

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

No Style _____

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone _____
roof Wood _____
walls Log _____

other Brick _____

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 _____

Period of Significance 1843-1950

Significant Dates 1843

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

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/BUILDER Unknown

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: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 3

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

Zone Easting	Northing	Zone Easting	Northing
1 18	277910	4191720	2 _____
3 _____	_____	4 _____	_____

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: Ashley M. Neville

Organization: Gray & Pape, Inc. date 6/12/00

street & number: 1705 E. Main Street telephone 804-644-0656

city or town Richmond state VA zip code 23223

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 Scotchtown Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, c/o Betty M. Kniesche, Regent

street & number 14505 W. Patrick Henry Rd. telephone 804-883-5411

city or town Montpelier state VA zip code 23192-2328

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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(Church Quarter)
(Doswell, Va.)

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7. Summary Description:

Church Quarter, built about 1843, is a hall-parlor plan log dwelling that stands in a clearing on a three-acre tract of land along Old Ridge Road, one of the oldest roads in western Hanover County. The one-story, three-bay, gable-roof, log dwelling has exposed logs with V-notching and two exterior-end chimneys. A later frame ell extends from the rear. Old boxwood bushes, rambling roses, and lilacs surround the house. Also located in the clearing are two late-nineteenth/early-twentieth-century outbuildings and the ruins of a brick orangery, known locally as the flower house. These are considered contributing resources.

Description

Church Quarter is situated in a clearing on a three-acre tract of land in western Hanover. It stands beside one of the oldest roads and major thoroughfares in western Hanover County. The Old Ridge Road, runs along the ridge between the North Anna and South Anna rivers and connected Hanover Courthouse and River Road, along the Pamunkey River, with western Hanover and Louisa County.

Although Hanover County is rapidly developing, the area around Church Quarter still retains its rural character. Open fields lie across the road and Fork Church, from which Church Quarter draws its name, is located about a quarter-mile further west along Old Ridge Road. An Anglican church built about 1735, Fork Church derives its name from the nearby confluence of the North and South Anna Rivers, and the Little and Newfound Rivers. Old pink rambling roses and white climbing McCartney roses bloom in the springtime around the house. Old English and American boxwood surround it as well. A large lilac bush is located just off the northwest corner of the front porch and an old arbor-vite tree stands in the front yard near the road.

The house is a one-story, three-bay, log building. The logs, hewn partially flat on the sides but left round on the tops and bottom, are V-notched at the corners. The sills, however, are hewn square. Riven and drawn white oak shingles cover the gable roof and the wooden-framed gable ends are sheathed with weatherboards. At each end of the roof, forward of the ridge, stands a brick chimney. The north end chimney, with double weatherings, serves the loft room as well as the first floor room and is constructed of brick laid in variable American bond. The south chimney heats only the first floor and is laid in common bond but has a stone foundation. The windows are six-over-six light double-hung sash and all doors are batten doors. The three-bay front porch with cedar posts supporting the shed roof was reworked in the early twentieth century. A six-bay, L-shaped porch is found along the north side of the rear ell and the rear of the log section.

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The original log portion of the house has a hall-parlor plan with two unfinished rooms in the loft. Only the smaller west loft room was heated. An enclosed ladder stair rises to the loft from the larger of the two rooms. The log dwelling originally had two exterior doors. The front door entered the larger of the two rooms with the rear door in the smaller room. The rear window in the large room became a doorway when the rear wing was added in the late nineteenth century.

The single-story, two room rear ell was added about 1885 according to tax records¹. Both the use of narrow board-and-batten doors and cut nails in the trim suggest a construction date in the second half of the nineteenth century.² This addition probably served as a dining room and kitchen. A rectangular-shaped brick flue, which received a stovepipe, protrudes down into the rear room. During the early part of the twentieth century, a shed-roof kitchen addition was built across the rear of the frame section. The date on the cast-iron sink in this room is 1921.³ The small bathroom and closet probably were cordoned off of the front of the ell room at the same time. Both were constructed of narrow matchboarding typical of the early twentieth century.

The interior of the log section is simple but functional. The logs are exposed on the interior as well as exterior and the original chinking of saplings was discovered during a renewal years ago of the interior chinking.⁴ At all original openings, door or window bucks were inserted and spiked into the end of the logs. At both the windows and doors, the inner edges of these bucks are extended past the tops of the openings and let into the face of the log above – presumably to provide a nailing surface for jamb and head trim. In the main room, the location of the original rear window can be determined from the cut for one of these members now visible over the door to the wing. The interior windows and doors have plain board surrounds with beading on the interior of the window surrounds.

