

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

58-5

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 an 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 Buffalo Springs Historical Archeological District

other names/site number Buffalo Lithia Springs; Buffalo Mineral Springs; Site 44MC329

2. Location

street & number NE and NW of jct. of US 58 and SR 732 not for publication

city or town Buffalo Junction vicinity

state Virginia code VA county Mecklenburg code 117 zip code 24529

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

M. Catherine Swaner 12/23/97
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Va. Dept of Historic Resources
State of 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 certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- 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): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property (Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

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

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

Table with 2 columns: Contributing, Noncontributing. Rows for buildings, sites, structures, objects, Total.

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "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

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

(Enter categories from instructions)

HEALTH CARE: Resort, DOMESTIC: Hotel, INDUSTRY: Waterworks, AGRICULTURE: agricultural field

RECREATION: outdoor recreation, DOMESTIC: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

(Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial

foundation brick, walls wood weatherboard, roof asphalt shingles, other

Narrative Description

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

Name of Property

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.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or 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)

Archeology / Historic - non-aboriginal

Health / Medicine

Commerce

Entertainment / Recreation

Agriculture

Community Planning and Development

Period of Significance

1811-1949

Significant Dates

1811

1874

1905

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Euro-American

African-American

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:

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington, N.C.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approximately 65

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	17	708960	4058670
Zone	Easting	Northing	
2	17	709430	4058530
Zone	Easting	Northing	

3	17	709400	4058020
Zone	Easting	Northing	
4	17	708400	4058240
Zone	Easting	Northing	

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 Denise P. Messick, Historian, and Lawrence E. Abbott, Archeologist

organization New South Associates date September 1997

street & number 6150 East Ponce de Leon Avenue telephone (770) 498-4155

city or town Stone Mountain state Georgia zip code 30083

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 SHPO or FPO.)

name multiple owners (see continuation sheet)

street & number telephone

city or town state zip code

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 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 Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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**Buffalo Springs Historical Archeological District
Mecklenburg County, VA**

7. Description

Buffalo Springs was once a hotel, health resort, bottling plant and farm extending over several hundred acres with at least five associated mineral springs in rural Mecklenburg County, Virginia. Also known as Buffalo Lithia Springs or Buffalo Mineral Springs, it operated as a commercial enterprise from circa 1811 until the 1940s when most of its buildings were moved or demolished. The Buffalo Springs Historical Archeological District consists of an archeological component (Site 44MC329) and an architectural component, as well as historic landscape features, covering a total area of approximately 65 acres. It is located northeast and northwest of the junction of US Highway 58 and Virginia State Road (SR) 732, historically known as Buffalo Springs Road or White House Road. The archeological site, comprising the core of the former spa, is located primarily on land now owned by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) as part of the John H. Kerr Dam and Reservoir. While it is listed as one site, Site 44MC329 has been separated into 55 distinct archeological elements for descriptive purposes. Other portions of the site on adjacent private land are not presently included in the nomination, except for the two properties noted below. The U. S. government property has only one intact structure (an above-ground cistern) related to the period of significance, although a reconstructed springhouse (a non-contributing resource) marks the location of Spring No. 2. One historic house (the Shelton House) and a former bottle storage building are located on private land adjacent to the COE property, and those two buildings are included as contributing resources. Two modern outbuildings on the Shelton House property are non-contributing resources.

Archeological Site:

Buffalo Springs is located in the piedmont physiographic region of Virginia near its border with North Carolina. The physiography of the area is characteristic of the Piedmont peneplain. The general area contains sets of low ridges heavily dissected by dendritic networks of small, narrow, low order stream valleys. These streams drain into the major trunk streams that collectively comprise the Roanoke River basin. Buffalo Springs is dominated by a small, second order stream that bisects the property on an approximate west to east axis. This stream has created a narrow, but fertile floodplain, a portion of which was utilized as the highly productive vegetable garden for the spa. This stream has been known by several names over time, including No. 2 Spring Branch and Flat Rock Branch. Flat Rock Branch merges with Number Three Branch and drains into Buffalo Creek approximately 3,500 feet downstream from the Buffalo Springs site. The nearby John H. Kerr Reservoir, completed in 1953, was not present during the site's period of significance.

The geological history of the Piedmont is complex, resulting in great diversity within the underlying lithological strata. Volcanic activity over millions of years is responsible for a variety of igneous formations which include rhyolites, tuffs, dacites, andesites, basalt (though limited) and argillite. All of these have come under regional metamorphism over time producing a group of rocks generically termed as metavolcanics. Other commonly represented groups include highly metamorphosed hornblende, gneiss, schist and granites. Quartz is probably the most abundant type of rock available across the general area occurring as nodules or gravel in eroded soils and in pronounced

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outcrops or veins. The project area is underlain by Pre-Cambrian rocks of the Carolina Slate Belt. According to Rader and Evans (1993), the rocks within the general area were initially termed as the Virgilina Group. The Buffalo Springs Lithia Spa was built upon Buffalo granite and prospered from the unique properties of these underlying rocks. The hydrothermic properties of this environment produce the unique chemistry of the lithia waters that issue forth from the springs. Lithia is described as lithium oxide (Li_2O) a white, crystalline compound and/or as a substance containing a compound of lithium (a soft, silver-white, metallic chemical element, the lightest known metal, atomic weight = 6.940, atomic number = 3). In this case, lithia water is a mineral water containing lithium salts and used as a diuretic for the maintenance of kidney and urinary tract function and in the treatment of rheumatism. The high lithia content of Spring No. 2 fostered the development of the bottling works and the wide distribution of this water.

As discussed more thoroughly in the Historical Narrative in Section 8, this area of Virginia was first explored by Europeans in the 1720s, but settlement did not occur until the 1780s. Commercial use of the Buffalo Springs site began circa 1811 when an "ordinary" or tavern was established by John Speed. The mineral springs on the property were the basis for a resort which operated with various owners from circa 1839 through the early twentieth century. Several periods of expansion and new construction resulted in a large complex of cabins, hotel buildings, pavilions, and ancillary structures including those required for farming and gardening. By the late nineteenth century Buffalo Springs encompassed approximately 1,600 acres of land with a central core surrounding Spring No. 1 and Spring No. 2. Patrons utilized the spa for recreational activities as well as for the advertised health-giving properties of the water. The relative isolation of the area may have prevented it from achieving more than regional fame, but an associated bottling plant allowed the widespread distribution of water from circa 1875 through 1949. While Euro-Americans operated the business, African Americans were also among the cultural groups associated with the spa as employees.

When the deed was transferred to the U. S. government in 1949, there were still 18 extant buildings and structures on that portion of the land. Most were sold at auction, dismantled, and removed. Many of the remaining foundations were bulldozed. The COE did not bulldoze any of the foundation lines east of SR 732; therefore, many of the foundation lines within the COE boundary are relatively intact. Part of the area near Spring No. 1, within the area originally containing the Administration Building has been used recently as a domestic garbage dump. The building known as Solomon's Temple and a corn crib in the stable area have been badly damaged by a power line right of way and improvements to SR 732. The area surrounding Spring No. 2 has been damaged by grading to establish a picnic area surrounding the gazebo. This grading has badly damaged the former Bottling Plant. The COE also rebuilt the pavilion over Spring No. 2 in 1994. There are several structures associated with Buffalo Springs that are still standing, but except for the concrete cistern near Spring No. 2, they are all located outside COE boundaries.

The archeology of Buffalo Springs has been briefly addressed by two surveys associated with cultural resource assessment at Kerr Reservoir (Garrow et al. 1980; Brockington et al. 1992). Garrow et al. (1980:331-332) recorded information regarding the area immediately surrounding Spring No. 2 and the bottling plant. A limited number of shovel tests contained *in situ* bricks, nails and other debris associated with the bottling plant. No artifacts were collected by this survey. The site was given the

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designation 44MC329 and was considered potentially eligible for inclusion on the NRHP. The bottle dump, 44MC489, was recorded by Brockington et al. (1992:72). According to this report the bottle dump contained two cement lined springs (recently determined to be pit toilets) and an extensive scatter of aqua-marine and light green mineral water bottles. This site was also determined potentially eligible for the NRHP. Additional reconnaissance has been undertaken by COE archeologist, Richard Kimmel and the staff of the John H. Kerr Reservoir Management Center. This work documented the remains of building foundations, brick lined in-ground tanks, terra cotta drains, foot-bridge foundation pilings, a stone hearth and chimney, and a generous surface scatter of white ironstone, bottle fragments, and other artifacts east of SR 732 (Kimmel 1995).

The physical characteristics of the site were most recently documented by archeological fieldwork presented in the report *What Adam Drank In Paradise: Documentation of Buffalo Springs Lithia Spa, John H. Kerr Dam and Reservoir, Mecklenburg County, Virginia* (Abbott et al. 1996). The purpose was to locate and record extant archeological elements connected with the site to support the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) nomination form. Photo documentation was combined with detailed mapping of elements. Most of the elements described below are architectural ruins and/or surface scatters of historic artifacts. These range from hotel foundations to ceramic and metal drainage pipes. No subsurface testing was undertaken as a part of this project; however, limited surface collections were made in select areas of the site. As a result of the small sample sizes, the information presented is not a complete description of the archeology of this site, but serves to illustrate the valuable research potential this site has as an archeological resource. Full analysis of the assemblage connected with Buffalo Springs awaits systematic excavation of the site. Historical documentary research included collection of early postcards and photographs, deed research, informant interviews, map research, and a literature search of both primary and secondary sources.

Fifty-five archeological elements were documented at Buffalo Springs by this study. These designations include both single structures and clusters of architectural elements as well as surface artifact scatters. These elements were located either as a result of surface inspection of artifact scatters, the remains of architectural structures, informant information, and/or previous maps of the study area (particularly plat maps dating to 1919, 1939, and COE acquisition maps dating to 1941, and 1948). Eighteen of these elements are located on the Walker (private) property north of the COE property line, one (the remains of Clayborne Gye House) is located adjacent to the Shelton House on the Hasty property, a small portion of the bottle dump extends onto the Robey property, the bottle storage house is located on the Glasscock property, while the balance (35 elements) are located on the COE property. This discussion will focus on the COE property, which is the archeological portion of the nomination and the core of the district. The element numbers below were assigned in Abbott et al (1996), and are also indicated on the map submitted with this nomination. The elements within the National Register boundaries include the following:

Element 16, Privy associated with Solomon's Temple - Located north of the hotel building known as Solomon's Temple, this element consists of two areas. One appears to be an earlier privy consisting of a single depression measuring 2.5 feet square. The second depression is 11 feet square and contains terra cotta piping and a metal wastewater pipe which vents into a small stream downslope. This element is presently affected by slight erosion on the downslope side (west and southwest) toward the stream.

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Element 17, Solomon's Temple - Solomon's Temple was a hotel building of approximately 100 feet in length. Early postcards show a two-story frame structure with a gable roof, porches on both levels, and decorative latticework. The present remains are ephemeral. The state of preservation of the hotel site has been greatly affected by improvements to SR 732 and the construction and maintenance of a power line right of way. The area is badly eroded and some of the brick piers have collapsed and fallen downslope. What remains include a rock-lined well, a road bed leading toward Coal Hill, a small bridge, a privy (Element 16), remnants of a possible ancillary structure, and scattered remnants of the hotel itself.

