultivated fields are to the east, and a small tributary of the Blackwater River flows into a 1970s pond near the western edge of the property. Set on a wooded rise, the 17.81-ac. Evergreen parcel overlooks the undisturbed rolling agricultural fields once associated with the property five miles west of Rocky Mount, the county seat of Franklin County.

Inventory

1. Evergreen (ca. 1840 and ca. 1861). Contributing building.
2. Silo (ca. 1861). Contributing structure.
3. Barn (ca. 1920). Contributing building.
4. Tenant house (ca. 1930). Contributing building.
5. Pond (1970s). Non-contributing structure.

Main House Description

Evergreen was built in two major building campaigns, ca. 1840 and ca. 1861. The first building campaign (Period One) consists of a two-story, two-bay, rectangular-shaped brick dwelling

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Description (continued)

resting on a raised brick basement. The second building campaign (Period Two) features the brick front ca. 1861 Italianate side-gable and wing addition.

Period One

Built for William Callaway, the ca. 1840 Period One house is a four-room, rectangular plan with two rooms up and two rooms down resting on a two-room brick basement. The one-to-five brick bond has a fifth row of Flemish bond with glazed headers decorating the south-end elevation (the north-end is covered by the Period Two house). Wood, six-over-six, double-hung sash windows with tenoned frames lights the interior spaces supported by a metal lintel set back from the face of the wall and obscured by a wood panel. The original shutters are missing while the shutter dogs remain. An off-centered brick chimney once served four fireplaces including the basement. A standing-seam metal clad hip-roof covers the house with a simple boxed cornice and no fascia board.

Symmetrically placed doors and windows pierce all three floors of the front façade and the corresponding rear elevation. A modern window was added to the south-end elevation, while the north-end elevation became part of the Period Two addition. A raised porch runs the length of the front facade and rest on brick posts with square hewn beams and circular sawn floor joists. The flat-sawn balustrade dates to ca. 1880.

The basement was habitable and very functional with both rooms entered from the front façade and an interior door in the brick partition wall allowed passage between them. The original vertical two-panel wood doors remains with their mortise-and-tenoned doorframe and flat trim. The floor has been covered with concrete, the brick walls are 16" thick, and the floor joists were covered with nine-in. wide paneling during the 1930s.¹ The ceiling height is 6'-8". Running north to south, the north basement room contains a fireplace with a simple wood surround. Windows with recessed metal lintels light the rooms.

¹ Carl and Odessa Poff interview April 3, 1999.

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Description (continued)

The first floor is entered from the front facade porch. As below in the basement, both of the first floor rooms can be entered from the porch with an interior door between them. The first room (south) serves as the kitchen. A large fireplace is centered in the interior wall with a full wooden surround. This room has been modernized with new appliances and linoleum tile covering the original wood floor. A heavy mantelpiece that is 52-in. high with 14-in. wide tapered pilasters surrounds the fireplace opening. All window trim and baseboards are flat, square boards. A pedimented crown frames the doors.

A window pierces the rear (west) wall and a small modern window lights the south-end wall. Corner sidewinder steps have been removed from the southeast corner of the kitchen that originally reached the isolated bedroom above. The original four-panel door from the kitchen allows entry into the current dining room (north). The center chimney with an open fireplace is framed with a full surround, and recessed shelves are situated between the fireplace and the west wall. Symmetrically placed windows on the west and east walls light the room. The original random width (4 3/4 to 5 1/4-in.) oak floorboards are bordered with eight-in. high baseboards. A four-in. thick chair rail is on four walls at a 2-ft.-4-in. height. The walls are painted lath and plaster about ten-ft. in height.

Corner sidewinder steps lead from the dining room to the bedroom above. This bedroom is larger than the other and was heated by the center fireplace. The narrow, south bedroom was accessed only from the kitchen and was not heated and may have served as a servant's room. During the 1960s, the Sumrells removed the sidewinder steps and put a door between the two rooms.²

Period Two

In 1858, the well-known Roanoke Valley builder Benjamin Deyerle purchased the property, and by 1861 had added the Italianate side-gable and wing brick section. The house was probably finished after the Civil War with its decorative wood detailing completed after 1880 when the first railroad line reached Rocky Mount. Deyerle continued to live in Roanoke County and used Evergreen as a second "country" home. Known more for his Greek Revival style, he may have felt more liberated and able to experiment with the new Italianate style that he most likely had taken from a recently published pattern book found in the town of Big Lick.

² Ibid.

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Description (continued)

This asymmetrical section was centered on the north-end elevation of the ca. 1840 Period One house forming a roughly T-shape plan, with the projecting gable wing accented by a bay window and verge boards. This two-story section rests on a raised basement slightly higher than the original house. The two-over-two wood sash windows are missing their shutters but retain their shutter dogs. A low-pitched, cross-gable roof clad with standing-seam metal covers the house with a bracketed cornice, returns eaves, and verge boards accenting the gable ends.

