

VLR-2/16/82 NRHP-7/26/82

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

For HCRS use only
received
date entered

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Sandusky

and/or common Sandusky

2. Location

street & number 757 Sandusky Drive

N/A not for publication

city, town Lynchburg

N/A vicinity of

Sixth congressional district (M. Caldwell Butler)

state Virginia

code 51

county (in city)

code 680

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. Neville K. Adkinson

street & number 757 Sandusky Drive

city, town Lynchburg

N/A vicinity of

state Virginia 24502

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Campbell County Court House, Clerk's Office

street & number N/A

city, town Rustburg

state Virginia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys (3 -- see continuation sheet #1)

title (1) Historic District Survey, Lynchburg, Va. has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date May 1976 federal state county local

depository for survey records City of Lynchburg, Division of Planning

city, town Lynchburg

state Virginia

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date _____ N/A
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

Sandusky is a formal two-story, brick "I" house with a later ell. The house has sophisticated trim and is in a good state of preservation. Its parlor is given a particularly elegant treatment through the use of arched recesses on either side of the fireplace. Although its farm has been subdivided, Sandusky's generous yard is intact and provides an appropriate setting for the house.

ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS

The original portion of Sandusky is covered by a gable roof and has walls laid in very even Flemish bond. This section is five-bays wide and measures, according to an 1813 insurance policy, 48' x 20'. First-floor windows have 9/9 sash, while the upper floor contains windows with 6/9 sash. All fenestration is topped with splayed brick jack arches. Those above the second-floor windows extend to the bed molding of the wooden cornice. This otherwise simple, molded cornice contains the refinement of having paneled mutules in the soffit. The cornice is terminated at each end of the front and rear walls with a shaped end board, which follows the profile of the cornice. The faces of the end boards are flush with the plain rake boards of the gabled end walls. Above the cornice is a standing-seam metal roof, which was in place as early as 1864. A scuttle, which was cut into the roof that year to afford Federal officers a a vista of the battle which was fought in the fields around the house, still exists. The original covering, as revealed in the brief description of the 1813 insurance policy, was wooden shingle. At either end of the gable roof are well-proportioned chimneys with corbelled caps.

The front doorway, which centers the facade, is a particularly refined Federal composition. A broad, semielliptical fanlight extends across the nine-paneled front door to cover glazed sidelights as well. The radiating tracery of the fanlight is presumably original, but the diamond-paned glazing of the sidelights is a later modification. Because of the width of the entrance frontispiece on the first floor, the central opening on the second floor is separated by a broader expanse of brick from the windows on either side than exists between those windows and the end pair. This central opening of the second floor has been converted into a jib window, with a hinged wooden lower section affording access to an open, railed deck above the one-story front porch. The porch is tetrastylar with Tuscan columns. While it more or less occupies the space of an original porch or stoop, the details and arrangement mark it as later than original construction. In particular, the pilasters on either side of the door infringe uncomfortably on the windows and blinds adjacent to them.

To the rear of the main block, behind the dining room, is an ell. The portion nearest to the main block is two stories tall and measures 19' x 18', again according to the 1813 insurance policy. This ell is also covered with a standing-seam metal roof and has a corbelled chimney at the end wall. Behind this portion of the ell and aligned with it is a further extension, a one-story addition which was in place by 1817, according to the second insurance policy which Johnston, the original owner, took on the property. Now containing the kitchen, this last addition was, according to tradition, built as a nursery for the Johnston children. A one-story porch extends from the mid-portion of the main block to the end wall of the last addition. Less formal than the front porch, it is covered with a sloped roof with hipped ends. Access is gained from two doors into the ell.

The main rectangular block of the house contains a central stair hall with one room on

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1808 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Sandusky is an impressive Federal-style farmhouse of both architectural and historical significance. Built ca. 1808 for Charles Johnston, it is one of the earliest houses in the Lynchburg area to display the architectural details and refinements characteristic of Federal design. Johnston took out several fire insurance policies on his house with the Mutual Assurance Society of Virginia; thus, the history of the building's subsequent alterations or additions is well documented. In 1864, during the Battle of Lynchburg, Sandusky served as Union headquarters. Among those quartered there were Gen. David Hunter and future Presidents Rutherford B. Hayes and William McKinley, then on Hunter's staff. Originally the seat of an extensive farm, Sandusky is now within the city limits of Lynchburg, and the property is surrounded by later residential development. Fortunately, Sandusky is maintained in excellent condition, and effective planting in the large, well-maintained yard has kept 20th-century intrusions at a comfortable distance.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Sandusky is one of the first formally styled Federal houses in the Bedford/Campbell County area. As such, it helped set the standard that would be followed during the next decade, a time of immense growth and development for Lynchburg and the surrounding country. A number of later houses still exist which obviously owe architectural allegiance to Sandusky. Charles Johnston, for whom the mansion was built, was an early settler in the area, whose father had come to Richmond from Scotland. Johnston named his home in memory of his deliverance from a nearly disastrous event which had taken place in 1790. On a trip to Kentucky, he had been kidnapped by a party of Shawnee Indians and taken to their camp at Sandusky, in Ohio, before his eventual release.

