# United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

LISTED	ON:
VLR	12/13/2012
NRHP	02/05/2013

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

. Name of Property			
nistoric name Lansdowne			
other names/site number Retreat Farm, Backus House / Virgi	nia DHR #088-5375		
2. Location			
street & number 4919 Lansdowne Road		N/A	not for publication
city or town Fredericksburg		х	vicinity
state Virginia code VA county Spotsylv	ania code 177	zip coo	de _22408
3. State/Federal Agency Certification			
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preserv	ation Act, as amended,		
I hereby certify that this <u>X</u> nomination <u></u> request for determined registering properties in the National Register of Historic Planar requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.	mination of eligibility meet		
In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance		a. I recon	nmend that this property
national statewide _X_local			
me -	//		
Signature of certifying official/Title	2/2/2 ette	_	
Virginia Department of Historic Resources State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government			
In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Regist	er criteria.		-
Signature of commenting official	Date	-	
Title State or F	ederal agency/bureau or Tribal	Governmen	nt
	ederal agency/bureau or mbar	Governine	
4. National Park Service Certification			
I hereby certify that this property is:			
entered in the National Register	determined eligible for the	National R	tegister
determined not eligible for the National Register	removed from the Nationa	l Register	
other (explain:)			
Signature of the Keener	Date of Action		

Lansdowne Name of Property		Spotsylvania County, VA 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.)			
X private public - Local public - State public - Federal	X building(s) district site structure object	Contributing         Noncontributing           4         0         buildings           1         0         sites           1         0         structures           0         0         objects           6         0         Total			
Name of related multiple prop (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a		Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register			
N/A		N/A			
6. Function or Use					
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)		Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)			
DOMESTIC/single dwelling		DOMESTIC/single dwelling			
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/agricultural		AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/agricultural			
outbuilding		outbuilding			
LANDSCAPE/garden		LANDSCAPE/garden			
DOMESTIC/secondary structur	e	NOT IN USE/secondary structure			
7. Description					
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions.)		Materials (Enter categories from instructions.)			
OTHER: Mid-18 <sup>th</sup> to Early-19 <sup>th</sup> Century Vernacular		foundation: BRICK			
_		walls: WOOD			
		roof: METAL			
		other: BRICK; WOOD			

orm 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018 (Expires 5/31/2012)

Lansdowne Name of Property Spotsylvania County, VA
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#### **Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

#### **Summary Paragraph**

Lansdowne, an evolved mid-eighteenth- to early-nineteenth-century single-family dwelling, is located at 4919 Lansdowne Road in Spotsylvania County, Virginia. The property, consisting of about 12 acres, is located approximately one mile south of the City of Fredericksburg. Immediately east of Lansdowne is the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania Battlefields National Military Park (VDHR #111-0147); the property is within the park's defined "Core Area". Constructed in at least three periods—circa 1755, early-nineteenth century, and 1950—the one-and-a-half-story, three-bay, double-pile, wood-framed dwelling has a side-gable roof covered in standing-seam metal. Two dormers pierce the roofline on the north and south elevations. A pair of exterior double-shouldered brick chimneys exists on the west elevation, and a single exterior double-shouldered brick chimney is located on the east elevation. Windows are nine-over-six, double-hung-sash wood on the first floor and six-over-six, double-hung-sash wood on the half story. The interior has many original materials from the different periods of construction including mantels, doors and hardware, window and door trim, baseboards and moldings, plastered walls and ceilings, and floors. Three contributing outbuildings are located west of the dwelling: a circa 1920s board-and-batten, side-gabled frame bank barn; a circa 1950 cinderblock springhouse; and a circa 1950 cinderblock pumphouse with an early pump. The property also features a landscape containing manicured yards, fields, wooded land, and a pond. Remnants of a mid-nineteenth-century historic formal landscape including terracing, a contributing site, are found on the north and east sides of the house. In addition, an historic road trace, a contributing structure, can be seen on the north side of the barn.

**Narrative Description** 

# **Architectural Summary**

#### Landscape

Extending west from Lansdowne Road, a gravel drive is shaded by a canopy of deciduous trees, quickly giving way to an open, rural landscape. The house, resting upon the edge of a knoll, dominates the viewscape as the land contours away from the dwelling on the north, south, and west sides. A field is located south of the drive just past several raised garden beds, framing the manicured property as it sweeps past a circa 1920 barn and runs along the western property boundary—terminating within the northwest corner. A man-made pond is located within the western portion of the field. The opposing side of the drive is bordered by more garden beds interrupted by an historic boxwood hedge that now acts as a formal-styled side (east) lawn beside the dwelling. The gravel drive comes to a halt approximately 50 feet southeast of the house; however, a grass-covered road trace historically continued the road down the hillside to the north side of the barn before turning to the north. A cut-out within the hillside indicates continuation of the road, going past a large depression (possible icehouse location) and an inactive pumphouse, before disappearing into the deciduous tree growth.

Returning attention to the house, various flowers, trees, and shrubs—a mixture of historic with modern—surround the one-and-a-half-story dwelling. Brick sidewalks line pathways leading from the drive to either of the side, eastern entries. A historic side entry is located mid-point on the house's east elevation with walkways

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lined with historic boxwoods. As previously mentioned, a formal lawn is located east of the house, lined by historic boxwoods with a few trees between. While the area is now covered with grass, the side lawn likely once acted as a working yard, given evidence of a meathouse in early-20<sup>th</sup>-century photographs and other intriguing ground depressions. Several flowers, mature trees, and shrubs are located along the southern and western confinements of the manicured yard.

Along the northern side of the house is the property's most important visible landscape element—terracing. While the exact date of construction is unknown, the first known documentation occurs in written recollections of the 1860s (see Historic Context). However, this landscape style was out-of-date by the 1860s. In fact, the trend faded in landscape design around the beginning of the nineteenth century, suggesting it is highly possible the feature pre-dates the 1800s. Regardless, the terracing is striking given the manpower and money needed to transform a hillside. It is unusual to find this landscaping element associated with a one-and-a-half-story, wood-framed dwelling.