The recessed front porch is original with raised brick piers, square posts with brackets, flat-sawn balustrade, and cornice brackets, eight-foot wide stone steps, and a standing-seam metal shed roof. Three-light sidelights and a two-light transom frame the original solid wood Italianate-style front door. The south side elevation of the house features a first-floor single-door entrance sheltered by a portico with a brick staircase. The current owners report that the front stone steps and the side brick steps were replaced during Henry (Benjamin's son) Deyerle's occupation.³

The raised brick basement also has a concrete covered floor, interior brick walls, and windows for lighting, but does not have a fireplace as in the Period One section. The ceiling is 6'-11," the 2 x 9" ceiling joist are circular sawn, and the door has four raised panels.

The Period Two section can be reached from either the raised front porch, side porch, or through the Period One section. From the front door, one enters into the center hall with the staircase along the south wall, an entrance into the Period One section at the end of the hall, and two flanking parlors. The two to three-in. wide floorboards on the first and second floors are tongue-and-groove heart pine bordered with a 6-in. high baseboard. The ceilings are about 11-ft. in height. The original doors contain four elongated raised panels.

The west parlor features tall two-over-two wood sash windows and a fireplace with an elaborate, curved Italianate mantelpiece that was originally marbilized. The current owners, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Poff have restored all the fireplaces. The parlor in the projecting south wing also was heated by a fireplace with a less elaborate Italianate surround, and is lighted by tall two-over-two sash windows and a projecting bay window. A picture rail lines this room. The side porch is reached from the parlor as well as a rear room that has been converted into a bathroom and laundry.

³Ibid.

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Description (continued)

The center hall staircase consists of a straight run that curves onto the landing of the second floor. Board-and-batten siding covers the stair carriage and there are two narrow turned balusters per tread. The square newel post features etching and a turned newel cap. The second floor landing leads to flanking west and east bedrooms, an added door in the south-rear wall for access into the Period One bedrooms, and a door out to the first-floor porch roof with views over the bottomlands of the Blackwater River to the north. The bedrooms match the parlors below in description and size.

Secondary Resources and Landscape Features

Several secondary resources remaining on the nominated parcel represent the earlier farming tradition of Evergreen. Situated on a rise behind the house is a ca. 1861 brick silo, reportedly the first built in Franklin County, and at least, uncommon to this area. The silo was probably built during Benjamin Deyerle's occupation, as he oversaw among other things, a distillery at his home 'Lone Oaks' in Roanoke County and probably used the silo to store grain grown at Evergreen. Deyerle also had a brick making operation in Roanoke County, and may have constructed the silo.

An early twentieth-century barn located beside Coles Creek Road functioned as a multi-purpose barn. Vertical wood siding covers the post and beam barn. A ca. 1930 tenant house was built on the westside of the creek that feeds into the 1970s pond. The one-story, three-bay frame dwelling covered with brick-tex and rolled asphalt sheathing, and a low-pitched gable roof clad with standing-seam metal probably housed farm laborers who rented fields on the property soon after Henry Deyerle's death. Two barns and a corncrib on the north side of Coles Creek Road that were once part of the property no longer belong with this nominated parcel. A historic, two-story brick kitchen in the rear yard was razed in 1989 (see Exhibit C).

Historic boxwood hedges line the long brick sidewalk leading to the front porch, and a long brick sidewalk also leads to the side porch and to the rear porch. The property is landscaped with evergreens and annuals. A tributary of the Backwater River flows into a large pond, which the Sumrells built in the 1970s at the base of Coles Knob southwest of the house.

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8. Statement of Significance

Integrity Statement

Evergreen retains the majority of its architectural integrity from all periods of its development, with only minimal changes to the Period One house. Its floor plan and basement layout is unchanged. Linoleum tiles and modern appliances have been added to the kitchen, its sidewinder staircase removed, and its fireplace opening has been bricked up (the mantle is intact). Door openings were added to the upstairs interior wall and the exterior that connects to the Period Two addition. All the windows, doors, floorboards, and trim of both periods remains intact. No major changes were made to the Period Two house, save for the addition of a bathroom and laundry into the rear room of the first floor. The current owners have spent considerable effort restoring Evergreen, including opening fireplaces, repairing the plaster walls, and re-doing the hardwood floors and curved stairwell. All historic material, including the fireplace mantels remains intact. In 1989, however, a previous owner razed a historic brick kitchen from the rear south corner of the Period One house (depicted in Exhibit C) and removed the brick silo's roof to help build a church barbecue. Save for the construction of one modern house, the surrounding agricultural landscape remains unchanged from Evergreen's period of significance.

Summary

Evergreen, located along the rich bottomlands of the Blackwater River flowing five-mi. west of the county seat of Rocky Mount, is a good example of a vernacular Greek Revival style ca. 1840 brick farmhouse with an early ca. 1861 Italianate addition representing the wealth and agricultural influence of Franklin County, Virginia. In 1809, Colonel James Callaway (of Bedford County) willed 4500 acres along both sides of the Blackwater River to his son William Callaway. William Callaway, a five-time representative to the House of Delegates, built the Period One house at the base of Coles Knob and raised livestock, grains, and tobacco. Callaway named his "mansion" Evergreen and willed it to his grandson Edward T. "Ned" Bridges in 1855. Bridges, reputedly a gambler, lost the property within a year and Hill Carter of Shirley Plantation bought the property in May 1858 but sold it the next month to Benjamin Deyerle. Deyerle was a well-known builder in the Roanoke Valley and is attributed to building the Italianate style front addition in 1861. In 1874, Deyerle willed the property to his son Henry, who continued to farm the land for the next 43 years until his death in 1923. Henry also operated a boarding house for boys during the summer months.