Element 18, The Car Garage - The parking garage shown on some maps of the site is no longer visible on the ground surface. Excavation would be required to determine if any of this former structure remains. The location is set within the floodplain of Flat Rock Branch and the small auxiliary stream running from Coal Hill. This area does not appear to be adversely effected by periodic high water levels associated with Kerr Lake.

Element 19, Bachelor Row - Historic postcards portray Bachelor's Row as a set of four one-story gable-roofed frame cabins set on brick piers. Each cabin contained two units with a central brick chimney. This area has been greatly disturbed by improvements to SR 732 and subsequent erosion. The only surface remains of Bachelor Row are scattered remnants of fieldstone and brick. It is difficult to tell based on surface inspection alone whether any intact remains of this element exist. Some excavation would be required to make a definitive statement.

Element 20, Spring No. 1 - This is apparently the site of the spring around which the resort developed. The gazebo which once sat atop the spring was an octagonal open wood-framed structure on a closed brick foundation. Numerous trails and walkways extended in various directions from the spring to other parts of the resort. Presently, the remains of Spring No. 1 are represented by an octagonal pool, terra cotta piping and low mounds of architectural debris. The octagonal pool is formed by brick capped with concrete. The brick facing is in a poor state of preservation and is relatively intact only along the eastern and northern rims of the pool. The western and southern rims have collapsed and are badly eroded. The gazebo no longer exists; however, three fieldstone piers remain intact.

Element 21, Pavilion (Band Stand) - According to an early drawing, the outdoor pavilion used for the band was an open wood frame structure southwest of the gazebo. Very little evidence of the pavilion presently remains visible on the ground surface. The location of this former structure is marked only by several low mounds heavily covered with vegetation and appears to have been completely destroyed. Excavation would be needed to determine if any of it remains intact. The area containing this element is subject to the same erosion plaguing Spring No. 1.

Element 22, Tennis Court - Probe tests were used to document this element; however, the results were inconclusive. It is probable that very little remains of the tennis court; although, some limited excavation would be necessary to conclusively document the present condition of this element. If remnants of the tennis court are present, it appears that they may be buried under recent alluvium.

Element 23, Ten Pin Bowling Alley - Early postcards and plats show an outdoor, wood-frame, one or two-lane bowling alley set on low piers with a gable roof and partially covered sides. Very little

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evidence of this element remains on the ground surface. Like the tennis court, some excavation would be necessary to document whether any intact remains exist. If remnants of the bowling alley are present, it appears that they may be buried under recent alluvium.

Element 24, Men's Bath, Barber Shop, and Billiard Room - This elongated gable-roofed building was situated parallel to Flat Rock Branch. Very ephemeral traces of this former building are present on the ground surface. Probe tests suggest that portions of this site are intact below the ground surface. Excavation would be necessary to fully assess the degree of preservation present. It appears to have been covered by some recent alluvium. Some erosion from the stream was noted; however, excavation would be needed to determine how much of the this element has been affected. In general, it appears that this element is relatively stable provided that there are no major changes in the stream channel.

Element 25, The Goode Building - According to informant interviews, the three-story Goode Building was one of the most prominent features of Buffalo Springs. It appears to have measured 170 feet in length and approximately 30 feet wide, and it served as a hotel. The remains of this former building and an associated staff dormitory were documented on the ground surface. They include mixed fieldstone and brick piers and concrete sills, drains and walkways, and five depressions filled with brick and mortar fragments representing the five chimneys of the Goode building. A general surface collection of 22 artifacts from the interior of the former building included a variety of kitchen and architectural debris. These remains are relatively stable at present, although there is slight erosion affecting the downslope (southern) edge which is set parallel to the Flat Rock Branch channel. Evidence of illicit relic-collecting was noted in the area. The associated rectangular dormitory (for the white kitchen staff) was approximately 45 feet long and had scattered remnants of 12 fieldstone piers.

Element 26, The Kitchen and Dining Room Complex - Large portions of this former complex, shown on a 1919 plat, are still visible on the ground surface. Most of this complex is located within COE boundaries. Contained within this general area is a dense and complex concentration of foundation lines, brick and fieldstone rubble, concrete piers, glass bottle and glassware fragments, ironstone ceramic sherds, and metal fragments. Limited surface collections were made in an effort to collect a sample of the range of variation in ceramic types, maker's marks, and glassware types; but these were not truly representative in a statistical sense. The historic assemblage from this area is represented by a variety of artifactual debris and contains 185 artifacts, most of which are kitchen articles. Most of the artifacts date within a range which extends from the last quarter of the nineteenth century to the time when the resort ceased to function. A cellar, Cellar 2, is located in southern portion of this element and appears to be relatively intact. Most of this area appear relatively stable at present. There is some erosion along the east side parallel to the small feeder stream that divides this area from the bakery particularly in the northern portion of this element near the COE property line. Artifacts and structural debris are eroding downslope. In addition, portions of an intact brick and fieldstone wall are beginning to collapse downslope.

Element 27, The Administration Building and Ballroom Complex - The frame administration building, no longer standing, apparently contained offices and a ballroom on the first floor and hotel rooms on the second floor. Photographs show a porch on each level with decorative woodwork similar to the railings on the springhouse pavilions and Solomon's Temple. The historic assemblage from surface collection consists of 18 artifacts representing the kitchen group and the architectural group. Element 27

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has been badly disturbed from grading, recent trash dumping, and subsequent erosion. In the southern portion of the Administration complex foundations are partially intact, while the central and northern sections are located on private property and have been bulldozed and pushed into a large pile on the Walker Property to the north. The southern portion of the complex contains one large cellar (Cellar 1). The interior of this cellar is partially filled with recent trash; however, the depth is at least five feet below the ground surface. Most of the area within the COE boundary that surrounds this element appears to be relatively stable at present. Some excavation would be required to determine just how much of the former building actually remains intact. There does not appear to have been any trash dumping within the immediate past and only slight erosion is present along the western boundary of the element.

Element 28, Former Structure, Unknown Function - The site of this former structure contains a foundation line of coursed fieldstone faced with cement. There is strong evidence to support that this element burned. It is not known whether the structure burned while Buffalo Springs was in operation or whether it was intentionally burned after the operations ceased. Most of this element lies buried beneath colluvium and approximately two feet of charred wood. This element will continue to be impacted by the effects of slopewash and colluvium.

Element 29, Former Building, Unknown Function - The site of this former building lies adjacent to Element 28, and it may have served some supportive role for the operation of the resort. The building was approximately 50 to 55 feet in length and 16 to 18 feet in width. The remains of the north end is composed of a mixture of coursed fieldstone piers and brick piers. It is not known whether it was affected by the burning of Element 28. This element has also been impacted by the effects of slopewash and colluvium on the east side adjacent to an embankment. In addition, some slight erosion is present along the front (west side) of the element. The remains of two stone bridges nearby appear to have connected Elements 28 and 29 to the kitchen complex (Element 26).

Element 30, Water Tank and Two Stone Lined Wells - Element 30 are the remains of two stone lined wells and a water tower located on a hill slope east of the hotel (Elements 25, 26, and 27) complex. One well is heavily silted in; however, the fieldstone lining is still visible. The remnants of a water tower is located immediately downslope and to the southwest. The remains of this tower consist of the remnants of four uncoursed fieldstone piers. Only one is intact while the other three have been pushed downslope and somewhat broken up in sections. A large depression is located 12 feet north of the stone lined well. This depression contains the remains of an earlier well capped with fieldstone and concrete. A piece of slate, 10 inches square, is located in the center of the capped depression. The capped well was enclosed within a wire fence and possibly some sort of structure. An uncoursed fieldstone pier lies nearby along with fieldstone and brick fragments. The capped well is presently in stable condition. The remnants of the fence and structure are ephemeral and in poor condition. The remnants of the water tower will continue to erode downslope.

Element 31, The Bakery - The ruins of the bakery are located east of the hotel complex of Elements 25, 26, and 27. They consist of a set of uncoursed dressed fieldstone piers surrounded by a massive pile of brick rubble. The historic assemblage of 58 artifacts included 46 within the kitchen group, 8 within the activities group, and 4 within the architectural group. The date ranges for bottle glass and institutional ironstone suggest that the bakery was built during the last quarter of the nineteenth

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century. The remains of the bakery are dominated by a large oval depression which appears to have been used at some point to dump trash associated with the resort. The area associated with this element appears to be in stable condition.

Element 32, Former Structure (Cistern), Unknown Function - Element 32 contains the remains of a possible structure, cistern, and associated walls with drainage ditch. This element is located on a terraced area within the slope overlooking the floodplain of Flat Rock Branch east of the Bakery (Element 31). There is presently, however, no direct evidence of a structure visible on the ground surface due to the heavy vegetation in the area. This element is presently in stable condition. Erosion does not appear to be impacting this element in an adverse manner.

Element 33, Former Structure, Unknown Function - Element 33 is a set of walls located on the east end of a terraced area overlooking the floodplain of Flat Rock Branch. It is located east of the bakery (Element 31) and Element 32. A portion of the wall contains coursed fieldstone with the ends faced with cement. To the east of this wall is a set of walls, 1.92 feet in height, at right angles to each other that consist of brick faced with cement. A portion of this wall extends to the north and disappears into the side of the hill slope. A large amount of brick, cement, and fieldstone rubble is scattered about. Most of this feature is presently buried beneath the slope to the north and west. This area, between Elements 32 and 33, is terraced as if to accommodate a structure in the side of the slope. A ditch or pathway runs between the terraced area and a point where the slope drops off onto the floodplain of Flat Rock Branch. Another ditch (or drip line) is located upslope and to the north. This element appears to be the remains of a structure and may be related in function to the cistern/structure of Element 32 and the Bakery (Element 31). Most of the element appears buried under colluvium and is relatively stable at the present.

Element 41, The Vegetable Garden - The vegetable garden is located on the south side of Flat Rock Branch and is presently covered with sycamore trees. The garden plot measures 540 feet by 295 feet. This area is in stable condition.

Element 42, Shed/Machine Shop - This element is located in the carriage house and stable area. It is the remains of a building which contains an intact cellar measuring 12 by 15 feet. The cellar contains some recent trash but is otherwise in stable condition. The original function is unknown, but informants indicate that the building was used to repair broken farm implements in the twentieth century. A substantial tree is located within the cellar and will definitely impact the integrity of any archeological remains over time.

Element 43, Stable - The historical record indicates that this frame stable measured 30 by 80 feet with a tin roof and cement piers. The interior appears to have contained a central bay flanked by approximately eleven stalls on each side. Presently, only the pier and mold-formed concrete foundations, the drainage system and scattered debris remain on the ground surface. This element is presently in stable condition. There does not appear to be any immediate hazard from erosion.

Element 44, Corn Crib - Very little of this former building, originally measuring 20 by 12 feet, remains intact. The site contains six coursed fieldstone piers which apparently formed the eastern wall of the

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structure. Most of the remaining piers have been destroyed by the right of way for Va. SR 732. The remains of this element will continue to be affected by maintenance activities associated with the road.