#### **Primary Dwelling**

Constructed circa 1755, the dwelling has witnessed three periods of construction, comprising the building as it stands today. The original building construction (Period I) includes the northern portion of the current house. Built as a one-story, three-bay, single-pile building, the dwelling included one room (western), a passage with access to a loft (eastern), and the northern section of a brick English basement (laid in a three-course common bond). An exterior-end brick chimney, containing three fireplaces, heated the western portion of the building.

Period II (occurring in the early-nineteenth century) featured the most alterations to the property as the house was expanded from a three-bay, single-pile building with loft and English basement to a three-bay, double-pile, side-gable roofed building with dormers providing natural light to a complete half-story and an expanded English basement—doubling the building's square footage. The expanded basement was also constructed of brick, laid in a like manner to the original. Two exterior-end, brick chimneys were added during this time, both attached to the newly constructed portion of the house—one on the eastern elevation and one on the western elevation. The western chimney features an Aquia sandstone base.

Period III provided elements to transform the historic building into a modern house. Constructed in 1950, a kitchen wing and side porch, hosting a shed roof, was added to the south elevation of the house. The kitchen is wood-framed, clad in weatherboard matching the rest of the house, and it rests on a cinderblock foundation. In addition, plumbing and electricity were introduced to the house during this period, as well as an updated heating system.

#### **Exterior Description**

The main house at 4919 Lansdowne Road is a one-and-a-half-story, four-bay, double-pile, wood-framed building, clad in beaded weatherboard, with a side-gable roof covered in standing-seam metal. The roof is penetrated by a total of four front-gable dormers—two on the north elevation and two on the south elevation—with six-over-six, double-hung-sash wood windows providing natural lighting to rooms located in the half story. The house rests on a brick foundation laid in three-course common bond.

Three exterior-end chimneys are located on the dwelling—one on the eastern elevation and two on the western elevation—all measuring approximately 40 feet in height. The dwelling's original (Period I) brick chimney stands at the northwest portion of the house, featuring two sets of corbelled dual shoulders, a corbelled base, and three interior fireplaces. Two additional chimneys were added in the early-nineteenth century (Period II). The brick chimney located at the southeast portion of the house features corbelled dual shoulders, a corbelled base,

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and one interior fireplace. Another chimney, located at the southwest portion of the house, features brick construction resting upon an Aquia sandstone base. Although containing different material, the brick is laid with the same pattern as the southwest chimney, featuring corbelled dual shoulders and a corbelled base leading to the sandstone; the chimney hosts two interior fireplaces.

Recent preservation and restoration efforts have identified brick nogging within all exterior walls. Oriented to the north, the evolved mid-eighteenth- to early-nineteenth-century vernacular dwelling features a side-hall floor plan. The first floor is raised on an English basement requiring six wooden stairs to access the main (north) entry. The basement is constructed of brick, laid in a three-course common bond. A visible seam denotes the limits of the Period I foundation which features jack arches above all basement windows. Although laid in a like bond, the Period II addition does not contain jack arches above the windows.

The dwelling's primary (north) entry contains a twelve-light, wooden door, providing protection to the main door constructed of wood and featuring six panels in the "Bible and cross" pattern. A three-light transom rests atop the main entry doorway. The original (Period II) rear (south) entry door, with a four-paneled design, has been transformed into an interior door found within a kitchen addition. A side entry, of like door design, provides access to the eastern portion of the dwelling. Immediately south of the side entry is an exterior entrance to the Period II basement.

Lansdowne contains several types of window sash throughout the building, all constructed with wooden frames: nine-over-six, double-hung-sash windows are found throughout the first floor; six-over-six, double-hung-sash windows in the half story; and three-over-three, single-hung-sash windows within the basement. A lack of jack arches over windows found in the Period II basement indicates the windows may not be original to the section's construction. Hinge recesses in the windows' side jambs provide evidence of shutters, although they were removed prior to Curtis Backus, Jr.'s family ownership, documented through family photographs taken at the residence.

The primary elevation (north) of the dwelling features a full-length, one-story porch constructed of wood. The porch's roof is supported by four wooden, square posts resting on brick piers with a wood balustrade between posts except where stairs meet the porch to provide access to the dwelling. Simple, dual, horizontal boards with endposts provide railings along the wooden stairs leading to the porch. Another porch is located on the east elevation. Not an original element to the Period II construction, the current, one-story porch strictly covers only the side entry with a front-gable, standing-seam metal roof. Square posts with like balusters to the primary façade support the roof. Five wood steps provide access to the porch. Historic photographs reveal that a larger porch once stood at its place, starting from its present terminus to the north and extending southward until reaching the chimney, providing overhead cover for the exterior basement entry.

Extending from the south elevation of the dwelling is a one-story kitchen and side porch addition. Covered by a shed roof clad with standing-seam metal, the kitchen, located on the western half of the southern addition, is supported by a cinderblock foundation while the porch, located on the eastern half of the southern addition, rests atop brick piers. The kitchen features beaded-weatherboard siding and contains two windows—a six-over-six, double-hung-sash, wood window and a three-over-three, double-hung-sash, wood window, as well as a door featuring two panels on the bottom two-thirds and a six-light upper section. Four wood stairs lead up to the porch, providing entry to the kitchen. Two square posts support the roof and a single wooden board provides the railing along the southern end of the porch.

#### **Interior Description**

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Lansdowne features a side-hall floor plan, with the stair hall to the east and one room to the west. The house has witnessed large expansion during the Period II construction in the early-nineteenth century; however, most aspects of the original design were retained. Upon completion of Period II construction, the dwelling is largely unaltered within the bounds of that footprint (kitchen and side porch addition extended beyond the existing footprint). With such limited alterations to both the periods of construction, the interior retains a wealth of interior architectural components and integrity. Included in the preserved interior are mantels, door and window casings, some interior doors and hardware, baseboards and moldings, plastered walls and ceilings, and floors.

Main entry to the house is made by the side stair hall. The staircase leading to the second floor was added during the Period II construction. Two doors lead off the stair hall—one to the south, leading to the current first-floor bedroom, and one to the west, leading to the current living room. The living room and dining room (located south of the living room) contain finely adorned mantels. The living room features a Federal-style mantel with fluted, round pilasters topped with rectangular blocks faced with three rows of beads, all resting upon short block plinths. An eloquent, tiered cornice rests beneath a shelf with beads along the trim; the frieze is surrounded with like trim. The dining room mantel contains less decoration, featuring flat, fluted pilasters with squared plinths. Fluted trim greets the cornice with a large fluted piece centered within the frieze. A third mantel is found in the first-floor bedroom and contains fluted trim matching that located in the dining room, creating the mantel's cornice. Flooring within the living room is believed to be original (Period I), consisting of heart-of-pine boards varying in width between four and six inches; the dining room and first-floor bedroom contain wood floors from the 1920s, overlaying original (Period II) flooring.

The basement level of the dwelling features storage space under the staircase, enclosed by vertical wood boards with two board-and-batten styled doors to provide access. Believed to be original to the Period I construction of the dwelling, these storage spaces indicate the basement was an active domestic space which is further supported by a fireplace located along the western elevation. Exposed beams feature hand-hewn markings, as well as reused beams, indicated by unused pockets and nail markings. Wood boards cover the original basement floor, providing a slight barrier to the exposed earth. Brick flooring, dry-laid in a diagonal pattern, original to Period II construction, exists within parts of the associated basement. One basement window found on the north elevation still houses what appears to be the original (Period I) casing.

There are two bedrooms, a sewing room (as defined by the current owner), and a modern bathroom found in the half story of the dwelling. The north bedroom, above the living room, contains a Period I fireplace featuring the bare bricks of the original chimney. Access to the attic is also found within this room. A fireplace also exists in the south bedroom, above the dining room. Both bedrooms feature heart-of-pine flooring, varying in width between eight and twelve inches original to their construction (Period II). The half story is lighted by eight windows—four in the gable ends and four within dormers—all with six-over-six, double-hung wood sash.

#### Secondary Resources

Three contributing outbuildings still exist on the 12-acre property, although historic documents (see Historic Context in Section 8) suggests several more used to be within the house's curtilage surviving beneath as uncovered archaeological evidence. The springhouse, circa 1950, is located northwest of the primary dwelling, at a distance of approximately 150 feet, and rests at the base of converging hillsides, providing nature's ideal location for a spring head. Set within the ground to create a pool of water within the structure, cinderblock walls form the sides, penetrated by a pipe running uphill toward the dwelling. The pooling water is protected from the elements by a concrete lid. At a distance of 75 feet from the northwest corner of the house, a cinderblock pumphouse, circa 1950, provides the required equipment to supply running water from the springhouse to the dwelling. Sitting near the historic road trace, midway down a steep land contour leading away from the house,

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the pumphouse closely replicates the springhouse, only differing by being larger. A pump still stands atop the lid, though not in use since the county supplied water to the area in the 1990s. Approximately 100 feet southwest of the primary dwelling is a large frame bank barn, circa 1920. The building hosts a side-gable roof covered in standing-seam metal. Clad in board-and-batten siding, the barn rests on a poured-concrete slab foundation partially supported by an embankment on the north and east sides. Entry to the main level is provided by four wood stairs leading to a north-facing doorway. Several functioning openings once existed to the main level. A ground (basement) level is accessed through an open end, found on the south elevation. Entry to the main level can also be gained through the west elevation, though no longer the active access point. Within the ground level are several animal pens located in the northeast corner. Knob-and-tube wiring still exists throughout the building; however, electricity to the barn has been disconnected.

Historically providing access to the Lansdowne property, remnants of a road trace (a contributing structure) can be found on the south and west sides of the primary dwelling. Though now covered in grass, the trace is still visible on the south by a graded surface on a hillside, and on the west by a cut-out in a small knoll. Such small traces of the road exist within the 12-acre property; however, the larger road is still evident by the modern Lansdowne Road which closely follows the historic road trace. Originally, a private drive extended southward from U.S. Route 17 to the Lansdowne dwelling. Eventually, the road became modern-day Lansdowne Road, and access to Lansdowne was changed from a northern approach to an eastern approach—as it remains today. A 1905 plat (see Associated Documents) depicts the private usage and original alignment of the road.

With historical access to the Lansdowne dwelling approaching from the north, a hillside—between the historic road and house—was transformed with terracing, becoming a focal point. The terraced hillside (a contributing site) provided an enhanced view of the dwelling, marking the status of the house's residents. While there is no known documentation of when the terraces were built, according to landscape history in the Middle Atlantic region, terracing faded from fashion in the early-nineteenth century. As such, the earliest construction date of the landscape feature is perhaps contemporary with the erection of the original (Phase I) house, and the latest date when the Phase II construction occurred.

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8. Sta	atement of Significance			
(Mark	cable National Register Criteria  'x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property ional Register listing.)	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions.) ARCHITECTURE		
A	Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	AIRCHITEOTORE		
В	Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.			
XC	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.	Period of Significance Circa 1755–1950		
	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.	Significant Dates circa 1755 circa 1820s		
	ria Considerations 'x" in all the boxes that apply.)	1950 Significant Person		
Prope	erty is:	(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)		
A P	Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.	N/A		
E	removed from its original location.	Cultural Affiliation N/A		
	a birthplace or grave.			
	a cemetery.			
E	a reconstructed building, object, or structure.	Architect/Builder N/A		
F	a commemorative property.			
	less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.			

### Period of Significance (justification)

The Period of Significance begins with the initial construction of the historic dwelling (circa 1755); continues with the construction of a major addition to the building (circa 1820s); and ends with the construction of a kitchen and porch addition to the building's south elevation (1950).

# Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary) N/A

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

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Located on 12 acres of rural land in Spotsylvania County, Virginia, the Lansdowne house is perched upon a hillside, surrounded by various landscapes defined by historic and contemporary usage. Within the "Core Area" of the Civil War Battles of Fredericksburg I & II, as defined by the National Park Service, the property abuts the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania Battlefields National Military Park (VDHR 111-0147). Constructed circa 1755, the evolved mid-eighteenth- to early-nineteenth-century, one-and-a-half-story, side-gabled frame dwelling rests on a three-course, common-bond brick foundation. This primary dwelling has witnessed two additional construction periods (early-nineteenth century and 1950), though still containing the building's original architectural integrity. Both periods increased the building's square footage, placing minimal impact on the original structure. With retention of functional and ornate materials on the exterior and interior, the house is a striking and rare example of a mid-eighteenth- to early-19-century vernacular dwelling. Many original elements to the landscape are still present, including historic boxwoods and a terraced hillside. Locally significant under Criterion C in Architecture, Lansdowne physically reflects its circa 1755–1950 period of significance in the abundant survival of its architectural fabric, as well as its landscape elements—both original elements and later associated additions. Secondary resources include three contributing buildings located west of the dwelling—a circa 1920s board-and-batten, side-gabled frame barn; a circa 1950 cinderblock springhouse; and a circa 1950 cinderblock pumphouse. Remnants of a mid-nineteenth-century historic formal landscape including terracing, found on the north side of the house, a contributing site; and an historic road trace, a contributing structure that exists on the south and west sides of the house, north of the barn.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

#### Architecture

The architecture of Lansdowne is significant as a representative example of mid-eighteenth- to early-nineteenth-century, wood-framed buildings. Since the early-nineteenth century, the house has seen only one other extensive addition, with a kitchen and porch added to the structure (increasing the overall square footage), and placement of electricity and plumbing throughout the dwelling. Several landscape elements survive that are representative of the dwelling's original construction as well as other elements that illustrate the adaptation of rural life through the decades. These landscape alterations are highlighted by several historic outbuildings—all contributing to the property. The primary dwelling and associated landscapes and outbuildings are emblematic of changing land usage through several decades of occupation. Components indicating the early residents' status are still visible today both inside and outside the dwelling.

Constructed on the declining contour of a ridge, the Lansdowne house stands as a one-and-a-half-story, three-bay, wood-framed, vernacular dwelling. Situated on 12 acres of the original 830 acres, the property retains a vast amount of its architectural, aesthetic, and physical integrity. Originally constructed, circa 1755, as a one-story, three-bay, single-pile, wood-framed building with a brick chimney, it was built on a brick English basement in three-course common bond. In the early-nineteenth century, expansion occurred, increasing the house to a one-and-a-half-story, three-bay, double-pile house, hosting two additional chimneys and increased basement size. Following the second phase of construction, the house remained untouched until 1950 when the kitchen and porch extending from the rear (south) elevation were constructed. This last addition did not disrupt the building's massing, nor intrude on any significant architectural elements such as the exterior weatherboard, window, and door.

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Aspects of the original (circa 1755) building are still intact. Structurally, the house features the original framing and English basement. Next to it, the original brick chimney proudly stands on the dwelling's west elevation. At an unusually tall height of 40 feet, the chimney still contains all three original fireplaces. Although some replacement has occurred, the majority of the wood siding appears to be original. Within the house, some walls still feature the original plaster. While much of the casings and trim were replaced in the early-nineteenth century, originals can still be found within the house, namely in the side hall and around a basement window. Stairs leading down to the basement appear to be original to the building and form the coverage for a storage space. The vertical-board wall forms a pantry underneath the stairs and contains two board-and-batten doors—all elements believed to be from the original construction. Having the built-in storage, as well as a fireplace in the basement, indicate that the basement was first used for utilitarian purposes.

By doubling the footprint, the second period of construction (early-nineteenth century) left the largest imprint on the house. Starting on the exterior, areas built during this phase of construction retain its framing, clad by wood siding, largely untouched, and sitting atop the continued brick English basement. The current windows, and many of the lights, were installed during this time. Doors, exterior and interior, date to this phase of construction, minus the doors found within the basement storage area. With the addition came the construction of two brick chimneys. Although both have the unusual 40-foot height found with the original, one chimney (east elevation) contains all brick construction with only one fireplace, while the other (west elevation) contains brick construction with an Aquia sandstone base and two fireplaces. Within the house, the floor plan is retained from the second construction phase. A majority of the plastered walls date to this time. Excluding casings and trim from the original construction, all other casings and trim within the house were installed during the second phase. Two mantels (one in the dining room and one in the first-floor bedroom) were constructed with the two new chimneys. Flooring throughout the house was laid during this time, though now covered by a newer wood floor (installed circa 1920) in the dining room and first-floor bedroom. In the basement, portions of the original brick flooring laid in a diagonal pattern remain.

In 1950, the house saw its last major alteration with updated modern amenities and an addition. Through the entire house, electricity and plumbing were installed, bringing the house up to date. On the rear (south) elevation, a kitchen and porch were added. The one-story, shed-roof addition has largely remained untouched since its construction. On the exterior, the framing, wood siding, and cinderblock foundation are intact. Stairs and flooring on the porch are original to the construction, and all windows and doors are unaltered. Within the kitchen, the ceiling and walls are clad with original beaded, knotty pine boards—with a natural finish—and the cabinets are constructed of a like material.

Three outbuildings are extant within the 12-acre property. The first is a circa 1920 side-gabled, board-and-batten bank barn, highlighting the property's agricultural past. The barn features all original materials and acts as a storage facility today. Displaying the 1950 addition of plumbing to the house, a 1950 cinderblock springhouse and 1950 cinderblock pumphouse are found northwest of the dwelling. As with the barn, these buildings have remained unaltered; however, neither is in use due to the arrival of Spotsylvania County-provided water in the 1990s.

The house's curtilage retains many aspects of the landscape as it evolved to the needs and wants of landowners. A terraced hillside is the most defining element of the property. From a grade level to the house, the hillside steps down several times until it reaches the location of a historic drive to the property. Located on the eastern side of the house is an area, defined by boxwoods, likely used as a working yard, although now it is treated as a formal lawn. In addition, the property features remnants of a formal terraced garden including several brick

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paths, historic boxwood hedges, and mature trees. Surrounding three sides of the dwelling, a road trace marks the historic access drive to the property.

With such high retention of architectural and landscape elements, the property is truly a rare example of mideighteenth- to early-nineteenth-century architecture. Three periods of construction (circa 1755, early-nineteenth century, and 1950) all contributed to the house as its stands today. As such, Lansdowne qualifies for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C in Architecture as both its component parts and collective whole embody the distinctive characteristics of a representative mid-eighteenth- to early-nineteenth-century wood-framed dwelling. In addition, the property's landscape, orientation, setting, feeling, association, and workmanship all retain a substantial degree of integrity.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

#### Historic Context

#### Overview

Lansdowne is located at 4919 Lansdowne Road, approximately 900 feet south of the intersection of Lee Drive (part of the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania Battlefields National Military Park [VDHR #111-0147]) and Lansdowne Road. The current Lansdowne Road continues approximately 0.5 mile south to its terminus at Mine Road. Lansdowne Road originally served as the private drive to the Lansdowne property from State Route 2—formerly the old stage coach road to Richmond—approximately two miles north of the property. It is believed that the house was constructed circa 1755 due to an unusually high price per acre found within the Spotsylvania County land tax records. In addition to the price, the property was already referenced as "Retreat Farm," thus hinting the existence of a building for the owners to reside in while visiting the farm.<sup>1</sup>

The one-and-a-half-story house at Lansdowne is defined by three unusually large brick chimneys. Featuring a vernacular design, the single-family lodging is found within the constraints of the wood-framed house. The dwelling is quite rare given its smaller stature with detail and craftsmanship typically found in larger estates. Within the surrounding area, Lansdowne stands out for its age, design, and integrity. Although other mideighteenth- to early-nineteenth-century houses survive in Spotsylvania County and surrounding cities and counties, none features the same components of Lansdowne. Of the buildings that remain from the period, none displays such towering chimneys, fine craftsmanship for similar-sized houses, or retains its rural setting.

The property was originally known as the Retreat Farm from the mid-eighteenth century until 1830. In 1830, the land became known as Lansdowne under the ownership of George Washington Bassett. Lansdowne was originally part of a 4,972-acre patent to Edmund Smith dating to the mid-seventeenth century. The residence was originally constructed circa 1755, and comprised of an 18x34-foot structure, with a fully finished basement.<sup>2</sup> In the early-nineteenth century, the footprint was doubled and a half story with four dormers was added, along with porches on the east and west elevations. The southern porch was removed in 1950 and converted to a 10x14-foot kitchen and 10x12-foot porch. The building has always functioned as a residence, with an active agricultural aspect, necessitating several outbuildings. Many of the first outbuildings were constructed in the late-eighteenth century; however, none remain standing today.<sup>3</sup> A circa 1920 board-and-batten bank barn and a small pond are located on the current 12-acre property, as well as a 1950s cinderblock springhouse and pumphouse.

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As was customary during this period, the physical site of Lansdowne was carefully chosen to take advantage of the breezes from the Rappahannock River and the shelter of the ridge. It is located on the lower knoll of a steep ridge overlooking farmland lining the River. Several springs close to the house provided ample water supply. At least two other houses (Forest Hill and LaVue) were constructed on this ridge in the late-eighteenth century, neither of which survives today.<sup>4</sup> In general, frame structures dating from the eighteenth century rarely survive. Lansdowne, with its early-nineteenth-century addition exists today with its original room lay-out, interior trim, doors and flooring, and most of the window sash.<sup>5</sup>

#### Construction of a Dwelling

The property was originally part of the May 25, 1671, patent of 4,972 acres of Lawrence Smith from the Rappahannock River to west of Massaponax Creek. Benjamin Grymes acquired 734 acres known as Retreat Farm from Edmund Smith in 1755. This acreage was adjacent to two other large tracts of land known as LaVue and Wheatland. Grymes most likely built the first buildings on the site to provide lodging for family, overseers, and slaves. If a house for his family was constructed, it is the primary dwelling that still stands today.

A prominent Fredericksburg resident and political figure, James Mercer, acquired the property in 1772 and he and his children spent time at the Retreat Farm. Mercer's son, Charles Fenton Mercer, wrote of "repairing" to the Retreat Farm, suggesting that a dwelling existed on the farm at that time. As reported in the *Virginia Herald Ledger* in December 1793, the land "Valued at 1125 pounds in 1783, John Mercer's 'Retreat Farm' consisted of a 750 acre tract of rich Rappahannock bottomland, improved by buildings, ditches, fences and water, worked by some thirty-three slaves...."

The property, then an active farm consisting of 734 acres, was enlarged by 97 acres in 1811—subsequently recorded as 830 acres. The farm retained all 830 acres for several decades. The ownership of the farm first passed from James Mercer to John Gray in 1805. Gray was a prominent citizen at the time and a considerable landholder in Spotsylvania County. Following Gray's possession, the land was sold to Rubin Dean in 1821 and again in 1827 to George Washington Bassett. 10, 11

#### Lansdowne

Now owning the 830-acre tract of farmland, George Bassett named the farm Lansdowne—a name it retains to the present. Seeking improvements, Bassett invested in the property, likely expanding the house to its pre-1950 limits and offering the land for sale. Advertisements for the farm highlight the preserved acreage along with an enlarged eight-room house and several outbuildings. 12

Buying the property from Bassett in 1840 was John Pratt, a respected and wealthy citizen in the Fredericksburg region. The land was then conveyed to William Pratt in 1855 followed by Dr. Robert Rennolds in 1857. Dr. Rennolds owned Lansdowne during the Civil War, and saw his property directly involved in the conflict. The 1860 Census lists his occupation as a farmer, controlling 830 acres. The acreage was described as 500 acres being "improved" and 330 acres being "unimproved." A historic map created in 1867, known as the Michler map, depicts a total of 11 outbuildings within the boundaries of Rennolds's property. 16

Dr. Robert Rennolds, his wife, and three children—Robert, Jr., Eliza, and Emily—occupied Lansdowne during the Civil War.<sup>17</sup> The farm housed animals valued at \$1,360. Of the animals cared for on the property were six dairy cows, eight head of cattle, three horses, eight mules, six oxen, and 11 sheep. In addition, Dr. Rennolds owned 31 slaves who performed both agricultural and domestic duties. With the enslaved hands, from June 1, 1859, until June 1, 1860, Rennolds was able to produce 1,600 bushels of wheat; 2,250 bushels of corn; 350

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bushels of oats; 40 pounds of wool; 20 bushels of sweet potatoes; 200 pounds of butter; and slaughtered livestock valued at \$80.19. 18, 19

#### Civil War

Lansdowne is located in the "Core Area" for the Battles of Fredericksburg I & II as defined by the National Park Service. The dwelling is identified as a prominent landmark that was just behind the Confederate front line during the December 1862 and May 1863 Battles of Federicksburg. 1

With Union occupation spanning the northern heights of the Rappahannock River, shelling on the City of Fredericksburg lead to the evacuation of the city's residents. Fleeing south to escape the Union forces, several families initially took refuge at Lansdowne before retreating further in search of safety.<sup>22</sup>

While Jane Beale headed west out of town, many residents headed south—toward the railroad at Hamilton's Crossing. Among those were the dozen or so girls of the Female Charity School on Caroline Street. They turned up at Lansdowne, the home of Dr. Robert Rennolds, his wife Caroline, and daughters Eliza and Emily and son Robert. Years later, Eliza remembered the arrival of the girls with glee: "We children experienced great delight when the Female Charity School arrived, twelve girls to play with us, but this was only a two days treat." It may not have been even that, for Rennolds's house was within the Confederate lines. No civilians would have lingered there as long as December 13.<sup>23</sup>

Recalling Lansdowne, Eliza Rennolds detailed her memories of visitors to her family's house during the shelling of Fredericksburg. Among her most vivid recollections was the arrival of children from the Female Charity School. Her accounts also describe the arrival of Union troops to Lansdowne and their destruction to the property during the 1862–1863 winter.<sup>24</sup>

I am writing a few recollections of our country life before and during the Civil War, as they may be of some interest & our home was typical of many of that period. The farm was eight-hundred acres three miles from Fredericksburg, Va. A simple frame house with a porch across the front & dormer windows, ?? a terraced hill with lovely flowers & shrubs. The servants quarters were a short distance back where they had their little gardens & chickens & where we children delighted to visit & where on summer nights they sang their wonderful songs — My mother & our gouverness went to their cabins on Sunday afternoons & read the bible & taught the children. A room in our house was devoted to the servants clothes, shelves were built on one side where rolls of cloth, ??, & cotton was stored & Aunt "Silvia" our coloured seamstress sat in her high bright colored turban constantly at work discouraging childrens visits. When we went to town or to church we went in the carriage drawn by two fat horses at a leasurly pace with Uncle Harry in the box(?) where he often ?, a great contrast to the auto of today. Occasionally dinner parties enlivened(?) us when the guests came early & stayed late.

This was the life until the war. Our home being near the battle line & often between the lines we suffered greatly. When the town was shelled by the "Yankeys" as we knew them, the refugees flocked to us & our house & out houses were crowded until the poor sufferers could return home. We children experienced great delight when the Female Charity School arrived, twelve girls to play with us, but this was only a two days treat. Stragglers from the camp robbed us from time to time. Our own poor troops when their camp was near were helped by our parents in every way

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possible. At last the Yankeys had possession. They burned our barns, carried off horses & all cattle, setting the house on fire & smothering the flames with my fathers books, thus saving the house. It was well known that my father although too old for the service, was deeply interested in our cause & our men so he was arrested with other gentlemen of the town & carried as a prisoner to Fort Deleware & my mother our governess & we three children were left alone. The soldiers crowded in, led by their captain who was intoxicated, he carried his pistol in his hand and demanded of my mother her keys & himself examined all locked places. <sup>25</sup>

With a soldier accused of mutiny and dishonoring the Confederate States of America, General Hood sought a location to host a court martial procedure in August 1863. Selecting Lansdowne to act as a courthouse, the event was later recalled by the accused:<sup>26</sup>

In going, I was alone. There was no guard with any of us. In looking for the headquarters where I might be tried, I went to the camp of the battalion of artillery, and the major commanding met me. I asked...where the General's headquarters were, and he said "At the Reynold's place, a large, white house about a mile away." He said, "What are you going for?" I said, "I am going to be court-martialed for mutiny." He said, with astonishment, "What, looking for a court to be court-martialed? That beats everything I ever heard of."...he replied to go ahead, that he didn't think I would be shot. I was then eighteen.... We were all cleared through the influence of General Lee.<sup>27</sup>

Although located in a region of constant battle throughout the war, Lansdowne itself saw bloodshed only once on May 17, 1864. The event was captured by Lieutenant John Latane, of the Ninth Virginia Cavalry in his biographical sketch:<sup>28</sup>

His command went on a scouting expedition to the rear of [General Ulysses] Grant's army. Lieutenant LATANE was commanding a squad of cavalry at the residence of Dr. Reynolds...and in charging around the house upon a party of the enemy in the yard on the other side, he was accidentally shot by one of his own men. Too weak from loss of blood to be brought back into our lines, he was left with Dr. Reynolds. On the same day, however, he was found by the enemy, taken to Fredericksburg, and thence to Lincoln Hospital, Washington, where not long after he died of his wound.<sup>29</sup>

Following the May 17 skirmish, Dr. Rennolds was arrested by Union troops upon belief that he was assisting Confederate forces. Disputing the charges himself, Mr. John H. Wallace came to Rennolds's assistance in a letter written to Hon. R.M.T. Hunter. The June 2, 1864, document asked for the release of Dr. Rennolds from the confinement of Fort Delaware:<sup>30</sup>

I write to you in behalf of my friend and [] Dr. Robt B Rennolds, who was arrested about the 20th of May by the Yankee Cavalry, at his residence in this county & is now in captivity at Fort Deleware. They burnt his Barn, robbed & destroyed everything of value in his dwelling house, at the same time taking with them his negroes, Horses etc. As usual with them, the ladies and children of the family were insulted & driven from home.

[Hunter is here asked to "interest" himself with the case and worked to have Rennolds released]

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The only justification for their conduct was that they believed him to be a <u>Gurilla</u>, which he assured them was false as he had not been away from home. This accusation was no doubt designed to cover their villany and robbery.<sup>31</sup>

#### Current Era

The farm was purchased by K.N. Savee from Robert Rennolds in 1903, who divided the land into five parcels in 1905.<sup>32</sup> Until this point, the farm managed to retain all of its original 830 acres (335.9 ha). Selling off four of the parcels, K.N. Savee retained 280 acres (113.3 ha), along with the dwelling of Lansdowne. K.N. Savee finally sold his remaining parcel in 1921 to A.M. Arritt.<sup>33</sup>

The dwelling stayed with Arritt until 1948 when Lansdowne and an associated 238 acres (96.3 ha) were sold to Robert Waring.<sup>34</sup> On the same day of purchase, Robert Waring sold the Lansdowne house to Curtis B. and Virginia Peyton Backus, Jr.<sup>35</sup> Included in the sale of the dwelling was a 12-acre (4.9-ha) parcel with a barn. Now within possession of the second generation, the Backus family continues to reside at Lansdowne. With ownership extending from 1948 to the present, the Backus family has proudly owned and resided at Lansdowne longer than any previous owner.

Little is known about the property during the period between Savee's acquisition in 1903 and the most recent purchase by the Backus family in 1948. However, a report of a dance in the *Free Lance Star*, on January 17, 1911, describes Dr. Gus Voight entertaining at "Lansdown" farm near the City of Fredericksburg. "A delightful dance was given Friday night...[d]ancing continued until 5 a.m. Saturday. The music was furnished by two violinists. A number from this city attended and a royal time was had by all." Photographs were taken of the building in 1929 by Frances B. Johnston, displaying the poor upkeep of the dwelling. Deterioration of the property continued until the acquisition of the property by the Backus family in 1948.

Curtis and Virginia Backus, Jr. undertook an eight-year preservation and restoration effort of the property. Over the period of these efforts, three mantels were rescued from the cellar and returned to the first-floor fireplaces. All of the first-floor woodwork and mantels were stripped of paint and the floors were refinished. The plaster was repaired on the first floor and replaced on the second floor. New bathrooms were completed on the first and second floors. All utilities were replaced, and a new central heat furnace and a spring-fed water system were installed. In approximately 1950, the back porch was removed on the south elevation and replaced with a one-story kitchen addition with a small porch entrance to the east side. The kitchen is paneled in knotty pine, with matching built-in cabinets. The floors were covered with linoleum and appliances were installed.

The Backus family not only returned the house to its former glory, they returned the land to its original use—a farm. The family managed to farm a variety of fowl, rabbits, sheep, fruit trees and vegetable gardens. By the end, their work was rewarded when the house and associated property were proudly displayed during tours hosted by the Historic Fredericksburg Foundation, Inc. in May 1957.<sup>38</sup> In addition, several events were hosted at the property by the Garden Club in subsequent years.

Currently, Curtis and Barbara Backus, III are undergoing a restoration of the house and grounds. They have cleared the overgrowth in the front of the house, facing the river, which uncovered the remains of the terraced hillside referred to in Elizabeth Rennolds's memoir. Since its construction, the kitchen remains largely intact, as remembered by the current landowner. The only modifications included replacing the countertops (originally surfaced in linoleum) with solid-surface countertops; removing the floor linoleum and replacing it with new

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linoleum; and updating all of the appliances. A standing-seam metal roof was recently installed, replacing a decaying, composite-asphalt shingle roof.

## Archaeological Potential

Historic photographs of the Lansdowne property indicate a smokehouse once stood east of the primary dwelling, within the boundaries of the earlier defined side lawn (See Architectural Description in Section 7).<sup>39</sup> No indications of the building remain today. However, located approximately 50 feet south of the smokehouse location (still within the side lawn) is a slight circular depression in the ground next to a large cedar tree, suggesting the past location of another outbuilding. Located near the pumphouse, to the south, is a large depression cut within the hillside. Currently covered with vegetation, the depression represents the possible remains of an icehouse.

When Mr. Wallace wrote a letter asking for the release of Dr. Rennolds during the Civil War, Wallace mentions Union forces burning down a barn on the property. The location of this barn is unknown; however, it may be located within the retained 12-acre (4.9-ha) property. Lastly, a map of the area, created by Michler, depicts several outbuildings found in the southwest corner of the property. While no above-ground evidence remains, the soil has been undisturbed in this area since the map's creation.

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#### 9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

- -American Battlefield Protection Program Map. 2009. www.nps.gov/hps/abpp.
- -Carter, Robert Allen, Ph.D. *Virginia Federalist in Dissent: A life of Charles Fenton Mercer*. Charlottesville: University of Virginia, 1988.
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- -McAlester, Virginia and Lee McAlester. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2006.
- -Political Arena. October 2, 1832.
- -Rennolds, Elizabeth Gordon. File No. MSS5: IR 29955: 1. Virginia Historical Society, Richmond, Virginia.
- -Wisnoski, Belinda. "Lansdowne Deterioration Report." Research paper for Laboratory in Architectural Conservation, University of Mary Washington, Fredericksburg, Virginia. December 5, 2007.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):	Primary location of additional data:	
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 X recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # VA-368 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	X State Historic Preservation Office Other State agency Federal agency Local government University Other Name of repository:	
recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #		
Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): Virginia DH	R #088-5375	_
10 Coographical Data		

#### 10. Geographical Data

### Acreage of Property approximately 12 acres

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

#### Lansdowne Spotsylvania County, VA Name of Property County and State **UTM References** (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.) 18N 283502 4237054 18N 283667 4236858 Zone **Northing** Zone Easting **Northing** Easting 18N 283467 4236914 18N 283671 4236962 Zone Zone **Northing** Easting Northing Easting

#### Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Located approximately 900 feet (274.3 m) south of Lee Drive, in Spotsylvania County, Virginia, the Lansdowne property is adjacent to Lansdowne Road. Following the road on its western side for approximately 560 feet (170.7 m), the boundary line turns west for roughly 850 feet (259.1 m), bound by private residential properties. At this point, the boundary is about 150 feet (45.7 m) east of Caisson Way. Continuing to be bordered by residential properties, the boundary extends north for approximately 720 feet (219.5 m). Turning northeast, the boundary extends almost 85 feet (25.9 m) before finally turning east for approximately 720 feet (216.4 m), meeting Lansdowne road. See Associated Documents for map of boundary and property data [GPIN #7777-77-8155]).

#### Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary contains the remaining acreage (12 acres) of the original 830 acres associated with the property. In addition, contributing outbuildings, historic landscaping, and potential archaeological remains of associated secondary buildings lie within the boundary.

11. Form Prepared By		
name/title Carthon Davis, III (Historic Context written by Cu	ırtis Backus, III [current land	downer])
organization Dovetail Cultural Resource Group	date August 3	31, 2012
street & number 300 Central Road, Suite 200	telephone 540	0.899.9170
city or town Fredericksburg	State VA	zip code 22401
e-mail <u>cdavis@dovetailcrg.com</u>		

#### **Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- 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. Key all photographs to this map.
- Continuation Sheets
- Additional items: (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

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#### **Photographs:**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

The following information is common to all photographs:

Name of Property: Lansdowne City or Vicinity: Fredericksburg

County: Spotsylvania State: Virginia

Photographer: Carthon Davis, III Date Photographed: August 2012

Location: Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia

### **Photo Log**

Photograph 1 of 12: VA Lansdowne SpotsylvaniaCounty 0001 View: Primary (north) Elevation of Dwelling, Terrace in Foreground

Photograph 2 of 12: VA Lansdowne SpotsylvaniaCounty 0002

View: Northwest Oblique of Primary Dwelling

Photograph 3 of 12: VA Lansdowne SpotsylvaniaCounty 0003 View: West Elevation of Kitchen Addition on Primary Dwelling

Photograph 4 of 12: VA\_Lansdowne\_SpotsylvaniaCounty\_0004

View: East Elevation of Primary Dwelling

Photograph 5 of 12: VA Lansdowne SpotsylvaniaCounty 0005

View: Detail of Stairs and Storage Area in Basement, Looking Northeast

Photograph 6 of 12: VA Lansdowne SpotsylvaniaCounty 0006

View: Living Room, Looking West

Photograph 7 of 12: VA\_Lansdowne\_SpotsylvaniaCounty\_0007 iew: Detail of Fireplace in Living Room, Looking Northwest

Photograph 8 of 12: VA Lansdowne SpotsylvaniaCounty 0008

View: Detail of Fireplace in Dining Room, Looking West

Photograph 9 of 12: VA\_Lansdowne\_SpotsylvaniaCounty\_0009

View: Property Overview, Looking East

Photograph 10 of 12: VA Lansdowne SpotsylvaniaCounty 0010

View: Historic Road Trace, Looking North

Photograph 11 of 12: VA\_Lansdowne\_SpotsylvaniaCounty\_0011

View: Barn, Looking Northwest

Photograph 12 of 12: VA Lansdowne SpotsylvaniaCounty 0012

View: Pumphouse, Looking West

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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.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

#### **Endnotes**

- Land Tax Records, 1786. Spotsylvania County, Virginia. microfilm. Central Rappahannock Regional Library.
- Stanton, Gary, Ph.D. meeting with Curtis Backus, University of Mary Washington, Fredericksburg, Virginia. April 2009, September 2010, May 2011, and August 2012.
- 3. Carter, Robert Allen, Ph.D. Virginia Federalist in dissent: A life of Charles Fenton Mercer. Charlottesville: University of Virginia, 1988, p. 34.
- <sup>4.</sup> Wisnoski, Belinda. "Lansdowne Deterioration Report." Research paper for Laboratory in Architectural Conservation, University of Mary Washington, Fredericksburg, Virginia. December 5, 2007.
- 5. Ibid.
- <sup>6.</sup> Felder, Paula S. Forgotten Companions. Fredericksburg, Virginia: Historic Publications of Fredericksburg, 1982. p.179.
- 7. General Index of Deeds, Deeds of Trust, Release Deeds, and Wills. Spotsylvania County Courthouse, Virginia.
- 8. Carter. Virginia Federalist. p. 34.
- 9. Deed Book, Spotsylvania County, Virginia, Book R, p. 62.
- <sup>10.</sup> Ibid. Book W, p. 378.
- <sup>11.</sup> Ibid. Book BB, p. 294.
- <sup>12.</sup> Political Arena. October 2, 1832.
- <sup>13.</sup> Deed Book. Spotsylvania County, Virginia. Book HH, p. 433.
- <sup>14.</sup> Ibid. Book PP, pp. 118 and 546.
- <sup>15.</sup> Harrison, Noel G. Fredericksburg Civil War Sites: December 1862–1865. Vol. 2, First Edition. p. 90.
- <sup>16.</sup> Library of Congress. "Fredericksburg. [Dec 1862]." map. Created by N. Michler, 1867. www.loc.gov. accessed August 2012.
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- <sup>18.</sup> Felder. Forgotten Companions. p. 179.
- <sup>19.</sup> General Index of Deeds. Spotsylvania County Courthouse, Virginia.
- <sup>20.</sup> American Battlefield Protection Program Map. 2009. www.nps.gov/hps/abpp. accessed August 2012.
- <sup>21.</sup> Harrison. Fredericksburg Civil War Sites. p. 91.

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- <sup>23.</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>24.</sup> Rennolds, Elizabeth Gordon, File No. MSS5: IR 29955: 1. Virginia Historical Society, Richmond, Virginia.
- <sup>25.</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>26.</sup> Harrison. Fredericksburg Civil War Sites. p. 93.
- <sup>27.</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>28.</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>29.</sup> Ibid. pp. 93–94.
- <sup>30.</sup> John H. Wallace file. Roll 1,067. National Archives, Washington, D.C.
- 31. Ibid.
- Deed Book. Spotsylvania County, Virginia. Book AQ, p. 48; Book AT, pp. 230–234.
- <sup>33.</sup> Ibid. Book 96, p. 131.
- <sup>34.</sup> Ibid. Book 143, p. 430.
- <sup>35.</sup> Ibid. Book 143, p. 430.
- 36. Free Lance Star. January 17, 1911.
- <sup>37.</sup> Johnston, Frances. "Lansdown, Smokehouse, 571 Lansdown Road, Fredericksburg vicinity, Spotsylvania, VA. photograph. www.memory.loc.gov. accessed August 2012.
- <sup>38.</sup> Free Lance Star. May 7, 1957.
- <sup>39.</sup> Johnston, Frances, photograph, www.memory.loc.gov, accessed August 2012.
- <sup>40.</sup> John H. Wallace file. Roll 1,067. National Archives, Washington, D.C.
- 41. Library of Congress. map. www.loc.gov. accessed August 2012.