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8. Statement of Significance (continued)

From 1924 until 1992 Evergreen went through several owners until the current owners, Carl and Odessa Poff, purchased the 17.81-ac. parcel on the south side of the Blackwater River in 1992 and began their on-going restoration of the two-story brick farmhouse.

Justification of Criteria

Evergreen is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under criteria A and C. The property is eligible under Criterion A in the area of agriculture for its use as a large livestock, grains, and tobacco farm in Franklin County. It is also eligible under Criterion A in the area of commerce as use of a summer boarding home for boys during Henry Deyerle's occupation. Evergreen is eligible under Criterion C in the area of architecture for its construction in ca. 1840 for the home of state legislator William Callaway, and for its addition of an early ca. 1861 Italianate section by/for the well-known Roanoke builder, Benjamin Deyerle. This second section was finished sometime after the Civil War and the final detailing was probably finished after 1880 when the first railroad line reached Rocky Mount. At that time, Benjamin Deyerle's son, Henry, continued to farm the property. Evergreen's period of significance extends from ca. 1840, the date of construction for William Callaway, to 1923, the time of Henry Deyerle's death. The property is eligible at the local level of significance.

Acknowledgments

The author would like to thank the owners of Evergreen, Carl and Odessa Poff for their support of this nomination and enthusiasm for historic preservation. The author would also like to acknowledge the support of the Roanoke Regional Preservation Office staff Dr. John Kern and Anne Stuart Beckett, and the Roanoke Historical Society staff Kent Chrisman and Claire White.

Historical Background

In 1809, Colonel James Callaway willed to his son William Callaway 4,500 acres of fertile lands worth an estimated 6654 pounds on both sides of the Blackwater River, five-mi. west of Rocky Mount. Col. James Callaway (1736-1809) was a leading citizen of Bedford County and was an important and powerful man during Franklin County's formative years even though he never lived

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8. Statement of Significance (continued)

in Franklin County. He served in the French and Indian War, and was a member of the House of Burgesses from Bedford County from 1776-1769. Callaway earned the title of Colonel from the Revolutionary War and received a land grant for his services.⁴

Callaway lived in Bedford County but owned property and buildings in Franklin County including the Washington Iron Furnace (NRHP 157-29) in Rocky Mount with four dwellings. Reportedly, it was in one of these four houses that the first meeting to establish Franklin County's first courthouse was held on January 2, 1786. Known today as The Farm (NRHP 157-21), the original one-story frame house has had many additions. Colonel Callaway was a prosperous man, as he also owned the Oxford Iron Works on the James River at Lynchburg and the Chiswell Lead Mines on the New River in southwest Virginia as well.⁵

The Washington Iron Furnace is one of the oldest (1770) and best preserved iron furnaces in the Commonwealth, and helped established the courthouse town of Rocky Mount, Virginia. In 1779, Jeremiah Early and Callaway bought the furnace from its original owner John Donelson. Two years later, Early died, and his son later sold enough interest in the ironworks for Callaway to own two-thirds of the business. Callaway managed the Washington Iron Furnace until his death in 1809, when it continued to flourish under the new ownership of the Saunders brothers of Rocky Mount.⁶

William Callaway (1779-1855) was the second son of James and Elizabeth Early Callaway. William represented Franklin County in the state legislature for five different terms between 1812 and 1835. Callaway inherited the property in 1809 and did not build on it until 1821, as he may have resided in Rocky Mount. The Franklin County land tax books indicate that in 1820 the 4500 acres was valued at \$19, 992.80. In 1821, however, \$500 appears to the sum added on account of buildings, boosting its worth to \$20,550. It is possible that the \$500 denotes a one-story brick house that was built on the north side of the Blackwater River and no longer associated with the nominated parcel. Callaway farmed the land and owned a number of slaves. The 1830 Franklin County census indicates

⁴ Ackerly and Eastman, *Our Kin*, 296-299; Smith, Bessie, "Old Deyerle Home"

⁵ Salmon and Salmon, *Franklin County, Virginia 1786-1986*, 66; Lee, Ann Carter, "Washington Iron Furnace", NRHP Nomination.

⁶ Salmon, John S. *The Washington Iron Works of Franklin County, Virginia 1773-1850*, 22, 39.

