

VLR-1/18/83 NRHP-11/22/85

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

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

1. Name

204-70

historic GREENWOOD (DEL File No. ~~23-10~~)

and/or common N/A

2. Location

street & number 1931 Orange Road N/A not for publication

city, town Culpeper N/A vicinity of

state Virginia code 51 county Culpeper code 047

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Angus McDonald Green

street & number 1931 Orange Road

city, town Culpeper N/A vicinity of state Virginia 22701

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Clerk's Office Culpeper County Courthouse

street & number Cameron Street

city, town Culpeper state Virginia 22701

6. Representation in Existing Surveys (See Continuation Sheet #2)

Division of Historic Landmarks
title (1) Survey 23-10 has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date April 1980 federal state county local

depository for survey records 221 Governor Street

city, town Richmond state Va. 23219

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 type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date <u> N/A </u>

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

Shaded by ancient oaks and facing westward towards a vista of the Blue Ridge Mountains, Greenwood, a small yet elegant early 19th-century plantation house, is set in the middle of a small farm on the outskirts of the town of Culpeper, Virginia, but within the town limits, in an area which is fast becoming urbanized. The house is located just east of U. S. Rt. 15 South. The present acreage (50.3) is the residue of what was formerly a plantation of 900 acres, assembled by Judge John Williams Green between 1813 and the early 1820s. With the exception of 40 years, from 1909 to 1950, the house has remained in the hands of Green descendants. While Green family legend gives a pre-Revolutionary date to the house, architectural research and county records indicate that the oldest section of the house, the 1 1/2-story structure that now forms the center block of the front, or west facade, dates from a period between the late 18th century and first two decades of the 19th century. The wings (which give the front facade of the house its five-part plan) and the rear, or east, dining room tee, were completed in 1824. The nominated acreage includes one contributing building.

ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS

The original section of Greenwood is the 1 1/2-story structure which now forms the center block of the five-part front(west) facade. An exact building date and the original usage of this section cannot be established, although its exceptionally heavy foundation framing, hall-and-parlor plan, and steep roof make a building date of the late 18th century or early 19th century probable. Like the 1823-24 addition, this section is of heavy frame, covered with weatherboarding (portions of the original beaded weatherboarding remain on all the older sections of the house.) The roof is of a fairly steep pitch, and a box cornice is present. Gable end chimneys, laid in common bond, have stepped shoulders and free-standing stacks. Exterior window trim is totally plain, and all windows have six-over-six lights. The "frontispiece" entrance surrounding the front door was added, according to a W.P.A. survey of 1937, in the early 20th century. The structure is set on a low uncoursed fieldstone foundation approximately two feet thick. A root cellar, part of which is now used as a furnace room, is present under the entire section.

This section is now, and apparently always has been, on a hall-and-parlor plan. The exposed structure visible in the cellar area under the house indicates that the entire central section was built at one time. There are no indications of later construction or additions within the central section, other than the lowering of the floor in the south portion of the cellar to allow the installation of a furnace in the mid-20th century. The original root cellar consisted of a crawl space approximately 4 feet high. The original cellar windows are now blocked but some of the original frames of these windows still exist, some with the horizontal bars still in place. The foundations, sills, and joists of the later additions are visible from this section. Both the foundation (which differs from that of all other sections in that it is of stone) and the sill and joists of this section are much more massive than those of the later sections.

(see continuation sheet #1)

FOOTNOTE #1: Although no building value is shown for the Greenwood tract prior to the 1825 Land Tax Book, Judge John W. Green is shown residing "on the land" in the 1824 Land Tax Book, and a small building such as the central (original) portion of Greenwood could well have escaped valuation. At the time, it was common practice for the Commissioners of Revenue for Culpeper and surrounding counties not to note buildings valued at less than \$100.00 (which could, given the valuations of the era, include a house the size of the original section of Greenwood).