Element 45, The Carriage House - The remains of the carriage house are visible on the ground surface. These consist of massive stone pier foundations, a stone-lined well, and scattered debris. COE acquisition records describe it as a 30x80x18 frame building with a tin roof. The site is surrounded by a horseshoe-shaped road trace. This area does not appear to have been adversely affected by erosion. The general area is surrounded by thick vegetation which serves to stabilize the soil.

Element 47, Concrete Cistern For Spring No. 2 - This above-ground element is a massive circular concrete container previously used for water storage. This element is presently in stable condition. It is considered a standing structure and a contributing resource for National Register purposes. (While the other elements are also contributing, they are no longer extant, and are therefore counted as part of the one overall archeological site listed as Site 44MC329.)

Element 48, Spring No. 2 - The pavilion above this element has been reconstructed by the COE based partially on the remains of the former structure. It is presently well maintained. Line drawings and photographs were made of the substructure prior to reconstruction. These show a white tile well approximately 16 inches in height. The white tile structure measured 44 inches square and was framed in the 30 inch well proper. The well itself was 48 to 60 inches in depth and contained a copper pump and fittings. This sub-pavilion is presently covered by a wooden gazebo replica which measures 13 feet 10 inches by 12 feet 1 inch in size. The new gazebo is a focal point of a small park and picnic area maintained by the COE. The substructure, well, and spring are part of the contributing archeological site, and the pavilion/gazebo is considered a non-contributing structure for National Register purposes.

Element 49, The Bottling Plant - The bottling plant was a two-story brick building measuring 40 by 137 feet. Located near Spring No. 2, the historical record indicates a construction date of circa 1900. Equipment included large steel storage tanks and sterilizers. The remains of the bottling plant have been heavily damaged by grading. It is probable that some of the foundations and portions of the interior of the former building remain intact; however, excavation would be needed to determine the level of preservation. The area is presently heavily overgrown with vegetation. The undergrowth will serve to stabilize what remains; however, the large trees in the area will have an impact on the element over time.

Element 50, The Power Plant - Also known as the boiler house, this brick building measured 22 by 53 feet. Its steam turbines produced electricity for the entire Buffalo Springs complex. Much like the bottling plant, the remains of the power plant have been heavily damaged by grading. It is also probable that some of the foundations and portions of the interior of the structure remain intact; however, excavation would be needed to determine the level of preservation. The area is presently heavily overgrown with vegetation.

Element 51, Pit Toilet - Element 51 is the remains of a pit toilet located south of the dam and penstock (Element 52) on a hill slope overlooking the power plant. The remains consists of a concrete slab foundation with a rectangular pit. Two concrete steps lead upslope to the toilet which presently appears as a platform with a large opening on the upslope end. The first step up to the toilet is

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constructed of two to three courses of fieldstone faced with concrete. The base (downslope section) of the feature is experiencing some severe erosion. In addition, some erosion is active around the edges of the structure. The pit itself is partially collapsed from a tree fall across one section of this element.

Element 52, The Dam and Penstock - The dam and penstock made up part of the west edge of the resort. The dam impounded Flat Rock Branch and formed the Buffalo Springs Lake. The dam was of earthen construction with a spillway made of concrete with large chunks of fieldstone and angular gravel as temper. The central portion of the dam is broken and has collapsed. The sill on the south side is very badly eroded away from underneath the dam itself. Major cracks are present along the south side of the dam where it connects into the earthen embankment. The former penstock is in much better state of preservation and is located on the southern end of the dam structure. The penstock is built directly into parent rock and utilizes the natural slope to form the drainage mechanism. Presently the penstock has completely silted in on the upstream (lake side) of the dam.

Element 53, Bored Well and Pump House - Element 53 is the remnants of a capped well and pump house that once served the Bottling and Power Plants as a source of water. This well is located on the north side of Flat Rock Branch immediately across the stream from the site of the Bottling and Power Plants. Element 53 retains little evidence of the concrete block pump house structure. The well pad is in stable condition. This element does not appear to be subject to any severe natural transformation processes at the present.

Element 56, The Bottle Dump - The bottle dump consists of a large concentration of broken lithia water bottles which extend over nearly one acre of ground. The concentration extends along the south side of the lake. This concentration extends upslope for approximately 205 feet with an addition 100 feet within a narrow gully. A small trail and ditch extends from the dam along the south side of the lake toward the bottle dump. Some parts of the shoreline have eroded away, where others have silted over. Parts of the bottle dump will be impacted by changes in the shoreline of the Buffalo Springs lake. Most of the dump is covered in a thick blanket of leaf litter and is presently in stable condition.

Element 57, Pit Toilet - Remnants of this toilet are located 30 feet southwest of the edge of the bottle dump. The pit toilet remains consist of a concrete slab and pit. Some bricks are observed as part of the foundation; however, the major portion is bulky, roughly finished concrete. The northwest end of the toilet is broken and eroded, but generally appears to be in stable condition at the present.

Element 63, Fieldstone Bridge Abutments - Element 63 is the remains of a bridge along the Slaughter Pen Road located east of the resort. This bridge ruin is presently in stable condition.

Element 64, Former Building - Element 64 is the remains of a building along the Slaughter Pen Road located east of the resort. These remains are located on a terraced area overlooking the floodplain of an unnamed feeder stream of Flat Rock Branch. This former building probably served as either a residence or a dormitory for the hired help at the resort. This element is presently in stable condition.

Element 65, Two Brick-Lined Springs (Fountains) - Element 65 is a pair of brick lined springs located at the east end of the garden area (Element 41). These springs are set tangent to one another. The bricks are set even with the ground surface and create two circular pools, each three feet in diameter. The

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exact depth of the springs is not known. Both springs are presently filled with a mixture of debris and standing water; however, the depth (as it presently exists) is approximately 2.5 feet. High water levels associated with Kerr Lake do not appear to have severely damaged these two springs.

Element 46 - Clayborne Gye House: These archeological remains are located on the privately-owned Shelton House property, near the border of the COE property. This is the only recorded archeological element outside the COE property which falls within the delineated National Register boundaries. The house was the residence of Clayborne Gye, a long time African-American employee of the Buffalo Springs. Presently, the site is represented by the remains of an uncoursed fieldstone foundation line, the remains of a cut fieldstone chimney with brick hearth, and a separate privy. A number of architectural and kitchen artifacts surround the former house, but none were collected since this element is located on private property. The remains are presently stable.

Shelton House:

The Shelton House, constructed circa 1800, is located on a small hill overlooking the northwest corner of the intersection of US 58 and SR 732 (Buffalo Springs Road) on approximately one and one-half acres of land. It is southeast of Spring No. 2 and the former bottling plant site, and east of the "Red House" where bottles were stored for shipment. This property is presently a private residence. The house sits on the highest elevation of the property, approximately ten to twenty feet above the adjoining roadways. Its dirt driveway begins at Highway 58 and passes to the west of the house, ending in a circular drive on the north. Two modern outbuildings (non-contributing properties) include a small shed to the northwest and a larger multi-purpose frame building to the northeast. The present landscape consists of a gently sloping grass lawn with a steep embankment on the east. Holly and other low bushes were planted along the driveway and near the house foundations. A few hardwoods, magnolias, and cedar trees stand mostly on the north side of the property. Early twentieth-century photos show several large hardwoods on the south lawn which are no longer present. Along the northern treeline are piles of brick and rock rubble.

This one-and-a-half-story frame cottage is an excellent example of a central passage house. The original portion is one room deep and two rooms wide, bisected by an entrance hall with stairs. Early twentieth-century additions include two symmetrical side wings with small rear extensions. Before these changes, the two brick double-shouldered chimneys with corbeled caps were located on the exterior of each end wall. The are now enclosed within the walls of the additions. Old and new sections of the house all have gable roof forms covered with asphalt shingles. The roof has a moderately steep pitch with a slight overhang. Three original pedimented dormers on each side of the center gable have cornice trim and random-width diagonal-board side walls. Pegged construction details can be observed on the interior of the dormers.

The beaded clapboard on the exterior of the house appears identical on old and new portions, and has probably been replaced. The original section had five bays with two windows symmetrically-arranged on each side of a central door. Windows are six-over-six double-hung sashes with exterior paneled shutters. Earlier photos show louvered shutters on these windows. Doorways on the north and south elevations are trimmed with fluted pilasters without capitals, and sidelights with diagonal

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mutins. Simple entrance porches on both sides have flush boarding in the pediments, and they are each supported by four chamfered posts. Both main entrances have double-leaf center-opening doors with three panels each, giving the appearance of six-paneled doors. No original hardware was observed.

The foundation has been changed, possibly more than once. Piers have been filled in with bricks of differing ages and bonding patterns. In digging a basement, recent owners discovered what may be remnants of a rock foundation from a previous house. Hand-hewn beams were also observed under the floors.

Interiors details include several six-paneled doors, wide pine floorboards, paneled wainscoting on some walls and beneath the staircase, chair railings, wide baseboards, and an intact mantelpiece on the east fireplace. This wood mantel, along with a few other features of the house, has some characteristics of the Greek Revival style of architecture in its simplest form. This period post-dates the house by a few decades, and may indicate an early renovation. Most of the interior plaster, which would have been above the wainscoting, is no longer intact. The downstairs rooms also had picture railings in some photos (Byars 1972). One of the more interesting features is the horizontal wide-board paneling above the staircase wainscoting. At back of the landing, where the wall meets the pitch of the roof, each board has a slight convex bend. The house was constructed with "ingle closets" by the fireplaces. These are visible in the historic photos as shed-roofed extensions from the walls of the house, and their locations are still apparent on the exterior.

Bottle Storage Building:

The former bottle storage building, now known as the "Red House," is not shown on a 1919 plat of Buffalo Springs. Located between the bottling plant and the railroad depot, it was probably constructed in the 1920s. At the time of its use, it was east of a narrow roadway leading from the bottling plant to Highway 58. This rectangular frame building has an open interior with king post trusses supporting the roof. The exterior is wood weatherboard and the gable roof is seamed metal. It has one window on the south and north elevations and two large double-leaf doors on the west. Both doors were constructed for ramp access, although only one ramp remains. Five rows of brick piers support massive pine sills. Two sills were sawed and two were roughly hewn. With the floor joists thus supported, this building was capable of storing the massive weight of crates of bottled water. It is presently being used as an outbuilding for a private residence (constructed in 1948) which fronts on Highway 58.

Non-contributing Resources:

The only noncontributing resources within the NRHP boundaries are the two modern outbuildings north of the Shelton House on the Hasty property, and the reconstructed pavilion on COE property at Spring No. 2. The pavilion does not meet National Register integrity requirements, because it is a reproduction of one of the former springhouses on the site. This reproduction was based partially on the remains of the deteriorated former structure. The spring itself and structures underlying the pavilion are included as Element 48 of the archeological site.

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8. Statement of Significance

Summary of Significance:

The Buffalo Springs Historical Archeological District is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A (associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history), Criterion C (embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction), and Criterion D (has yielded or may be likely to yield information important in prehistory or history). The level of significance is local, with a period of significance from 1811 to 1949. The areas of significance are historic archeology, health/medicine, entertainment/recreation, commerce, agriculture, and community planning and development.