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8. Statement of Significance (continued)

he possessed 27 slaves, and in 1840 the number increased to 45 slaves with 15 people employed in agriculture.⁷

In 1840, the Franklin County land tax books show a \$1,000 increase for buildings owned by William Callaway, which given the architectural evidence, most likely dates the Period One house built on the south side of the Blackwater River. The 1850 Products of Agriculture census shows that William Callaway has 37-acres of improved land and 3,300-acres of unimproved land. The cash value of his farm is \$30,000. His livestock consists of 15 horses, 22 milk cows, 11 working oxen, 80 sheep, and 185 swine for a total value of \$1,580. Callaway produced 470 bushels of wheat, 200 bushels of rye, 3,250 bushels of Indian corn, 3,000 bushels of oats and \$4376 pounds of tobacco. The census record that same year shows that his 18 year-old grandson, Edward T. "Ned" Bridges was living with the 72-year old Callaway.⁸

On July 14, 1854, William Callaway willed to his grandson "Ned" Bridges his:

Mansion-house tract of land...called Evergreen which tract was given to me by my father...and also all of my lands...all of my horses, stock of every kind, household and kitchen furniture, agricultural implements used on said lands, growing crops, provisions laid in for family consumption and all monies due me at my death...⁹

William Callaway died a year later after farming the land for 46 years.

Edward Trent "Ned" Bridges was the son of James Robertson Bridges and his first wife Nancy Elizabeth Trent Callaway from Richmond. Elizabeth was the only child born to William Callaway and Ann "Nanny" Crump Callaway. "Ned" Bridges graduated from both the Virginia Military Institute (1848) and the University of Virginia (date unknown) where he studied medicine. Bridges

⁷ Naff, Bea, "The Deyerle Home in Franklin County"; Franklin County land books; and 1830, 1840 census.

⁸ Franklin County land books; Products of Agriculture 1850 census (the 37 acres of "improved land" is most likely an error in recordation); and 1850 census.

⁹ Franklin County Will Book 9, p.99

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8. Statement of Significance (continued)

married Sarah Pope Claytor, and served as Captain of the Confederate Troop "O" under the command of Ambrose C. Dunn and was a friend of General J.E.B. Stuart. Bridges was one of the wealthiest men in Franklin County having inherited the estate of his grandfather William Callaway, and of his mother, who was an heiress. Bridges also owned Allegheny Springs Resort (NRHP 64-76) in Montgomery County, of which only the springhouse remains.¹⁰

Bridges owned the Franklin County property from July, 1855 to September, 1856, when he sold 1,500-acres on the north side of Blackwater River to James F. Johnson and William Taylor by deed of trust dated September 17, 1856. Bridges is reputed to have been a gambler and card player, and to have lost \$90,000 in a card game, which forced him to relinquish his land in Franklin County and $\frac{3}{4}$ of Allegheny Springs totaling \$97,500. On April 10, 1857, Bridges conveyed 4,500-acres (including the first 1,500-acres given to Johnson and Taylor) to John O.L. Goggin of Lynchburg. On May 11, 1858, Hill Carter of Shirley Plantation (NRHP 18-22) in Charles City County bought the land from Goggin and Johnson, as trustees, for \$39,500.¹¹ Hill Carter's (1796-1875) ownership of Evergreen can be viewed as a speculative investment because he only owned it for a little over one month. On June 30, 1858, Hill Carter sold the original Callaway grant of 4,500 acres to Benjamin Deyerle of Roanoke County for \$58,420, making an \$18,920 profit.¹²

In a letter dated July 25, 1858, Hill Carter wrote Benjamin Deyerle:

How do you get on with your new purchase in Franklin, I hope it may turn out well, and I have no doubt with your energy and good management it will make your fortune. My people down here were sadly disappointed at my selling out, and abused me roundly for it. I ought to have held on to it but I could not get on with those people up in Franklin, and it was too far from my home here and too far from market.

¹⁰ Waggoner, Zella, Letter to Carl and Odessa Poff, August 21, 1996; and Bessie Smith.

¹¹ Franklin County Deed Books 24, p. 342; 25, pp.1-3; 26 pp.112, 242; and Bea Naff.

¹² Franklin County Deed Books 25, p.327 and 26, p.242.

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8. Statement of Significance (continued)

Though he was a builder of considerable renown, Benjamin Deyerle (1806-1883) was listed as a farmer in the Roanoke County census reports of 1850, 1860, and 1870 because much of his land was used to grow corn, wheat, and tobacco, as well as to raise cattle and hogs. Deyerle also had a mill he built for grinding many kinds of grain and a large distillery where he turned his grain into whiskey. He had kilns for burning brick that were used in many buildings throughout the valley. From his home, Lone Oaks (NRHP 128-10), Deyerle ran numerous commercial ventures as a large-scale farmer. He owned considerable tracts of land in Roanoke along with his land in Franklin County.¹³

The Franklin County Land books and census reports list Deyerle's residence as Roanoke County, so it is likely that he used the Franklin County property as his country home. The 1860 Franklin County agriculture census shows that 700 of the 4200 acres were improved, where Deyerle produced 2,000 bushels of Indian corn, 4,500 bushels of oats, 300 bushels of wheat, 600 bushels of rye and 1700 pounds of tobacco. His property for 1860 was assessed at \$53,533.26.¹⁴

Deyerle depended on slave labor not only for farming, but also for making and laying bricks on some of Roanoke Valley's finest houses. Deyerle is credited with building Pleasant Grove, Monterey (NRHP 129-12), Mount Airy, Belle Aire (NRHP 128-52), White Corners, Intervale (demolished), and his own home Lone Oaks (NRHP 128-10). Deyerle is also attributed as the builder of two churches in Franklin County, Fairmont Baptist Church and Callaway Presbyterian Church.¹⁵