In 1813 Johnston took out the first of several insurance policies on Sandusky with the Mutual Assurance Society of Virginia. The description given in that initial policy shows the first stage of the house; a two-story brick building, measuring "48 x 20 feet" with a two-story brick wing "19 x 18." The property was insured for \$6,000 a not inconsiderable sum at that time. By the time of the issuance of a second policy in 1817, a one-story brick wing with dimensions of 24 x 18 feet had been added.

In 1818 Johnston sold the property, and it eventually came into the ownership of the Hutter family. It was during their tenure that the house played its most important historical role. Obeying Gen. U. S. Grant's directive that "it would be of great value to us to get possession of Lynchburg for a single day," Maj. Gen. David Hunter forayed across the Blue Ridge Mountains from Lexington in June 1864. Meeting the Confederate forces on the outskirts of Lynchburg, he set up headquarters at Sandusky on June 17. Hunter's Raid, as the Battle of Lynchburg has been alternately called, raged around the house the next day. Hunter was rebuffed in his attempt to capture Lynchburg and early on the morning of June 19 was in full retreat back to the Valley of Virginia. Hunter's "host" at Sandusky was Maj. George

(See Continuation Sheet # 2)

9. Major Bibliographical References

- 1 "Lynchburg, Virginia in the War Between the States," in Iron Worker (Spring 1960): 1-13.
- 2 Richmond, Va. Virginia State Library Archives. Mutual Assurance Society of Virginia Policies. R6 V48 N446 (1813); R5 V45 N2337 (1817).
- 3 "Sandusky, By the Still Waters", Lynchburg Magazine (March-April 1975): 22-26.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 3.84 acres

Quadrangle name Lynchburg, Va.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1 1 7	6 5 1 9	6 1 5 1 0	4 1 1 3 1 8	3 4 1 0
Zone	Easting	Northing		

B

Zone	Easting	Northing		

C

Zone	Easting	Northing		

D

Zone	Easting	Northing		

E

Zone	Easting	Northing		

F

Zone	Easting	Northing		

G

Zone	Easting	Northing		

H

Zone	Easting	Northing		

Verbal boundary description and justification: Beginning at a point on N side of Pawnee Drive, about 120' E of its intersection with Navajo Circle; thence extending about 410' N; thence about 430' E; thence about 350' S to N side of Sandusky Drive; thence about 400' W along said side to point of origin. Lynchburg Assessor's Records: Lot TR2, 158-1-16. (see continuation sheet #2)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county N/A code

state N/A code county N/A code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title S. Allen Chambers, Jr. for

organization Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

date January 1982

street & number 221 Governor Street

telephone (804) 786-3144

city or town Richmond

state Virginia 23219

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

H. Bryan Mitchell

title H. Bryan Mitchell, Executive Director
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

date FEB 16 1982

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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SANDUSKY, LYNCHBURG, VA.

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Continuation sheet #1

Item number 6,7

Page 1

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

- (2) Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory
June 1958
Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division
Washington, D. C.
- (3) Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey
1967, 1968
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
221 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

7. Description

Architectural Analysis

each side -- the parlor to the left, the dining room to the right. The stair ascends against the right side wall of the hall to a landing at the rear. The second floor is reached by a short reverse run against the left wall. Trim on the stairway is extremely simple. Each tread has two balusters, rectangular in profile and section. On the first tread, a larger rectangular baluster takes the place of a newel post and supports the beginning of the molded rail.

The parlor, to the left of the hall, is the most elaborately trimmed of the rooms. On either side of a projecting chimney breast on the end wall are segmental arches framing open niches. The plain, marbleized slate mantel in this room is a later feature. More than likely it replaced a typical reeded Federal-style mantel like the one still in place in the dining room. In the dining room, however, there are no arches flanking the chimney breast. Behind the dining room, in the ell, is a small enclosed secondary stair, a large room now furnished as a sitting room, and behind this, in the one-story addition, the kitchen.

The arrangement of rooms on the second floor is similar to that on the first. Bathrooms and closets have been added as needed, with little sacrifice to the original plan or trim. Adding to the architectural interest of the interior are a number of handsome furnishings, many of them of Virginia and Southern origin.

Originally there were a number of outbuildings in the yard behind and to the rear of the house. The only one remaining is a brick necessary, located to the northwest of the mansion. This structure is a "three-holer" and remains in good condition. Nearby are the fieldstone foundations of an early brick chicken house. Other buildings on the property consist of two 20th-century tenant houses, one frame and one brick. These are screened from the main house by planting.