The district's significance under Criterion A lies in several unusual characteristics of Buffalo Springs. The resort began as an "ordinary" and tavern circa 1811, and subsequently expanded as at least five springs were discovered on the property. As a commercial venture it represents an early use of mineral water for medicinal purposes. As a vacation and health-care destination it was important regionally in the middle to late nineteenth century. Its "heyday" as a bottling facility was in the early twentieth century. Perhaps most significantly, the bottling plant enabled widespread distribution of a product that was successfully marketed worldwide for its health-giving properties. Few other American mineral springs were selling their product on such a large scale over several decades. The resort facilities catered primarily to travelers from Virginia and North Carolina while maintaining strong social and economic ties to the local community. The hotel complex, though extensive, offered primitive accommodations in comparison to the more famous and fashionable springs in the Blue Ridge Mountains. While the other resorts may have been larger and more elegant, Buffalo Springs' isolated rural setting increased the necessity for a self-sustaining facility. The landscape evolved as an unusual combination of a small village and a large farm complex, making it eligible under Criterion C. Since few historic resorts/spas have been studied in an archeological context, the archeological component also meets Criterion D for its potential to yield information important in history. This information potential is discussed more thoroughly in the Criterion D Assessment below.

The Shelton House, as a contributing building, is also eligible under Criterion A and Criterion C. Its strong association with Buffalo Springs makes it eligible of as part of a proposed nomination of the archeological site which is on adjoining U. S. government property. Its primary significance relates to its early use as the proprietor's residence for the Buffalo Springs resort. Architecturally, the house also stands alone as a good example of a common house type (central hall plan). Despite later additions, it maintains integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association. To a somewhat lesser degree, it also maintains historic integrity in its design and materials. The original portion of the house was not obscured by the later additions, and the replacement materials were mostly on the roof and interior.

The bottle storage building (the Red House) is also a contributing building, eligible under Criterion A. Its primary significance relates to its use as a storehouse for the nearby bottling plant in the early twentieth century. It has had few physical changes, and it maintains integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Its setting has, however, been altered by the loss of related buildings.

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Criterion D Assessment:

A discussion of the archeological site's significance under Criterion D is more complex, and is therefore treated separately in this section. To provide structure to this evaluation, Glassow's (1977) attribute evaluations are used in the following discussion. The attribute evaluations are: degree of integrity, degree of preservation, uniqueness, and relevance to current and future research.

Attribute 1 - Degree of Integrity: In spite of all the disturbance observed at the site and known from historic documentation, the data presented in Abbott et al. (1996) clearly demonstrates that the site contains intact subsurface remains. Numerous examples can be presented in support of this statement. Probe tests within the areas encompassing the men's bath (Element 24), the Goode Building (Element 25), the kitchen and dining room complex (Element 26), and the Administration Building complex (Element 27) all indicate the presence of intact foundation lines and interior walls. Evidence is available to suggest that an earlier structure underlies the foundations of the kitchen and dining room complex (Element 26). The remains of Element 28 are that of a burned structure which appears to have collapsed inward. The structural remnants of Element 64 and the structure located behind Solomon's Temple (considered part of Element 17) both have the potential for subsurface remains. All of these examples have good potential for component separation. The limited artifact analysis was based on surface collections alone. The level of analysis possible, and thus the level of interpretation, with excavated, well provenienced remains is exponential in comparison.

Attribute 2 - Degree of Preservation: Two wells are present on the site. These include the well associated with Solomon's Temple (Element 17) and that associated with the carriage house (Element 45). Three cellars are present on the site. These include Cellar 1 within Element 27, Cellar 2 within Element 26, and Element 42 associated with the carriage house and stable. The privy associated with the Clayborne Gye House (Element 46) is an extant feature which contains great potential for preserved cultural deposits and ethnobotanical remains. Information contained within this feature could greatly enhance the understanding of late nineteenth and early twentieth century Afro American dietary patterns and pathology. These examples, in addition to those listed above for attribute 1, have the potential to contain preserved cultural deposits and features.

Attribute 3 - Uniqueness: Some of the aspects of uniqueness of Buffalo Springs have already been discussed. These include the widespread distribution of the waters, the regional clientele, the ties to the local community, the unusual accommodations, the isolated rural setting, and the landscape features. The information contained at Buffalo Springs is, therefore, not redundant to that available from other sites, similar or different. The information is not redundant to other similar sites simply because there are so few of them presently in existence. Very little published work is available in regards to these types of sites. Even at the time resort/health spas were popular, the core area of these types of facilities in the southern United States was located in western Virginia and West Virginia. Buffalo Springs was located on the periphery to the east of this core area. Information from one of these peripheral resorts would supply valuable comparative data for studies addressing various research concerns regarding the evolution and nature of nineteenth century spas. As a result these remains would provide a unique and insightful perspective on research concerns of regional importance.

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Attribute 4 - Relevance to Current and Future Research: Buffalo Springs is a resource that has great relevance to current and, particularly, future research. Several individuals who are still alive have first-hand knowledge of Buffalo Springs as a resort. Due to the constraints of the project (Abbott et al. 1996) and the need to gather documentary materials, oral interviews were limited to a few informal discussions. Almost every informant provided names of additional individuals who might be helpful in a more thorough oral history project. This leaves several unanswered questions and areas for further study. The topics of segregation and socio-economic status in the rural South could be explored as they relate to Buffalo Springs. Certain distinctions appeared to exist between permissible work roles of blacks and whites, as well as some separation of social interaction between wealthy guests and local farm people, although the extent of this is not clear. It is clear from informants that blacks and whites staff members were segregated at the site. The archeological remains of several dormitories and/or staff houses have been documented at the site. These remains include the structure located to the east of the Goode Building (Element 25) known to be a dormitory for white kitchen staff; the structure located along the Slaughter Pen Road (Element 64); and the Clayborne Gye House (Element 46). These remains have the potential to provide useful data relating the thematic issues given above.

As stated earlier, few historic resort/spas have been studied in an archeological context. We know from current research that there was great variation in the types of spas in terms of relative size, occupancy capacity, and the general quality of the facilities (Gail Gillespie personal communication, March 1996). We also know that there were differences in spas in the eastern mountainous region of the United States (the South) and those in the northeastern part of the county (see Pollard 1870). We do not know, however, how these differences reflected the social and economic conditions of the two regions. An archeological study could compare the physical layout and architecture of buildings and landscape with other mineral spas and resort complexes in this and other regions of the country to address the issues related to similarities and differences and draw inferences regarding social and economic themes.

The discussion presented in the most recent study (Abbott et al. 1996) regarding the ceramics and the distribution of ceramic manufacturers provides a preface for the research potential contained within Buffalo Springs. The development of the site as a commercial venture throughout the nineteenth century and into the early twentieth century provides a unique opportunity to study, at the micro level, the development of commerce during this important period in the history of this country. A study of this nature could address issues regarding the development of the spa industry and the effects on the local populace, commerce, and agriculture, as well as issues on a larger scale regarding the distribution and acquisition of manufactured goods during the nineteenth century. The time depth of this site is the key factor in the development of this research theme since the site moved from a wayside and ordinary to a well-known health resort/spa and finally to a source of widely distributed bottled mineral water. This evolution takes place over a period of 138 years.

Another research theme is how the development and evolution of the spa relates to development and evolution of science, medicine and health through the nineteenth and into the early twentieth century. Buffalo Springs developed during a time when medicine was a combination of homeopathy and the burgeoning belief that scientific research and experimentation, particularly in the fields of chemistry and physiology, could serve in the practical application of medicine. It was during this time that notions concerning vital forces, spirits, virtues, and other elements of sympathetic

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association of structure to function were replaced by more practical understandings of the dynamic functions of the human body. The axial period regarding this radical shift in medical epistemology is the nineteenth century. It was a time when an the emerging understanding of the complex relationship between the human metabolism and the agents that regulate it could coexist with the wide acceptance and use of panaceas without perceiving them as conflicting ideas. It was also the time when personal testimonial (as used in commercial ventures) carried as much weight regarding the effectiveness of a medical treatment as experimental results and clinical data. The commercial operation of Buffalo Springs as a spa is representative of this revolution in medical science ongoing throughout the nineteenth century. The shift in function of Buffalo Springs from a wayside and ordinary to a lithia spa is truly symbolic and representative of the medical beliefs, including all the apparent contradictions, of the day. A study of Buffalo Springs could shed much light on this theme. Of particular interest would be the location and content analysis of nineteenth century privies at the site. This information could be used to profile the patrons in terms of diet, pathology, parasitology, and general inferred state of health. This information could then be compared to what is presently known regarding the effects of diuretics such as lithia water on such conditions. This information could used to make inference regarding the effects of improved diet and sanitation on nineteenth century urban populations. In addition, a study of panel bottles would also provide information regarding the types of maladies afflicting the patrons and the types of remedies being prescribed.

The examples given above are merely a small sample of the range of topics that might be addressed by further work at Buffalo Springs. The significance of any site lies in its latent research potential. The key factor in determining the research potential of a given site is whether the baseline research can generate any additional questions related to a given theme that might be addressed by further work. The results of the baseline work suggests that the research potential of Buffalo Springs is its greatest attribute.

Historical Narrative and Context:

The southern portion of Virginia's Piedmont region, which lies between the fall line and the Blue Ridge, remained a frontier environment longer than areas to the north. Except for traders, few whites ventured to the southside early in the eighteenth century because several hundred Native Americans still lived there and the colonial government restricted settlement (Kulikoff 1986:143). After the first pioneers did arrive, land speculators quickly followed and acquired thousands of acres for later sale. The eastern part of the southern Piedmont, which includes Mecklenburg County, consists of gently rolling hills suitable for agriculture. William Byrd II was one of the largest speculators, patenting 100,000 acres along the Roanoke River in 1735. As late as 1750, four-fifths of this land remained unsold (Kulikoff 1986:144).

Mecklenburg County was still sparsely populated in the 1750s and 1760s. Eventually hundreds of land-hungry migrants arrived from adjacent counties, as well as from greater distances. Early settlers who emigrated from northern Virginia and Pennsylvania were often Germans, Scots, and Irish (Virginia Department of Historic Resources 1992:13). As prime farm land in coastal Virginia became scarce, settlement also spread from there. Initially, the area lacked good routes for farmers to take their products to market, but by utilizing the rivers and building plank roads, Clarksville would

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develop into a major tobacco market by the early to middle nineteenth century (Brockington, et al. 1992).

In 1728 William Byrd II and his survey party were among the first known European visitors to the Buffalo Creek area of Mecklenburg County. As the group surveyed the Virginia-North Carolina border, they camped near waters described in Byrd's diary as "what Adam drank in Paradise. . . by the help of which we perceived our appetites to mend, our slumbers to sweeten, the stream of life to run cool and peaceably in veins, and if ever we dreamt of women, they were kind." (Cohen 1981:23; Boyd 1929). According to local lore, this water came from one of the five springs in the location later known as Buffalo Springs. The name of the creek and the springs originated from claimed sightings of buffalo in the vicinity by Byrd and others.