Although no substantial documentary evidence exists to prove that Deyerle was in fact the builder of the aforementioned buildings, a letter written to Benjamin Deyerle's granddaughter in 1934 by one of Deyerle's former slaves provides some evidence of Deyerle as a builder. Peyton Lewis was born a slave on Benjamin Deyerle's plantation in Roanoke in 1849. His father Charles Lewis was the first slave owned by Deyerle, and his master bricklayer in charge of laying the bricks on the house façade.¹⁶

¹³ Cheek, Elizabeth "Benjamin Deyerle, Builder 1806-1883" Hollins College BA Thesis; and Whitwell, W.L. and Lee Winborne, *The Architectural Heritage of the Roanoke Valley*, p.87.

¹⁴ Franklin County land books; and 1860 agricultural census.

¹⁵ Whitwell and Winborne, 88; and Elizabeth Cheek

¹⁶ Whitwell and Winborne, 88; and *Waterloo Daily Courier*, March 8, 1934.

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8. Statement of Significance (continued)

In the May 10, 1934 letter to Mrs. Freeland, Peyton Lewis states:

My father was a great distiller of whiskeys and great brick moulder and layer. Father laid the brick in front of the home you now live in, (Lone Oaks) he laid the front of Mr. James Persinger's house (White Corners), Mr. Benjamin Keagy's house and many others in Roanoke, Franklin and other counties around Roanoke. He and I made and laid the brick in Henry Deyerle's (Benjamin's son) home-house in Franklin County after the Civil War closed.

Peyton Lewis was eighty-five when he wrote that letter to Mrs. Freeland, and although his recollections may have seemed clear, his dates were off by a few years. Franklin County land book records for 1861 show that \$1200 was "added for improvements" to the Deyerle property. No other changes to the value of the land occur either before or after this date so it is likely that Benjamin Deyerle added the Italianate section to the brick house that dates to William Callaway's ownership of the property. Also, Peyton Lewis was not with Deyerle after the Civil War. He ran off a few months before the end of the Civil War with Union Soldiers scouting for horses.¹⁷

In the late 1860's and early 1870's, perhaps because of increasing age, Deyerle began to sell off some of his property. In 1868, he sold one-half of a 161-ac tract and half interest in his mill to George Garst. In 1874, he sold the remaining share of the mill to Garst. That same year, Deyerle willed to his son Henry, 736.2 acres on Lot No. 4.¹⁸

Henry Shaver Deyerle (1847-1923) was the third son of Benjamin and Julia Ann Shaver Deyerle. Henry married Sally Price (1855-1916) of Callaway, Virginia and they settled on the Franklin County property where he remained a private man and devoted his life to farming. The Deyerle's produced three sons (one died early), James Henry "Harry" and George Edgar, and a daughter Julia Elizabeth. Harry became a practicing doctor in Harrisonburg while George moved to Memphis. Julia married A.W. McClure and lived in Macon, Georgia. While very little is known about Henry, he did run a boarding house during the summer months where boys from all over the county came to work. Warren Hobbs, a boarder at the Deyerle home came back to the house several years later

¹⁷ Franklin County land book; and *Waterloo Daily Courier*, March 8, 1934.

¹⁸ Elizabeth Cheek; and Franklin County Deed Book 31, p. 225.

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8. Statement of Significance (continued)

and found his name (and others) etched in the mortar where he had written it as a youth.¹⁹

Most likely Henry needed the young men who boarded with him to assist with crop production. The 1880 Franklin County agricultural census indicates that Henry owned 35 swine, seven horses, and four milk cows among other farm animals, and his crops yielded 1000 bushels of Indian corn, 400 bushels of oats, 20 bushels of rye, 200 bushels of wheat, and 3000 pounds of tobacco. Henry is also listed as a principal farmer in both the 1880 census and *Chataigne's Virginia Gazetteer* for 1893. The 1910 census indicates that Henry was 62 years old at the time and lived there with his wife Sallie, Julia Haldren, a 17-year old white cook, and Thomas Brown, a 56-year old black farm laborer. In 1919, his wife of 45 years died, and the next year Deyerle sold off 143 acres of the property, and turned over the management of the farm to 19-year old W.L. Penn. The 1920 census lists Penn as Head of Household and Henry as the owner. By this time, Henry had developed arthritis and a severe hearing problem, and on his way to the doctor on October 2, 1923 he was struck by an N&W passenger train and killed. He was laid to rest in the High Street Cemetery in Rocky Mount, Virginia.²⁰

In 1924, Henry's heirs sold the 169.5-acre "house tract of Henry Deyerle" to J.H. and Mary C. Sowder for \$13,000. The Sowders sold it to J.H. and Nannie R. Sink in 1950 who then sold it to J.T. and Nataliah M. Bocoock in 1956. In 1960, the Bocoocks sold it to Leonard S. and Wanda T. Mitchell and Charlie J. and Grace K. Guillian who sold it the next year to Marion and Margaret M. Sumrell. The Sumrell's sold the 17.81-ac. tract to Garland L. and Ellie P. Ussery in 1989, who sold the same tract to the current owners, Carl G. and Odessa C. Poff on October 28, 1992.²¹

¹⁹ Bea Naff; Karolyn A. Sink, Deyerle family information; and Poff Interview.