Sandusky is approached from Sanducky Drive by a circular driveway bordered by both English and American boxwood. These and other plantings assist in screening the property from a number of 20th-century houses nearby. (Unfortunately, they also prevent a full view of the house from being seen.) The rear yard is open and enjoys a commanding view of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

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Continuation sheet 2

Item number 8, 10

Page 1

8. SignificanceHistorical Background

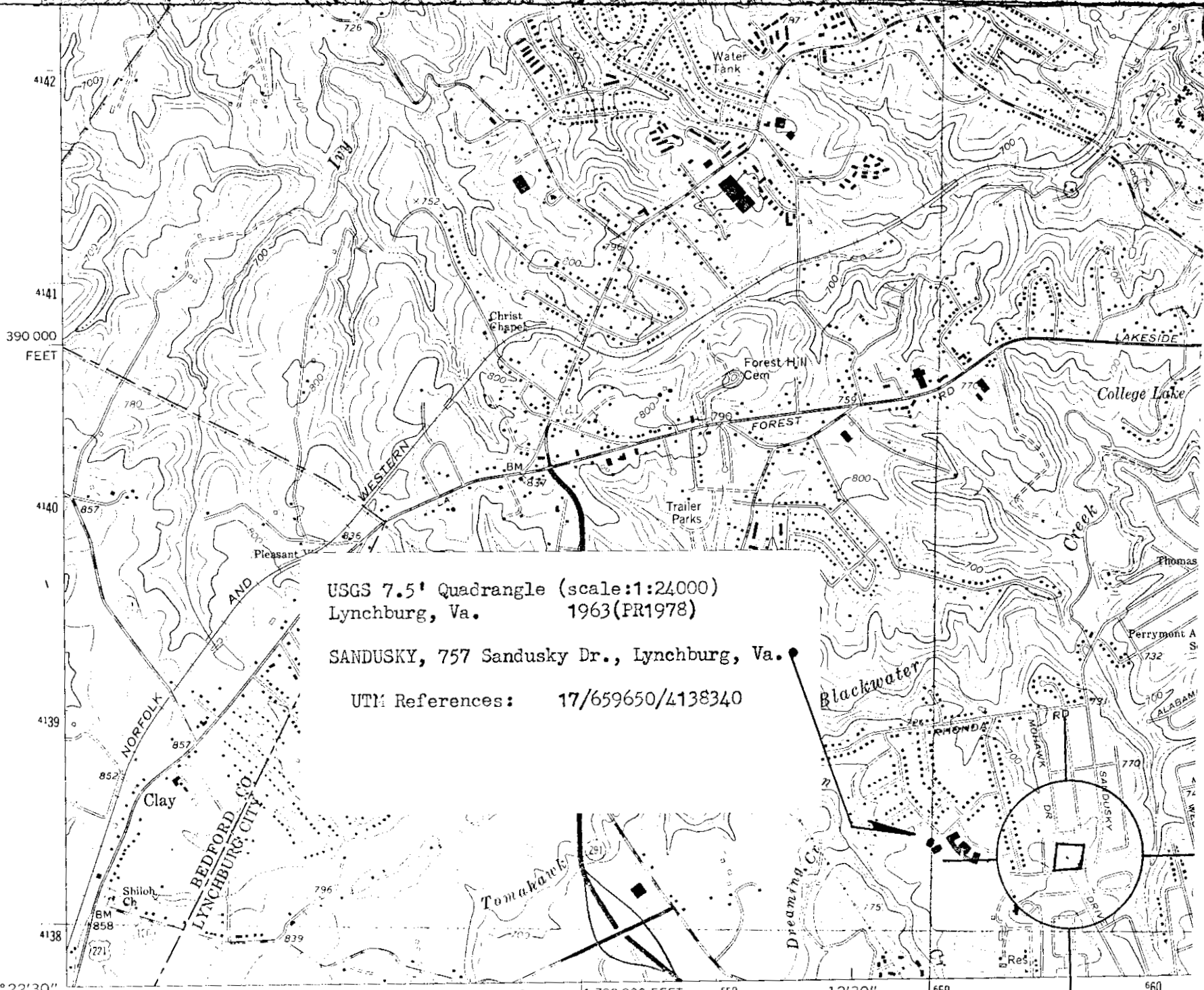
C. Hutter, who had been his former classmate at West Point. Among the Union staff who were also quartered at Sandusky were Rutherford B. Hayes and William McKinley. During the battle, a nearby barn served as a temporary hospital, and a number of soldiers were buried on the grounds.

Unscathed during the war, Sandusky has survived to the present as an appreciated and little-altered home. Its present owners have restored it and maintain it in excellent condition. Although it is now well within the city limits of Lynchburg and is surrounded by later houses, enough of the original yard and subsidiary buildings survives to give a sense of the original aspect.

SAC

10. Geographical DataBoundary Justification:

The bounds have been drawn to coincide with those of the above-described lot and to include the main house and its surrounding yard and four outbuildings.



USGS 7.5' Quadrangle (scale:1:24000)
Lynchburg, Va. 1963(PR1978)

SANDUSKY, 757 Sandusky Dr., Lynchburg, Va.

UTM References: 17/659650/4138340

37°22'30"

656

657

1 790 000 FEET

658

12'30"

659

660