In 1789 Ambrose Gregory of Mecklenburg County purchased 366 acres of land on the Great Buffalo Creek, and then in 1799 he purchased another 80 acres west of the creek (Mecklenburg County Deed Book [MCDB] 9:162, 10:172). The first deed to mention a spring on the property was an 1811 transaction between Gregory and John Speed in which Speed acquired 80 acres "on the waters of the Great Buffalo Creek and including the Buffalo mineral spring" for the price of \$1,050 (MCDB 14:415). Speed was the first to develop the property into a commercial enterprise by operating an "ordinary" and tavern there after 1817. Early ordinaries in Virginia were established to serve travelers, but as the population increased, these public houses gave local planters a place to eat, drink, gamble, and argue politics (Kulikoff 1986:221). From 1824 to 1828 Speed leased the premises to David Shelton (Bracey 1977:312). Shelton already owned some adjacent land which by this date probably included the story-and-a-half cottage now known as the Shelton House.

John Speed sold the Buffalo Springs property, then consisting of 120 acres, to Alexander Jones and John Field in 1839 for \$15,000 (MCDB 28:140). At this time the ordinary could accommodate from 50 to 75 persons, and the spring was already known for its supposed medical benefits (Bracey 1977:312-13). The structures around the spring were valued at \$5,000 (Gilliam 1988:33). An advertisement in the May 28, 1839 *Richmond Enquirer* announced a June 1 opening with airy new cabins and expanded facilities, including a dining room to accommodate 300 guests. The owners claimed that the food and liquor were excellent and that a select band had been procured to provide music for the season. A mail stage would run daily from Clarksville, eight miles away. The spring waters were said to be "peculiarly adapted to the relief of diseases dependent on derangement of the functions of the Liver, Stomach, and Skin" (McCullough 1957:315-16). Between 1841 and 1845 new buildings worth \$2000 were constructed on the site, probably under the management of Erasmus Kennon and David Shelton (Gilliam 1988:34).

In 1845 David Shelton bought three-fifths interest in the 120 acre Buffalo Springs property from John Field (MCDB 32:20). Shelton managed the resort and later hired Dr. Silas Harris to oversee the expanding facilities. Stage trips to Clarksville were made three times a week, returning the following day, from the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad in Ridgeway, North Carolina. In Clarksville a "trustworthy man" with his carriage and horses was waiting to transport patrons to the Springs which by then could accommodate from 350 to 400 people (Bracey 1977:313). Shelton acquired the remaining two-fifths interest in the property from A. S. Jones in 1849, including an additional 16 acres of woodland near the spring tract (MCDB 33:15). The resort was first incorporated as the Buffalo Springs Company in 1852, and stock was offered for public sale six years later at a price of ten shares for one hundred dollars

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(*The Tobacco Plant*, September 3, 1958). It was also during this period that a plank road was completed from Clarksville to Petersburg, Virginia, primarily for the transport of tobacco.

A Buffalo Springs guest register for the years 1851 to 1858, now archived at the Virginia Historical Society in Richmond, provides a glimpse of the visitors. The vast majority arrived from nearby locations in Virginia and North Carolina, particularly Mecklenburg County, Clarksville, Raleigh, Richmond, Granville, and Halifax. An occasional guest hailed from Baltimore, New Orleans, Mobile, or even New York. Two of the most interesting names were Major General Winfield Scott from Mexico with three servants and eight horses (August 18, 1851) and D.A.L. de Santa Anna from Mexico with three servants and four horses (September 9, 1854). Few guests brought servants, although about half arrived with one or more horses. An occasional entry reserved 10 or 12 rooms under one party's name. Nevertheless, Buffalo Springs was still removed from major transportation routes and it was not yet in the same league as the more famous resorts in the Virginia Blue Ridge Mountains.

Shelton advertised in regional newspapers and offered to take payment only if some benefit was received from the water (Gilliam 1988:35). According to a pamphlet about the spring by Dr. S. H. Harris;

The principal morbid states to which it seems to be well adapted, are dropsical affections, visceral obstructions, protracted intermittent and remittent fevers, chronic diseases of the skin, dyspepsia, convalescence from fevers of every grade and type, female complaints, and almost every disease of the pelvic organs of both sexes (Moorman 1867:359).

Though Buffalo Springs was primarily touted as a health resort, it began to advertise recreational activities as well. Other diversions offered at Buffalo Springs during Shelton's proprietorship included a ten pin (bowling) alley, an artist who sketched portraits of guests, and an advertised "tournament and fancy ball" in which men arrived as knights in costume and the "beauty and gallantry of Virginia and Carolina" were expected to participate (*The Tobacco Plant*, August 27, 1858). The jousting tournament was followed by an evening ball and an elaborate dinner where a "princess" was crowned (Gilliam 1988:35). The same Mecklenburg County newspaper announced a balloon ascension by "Mr. Patton, a distinguished Aeronaut of Petersburg" on September 8, 1858. While these activities took place at Buffalo Springs, the local population was predominantly rural with an agricultural system based on small family farms.

The outbreak of the Civil War did not close the establishment. It opened for visitors on June 1, 1861, with the promise of a "safe and pleasant retreat. . . removed from the scenes of war and its excitement" with abundant room for 400 guests and the benefits of healthy water and climate (*The Clarksville Tobacco Plant*, June 21, 1861). Since Buffalo Springs was designed as a summer resort, its frame buildings were probably drafty, difficult to heat and not entirely comfortable in the winter (McCullough 1957:316). However, its isolated location proved ideal and it did remain a refuge through most of the war.

David Shelton sold Buffalo Springs, consisting of a 123 acre tract with improvements plus a separate 20 acre wooded lot, to Timothy Paxson of Maryland on December 1, 1863 for \$30,000 (MCDB

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37:82). Shelton died eight months later. The resort closed temporarily after the defeat of the Confederacy, but it reopened for the summer of 1867. Paxson improved the facilities and hired a band for the season. Visitors were picked up by "hack" three times weekly from Danville or Scottsburg. Boarding rates were \$2.50 per day, \$12.50 per week, or \$35.00 per month (*The Clarksville Tobacco Plant*, July 26, 1867). The editor of the *Tobacco Plant*, a Boydton newspaper, wrote in 1869 of a small number of visitors, good food, pleasant company, and "for relaxation and recreation we know of no watering place superior to it" (McCullough 1957:317). Guests were free to eat, sleep, dance, or play croquette or ten pins as they pleased. The use of alcohol was discouraged under Paxson's proprietorship, and visitors were encouraged to partake of the water as the sole beverage.

A new stage line to the Richmond and Danville Railroad was in operation by 1870 with a fare of \$1.50. The resort was still utilizing the water from only one spring on the property, with the others apparently remaining undiscovered. An advertisement for Buffalo Springs described the slightly brackish, sulfurous water as gushing out of the crevice of a rock at the foot of a gradually sloping hill. Its mineral contents and medicinal properties were also specifically identified. In later years this would be known as Spring No. 1. One visitor wrote to his wife that "I arrived here Wednesday night, have been very persistent in eating and the use of the waters and feel greatly improved" (Cogbill 1869).

With dozens of mineral springs available to tourists in the eastern mountainous regions of the United States, writers began to compare their facilities. An 1870 book, *The Virginia Tourist*, offered the following opinion:

The hotel accommodations of the springs of Virginia are generally insufficient or imperfect or unattractive. . . the untraveled proprietor, in his coarse estimate of human needs, thinks that only certain quantities of food have to be put into the stomach of his guests, insensitive of the truth that the human stomach of the civilization outside of his mountains needs a delicate chemistry, and that the cuisine is really an art. . . (Pollard 1870:27)

The author compares even the finer Virginia establishments unfavorably with those in the North, lamenting the pine furniture and "huckaback" towels and the lack of choice in degrees of comfort, luxury or privacy. Most of the identified springs in Virginia were located along a well-traveled mountain corridor to the northwest of Buffalo Springs.

In the 1873 version of *Appleton's Handbook of American Travel - Southern Tour*, the author includes descriptions of 30 different springs in Virginia, many with associated resorts or hotels. White Sulfur Springs in Greenbriar County was one of the largest and perhaps the most famous. It could accommodate some 1500 guests in its cabins, cottages, and apartments. Summer tourists from both northern and southern states came to enjoy the scenery and pleasant climate as well as the health benefits of drinking the water. Thermal springs, such as the Warm Springs, the Hot Springs, and the Healing Springs, were also used for bathing and swimming. Business people and politicians mixed public affairs and social pleasures, while invalids often toured from spring to spring in search of cures for various maladies. In this context Buffalo Springs had apparently not yet attained a significant level of prominence or fame.

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Colonel Thomas F. Goode, a young Mecklenburg County attorney, acquired a partial interest in the property in partnership with Timothy Paxson in 1873. This interest may have been accepted as payment of a legal fee arising out of litigation between Paxson and the Shelton family (Gilliam 1988:36). Goode, a former Colonel in the Virginia cavalry, was the son of the former owner and developer of the Hot Springs in Bath County (Cohen 1981:23). Business was increasing as Buffalo Springs tried to rival some of the older established springs. The new partners made cosmetic improvements to the buildings and grounds during the 1873 season, including painting, plastering, furnishing and decorating (Bracey 1977:317). Goode apparently suffered from a physical impairment which required a specially-fitted office in one of the rooms at Buffalo Springs (McCullough 1957:318).

In May 1874 Thomas Goode purchased the entire Buffalo Springs property from Paxson for \$13,400. This was still the same 143 acre tract that had been transferred from David Shelton to Timothy Paxson in 1863 (MCDB 40:176). It would be under Goode's 31-year proprietorship that the land holdings would increase to include several hundred acres of surrounding woods and farm land. It was also Goode who developed the resort during its most successful years as a tourist destination, and who bottled and marketed the water from Spring No. 2 after 1876. This was the only spring at Buffalo that contained significant amounts of lithia, considered a rare and valuable ingredient in mineral springs. The water from No. 2 also stored well, and therefore could be bottled for shipment and future use (Bracey 1977:319).

According to family legend, the long-neglected Spring No. 2 was uncovered when an elderly black woman showed it to Goode soon after he acquired the property (McCullough 1957:318-319). The spring was located about 15 feet south of the creek called Flat Rock Branch (later Number Two Branch), and about 350 to 400 feet southwest of Spring No. 1 (McGill 1945). It had become overgrown, and only a few people knew of its existence until the old woman apparently convinced Goode to utilize it. Local residents still refer to this woman as Dolly Shelton, whose face appeared on some advertisements for the bottled water after 1889. At age 80 Dolly was presumably cured of gout and dyspepsia by the waters and was still going strong 20 years later.

Under Goode's proprietorship, the name Buffalo Lithia Springs became the more common appellation for both the springs and the hotel, although that name may have been used as early as the 1850s. The stock company that formed in 1882 was the Buffalo Lithia Springs Company of Virginia (Bracey 1977:319). Spring Numbers 3 and 4, at some distance from the others, had less commercial value based upon their mineral content, and were therefore not highly utilized except perhaps as the "destination of walks with one's sweetheart" (Bracey 1977:318). Spring No. 3 contained so much iron that anyone who drank it reportedly ended up with a memorable headache (McCullough 1957:320). The original spring (No. 1) continued to be furnished to hotel patrons along with the highly-praised water from Spring No. 2.

Some later sources indicate that there may have been as many as five to eight springs on the property, although only two were exploited commercially (Anonymous:2). Geological analysis in the 1940s revealed crystalline rocks (granite and granite gneiss) underlying the immediate locality which could have contributed to the lithia content of the water (McGill 1945). The springs were thought to occur along certain joints or contact points between different facies or types of rock.

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Goode advertised extensively in newspapers, magazines, and medical journals by using testimonials from doctors and patients. Extraordinary claims were made regarding the medicinal value of the springs. Brochures and booklets boasted of cures for gout, rheumatism, nervous disorders, anemia, acid dyspepsia, malarial diseases, gall stones and various "female diseases." Resident doctors were on staff at the relatively-isolated facility. Goode refused to serve alcohol at the hotel, believing that the water was all that one needed (Cohen 1981:24). Guests were encouraged to partake freely of the spring water in doses of at least seven or eight goblets daily on an empty stomach (Gilliam 1988:39). Two to three goblets were to be taken before breakfast, two between breakfast and "dinner" (lunch), and two between dinner and "tea". Beneficial results were said to usually require six to eight weeks of continual use, while in some cases the water was more prompt in its action. In addition to healing specific illnesses, the water was thought to increase the appetite, exhilarate the spirit, and bring new life and vigor to the body.

Before the construction of a bottling plant near Spring No. 2, the bottles were filled by "crude methods" and hauled by wagon a distance of about eighteen miles to the Scottsburg Depot on the Richmond and Danville Line for shipment to retail druggists and physicians from New York to New Orleans (Anonymous:3; Gilliam 1988:33). In the 1880s bottled water was shipped in cases containing twelve one-half gallon jars to agents across the country for the price of five dollars per case. By 1885 a London office was set up to supply the European market (St. John 1990:76). The sale of the waters flourished and the resort was filled with clients for each summer season.

Buffalo Lithia Springs expanded its facilities as the number of customers increased. According to a 1901 advertisement in the Handbook of Mecklenburg County, there was comfortable space for 250 individuals. While this is actually fewer than the 400 people seeking refuge there during the Civil War, it may be assumed that hotel guests require more spacious arrangements than refugees. Accommodations included several rows of cabins, composed of about 60 cottages, and four large hotel buildings. Most of these were to the east of White House Road (now SR 732) in a quadrangle surrounding the No. 1 Springhouse. Buildings or rows were known by such names as Patterson Heights, Bachelor's Row, and Rowdy Row. Some were nicknames, and some were called by more than one name. Sycamore Row and Smoky Row apparently referred to the same group of cabins. The larger hotel buildings included Solomon's Temple and the Goode Building (McCullough 1957:323). The main hotel administration building contained offices and a ballroom on the first floor and guest rooms on the second floor. A kitchen and dining hall were also central to the complex surrounding Spring No. 1. There is less written or photographic evidence for the location of utilitarian structures such as the ice house and corn crib. The gazebo for Spring No. 2 was on the west side of White House Road, physically separated from the guest accommodations.

Guests also came for recreation and entertainment. Grass tennis courts were located south of Spring No.1 near the stream and bath house. A barber shop and possibly a billiards room were also part of the long building which contained this bath house. The outdoor ten-pin alley remained near the No. 1 Springhouse. It had a wood floor, open sides, and a gabled roof. Additional land provided room for horseback riding, a nine-hole golf course, and a baseball field. Stables were located south of the garden on the east side of White House Road.

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The property became almost self-sufficient by raising cattle, sheep and pigs, and by farming a nearby two-acre garden plot for food served in the dining hall. It even had its own saw mill. Many of the barns, stables, dairies, and outbuildings were on newly acquired land separated by roads or distance from the main housing and recreational complex. One early tract was purchased from George Averett. Another later tract, known as the Pool Farm, extended as far west as Aaron's Creek on the Halifax County border. This included pasture, woodland and cultivated areas.

Another major factor in the growth of the resort was the completion by 1890 of a spur line of the Atlantic and Danville Railroad which delivered passengers directly to a depot at Buffalo Springs. The spur started three or four miles away at Buffalo Junction. The depot was southwest of what is now US Highway 58 where it intersects with Buffalo Springs Road. The same railroad hauled bottled water to major distribution points around the country.

Goode's business enterprises brought him personal wealth, averaging profits of between \$100,000 and \$200,000 annually (Anonymous:3). He also provided valuable employment opportunities to many in the community. Seasonal jobs were available as cooks, waiters, porters, maids, drivers, laundry workers, and even a barber. As previously mentioned, a resident physician maintained an office on the premises. Year-round staff included a resident manager, office workers, and various farm employees who tended the horses and livestock. By the time of Goode's death in 1905, a large brick bottling plant had just been built near Spring No. 2. Electricity was furnished by the resort's own steam-generated power plant located near the bottling plant.

Thomas Goode's interest in the property, including the Buffalo Lithia Springs Company, passed to his wife Rosa Chambers Goode in 1905. The corporation's real estate holdings consisted of approximately 1,600 acres of land, including about 1,000 acres of timber, four hotel buildings, 60 small cottages, the bottling plant, power plant, barns, dairy, and farm buildings. Their combined value was estimated by the American Appraisal Company to be in excess of \$600,000 in the 1920s (Anonymous:1).

Over the following years several other stock companies would be formed by groups of investors, many from outside Mecklenburg County. These included the Buffalo Lithia Springs Corporation (1920), Virginia Buffalo Springs Corporation (1930), Buffalo Mineral Springs Corporation (1935), Buffalo Mineral Springs Company, Incorporated (1939), and Buffalo Springs Beverage Corporation (1944) (Bracey 1977:319). The company Vice-President and resort manager for many of its last years was A. R. Holderby who lived north of the main hotel complex on Buffalo Springs Road.

The early twentieth century brought continued prosperity to Buffalo Springs resulting in a tremendous impact on the local community, both financially and socially. During the same time there were other mineral springs across the Mecklenburg County, all claiming some curative powers, but none had the facilities or long-term success of Buffalo Springs. One resort, the Mecklenburg Mineral Springs Hotel in Chase City, did offer luxurious accommodations along with its two mineral springs, but its glory was brief. On April 16, 1909, six years after its completion, it was destroyed by fire, and efforts to rebuild were never successful (Bracey 1977:323).

Local citizens also utilized numerous other springs across the county with less commercial marketability. Some contained various minerals such as iron, magnesia, chloride calcium or lithia, and

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many were said to cure the same ailments as the Buffalo Springs waters. A few even bottled their waters for sale, but none had the widespread distribution system of Buffalo Springs. At one time it was estimated that nearly 20,000 drug stores carried the product in stock in the United States, Canada, and Europe (Anonymous:1).

Now a collector's item, aquamarine Buffalo Springs bottles are proudly displayed in many Mecklenburg County homes. The glass bottles themselves evolved as the bottling, packaging, and distribution procedures changed. The earliest were one-half gallon glass containers with cork stoppers. These bottles were molded with the classical-looking figure of a seated robed woman holding a pitcher. The woman's figure and dress changed slightly through the years, and this image became part of the registered trademark of the company.

As railroad transportation decreased in the 1930s and 1940s, more of the water was shipped by truck in five-gallon demi-johns, although the half-gallon bottles also continued to be used (Ryland Hite, personal communication 1995). By then the black-and-white stenciled labels were applied with adhesive to a plain bottle surface. The labels still had the woman's image along with a product description and instructions for use. Corks were eventually replaced by screw tops. The bottles were first made in variations of the greenish-blue color, ostensibly to protect the water from deterioration, but by later years the bottles were manufactured of almost clear glass. The name "Buffalo Mineral Water" replaced the lithia water designation probably in the late 1920s or early 1930s. Some sources believe that this was due to a decrease in the lithia content after blasting near the springs (Ryland Hite, personal communication 1995). With the wider use of trucks, shipping crates also changed from wood to cardboard cartons.

The entire bottling process took place at the plant constructed around the turn of the century near Spring Number 2. A 1910 product brochure claimed that "unlimited time and money has been given to the plant's conception and construction to assure actual cleanliness and undoubted purity of the water" (Walker n. d.). This one-and-a-half-story brick building measured 40 by 137 feet with segmental-arched windows, a hipped slate roof, and a gabled two-story section on the north elevation. Large steel storage tanks, sterilizers, and steam bottle washers were among the equipment used inside. The largest tank was glass-lined with a 1500 gallon capacity, and two others held 750 gallons each. The nearby brick boiler house measured 22 by 53 feet with a gabled slate roof and smokestack (U. S. Army Corps of Engineers 1950). Its steam turbines generated electricity for the hotel buildings as well as for the bottling plant. Prior to shipping, bottles were sometimes hauled up the hill for storage near the railroad depot in a frame building now known as the Red House.

Workers were required to shower before entering the plant and wear white uniforms, rubber boots, and gloves. The uniform requirement was dropped by the 1940s, but bottle sterilization procedures remained stringent. Water was diverted to the bottling plant by turning valves installed in the No. 2 springhouse which was a short distance northeast of the plant. The spring basin in which the water collected was apparently two-and-a-half to three feet below the surface elevation (McGill 1945). The water was pumped to one of three large steel tanks located in a front room on the east side of the plant. When the plant was not in operation excess water also collected in an above-ground concrete cistern.

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Before being filled, bottles were sterilized in a mixture of caustic soda and water (Ryland Hite, personal communication 1995). These were then moved to another set of racks for rinsing, and then put on movable carts for filling from the tanks. Sheets of sterile wax paper were placed over the mouths of the bottles until they could be capped and sealed (after cork stoppers were no longer used). Half-gallon and five-gallon bottles were stacked on carts of different sizes, an adhesive was sponged on each, and the stenciled labels were affixed. During the later years the half-gallon bottles were shipped by rail, and the five-gallon bottles (the majority by then) were hauled by truck to such regional locations as Norfolk, Richmond, Petersburg, Raleigh, and Greensboro, as well as to Ohio and Maryland. By the 1940s, shipments to London and the European continent had ceased.

For many years people from Mecklenburg and nearby counties gathered on Sundays at Spring No. 2 to collect water for their personal use. One source recalls seeing them arrive by horse-and-buggy and Model T to pay 10 cents to fill their own five-gallon containers from the cistern (Algie Glasscock, personal communication 1995). Water was also pumped from the spring by an employee who served it by the glass. Other sources indicate that any water consumed on site was free of charge on Sundays. Today the water which flows freely from a pipe near the No. 2 site is still collected by local citizens who believe in its health benefits.

While Buffalo Springs operated as almost a self-contained community, it also had a tremendous impact on its neighbors in rural Mecklenburg County. It provided employment opportunities, entertainment activities, and social interaction with individuals from other places. Goods and services were bought and sold. Some of the resort's seasonal employees arrived each year by train from Richmond and other cities, but most lived nearby. Perhaps because of long work hours and the difficulty of daily transportation, many local workers also stayed in accommodations at the resort and went home only on Saturday nights.

When the hotel was full, nearby homes sometimes rented rooms to those who wished to partake of the mineral waters. Some of the social activities at Buffalo Springs, such as dinners at the hotel and the Saturday night dances, were available to local residents for a fee. A band which played during the day in the quadrangle was free for anyone to hear. Much "courting" was done in the wooden swings which were scattered on the property.

Weekly "Buffalo Dances" were a Mecklenburg County institution in the 1930s. Live bands played Dixieland, Boogie, and Swing from 9:00 until at least midnight in the ballroom of the main hotel building. The Buffalo Jazz Orchestra was said to "put the devil in the toe" for those who loved to dance (Sizemore 1994). Others recall hearing a more sedate waltz. While guests came from all over the county, many people from farming families could not afford to attend the dances. Some described sitting on the porch and enjoying the music from outside the ballroom and watching people dance by looking through the windows (Kathleen Walker, personal communication 1995).

The hotel dining room was also open to the public for most meals, and was locally staffed with waiters, pantry maids, cooks, and bakers. Many of the kitchen workers lived in nearby quarters east of the dining room. The hotel menu featured traditional Virginia cooking with items grown or raised on Buffalo Springs property. Lunch and dinner included soup, vegetables, salad, dessert, and meats such as Roast Buffalo Veal, Baked Buffalo Ham, Sliced Chicken Loaf, and Cold Roast Lamb. Breakfast

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typically included fruit, cereal, juice, eggs, bacon, corn cakes, toast, milk, and coffee. The beef and pork on the menu were primarily raised on the Buffalo Springs farm, and the fresh produce came from the garden. A dairy and creamery on the "Coal Hill" section of the property supplied milk and butter. Surrounding farmers also brought their produce to sell, and chicken "pickers" from the area showed up to sell their own poultry and eggs to Buffalo Springs. Soaps were made with leftover fats from the kitchen.

Bread was baked in a separate building located behind (east of) the dining room. Buddy Ebsen, who lived at Buffalo Springs as a child during the early 1920s, recalls the following:

... A kind and very black baker moved the baking loaves around in a massive red brick wood burning oven. I still savor the smell and taste of the fresh baked bread and remember the kindness of the baker who was generous with samples. He moved the baking loaves about with a wooden thin-bladed spade-like pusher that had become somewhat singed over the years. The baker was the generally accepted natural leader of the help that arrived by train at Buffalo Junction in late spring. (Ebsen 1996:2)

Christian Ebsen, Buddy's father, was a physical culture and dancing teacher by profession, and he had been hired as a social director at Buffalo Springs. The family of seven lived in a cottage called Cedar Gate House near the golf course. Buddy Ebsen's memories are pleasant ones of a charming place where the Old South melded with the new. It was at Buffalo Springs that he watched a mare being bred, rode his first horse, shot his first squirrel, went "coon" hunting and fox hunting, and raided a watermelon patch.

Others have equally vivid memories of Buffalo Springs, even when they recall hard work and low pay. One young man set up ten-pins to help buy his family's food for the summer until the autumn tobacco crop came in. Young women worked as pantry maids preparing salads, condiments, iced tea, and desserts. Mrs. Joe Walker did the same work in 1934-5 for \$20 per week plus room and board (McCord 1976). Local women, particularly African-Americans, carried home baskets of personal laundry from hotel guests. (Hotel linens were usually washed on site.) Some hotel guests also brought their own maids, chauffeurs, or other personal servants. Employers paid for their own servants according to accommodations required. An advertisement stating that rooms for "colored" servants were half price implies that they were housed separately.

Before the nearby Gravel Hill Church was built, resort manager A. R. Holderby presided over an afternoon Sunday School in the hotel ballroom. Buffalo Springs guests sometimes spoke, sang, or played musical instruments at these community events (Kathleen Walker, personal communication 1995). In this way, many local residents had the advantage of participation in some of the resort's social and cultural activities. Buffalo Springs baseball teams played other local teams at the ball diamond near Gravel Hill Road.

Buffalo Springs also had a general store which served the entire community. Through the years general stores occupied at least two different locations on or near the resort property. The earlier location was east of Buffalo Springs Road (SR 732) on the hill north of the main hotel complex. It functioned as a gathering place as well as a general merchandise store, selling a wide variety of items

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ranging from cloth to hardware to flour and sugar. The store did its best commerce in the summer when the resort was busy, with sometimes as many as a dozen cars with their chauffeurs lined up for gas and oil. The ruins of the second location, south of US Highway 58, are near the former railroad depot and outside the boundaries of this nomination. It also housed a post office and a back room used for voting during elections.

The only major new construction at Buffalo Springs after 1920 was a ten-acre lake made by damming the No. 2 Spring Branch near the bottling plant. Guests used this for swimming, boating, and fishing. When other revenue declined, timber on the Buffalo Springs property was cut, milled, and sold, particularly during the 1930s (Algie Glasscock, personal communication 1995). The hotel had closed by the early 1940s, but the mineral water was bottled for sale until 1949.

Several possible theories have been advanced to explain the demise of Buffalo Springs, including poor management after Thomas Goode's death. The Great Depression in the 1930s certainly decreased the numbers of individuals who could afford the expense of staying at the resort. Soon thereafter many Americans focused their time and resources on activities related to World War II. There was probably no money to update the buildings, many of which were over 50 years old. Doctors were also less likely to recommend mineral waters when manufactured medicines began to offer new hopes for cures. During the last few years the water was not actively advertised as it had been under Goode's proprietorship.

A few minor parcels of Buffalo Springs land were sold between 1936 and 1939. When C. Brooke Temple and George R. Penn purchased approximately 1430 acres from the Buffalo Mineral Springs Corporation in 1939 (with one-third interest going to Ellis M. Penn), they may have intended to revive the resort (MCDB 111:470). A local newspaper account reported Temple's plans to sell one thousand acres of the land to provide for improvements to the hotel and surrounding property (*Mecklenburg Times*, August 4, 1939). Economic conditions probably doomed plans to reopen the golf course and clean the lake for swimmers, although the bottling plant continued to operate for several more years (Gilliam 1988:41). In 1944 George and Ellis Penn transferred their shares in Buffalo Springs to Brooke Temple with the agreement that all would be equally responsible for that year's corporate income tax.

A report published by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1944 proposed several flood control projects on the Roanoke River. The John H. Kerr Dam and Buggs Island Lake took six years to construct (1946-1953) at a cost of \$92 million (Brockington et al. 1992:33). Some of the Buffalo Springs property was purchased by the United States government for the project in 1950, and the remainder was sold to individuals. Although much of the site remains above the reservoir level, it is at least partially inundated during periods of high water.

Most buildings were removed from the property in the late 1940s. A brass band played while furniture, beds, and washstands were auctioned to the highest bidder (Algie Glasscock, personal communication 1995). Wood, bricks, and other materials were sold or taken for use on other structures. A few small cabins were moved almost intact to other locations. Two of these are on the Cedar Grove estate on Shiny Rock Road. The hotel administration building was dismantled and rebuilt in a different form as the Club 58 (later the Greek Goddess) on U.S. Highway 58. It was destroyed by fire some years later. A few intact buildings which were at one time related to Buffalo Springs remain on

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private property near the government land. These include the Shelton House, the bottle storage building, the Burnett House, the Joe Walker House, and others. Water is still available from a pipe at a small roadside park on the Corps of Engineers' property. A recently-refurbished pavilion sits on the site of the old No. 2 Springhouse.

The Shelton House (now on private property) has been associated with Buffalo Springs for most of the past 200 years. The name refers to David Shelton, one of the earliest owners. Some sources also call the house "Rebel Hill," although there is no record of any connection to the Civil War. While an exact date has not been established, the house was probably built circa 1800. This estimate is based primarily on the type of construction and the architecture, as well as settlement patterns in the area. No deeds or other archival sources mention the early house, but many secondary sources place it at this location by 1811 when John Speed opened an "ordinary" near the springs. From approximately 1845 until 1939 its ownership history is the same as that of the Buffalo Springs resort. It usually functioned as the hotel proprietor's or manager's residence. In later years, the stable manager may have resided there. When the springs property began breaking up into smaller parcels, the house and a surrounding piece of land passed into private ownership.

The arrangement of spaces inside the original Central Hall house form can be studied in the context of social trends relating to private space and domesticity. According to Isaac (1982), Anglo-Virginians who had once been accustomed to communality and close physical contact, even in such functions as sleeping, bathing and urination, were gradually coming under new codes of conduct emphasizing privacy and refinement. In the earliest structures there was little segregation of persons. Particular rooms were not set aside for certain activities such as cooking and eating. By the late eighteenth century, a new concept of how a house should be arranged included a central passage between what had once been a communal "hall" and the other first-floor room. Privatization of spaces occurred first among the gentry, and came into wider currency by 1800 when the Shelton House was built.

This house was probably always a residence, and not the "ordinary" or tavern operated by John Speed and others. David Shelton and later proprietors of Buffalo Springs would have entertained and conducted business there in what was probably one of the finer homes in the county. Most houses of its type in Mecklenburg County were whitewashed and would not have had the unpainted appearance of some early twentieth-century photos (Bracey 1977:173). They commonly had outside kitchens. One historic photo shows what may have been a kitchen, either separated or attached, extending from the northwest corner of the house. Roofs in nineteenth-century Mecklenburg County often had cedar or white oak shingles, sometimes covered with tar.

After Ellis Penn and his wife purchased the house in the late 1930s, they did extensive renovations including adding the wings in 1941 (Byars 1972). In 1949 it was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Hughes who owned it until 1984 when Andrew and Robin Hasty became the owners. The Hastys have renovated the kitchen on the west wing, and removed much of the deteriorating plaster throughout the house along with what they identified as hand-split lathe (Andrew and Robin Hasty, personal communication 1995). It was during this process that some early graffiti relating to Buffalo Springs was found on one of the upstairs plaster walls.

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10. Verbal Boundary Description

Boundaries are indicated on the attached maps.

Verbal Boundary Justification

The boundaries include the extent of the archaeological site that is currently within U. S. government (COE) boundaries; plus a portion of the adjacent privately-owned parcel which includes the bottle storage building (Glasscock property); plus the privately-owned parcel which includes the Shelton House and the remains of the Clayborne Gye House (Hasty property). While the archeological site may extend further on both the north and south sides, the boundaries do not currently

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include any land north of the COE property or south of US Highway 58 because of complications arising from multiple ownership. The nomination was completed primarily to provide a basis for the COE's future management and interpretation of the Buffalo Springs site. The delineated boundaries contain the core of the site, while leaving the possibility of future amendments if circumstances warrant.

11. Property Owners

1. United States government
Contact : U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
Environmental Resources Section
P. O. Box 1890
Wilmington, NC 28402
(910) 251-4994
2. Andrew and Robin Hasty
2359 Highway 58
Buffalo Junction, VA 24529
(804) 374-5830
3. Algie J. and Virginia G. Glasscock
2317 Highway 58
Buffalo Junction, VA 24529
(804) 374-8454

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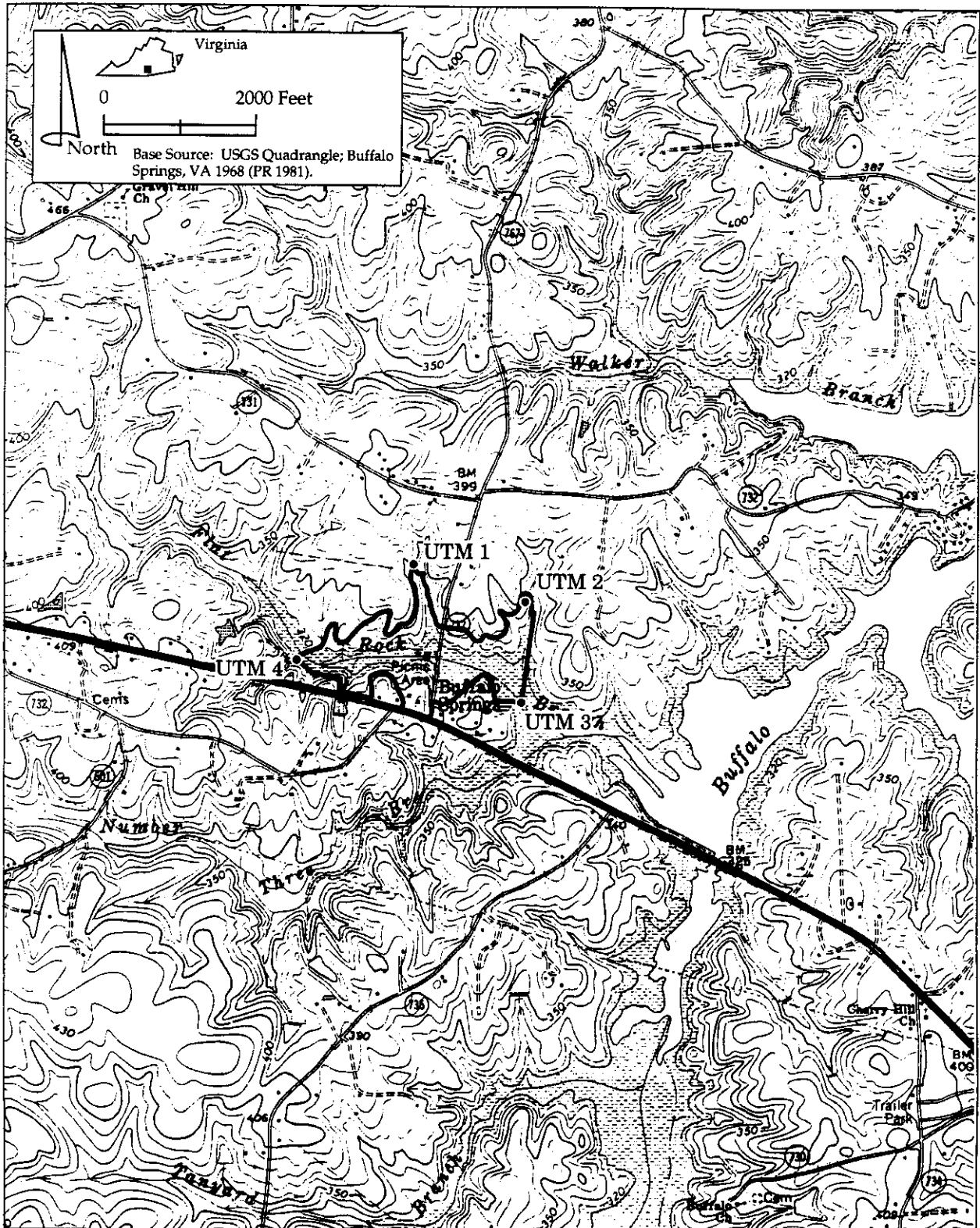
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**Buffalo Springs Historical Archeological District
Mecklenburg County, VA**

Maps

- Map 1. Buffalo Springs Historical Archeological District showing location of UTM references and National Register boundaries.
Source: U.S.G.S. 7.5 Quadrangle: Buffalo Springs Va. Scale: 1"= 2000 ft.
- Map 2. Archeological Site sketch map showing location of archeological elements, contributing and non-contributing resources, and National Register boundaries.
Scale: 1"= 200 ft. (folded in envelope)
Scale: 3/4" = 500 ft. (on 8 1/2 x 11" paper)
3. Key to Map 2.

Map 1
UTM References and National Register District Boundary



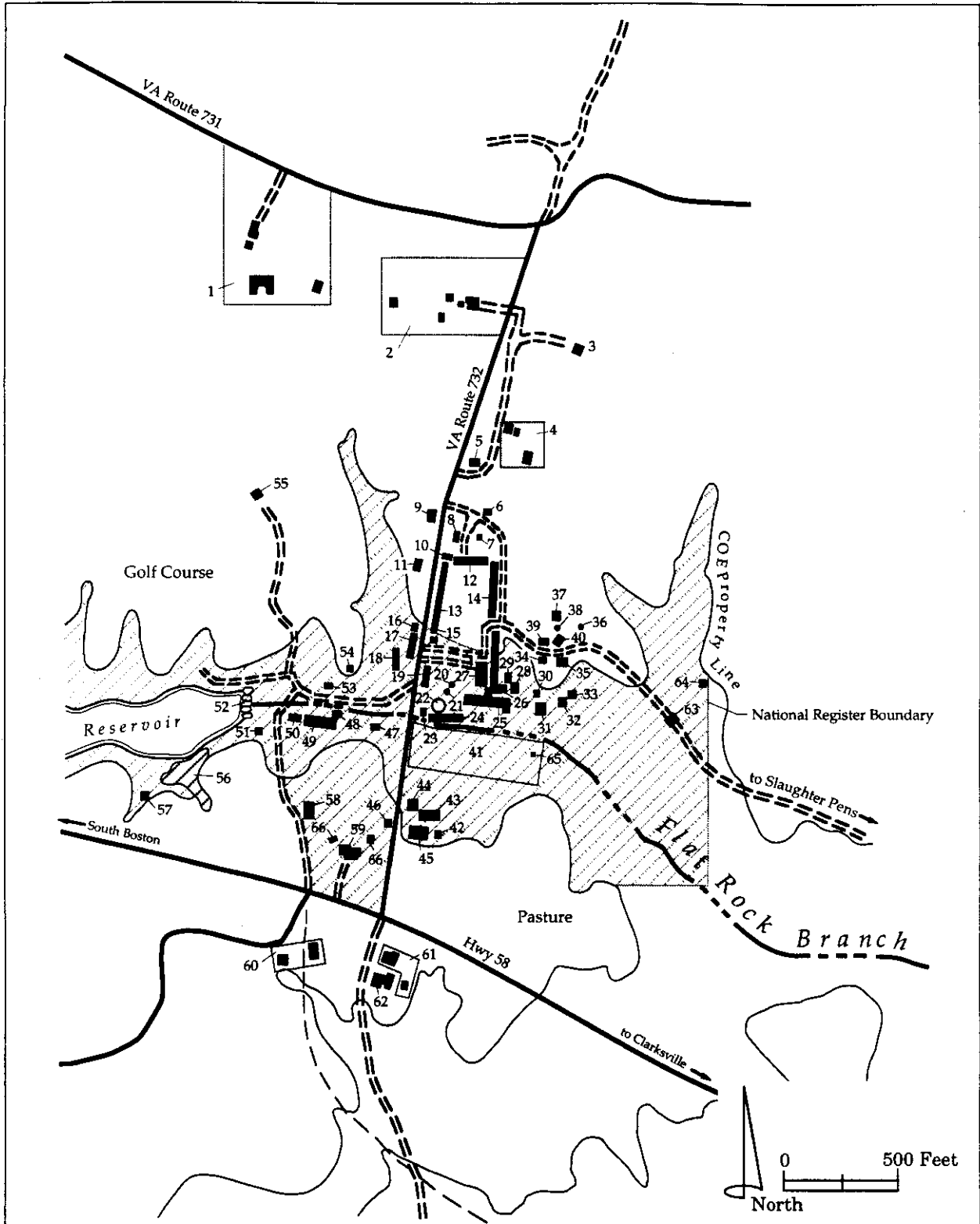
Key to Map 2

1. "Coal Hill"
2. Dairy and Dairy House
3. Obe House
4. David Walker House (J. Davis, Mgr.)
5. Davis/Nunn Store
6. Structure associated with Holderby House
7. Water Tank
8. One Story Parking garage
9. Barn
10. A.R. Holderby House, V.P. of corporation
11. One story frame dwelling, used to house band
12. Patterson Heights
13. Rowdy Row
14. Sycamore (Smokey) Row
15. Post Office and Doctor's Office
16. Bathroom Associated with Solomon's Temple*
17. Solomon's Temple with Stone Lined Well*
18. Parking Garage*
19. Bachelor's Row*
20. Spring No. 1*
21. Pavilion (Bandstand)*
22. Tennis Court*
23. Ten Pin Bowling Alley*
24. Barber Shop, Men's Bathroom, Billiard Room*
25. Goode Building*
26. Kitchen and Dining Hall*
27. Administration Building/Ballroom*
28. Structure - unknown function*
29. Structure - unknown function*
30. Water Tank and 2 Stone-lined Wells*
31. Bakery*
32. Structure - unknown function*
33. Structure - unknown function*
34. Icehouse
35. Icehouse
36. Wells (bored and piped with fittings for pump)
37. Structure - dormitory for hired help
38. Water Tank
39. Structure - unknown function, dormitory?
40. Structure - unknown function, dormitory?
41. Vegetable Garden*
42. Shed, machine shop*
43. Stable*
44. Corn Crib*
45. Carriage House and Stone Lined Well*
46. Clayborne Gye House with Stone Lined Well*
47. Concrete Cistern (extant structure)*
48. Spring No. 2*, Reconstructed Pavilion†
49. Bottling Plant*
50. Power Plant*
51. Pit Toilet*
52. Stone Dam, Penstock and 10-12 acre lake*
53. Machine Bored Well, fitted for water pump*
54. Water Tank
55. Cedar Gate House
56. Bottle Dump*
57. Pit Toilet*
58. Bottle Storage House (extant building)*
59. Shelton House (extant building)*
60. Rail Depot
61. Burnett House
62. Sizemore Store
63. Bridge*
64. Structure - unknown function, dormitory?*
65. Brick-lined Fountain*
66. Modern outbuildings for Shelton House†

*archeological elements or contributing resources within NRHP boundaries

† non-contributing resources within NRHP boundaries

Map 2
Site Map and National Register District Boundaries



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National Park Service

VLR 12/3/97
NRHP 4/12/98

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 an 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 Buffalo Springs Historical Archeological District

other names/site number Buffalo Lithia Springs; Buffalo Mineral Springs; Site 44MC329

2. Location

street & number NE and NW of jct. of US 58 and SR 732 not for publication

city or town Buffalo Junction vicinity

state Virginia code VA county Mecklenburg code 117 zip code 24529

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] 3/13/98
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Va. Dept of Historic Resources
State of Federal agency and bureau

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

[Signature] 15 April 1998
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Terry R. Youngbluth
Colonel, U.S. Army District Engineer
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- 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): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