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates unknown Builder/Architect UNKNOWN

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Greenwood, situated in the town of Culpeper in an area of intense development, is architecturally significant as a hall-parlor vernacular farmhouse, later expanded to make a commodious county seat. During the early 19th century many wealthy, influential men of the western Piedmont contented themselves with small, yet fairly elegant plantation dwellings. Built ca. 1823-24 by John Williams Green, Judge of the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals, Greenwood is one of the finest, and certainly the best preserved, houses of this type in the area. The five-part plan of the facade, in the medium of 1 1/2- and 1-story sections, illustrates how a standard vernacular type evolved to form a formal, five-part house. The interior of the house has been little changed since the early 19th century with a great portion of early woodwork remaining. In 1825 Greenwood received as visitors the Marquis de Lafayette and former President James Monroe during Lafayette's celebrated tour as "guest of the nation." During the Civil War Federal troops occupied the house and plantation and emplaced a cannon on the lawn.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

John Williams Green (Nov. 9, 1781 - Feb. 4, 1834), later Judge of the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals, began to assemble the Greenwood tract in 1813. Judge Green was a great-grandson of Robert Green, one of the earliest settlers in what is now Culpeper County. Although Green family tradition holds that Judge Green's parents, William and Lucy Williams Green, "went to live at Greenwood" after their marriage in 1780, no documentary evidence has been found linking the Green or Williams families with any portion of the present Greenwood property prior to 1801. The reference to the couple living at Greenwood may possibly refer to another tract of Green land (William Green was deeded several hundred acres on the Gourdyvine River by his father, Col. John Green, in 1782) or perhaps may indicate that the couple lived on Cedar Farm, the Williams estate near what later became the Greenwood property of John W. Green.

William Green was lost on the brig "Defiance" in 1782, when the ship apparently went down with all hands. A prolonged search by the family, and by the American government, which extended even to an investigation into the activities of the Barbary Pirates, failed to turn up any trace of Capt. Green. After his disappearance, the guardianship of his infant son, John Williams Green, was assumed by the child's uncle, William Clayton Williams.

In 1811, John Williams Green and his wife, Mary (the former Mary Brown of Stafford County whom he married Dec. 24, 1805), and John's mother, Lucy Williams Green, then all residing in Fredericksburg, sold the property of William Green, dec., on the Gourdyvine River. Two years later, John W. Green, still a resident of Fredericksburg, began to accumulate the tracts which would eventually constitute Greenwood, purchasing a tract of 543 acres from his uncles, William C. and Isaac H. Williams, and a tract of 165 acres from the estate of Richard Y. Wiggenton. Additional tracts of 123 acres and 80 acres, assessed to Lucy Williams Green, then also living in Fredericksburg, appear in the 1813 Land Books (probably transferred to her through

9. Major Bibliographical References

Culpeper County Will Books, Deed Books, Land Tax Books.
 Grimsley, Maj. Daniel A. "Battles in Culpeper County, Virginia, 1861-1865." Culpeper, Va., 1900
 Slaughter, Philip. History of St. Mark's Parish-Genealogical and Historical Notes on Culpeper County, Va. Baltimore, 1964 (reprint).

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 50.3 acres
 Quadrangle name Culpeper East and Culpeper West, Va. Quadrangle scale 1:24000
 UTM References

A	1 1 8	2 3 8 4 5 0	4 2 6 0 0 9 0	B	1 1 8	2 3 8 5 4 0	4 2 6 0 0 1 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	1 1 8	2 3 8 4 6 0	4 2 5 9 7 3 0	D	1 1 7	7 6 1 5 8 0	4 2 6 0 1 2 0
E	1 1 7	7 6 1 7 2 0	4 2 6 0 3 3 0	F	1 1 8	2 3 8 0 8 0	4 2 6 0 3 2 0
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification See Continuation Sheet #4

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

state	<u>N/A</u>	code	county	<u>N/A</u>	code
state	<u>N/A</u>	code	county	<u>N/A</u>	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Ann L. Miller, Research Historian
 organization Orange County Historical Society date 9-20-82
 street & number Box 591 telephone (703)672-5366
 city or town Orange state Virginia 22960

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 National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature H. Bryan Mitchell
H. Bryan Mitchell, Director
 title Division of Historic Landmarks date September 28, 1985

For NPS 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
National Park Service**