²⁰ Franklin County 1880 Agricultural census; 1910, 1920 census; *Chataigne's 1893 Virginia Gazetteer*; Bea Naff; and *Roanoke Times*, October 9, 1923.

²¹ Franklin County Deed Books 75:203, 118:475, 142:401, 178: 7, 188:211, 450:1342 and 509:602

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Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries for the Evergreen nominated parcel correlate to the present boundaries of the Franklin County tax map 56 parcel 82.1 on which the house and associated resources occupy. The boundaries are depicted on the accompanying tax map (Exhibit A) and survey plat (Exhibit B).

Boundary Justification

The boundaries for the Evergreen nominated parcel encompass the main house, the tenant structure, the barn, the silo, and the pond. The 17.81-ac. parcel contains the "house tract" to the original 4,375-ac. tract that has been sold off through time and is the only parcel to be considered for nomination.

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PHOTOGRAPHS

All photographs are of **Evergreen**, VDHR File No. 33-214, by Molly Meredith April 3, 1999.

1. VIEW OF: Evergreen, south and north elevations, Period Two.
NEG. NO.: VDHR # 17499 PHOTO 1 OF 9
2. VIEW OF: Evergreen, south elevation, Periods One and Two.
NEG. NO.: VDHR # 17499 PHOTO 2 OF 9
3. VIEW OF: Evergreen, west elevation, Periods One and Two.
NEG. NO.: VDHR # 17499 PHOTO 3 OF 9
4. VIEW OF: Kitchen, Period One.
NEG. NO.: VDHR # 17500 PHOTO 4 OF 9
5. VIEW OF: Center Hall, Period Two.
NEG. NO.: VDHR # 17500 PHOTO 5 OF 9
6. VIEW OF: Parlor, north room Period Two.
NEG. NO.: VDHR # 17500 PHOTO 6 OF 9
7. VIEW OF: Brick Silo, Period Two.
NEG. NO.: VDHR # 17499 PHOTO 7 OF 9
8. VIEW OF: Barn, Period Two.
NEG. NO.: VDHR # 17499 PHOTO 8 OF 9
9. VIEW OF: Tenant House, Period Two.
NEG. NO.: VDHR # 17499 PHOTO 9 OF 9

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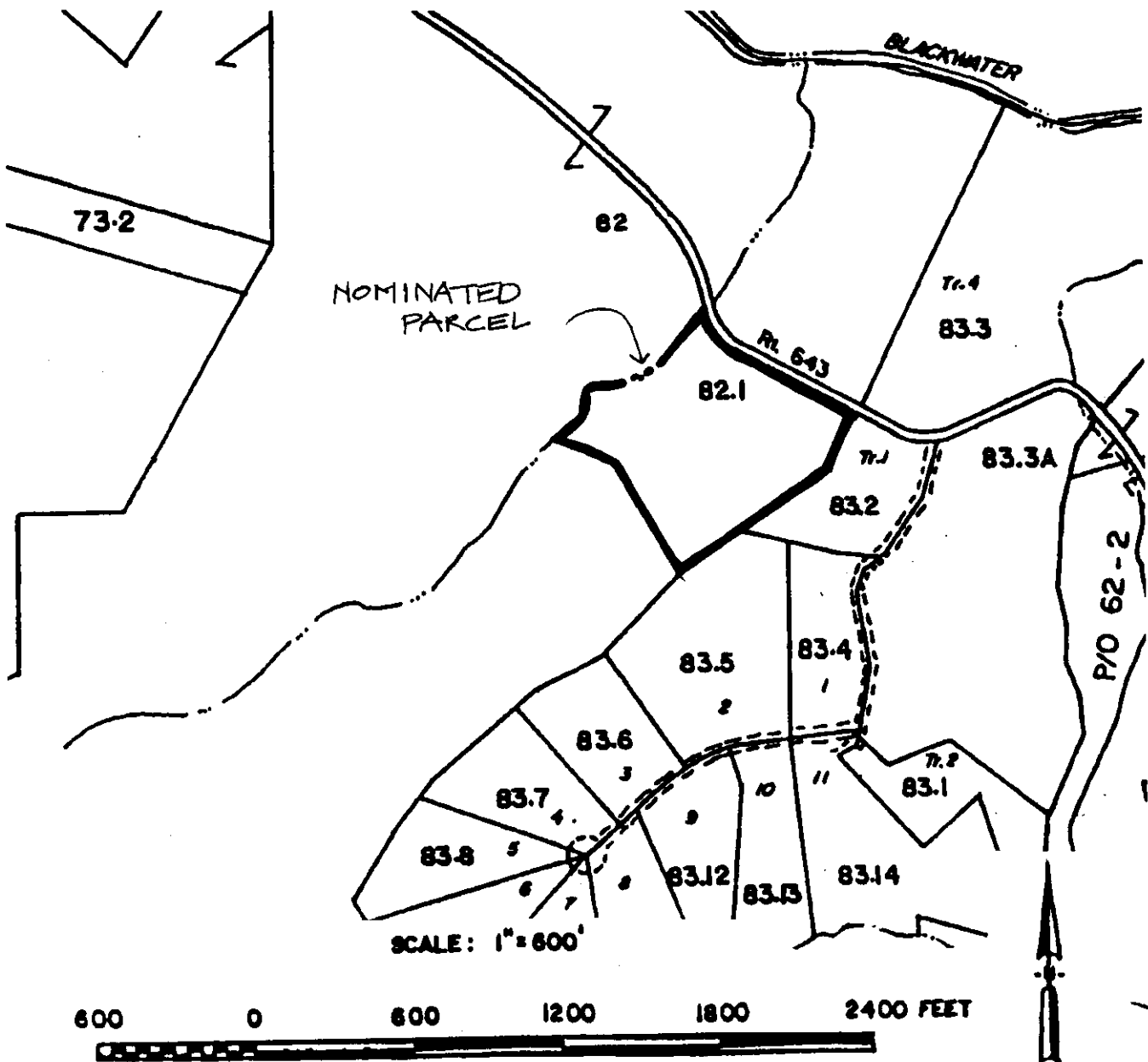