Both first floor rooms are heated and have simple Greek Revival-style mantels. The mantel in the larger room appears to be original with a one-piece frieze. The mantel in the smaller room may be somewhat later with a built-up frieze. Both mantels are painted black a common finish for mantels in the second quarter of the nineteenth century. An enclosed stair rises from the rear corner of the

¹ Hanover County Land Tax Records 1885.

² Mark Wenger, Carl Lounsbury, and Willie Graham, "Report on Church Quarter, Hanover County, Virginia," prepared for the Scotchtown Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, nd, p. 5.

³ Wenger, p. 5.

⁴ Wenger, p. 3.

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larger room. The stair exhibits ladder-type construction with tread nosings extended past the stringers and eased at the end. The space between the treads, however, is closed with risers on the two steps that project into the first floor room. The interior of the house was whitewashed at some point, including walls, joists, the underside of the loft floor, and the stair sheathing. The doors, windows, and associated trim elements, however, remain unpainted. Only the mantels have conventional paint finishes.

The loft area of the log dwelling has been left unfinished. The loft is partitioned with wide, sash-sawn boards of yellow pine applied horizontally to studs. The floors are sash-sawn pine boards laid directly on joists that have been left in the round but skinned of their bark. In typical Chesapeake fashion, the common rafter roof is framed on a board false plate with collars halved and lapped onto the sides of the rafters.

The doors and door hardware are a particularly significant feature of Church Quarter. All early doors are of the board-and-batten variety and in some cases, both the doors and hardware clearly have been recycled from an earlier building or buildings. The first floor doors have beading on both the boards and battens. The front door swings on wrought H-L hinges that appear to be original to this house but may have been reused when this house was constructed. The rear door is hung by an extraordinary pair of eighteenth-century, wrought strap hinges with bifurcated finials formed in a pair of spiral volutes. These pivot on shouldered pintels driven into the trim. These were clearly reused from an early structure.⁵ The door between the loft rooms is also a reused door and appears to have been cut off at some point. It is only a half-inch thick and hung on wooden hinges. The battens are attached with wrought nails. The oak hinges also are attached to the door with wrought nails and the pintels are set with cut nails. Earlier holes in these fixtures indicate that the door was moved to its present location from an earlier building.⁶

The most interesting and significant of the outbuildings at Church Quarter is the ruin of a brick orangery, known locally as the flower house. A rare type of domestic dependency, few orangeries survive across the state and only one other has been identified in Hanover. Aldingham, located near the South Anna River in southwestern Hanover, has a late nineteenth century orangery. Plants and flowers that were not cold hardy were housed in the orangery over the winter. The date of construction for this building is unknown, but the seven-course American bond brickwork on the

⁵ Wenger p. 4.

⁶ Wenger, p. 4.

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surviving wall suggests a late-nineteenth century or early-twentieth century construction date. The brick floor is recessed in the ground to a depth of about four feet. Only the floor and north wall survive. It originally had windows across the front and a shed roof. The sun shining through the windows onto manure that was placed in the floor kept the temperature of the orangery raised to a level that sustained fragile plants.

The remaining two outbuildings are frame, gable-roof buildings with weatherboard siding. The building adjacent to the orangery, the more recent of the two, appears to date to the early-twentieth century. The outbuilding located north of the house is of late-nineteenth or early-twentieth century construction. It originally had vertical board siding that was later covered with weatherboards. It has deep eaves continuing the use of false plate construction.

Church Quarter stands beside one of the major thoroughfares in western Hanover as an example of a mid-nineteenth century dwelling and as an example of log construction. It survives relatively unaltered and as such is a rare resource in Hanover County. Set among old flowers and other landscape elements, the house and its outbuildings, including the brick remains of an orangery, are a significant part of Hanover County's architectural history.

8. Statement of Significance

Church Quarter is a one-story, hall-parlor plan log house that was built about 1843. It remains remarkably intact and unspoiled and is a rare survivor of what was once a common house type. It stands in western Hanover along a well-traveled road (Route 738/Old Ridge Road) that has always been a major thoroughfare through northwestern Hanover. It was built on land owned since the early eighteenth century by a series of prominent Hanoverians although the house was not erected until 1843. During the Civil War, a brief stop by Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson for water, contributed to the local importance of the house. Church Quarter is significant architecturally as the best-preserved antebellum log dwelling in Hanover County and is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C at the local level in the area of architecture.

Historical Background

Church Quarter derives its name from historic Fork Church, an Anglican Church built about

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1735, that stands scarcely a quarter-mile northwest of this house on Old Ridge Road. It is not known when this tract acquired the name of Church Quarter but it apparently was an outlying plantation or quarter of one of its early owners. The three-acre tract of land on which Church Quarter is located was originally part of Richard Harris's 1719 land patent.⁷ Harris was a member of the House of Burgesses and resident of Hanover County. By 1760, Nelson Berkeley of Airwell and a large landowner in western Hanover was in possession of the property. In 1789, John Thornton purchased 259 acres from Berkeley. Thornton was a juror on the Parson's Cause case argued at Hanover Courthouse. Native son Patrick Henry served as the attorney for the defendant. Henry's oratorical skill in arguing the damage portion of this case was the beginning of his distinguished career as a leader during the American Revolution.

John Thornton, Jr. inherited Church Quarter at the death of his father in 1822. The will of John Thornton, Sr. referred to this tract as "called and known by the name of Church Quarter".⁸ John Thornton, Jr. only survived his father by seven years and at his death left a life estate in this property and four other parcels to his widow, Sarah Thornton.⁹ Between the years 1840 and 1843, no building value was assessed for the Church Quarter tract which would seem to indicate the buildings were no longer standing. In 1844, however, a building value of \$128.75 was assessed along with the note, "\$128.75 added on account of new building."¹⁰ This was during the ownership tenure of Sarah Thornton, widow of John Thornton, Jr., and it is presumed that she had the existing log dwelling built. It is not known if she ever lived here.

An 1856 plat of the 250-acre Church Quarter tract, indicates that the majority of the land was located on the southwest side of the road from Fork Church to Hanover Courthouse (present-day Old Ridge Road). The land was surveyed at the request of the commissioners appointed to settle the estate of John Thornton, deceased. The land was then advertised and sold at public auction to Lewis T. Blunt, a descendant of John Thornton, Jr., in 1858.¹¹ Blunt owned this property until his death in 1885.

Blunt was the owner of Church Quarter during the Civil War when the famous encounter with Stonewall Jackson took place there. The event was chronicled in the letters of Charles M. Blackford,

⁷ John Gwathney, *Twelve Virginia Counties*, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1937.

⁸ William R. Cocke, III, *Hanover County Chancery Wills and Notes*, Columbia, Va.: by the author, 1940, p. 142.

⁹ Cocke, 143; Hanover County Land Tax Book 1831.

¹⁰ Hanover County Land Tax Book, 1844.

¹¹ Hanover County Deed Book 19:16.

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of Lynchburg, a Captain in Company B of the 2nd Virginia Cavalry. On July 16, 1862, General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson and his staff, accompanied by Captain Blackford, were travelling from Richmond to Gordonsville. Blackford writes:

We passed by Ashland and hence on by Old Fork Church. Just before we got to Fork Church, we came to a very nice cottage on the right side of the road setting back some forty or fifty feet from it. The house was covered very much by running roses and other flowers, and there were many flowers in the yard, some in boxes, some in beds.¹²

The cottage was Church Quarter. The entourage was thirsty and stopped at the house for water. The matron of the house willingly obliged and handed Jackson a pitcher of water from which he drank without the advantage of cup or dipper. The woman had no idea who the officer was but inquired of Blackford and was told he was Jackson. According to Blackford, "her eyes riveted on him with a look of combined curiosity and devotion." When Jackson finished drinking, she immediately disappeared into the house with the pitcher leaving the remainder of the group to wonder if they would likewise be given water. The matron eventually returned but with a different pitcher and dipper and everyone received water. When she reached Blackford with the water he asked why she carried the other pitcher into the house. She replied "she never intended anyone else should drink out of it, and would hand it down to her children as a memento of Jackson's visit."¹³ This story has been handed down in western Hanover County and the "running" roses and flowers still bloom at Church Quarter.

At the death of Lewis Blunt, he willed the house and seventeen-and-a-half acres to Lavinia S. Blunt.¹⁴ Lavinia Blunt died in 1916 and left the house to her nephew Barton Burruss. Burruss owned it for nearly thirty years before his heirs sold it at auction in 1943. In 1945, Ruth Lee Pearson acquired the property. Pearson was a professor of Romance languages at Randolph Macon College in Ashland and lived at Church Quarter until her death in 1967. In 1968, Grayson and Marie Taylor, who owned land adjacent to Church Quarter, purchased the property from Pearson's heir.¹⁵

¹² Susan Leigh Blackford, *Letters from Lee's Army*, New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1947, p. 90.

¹³ Blackford, p. 90.

¹⁴ Hanover County Land Tax Book, 1886.

¹⁵ Hanover County Deed Book 279:687.

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The Scotchtown Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) purchased the property in April 1969 for use as their chapter house.¹⁶ By that time, the yard at Church Quarter had become overgrown and the house was in need of repairs. The DAR members have worked to maintain the house and use it for their meetings.

Church Quarter is one of the few log houses built during the first half of the nineteenth century that survives in Hanover County.¹⁷ Hanover is not an area with a strong tradition of log construction and only a handful of log buildings survive. The majority of log houses that survive are located in western Hanover County, west of the fall line. Most of the pre-1860 log houses that do survive in Hanover have been incorporated into later and larger frame dwellings that were built around or adjacent to them. Canterbury and Eureka in western Hanover and the Syndor family home, Meadow Farm, in eastern Hanover County are examples of large frame dwellings with the original section constructed of log. Meadow Farm, unfortunately, has been demolished within the last eight years and Eureka was in poor condition when surveyed ten years ago. Two one-room log houses (in poor condition) have been documented in eastern Hanover County as well as several late-nineteenth century log homes in far western Hanover. In addition to the uniqueness of its log construction, few hall-parlor plan houses survive in the county that have not been subsumed within a larger and later house. Of the nineteen hall-parlor plan dwellings documented in Hanover County, only six retain this plan without major additions and Church Quarter is the only one constructed of log.¹⁸

Church Quarter stands alone in Hanover County as a relatively unaltered example of pre-1860, log, hall-parlor plan house. In addition to its rarity in the area, it retains most of its original features including its early and reused batten doors and door hardware. The ruins of the orangery or flower house are also unique in Hanover County with only one other orangery known to exist in the county. Church Quarter, located in an area that is rapidly developing and losing much of its historic architecture, is a significant link with the past history of the county.

¹⁶ Hanover County Deed Book 288:318.

¹⁷ Land and Community Associates, *Survey of Historic Resources, Hanover County, Virginia, Phases I and II*, prepared for the Hanover County Planning Department, 1992, p. 21.

¹⁸ Land and Community Associates, p. 23.

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9. Bibliographical References

Blackford, Susan Leigh. *Letters from Lee's Army*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1947.

Cocke, William R., III, *Hanover County Chancery Wills and Notes*, Columbia, Va.: by the author, 1940.

Gwathney, John. *Twelve Virginia Counties*, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1937.

Hanover County Deed Books. On file at the Clerk's Office, Hanover County Circuit Court, Hanover Va. Various years.

Hanover County Land Tax Books. On file at the Clerk's Office, Hanover County Circuit Court, Hanover Va. Various years.

Hanover County Will Books. On file at the Clerk's Office, Hanover County Circuit Court, Hanover Va. Various years.

Land and Community Associates. *Survey of Historic Resources, Hanover County, Virginia, Phase I and II*. Prepared for Hanover County Planning Department, 1992.

Wenger, Mark, Lounsbury, Carl and Graham, Willie. "Report on Church Quarter, Hanover County, Virginia." Prepared for the Scotchtown Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, date,

10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of Church Quarter encompass the entire three-acre parcel as shown on the accompanying plat dated February 18, 1969, and on file in the Clerk's Office, Hanover County Circuit Court, Hanover, Va.

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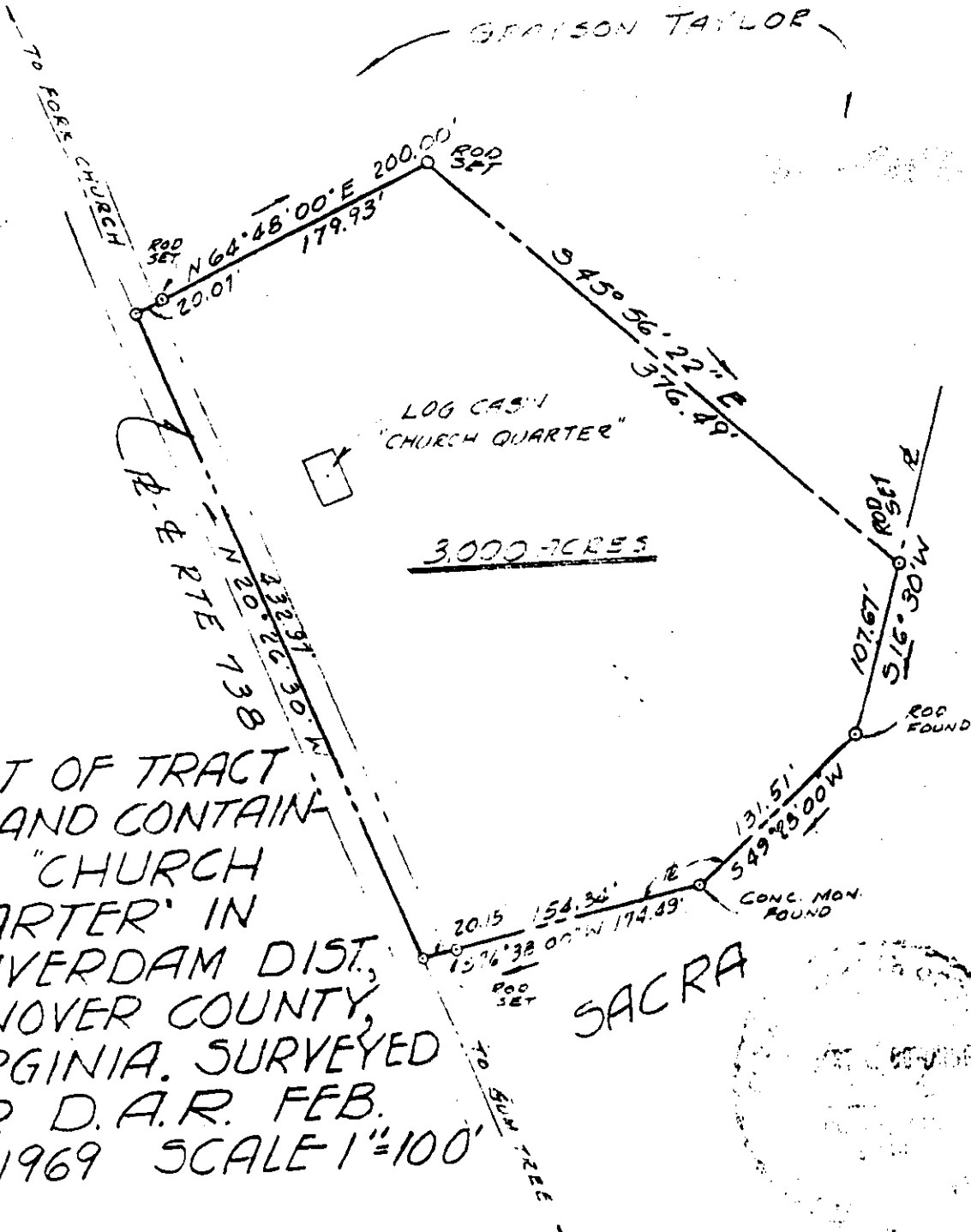
**(Church Quarter)
(Doswell, Va.)**

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Boundary Justification

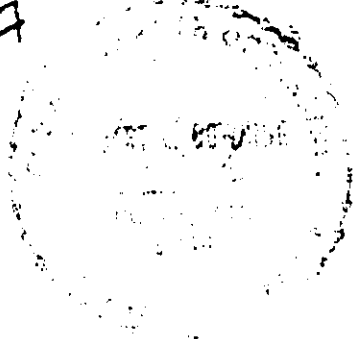
The boundaries include the dwelling and all contributing outbuildings and include all the land presently associated with the buildings. It also includes all of the flowers, bushes, and trees historically associated with the property.

MRS.



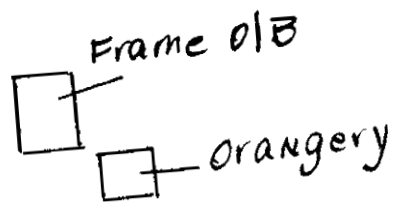
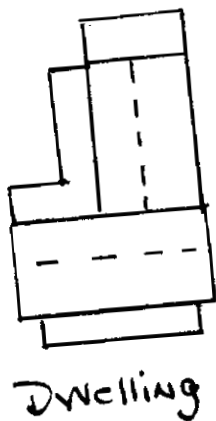
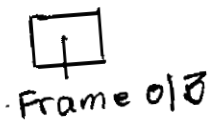
PLAT OF TRACT
 OF LAND CONTAIN-
 ING "CHURCH
 QUARTER" IN
 BEAVERDAM DIST.,
 HANOVER COUNTY,
 VIRGINIA. SURVEYED
 FOR D.A.R. FEB.
 18, 1969 SCALE 1"=100'

SACRA



F.B. 1046

Church Quarter (42-6)
Hanover County, Va.



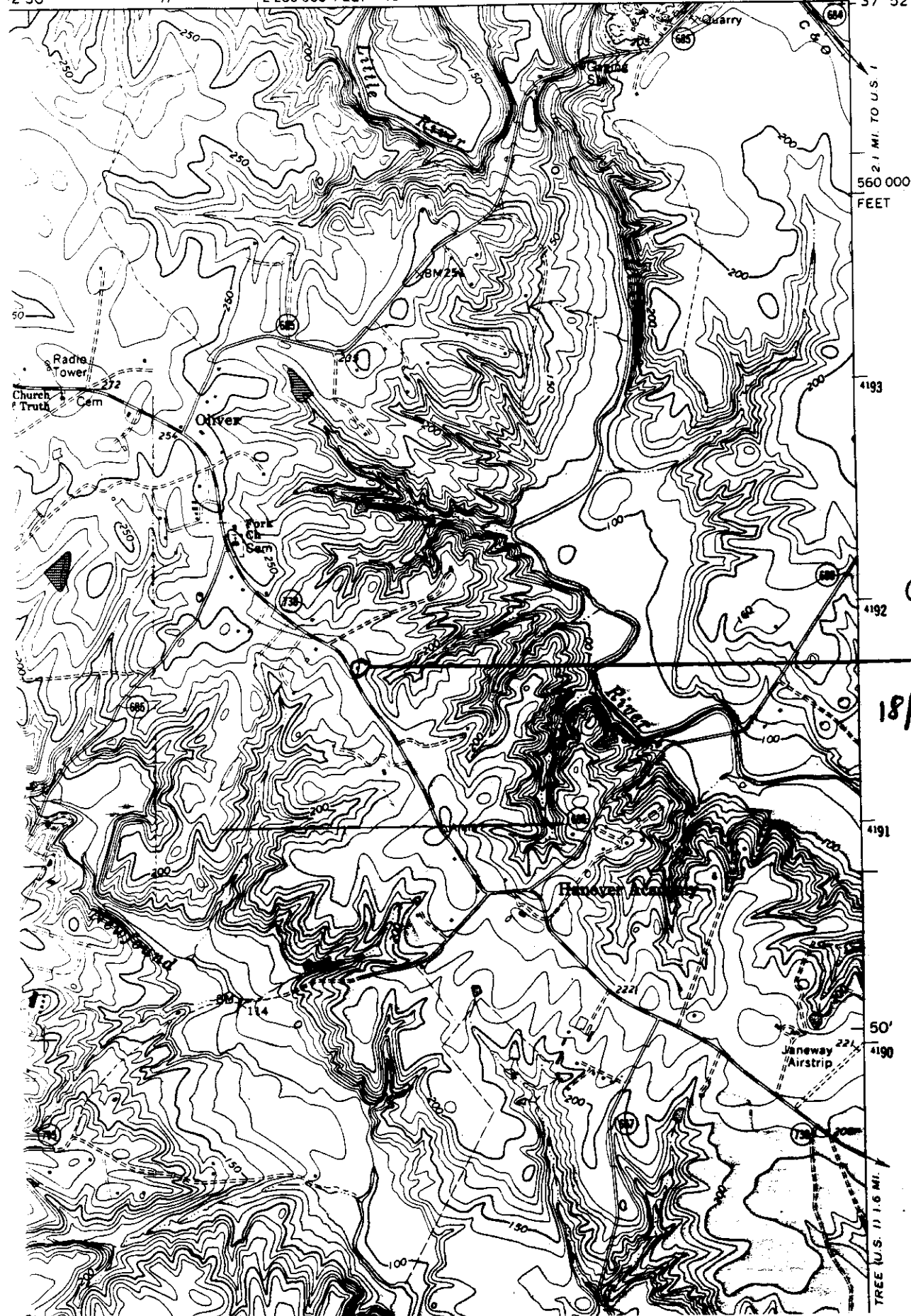
Old Ridge Road / Rt. 738



HANOVER ACADEMY QUADRANGLE
VIRGINIA - HANOVER CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

5559 IV NW
(RUTHER GLEN)

2'30" 277 2 280 000 FEET 278 279 HEWLETT 5 MI 77°30' 37°52'30"



Church
Quarter
(42-6)
18/277910/4191720