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

GREENWOOD, Culpeper County, Virginia

Continuation sheet #1

Item number 7

Page 1

For NPS use only
received
date entered

7. Architectural Analysis (continued)

Of the two rooms on the main floor of this section, only the present living room (the north room) has old woodwork remaining, apparently dating from, or shortly before, the enlarging of the house in 1823-24. The ceiling is high, approximately 10 feet. Walls are plastered, with a simple molded cornice. A chair rail, paneled wainscoting, and a baseboard are all present. The chair rail is a simple molding above, with a triple bead on the bottom piece; The wainscoting consists of plain panels and stiles, without molding or beading. The baseboard is reeded, with a simple bead on top. The room contains a typical Piedmont Federal mantel, with paneled pilasters, a reeded frieze with a plain raised oval cartouche in the center tablet, and a tightly molded mantel shelf. The entablature of the pilasters is broken out from the molding. There are closets on either side of the fireplace. All windows and doors in this section have architrave trim on the interiors. The present front door is an obviously later renovation or addition, as it is 6" taller than the other doors (closet doors and rear door) in the room, and the trim has been cut unevenly to accommodate its placement almost directly against the interior wall. A 2" section of the chair rail has been placed between the door frame and the corner of the room in an effort to tie the door to the woodwork in the rest of the room. A fanlight over the door is capped with a wooden keystone.

The south room of the old section, now a bedroom, has had much of its original woodwork replaced. Originally, this room may have been similar to the living (north) room, including closets on either side of the fireplace (one closet remains); however, the original plan has been altered by the addition of a wall in the north side of the room to separate the bedroom from the entrance to the enclosed stairs leading to the upstairs.

No indication of any original communication between the first-floor rooms exists. It appears that reaching another room entailed going outside, into what is now a small hall, but was then a porch of some kind. Lack of internal communication between rooms was a common feature of some Piedmont houses from the 18th century right up to the 20th century.

The enclosed stair to the upper story is a narrow passage paneled with wide horizontal boards. A small window, originally for illumination of the stairway, is set in the east wall, now looking out into the small hall. The upper story consists of two nearly identical rooms on either side of the stairway. Walls are plastered, with plain baseboards and simple chair rails. Mantels are unelaborate, consisting of a cyma-reversa and cyma-recta molding under a plain mantel shelf in the south bedroom and a similar mantel with a torus molding on the mantel shelf in the north bedroom. The rear (east) dormers are narrow and appear original, while the front (west) dormers have been widened and semicircular Victorian trim added to give the windows a round-headed appearance.

The foundation visible from the cellar of the house indicates that the small east hall was added next, possibly to give internal access between the rooms of the original section. The addition of the wings and dining room in 1823-4 was made so as to produce a five-part plan, with the dining room tee hidden behind the small

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

For NPS use only
received
date entered

GREENWOOD, Culpeper County, Virginia

Continuation sheet # 2

Item number 6,7

Page 1, 2

7. Architectural Analysis (continued)

east hall. The foundations of these ca. 1824 sections are all laid in 4-course American bond, and all these sections have the same medium roof pitch, the same box cornice, and symmetrical fenestration. All windows have nine-over-six lights and architrave trim inside and out. The first one-story additions, flanking the old section, are placed flush with the center section; the end, smaller wings have a 6-foot setback from the other front sections, flush with the rear (east) wall, and are set approximately 2' lower than the other sections, thus, with the smaller windows in the additions, giving the illusion of diminishing scale of the wings. The inner wings now serve as bedrooms; the end wings as closet and bath space. The woodwork in all of these rooms is similar. The paneling and chair rail in the extreme south bedroom (now the master bedroom) are identical to those in the living room, probably indicating the renovation of the old section at the time of the 1823-4 additions. The Federal mantel in the master bedroom has fluted pilasters, a reeded frieze, and another closely molded mantel shelf. The woodwork in the other rooms of the addition, and the small hall, is similar, although there are slight variations within the work in each room. Wainscoting is simple stile-and-rail paneling; beaded baseboards and chair rails in various simple moldings exist throughout. The mantel in the north bedroom has reeded pilasters, again with the tight molding on the mantel shelf. The dining room mantel is less elaborate in comparison with the other mantels, having no reeding and only a lightly molded mantel shelf. A built-in cupboard flanking the dining room fireplace is original; a similar storage area may have once been located on the other side of the fireplace, which area is now the access to the new kitchen/family room wing.

Later additions to the house are a Victorian porch on the northeast side of the house, enclosed in the 20th century and now a den; the large bathroom on the southeast side of the house; and the kitchen/family room, added in the mid-20th century, on the extreme east (rear) end of the house. To complement the early 19th-century woodwork in the older portions of the house, these are furnished with late 19th- and early 19th-century antiques and period furniture. The old smokehouse is located south of the house. Barns, apparently of late 19th-century vintage, are located some distance northeast of the house. Both house and grounds are maintained in excellent condition.

6. Representation In Existing Surveys

(2) Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory
1958 Federal
Library of Congress
Washington, DC

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

GREENWOOD, CULPEPER COUNTY, VA

Continuation sheet #3

Item number 8

Page 1

For NPS use only
received
date entered

inheritance, as no deed for this land is recorded in the Culpeper records.) By the following year, Lucy W. Green was deceased, and the tracts are charged to her son, John W. Green. All the tracts are described as being "near the Courthouse" "2(miles) S(outh)."

John Green continued to accumulate land holdings both in the vicinity of Culpeper Courthouse and at other points in the county. Land Books indicate that he remained a resident of Fredericksburg until 1823. In the 1824 Land Book he is listed as living "on the land" (i.e., the land near the Courthouse--the Greenwood tract.) It should be noted that no dwellings are mentioned in any of the deeds to John W. Green for this tract, and it is impossible to deduce from the deed description the specific tract on which the present house would be located; similarly, no buildings are indicated on any of the tracts of Greenwood in the 1824 Land Book, although a small building (i.e., the nucleus of the present house) may have escaped valuation. (see footnote #1 under "Architectural Analysis".) Since Judge Green was living on the land, a small dwelling of some type must have been extant by this time. The following year, the four tracts which comprised Greenwood were combined into a single tract of 832 1/2 acres, with a building value of \$660.00 given, indicating the construction of most of the present Greenwood house between 1823-24.

The following year, on August 24, 1825, Lafayette, his son, former President James Monroe, and other dignitaries (including the county escort who had met the party at the Culpeper county line and accompanied them to the county seat) were entertained at a reception at Greenwood. The party had come to Culpeper following a visit with James Madison at "Montpelier" in Orange County. Before proceeding on to Culpeper Courthouse, the Marquis was formally presented to his escort of honor on the lawn at Greenwood. This event has been recorded in a number of publications and writings and a re-enactment of Lafayette's visit was held at Greenwood 100 years later. The occasion is also recorded on a historical marker placed near the entrance to Greenwood on U. S. Rt. 15 South. (Marker placed by Conservation and Development Commission, 1929.)

After Judge Green's death in 1834, the Greenwood tract, by then 910 acres, was acquired by one of his sons, John Cooke Green, a son of Judge Green by his second wife, Million Cooke, a granddaughter of George Mason of "Gunston Hall", whom he had married October 2, 1817. Upon John C. Green's death in 1860, a projected sale of the property (advertised in the Richmond Enquirer August 7, 1860) was cancelled. The widow Green and her two small daughters remained at the house through the Civil War, including the period of occupation of the property by Federal troops, during which time the lawn in front of the house was used as a cannon emplacement, the trenches of which are still visible. Mention of the guns "on the Greenwood hill" is made by Maj. Daniel Grimsley of the 6th Virginia Cavalry in his memoirs.

The property remained in the hands of the widow of John C. Green until 1909, when it was sold as two tracts of 204 and 32 acres, respectively. The property, with the acreage steadily being reduced, passed through several owners in the 20th century, before being acquired by James Williams Green, father of the present owner (direct descendants of Judge John W. Green) in 1950.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

GREENWOOD, Culpeper County, Virginia

Continuation sheet 4

Item number 10

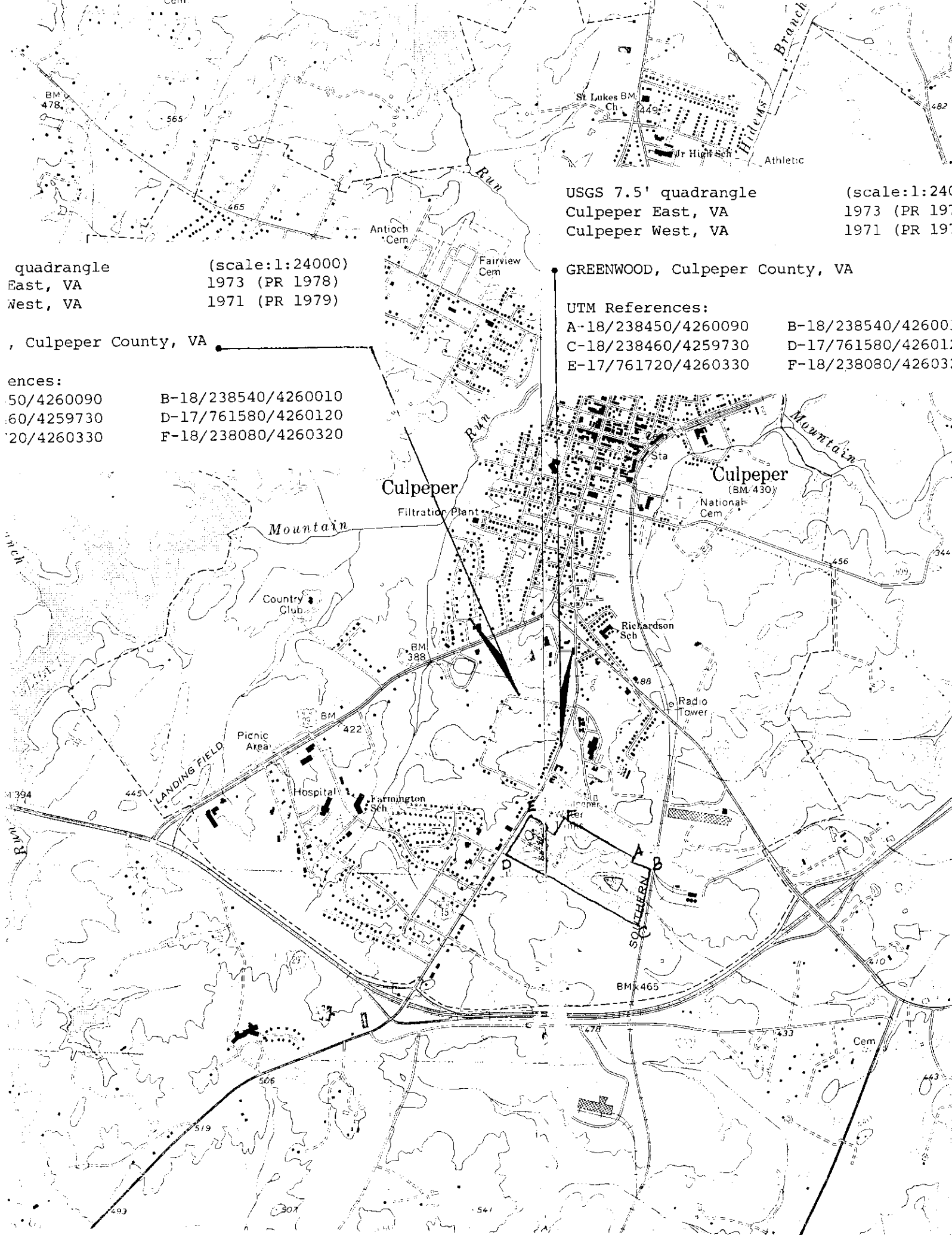
Page 1

For NPS use only
received
date entered

10. Justification Of Boundary And Acreage

The entire 50.3 acre tract of Greenwood has been nominated to provide a scenic rural setting for what was built as a county dwelling. The property is located entirely within the town limits of Culpeper, making it an important tract of open space within a fast-growing community. The house is sited towards the western end of the tract on the edge of a ridge with views down a slope to the east to a pond and countryside in the distance. Housing developments have sprung up across Route 15 to the west.

The property as described in the deed has been amended and now can be described as beginning at a point set back about 70' from E side of B-R 15, about 2,800' NE of exit ramp from U.S. 15-29; thence extending about 2,650' SE; thence about 1,175' N, paralleling Southern Railroad; thence about 400' W, then about 100' NE; thence about 1,440' NW; thence about 430' SW, then about 190' NW, then about 170' NE, then about 230' NW to 70' set back from B-R 15; then about 750' SW, paralleling said route to point of origin.



quadrangle (scale:1:24000)
 East, VA 1973 (PR 1978)
 West, VA 1971 (PR 1979)

USGS 7.5' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)
 Culpeper East, VA 1973 (PR 1978)
 Culpeper West, VA 1971 (PR 1979)

, Culpeper County, VA
 ences:
 50/4260090 B-18/238540/4260010
 60/4259730 D-17/761580/4260120
 20/4260330 F-18/238080/4260320

GREENWOOD, Culpeper County, VA
 UTM References:
 A-18/238450/4260090 B-18/238540/4260010
 C-18/238460/4259730 D-17/761580/4260120
 E-17/761720/4260330 F-18/238080/4260320