Exhibit A: The Evergreen nominated parcel as depicted by the Franklin County taxes map 56 82.1 parcel. Reduced scale equal to 1" = 800' and north arrow indicated.

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Section Exhibit B Page 19

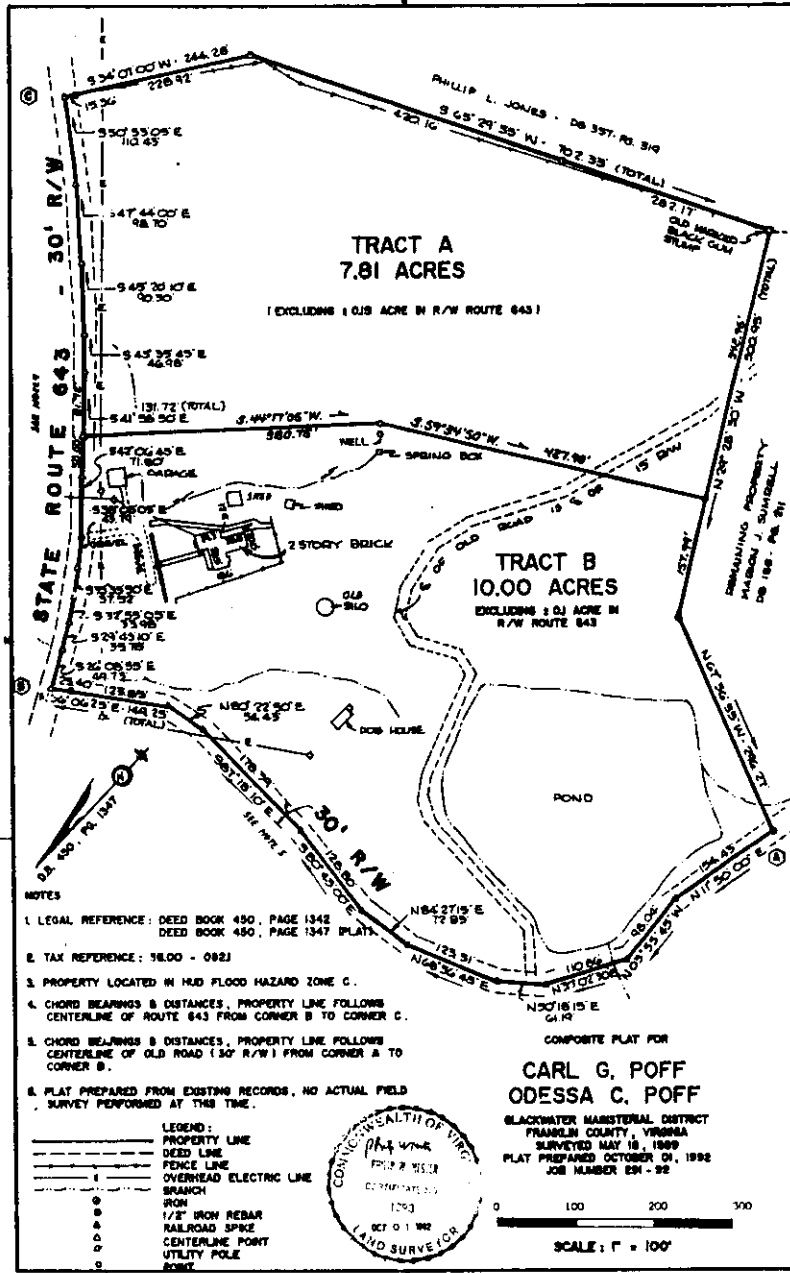


Exhibit B: Survey plat of the Evergreen nominated parcel depicting location of resources. Reduced scale equal to 1"=200' and north indicated.

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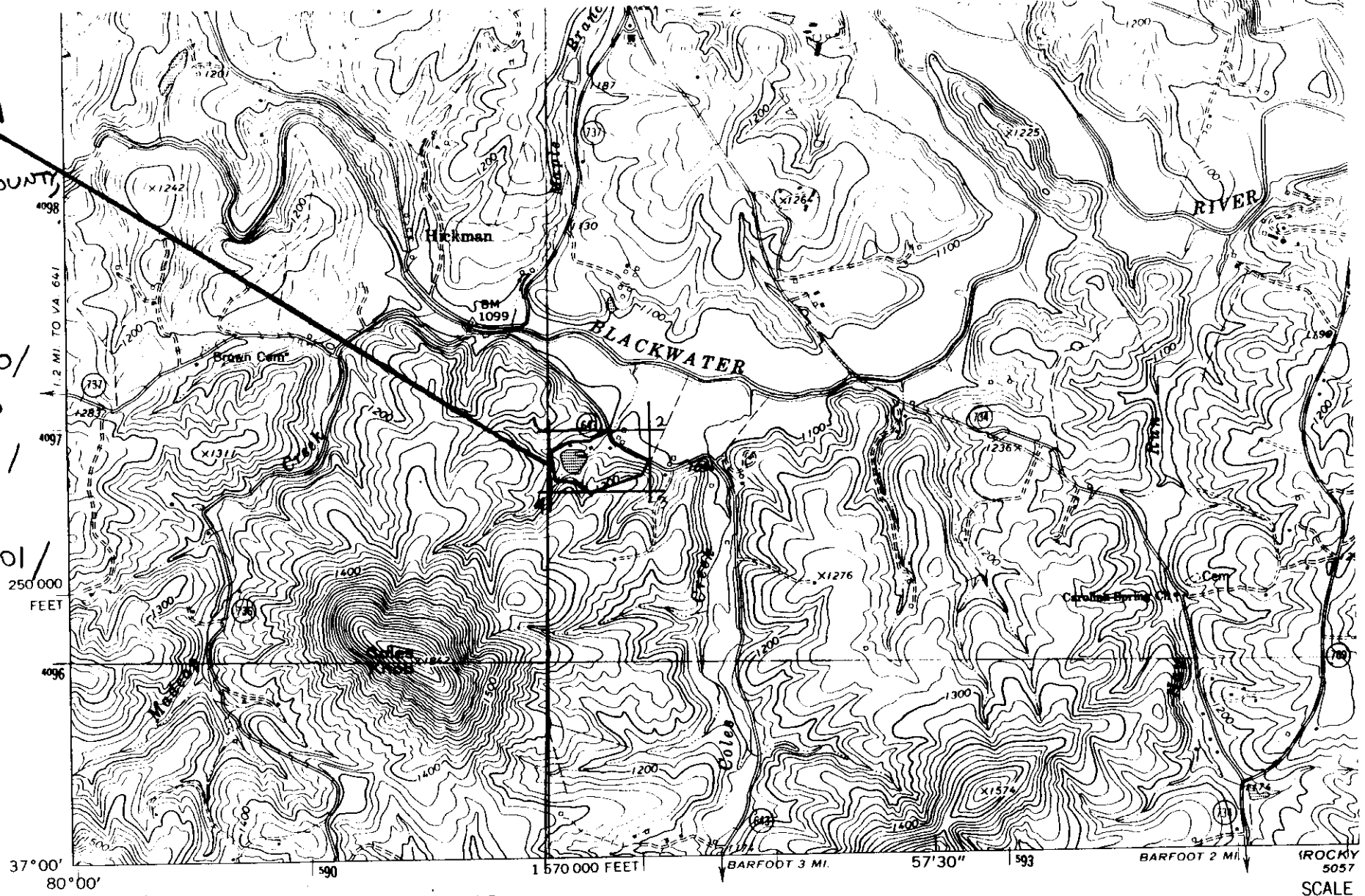
Section Exhibit C Page 20



Exhibit C: Historic photograph depicting the "House of HS Deyerle." Ca. 1900.

EVERGREEN
33-214
FRANKLIN COUNTY,
VA

- ① 17/591000/
4096910
- ② 17/591430/
4097000
- ③ 17/591440/
4096740
- ④ 17/591410/
4096730



(FERRUM)
4957 1 NE

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

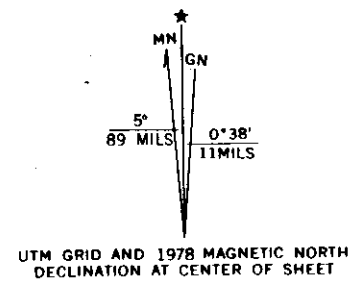
Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1962. Field checked 1963

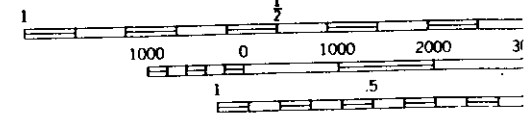
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Virginia coordinate system, south zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 17, shown in blue

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with Commonwealth of Virginia agencies from aerial photographs taken 1977 and other source data. This information not field checked. Map edited 1978



UTM GRID AND 1978 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



CONTOUR INT
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THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIC
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL
AND VIRGINIA DIVISION OF MINERAL RES
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS