

**HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY  
OF  
ROCKINGHAM COUNTY, VIRGINIA**



**Mannheim (082-0005)**

**FINAL REPORT**

**Prepared by  
E.H.T. Traceries, Inc.**

**for**

**The Virginia Department of Historic Resources  
and  
Rockingham County, Virginia Department of Planning**

**RFP No. 1999/2000-09**

**December 2000**

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**(Contact: William L. Vaughn and Rhonda G. Henderson, Department of Planning 540/564-3030)**

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## **ABSTRACT**

The architectural survey of Rockingham County was conducted between October 1999 and December 2000 by the architectural and historic preservation firm of E.H.T. Traceries, Inc., under the direction of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) and the Rockingham County Planning Department. The project encompassed the survey and/or documentation of selected historic properties representing the areas and periods of significance of Rockingham County as defined by the historic context prepared as part of this project. The study anticipated the identification, documentation, and assessment of 250 properties at the reconnaissance level and twelve properties at the intensive level. One of the major aspects of the study is the preparation of the survey report that addresses any and all of the eighteen VDHR historic themes identified in the on-site fieldwork. This survey report records all of the properties documented during the survey, and how they relate to the historic context of the county. The primary components of the report are the historic context, survey findings, and the recommendation for additional survey work, documentation, and recommendations for listing of any of the resources, either individually or as districts, on the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places.

Rockingham County, the third largest county in Virginia, lies in the center of the Shenandoah Valley. The 865-square mile (553,000 acres) county is 38 miles long and 23 miles wide. Settled as early as 1730, Rockingham County was formed in 1778 and named in honor of the British Prime Minister Charles Watson-Wentworth, the second marquis of Rockingham. On July 1, 1780, the Virginia House of Delegates recognized the town of Harrisonburg as the seat of Rockingham County. Including Harrisonburg, the population of Rockingham County had reached over 10,000 by 1800, and continued to increase during the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Early census records show that nearly seventy percent of the population was of German-Swiss, Scots-Irish, and English immigrants. Throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century, particularly in the decades prior to the Civil War, Rockingham County was one of the leading agricultural producing counties in the Shenandoah Valley. This farmland was drastically impacted by Civil War action, which included two battles and five engagements: Battle of Cross Keys, Battle of Port Republic, the five engagements at Harrisonburg, Bridgewater, Mount Crawford, and Brock's Gap, and Lacey Springs. The first two battles, along with the engagement at Harrisonburg, were associated with Major General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson's Valley Campaign, which occurred between March and June of 1862. The four other engagements were the result of Major General Philip H. Sheridan's Valley Campaign between August 1864 and March 1865. Despite the devastating destruction, the Shenandoah Valley recovered more rapidly from the war than any other region of Virginia. This was largely due to the fertility of the soil, and the limited slave labor traditionally employed to cultivate it. The repair, rebuilding, and replacement of the many destroyed houses, barns, fencing, and mills became the primary objective of the residents. The economy of Rockingham County, continuing to rise in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, still centered on agriculture. This included apple and peach orchards, corn, tomatoes, poultry and livestock, dairy, and eggs. In fact, with the emergence of the turkey by the 1920s as part of the holiday feast, the turkey industry in Rockingham County thrived. Accordingly, the county is known as the "Turkey Capital of the East."

During the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the population continued to rise with vast acres of the rural county utilized as farmland.

The architectural development, as recorded during the survey, was directly impacted by the economic stability of the county. Thus, two distinct periods of growth – Antebellum (1830-1860) and Reconstruction/Growth (1865-1917) – were noted, with the majority of properties documented dating from these periods. Most of the properties identified are domestic in nature, supported by agriculture and/or commerce. The survey resulted in the completion of Virginia Department of Historic Resources Field Forms for 275 properties, 262 at the reconnaissance level and thirteen at the intensive level over 477.946 square miles. Each resource was architecturally defined, physically assessed, photographed with black-and-white film, and documented for its contribution to the historic context of Rockingham County. Following the reconnaissance survey, 105 properties were recommended for further investigation at the intensive level. Additionally, it has been determined, based on the intensive level survey, that four town districts should be comprehensively surveyed, researched and documented, and assessed on a Preliminary Information Form (PIF) for their potential as a historic district. Additionally, the boundaries of the Bridgewater Historic District should be reviewed and assessed for possible expansion.

Twelve properties recorded at the intensive level during the survey were presented to the VDHR Evaluation Team for assessment. Ten of the properties were determined to be potentially eligible by the Evaluation Team for listing on the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places and, therefore require further documentation in the form of a National Register nomination form. The two remaining properties were recommended for inclusion as contributing resources within potential historic districts.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

E.H.T. Tracerics wishes to thank the Planning Department of Rockingham County, especially William L. Vaughn and Rhonda G. Henderson. David Edwards, Scott Brooks-Miller, and Margaret T. Peters of VDHR also deserve recognition and praise for assisting E.H.T. Tracerics, Inc. in meeting the needs of the county and the state. Additionally, Suzanne Durham and Harry (Quatro) Hubbard of VDHR merit a great deal of thanks for their unending assistance.

A special acknowledgment goes to the informative and inspiring property owners and residents of Rockingham County, who allowed unlimited access to their homes and family histories. E.H.T. Tracerics wishes to also thank the owners and occupants of the thirteen properties documented at the intensive level. E.H.T. Tracerics would also like to thank the remarkable staffs of the local libraries and archives.

## **INTRODUCTION**

In October 1999, the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) in conjunction with Rockingham County contracted with E.H.T. Tracerics to conduct an Architectural Survey of Rockingham County, Virginia. The project was funded jointly by Virginia and the County under the terms of the Survey and Planning Cost-Share Program. The Rockingham County Department of Planning, under the direction of William L. Vaughn, served as the County's liaison for the duration of the project, providing direction, information and review to the consultants. Scott Brooks-Miller and David Edwards served as the VDHR contract administrators. E.H.T. Tracerics, architectural historians and preservation consultants, served as the project consultant: Laura V. Trieschmann was Project Manager/Senior Architectural Historian, and Robin J. Weidlich, Jennifer J. Bunting, and Annie L. McDonald served as architectural historians and surveyors. Amanda Didden, also a surveyor, provided production assistance.

The project anticipated the survey of 262 properties. The survey was set to begin in the southeastern corner of the county, moving northward. Because of the substantial number of properties expected to be fifty years or older, only those primary resources erected prior to 1865 were to be documented. However, a sampling of specific building types, including mines, mills, churches, and cemeteries, that met the fifty-year-age requirement were documented. All historic properties over fifty years of age that were not surveyed were noted on Rockingham County USGS maps.

The final compilation of data documented 262 properties to the reconnaissance level and thirteen properties to an intensive level; recorded the collected data using VDHR-IPS software; conducted a windshield survey of potential National Register eligible properties; prepared an Architectural Survey Report (including the historic context with overview of development, properties surveyed, recommendations, and illustrations to VDHR standards); and presented findings and recommendations at a public meeting in February 2001.

Rockingham County currently contains twenty properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places and twenty-one properties listed on the Virginia Landmarks Register. The research conducted for the historic context report indicated that at least ten other properties, identified during the intensive level survey of Rockingham County, are potentially eligible for individual listing in the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places. Two of the properties included in the intensive-level survey are recommended for inclusion in amended and potential historic districts.



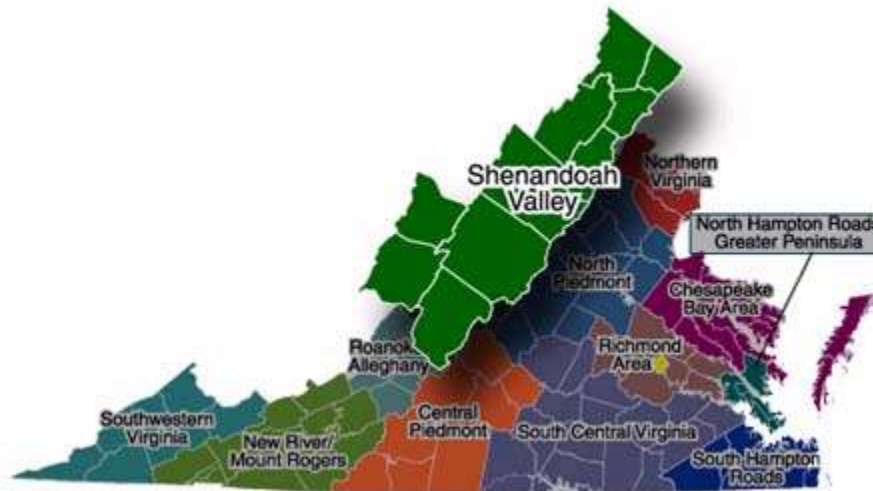
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## HISTORIC CONTEXT

Historic Periods referenced in this text are based on significant time frames established by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. These periods include:

- European Settlement to Society Period (1607-1750)
  - Colony to Nation Period (1751-1789)
  - Early National Period (1790-1830)
    - Antebellum Period (1831-1860)
    - Civil War Period (1861-1865)
- Reconstruction and Growth Period (1866-1917)
- World War I to World War II Period (1918-1945)
- The New Dominion Period (1946-present)



### Historic Overview of the Shenandoah Valley and Rockingham County

#### *Shenandoah Valley*<sup>1</sup>

The Shenandoah Valley is that portion of the Great Valley of Virginia that is drained by the Shenandoah River and its affluents. The Valley extends on a southwest to northeast bearing, from its headwaters north of Lexington, Virginia to the Potomac River, a distance of about 140 miles. The Shenandoah Valley is bounded on the northwest by North Mountain, the first range of the Allegheny Mountains, and on the southeast by the

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<sup>1</sup> The geographic description of the Shenandoah Valley is taken directly from "Part Two: Civil War in the Shenandoah Valley, The Historic Context: Geography and Strategic Importance of the Valley." This is part of the Study of Civil War Sites in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, Pursuant to Public Law 101-628, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, September 1992. ([www2.cr.nps.gov/abpp/shenandoah/sus2-2.html](http://www2.cr.nps.gov/abpp/shenandoah/sus2-2.html)).

Blue Ridge Mountains, which separate the Valley from the Piedmont region and the coastal plain of eastern Virginia. At its widest, the Valley is nearly twenty-five miles across. North of the Potomac River, it continues into Maryland and Pennsylvania with a similar configuration, but there it is called the Cumberland Valley, and the Blue Ridge is named South Mountain. The Valley floor is at an elevation of 1,000 feet, while the highest mountain ranges rise 4,345 feet above sea level.

The Shenandoah Valley encompasses two counties in West Virginia: Berkeley and Jefferson; and seven counties in Virginia: Frederick, Clarke, Warren, Shenandoah, Page, Rockingham, and Augusta. Berkeley, Jefferson, Frederick, Clarke, and Warren counties are referred to as the Lower Valley, being downstream. Those counties south of Strasburg, which include Rockingham County, are called the Upper Valley. A unique feature of the Valley is Massanutten Mountain, a complex ridge that extends some fifty miles through its middle, from Strasburg southwest to Harrisonburg. Throughout its length, the Massanutten divides the Valley into two smaller valleys, the main or Strasburg Valley, which is drained by the North Fork Shenandoah River, and the narrower Page or Luray Valley, drained by the South Fork Shenandoah River. Just south of Strasburg, the main Valley is only about five miles across. The Luray Valley funnels down to a width of less than a mile and a half at the community of Overall.

From Rockbridge and Augusta Counties, a series of small streams flow northerly; these combine to form the South River near Waynesboro, the Middle River near Staunton, and the North River near Bridgewater. The North and Middle Rivers conjoin west of Grottoes, and the South River merges a few miles downstream at Port Republic to form the South Fork Shenandoah River. The upstream limit for seasonal navigation of the river is in the general vicinity of Bridgewater (formerly known as Bridgeport) and Port Republic. The South Fork flows down the Luray Valley to Front Royal.

The North Fork Shenandoah River arises from the many small streams that spring from the Shenandoah and North Mountain west and south of Timberville. The river's largest tributary – Smith's Creek – joins near Rude's Hill at Mount Jackson. Other important tributaries join farther downstream – Mill Creek at Mount Jackson, Stony Creek at Edinburg, and narrow Passage Creek near Woodstock. From here the river winds northeast through a series of incised meanders, known as "Seven Bends." At Strasburg, the North Fork turns abruptly east across the head of the Massanutten, where it is joined by Cedar Creek. At Front Royal, the North and South forks conjoin, forming the Shenandoah River proper, now several hundred yards wide. From Front Royal, the Shenandoah flows steadily to the northeast along the flank of the Blue Ridge to empty into the Potomac River at Harpers Ferry.

Shenandoah is believed to be an Indian Name that may have come from the Oneida tribe of the Five Nations. Another source states the name was the Iroquoian word for Tyonondoa, which means "in that place there is a high range of mountains." It has also been stated that the Shenandoah is derived from an Iroquoian chieftain who is supposed to have been born about 1706, and who may or may not have had the name before the

settlement of the Valley.<sup>2</sup> Others suggest that the region was named by the Senedo Indians of the Virginia Valley. In the Senedo tradition, Shenandoah means “Daughter of the Moon,” and bears no relation to the Iroquois Chief.

### *Rockingham County*

Rockingham County, the third largest county in Virginia, lies in the center of the Shenandoah Valley. The 865-square-mile (553,000 acres) county is 38 miles long and 23 miles wide. Shenandoah and Page Counties are located to the northwest and northeast, respectively. Greene and Albemarle Counties are found to the northeast and southeast, respectively. Augusta County is to the south. Once a part of Rockingham County, Pendleton County, West Virginia is located to the west. The eastern ridge of the Allegheny Mountains and the Shenandoah Mountains, within the George Washington National Forest, bolster this western border. In the northeastern part of the county are the Massanutten Mountains, which are also part of the George Washington National Forest that comprise 94,717 acres in Rockingham County. The Blue Ridge Mountains in the Shenandoah National Park distinguish the eastern border of the county. Well known for its Skyline Drive, the mountains extend over 29,512 acres of unproductive reserved forestland.

The county is divided into five magisterial districts: Ashby, Central, Linville, Plains, and Stonewall. Ashby district is named for cavalry General Turner Ashby, who was killed during a Civil War action within the county in 1862. Central is named for its geographical position. Linville bears the name of William Linvel, one of the first pioneers who settled north of Harrisonburg. Plains adopted the distinguishing term that applied to the broad flat bottomland along the North Fork of the Shenandoah River. Stonewall is named in honor of Civil War General Thomas J. “Stonewall” Jackson.<sup>3</sup>

Insert map showing districts

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<sup>2</sup> William Couper, *History of the Shenandoah Valley*, Volume I, (New York, NY: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, Inc., 1952), p. 613.

<sup>3</sup> Nancy B. Hess, *The Heartland: Rockingham County*, (Harrisonburg, VA: Nancy B. Hess, 1976), p. 10.

### **Prehistoric Native American Settlement (10,000 B.C.-1600 A.D.)**

Archeological investigations support the theory that Native Americans first populated Rockingham County and the Shenandoah Valley. These hunting and gathering groups are believed to have occupied this region approximately 12,500-13,000 years before the exploration of America by the first adventurers from Western Europe. The ancestors of the American Indian tribes living in the mid-Atlantic region later known as Virginia arrived in Alaska from northeast Asia and gradually migrated south, eventually occupying all of North and South America. No one knows when the first American Indians arrived in Rockingham County. However, they were certainly here 12,000 years ago (10,000 B.C.).<sup>4</sup>

The earliest known inhabitants were a stone-age people, who have been named Paleo-Indian (ancient Indians). The Paleo-Indians arrived near the end of the last great Ice Age (21,000-11,000 B.C.), when the area was very different from what it is today. Mastodon, bison, moose, elk, deer, bear, wolves, and large cats roamed through the mixed spruce, pine, and deciduous forests of northwestern Virginia and Maryland.<sup>5</sup> In their pursuit of game and fine-quality stone for tool making, they traveled throughout the Mid-Atlantic area, from New Jersey to North Carolina and inland to West Virginia. Coming in contact with other groups of Paleo-Indian, the early Indians of Rockingham County sustained their culture for more than a thousand years (10,000-8,700 B.C.).

The Indians continued to rely on hunting and gathering for almost all of their needs until about A.D. 800. Eventually, corn, beans, squash, and sunflower seeds accounted for as much as twenty-five percent of their diet, and the need for fertile and cultivated soil to grow these crops brought about a dramatic change in the lives of the natives. Indians used a "slash and burn" method of clearing the land. They cut brush and girdled the trees to kill them. Later, they burned the dead brush and trees and farmed the area. Without fertilizer for the soil or erosion control, and with the additional growing of tobacco, the soil in a particular area soon became exhausted of nutrients. The Indians then had to find and prepare new fields. As a result, both small hamlets and larger villages were moved every ten years or so.<sup>6</sup> The agricultural and hunting groups from this period formed the basis for the tribes encountered by Europeans in the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

### **Settlement to Society Period (1600-1750)**

John Lederer, a Franciscan monk and German trader, has been documented to have been the first European to view the Shenandoah Valley from the Blue Ridge, when his exploration party traveled through the area at or near Waynesboro. Commissioned to

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<sup>4</sup> Michael F. Johnson, "American Indian Life in Fairfax County, 10,000 B.C. to A.D. 1650," *Heritage Resources Information Series, Number 3*. Published by the Heritage Resources Branch, Office of Comprehensive Planning, Fairfax County, Virginia, p. 2.

<sup>5</sup> Johnson, p. 2.

<sup>6</sup> Johnson, p. 9.

travel by Virginia Royal Governor Sir William Berkeley, Lederer, Major Harris, and five Indian guides journeyed through the Shenandoah Valley three times between May 1669 and September 1670. Other expeditions, such as those of Captain Cadawaller Johns between 1677-1786 and Louis Michel in 1707, resulted in more detailed descriptions and crude maps of the Valley.

Aided by the diaries kept by Lederer and Michel's maps, we know the Valley was home to a number of Indian tribes, including the Shawnee, Iroquois, Delaware, and Catawba. The Iroquois, prior to 1700, had exterminated smaller tribes like the Senedos, who were located between New Market and Mount Jackson. The maps of both these explorers record the locations of extensive grassy plains, which had been created by the Indians to pasture the deer, elk, and buffaloes. There were also cleared tracts on which the Indians grew tobacco, corn, and other vegetables. During his first tour, Lederer noted "red and fallow deer, bears, small leopards, beaver and otter, grey foxes, and wolves."<sup>7</sup>

By the turn of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the Governor, Council, and Burgesses of Virginia offered a monopoly of trade to any person(s) who would "at his or their own charge, make discovery of any town or nation of Indians, situate or inhabiting to the westward of, or between the Appalatian mountains."<sup>8</sup> Colonel Alexander Spotswood (1676-1740), who arrived in the colony of Virginia in 1710 to serve as Her Majesty's Lieutenant Governor, was deeply involved in western expansion and concerned with easing tensions between Virginia's colonists and Indian population. Accordingly, to show prospective inhabitants that the region was inhabitable, Spotswood ventured into the Valley. The exploration commenced on August 20, 1716 and consisted of about forty or fifty men, including servants, friends, planters, two companies of rangers, attendants, and friendly Indian guides.<sup>9</sup> The journey moved across the Blue Ridge, arriving at what is now Swift Run Gap on September 5, 1716. The explorers christened the mountaintop from which they viewed the Valley, "Mount George," in honor of King George I of England. The party crossed a river, which they called Euphrates, believed to be about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile northwest of Elkton at a place called Conrad's Ford.<sup>10</sup> Naming themselves the "Knights of the Golden Horseshoes," the party returned to Williamsburg on September 17, 1716, having traveled 438 miles in twenty-eight days.<sup>11</sup> As hoped, Spotswood's expedition encouraged travel and permanent settlement in the Valley.<sup>12</sup>

The encouragement to pioneer the Valley west of the Blue Ridge lured the families of Jost Hite, Alexander Ross, Abraham Hollingsworth, Jacob Stover, and others from New

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<sup>7</sup> John W. Wayland, *Twenty-five Chapters on the Shenandoah Valley*, (Strasburg, VA: The Shenandoah Publishing House, Inc., 1957), p. 18.

<sup>8</sup> John W. Wayland, *A History of Rockingham County Virginia*, (Harrisonburg, VA: C.J. Carrier Company, 1996), p. 33.

<sup>9</sup> Hess, p. 6.

<sup>10</sup> Hess, p. 7.

<sup>11</sup> Hess, p. 8.

<sup>12</sup> Route 33 East roughly follows the route of the Governor and his party in 1710, which is known as Spotswood Trail.

Jersey and Pennsylvania to what is now Rockingham and Page Counties. The Northern (or Lower) Shenandoah Valley was appealing to those in search of small tracts of unsettled farmland, as well as those seeking religious freedom.<sup>13</sup> As expected, the first grants of land were sought along the main watercourses. However, in many cases settlers sought dwelling places on the higher lands of the hills and mountains, because it was feared that malaria infested the bottomlands. Malaria disappeared with the ultimate development of the Valley, with the clearing of lowland thickets, the draining of swamps and marshes, and the erection of better dwellings.<sup>14</sup>

The greatest concentration of early settlement in the eastern portion of what became Rockingham County was to the east of Massanutten Mountain. These homesteaders were generally of German and Swiss descent. Germans, Scots-Irish, and Swiss also settled the western part of the county as early as 1734. The settlements were generally to the west of the mountain, along various creeks like Linville and Smith's Creeks. The early settlers engaged in a highly self-sufficient agricultural economy, including the production of grains, livestock, and fruits. Trade occurred among farms, and as the transportation systems to the east improved, contact with other markets expanded.<sup>15</sup>

One of the first known settlers was Jacob Stover, a native of Switzerland. Stover was granted leave by the colonial council to take up 10,000 acres of land in June 1730 on the south fork of the Shenandoah as a settlement. Stover selected his grant in two tracts, 5,000 acres each – one along the river between the present Luray and Elkton, and the other higher up on the river, between Elkton and Port Republic. The conditions of Stover's grant stated that ~~he~~ should actually locate a family of settlers upon each thousand acres within two years.... Upon satisfactory proof that these conditions had been discharged, a permanent title would be given."<sup>16</sup> Stover was granted his claim in June 1730, having conveyed land in Massanutten to eight petitioners. The petitioners were surprised to learn in 1733 that William Beverly had received a grant in May 1732 of 15,000 acres on the Shenandoah River. Beverly's grant included the holdings conveyed by Stover. Thus, on December 12, 1733, Beverly filed suit against Stover. Three days later, Stover procured the deeds for his two tracts and the petitioners received their land.

Based on the stipulation that at least one family should be located on each 1,000 acres, it has been concluded that Stover's land was settled by no less than five families by December 1733 along the river between the points now marked by Elkton and Port Republic. In *A History of Rockingham County*, Wayland suggests, ~~therefore~~, at or near the Fairfax line, which marked the northeast boundary of Rockingham till 1831, and following up the south fork of the Shenandoah River past the places now known as Shenandoah City, Elkton, and Island Ford to Lynnwood and Port Republic, we may say

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<sup>13</sup> Maral S. Kalbian, *Frederick County, Virginia: History Through Architecture*, (Winchester, VA: Winchester-Frederick County Historical Society and the Rural Landmarks Publication Committee, 1999), p. 1.

<sup>14</sup> Wayland, *A History of Rockingham County*, p. 43.

<sup>15</sup> Kalbian, p. 3.

<sup>16</sup> Wayland, *A History of Rockingham County*, p. 36.



that at least fifteen families, all probably German or Swiss, were settled in that district by December 1733.”<sup>17</sup>

German-born Adam Miller was one of Stover’s eight 1733 petitioners. A certificate of naturalization, dated March 1741, documents Miller was a resident of the Shenandoah ~~for~~ the past fifteen years.”<sup>18</sup> This fixes the date of Miller’s settlement in the Elkton area about 1726, suggesting this early settler pre-empted his claim by squatter rights prior to meeting the governmental requirements.<sup>19</sup>

In 1746, Thomas Lewis, Peter Jefferson, and others surveyed the Fairfax line from the head spring of the Rapidan to that of the north branch of the Potomac River. The surveyors laid a line twice, the second time correcting an error in the first run. The line passed about two miles south of New Market, creating the present boundary between Shenandoah and Rockingham Counties. Settlers south of the line in Rockingham avoided rents to Lord Fairfax. Rather, they paid taxes directly to the government of Virginia. Consequently, with the initiation of the Fairfax line, titles to tracts of land in Rockingham County were more appealing than in Shenandoah and Frederick Counties. Despite this, settlement was slower in the area to become Rockingham County, as many of the grantees were not actively pursuing it.

Rockingham County and the Shenandoah Valley in general, provided many great natural resources surrounded by mountains, open fields, and waterways. Limestone, iron ore, and timber were the most abundant, and the first to be utilized exclusively. Settlers used limestone in the foundations of their first dwellings and churches; by the 1750s, limestone was a primary building material in the county for foundations as well as structural systems. Lime was also burned for use as mortar. The smelting of iron ore came into use later, although by the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, several furnaces were in operation. The making of iron was facilitated by the abundance of limestone.

In March 1739, an extensive survey of the land along Linville Creek was conducted for settlers Jost Hite, Robert McKay, William Duff, and Robert Green. Hite, along with fellow Germans, had settled as early as 1732 in a section of the region now known as Winchester. Recounted by John W. Wayland in *Twenty-five Chapters on the Shenandoah Valley*, ~~the~~ tract contained 7,009 acres and extended from the site of Broadway up the creek valley a distance of about eight miles. In this survey there were 21 corners and 21 courses. At every one of the 21 corners trees are mentioned. In all, the description names 32 white oaks, 4 black oaks, 2 hickories, 5 pines, 1 red oak, and 1 walnut.”<sup>20</sup>

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<sup>17</sup> Wayland, *A History of Rockingham County*, p. 38.

<sup>18</sup> Wayland, *A History of Rockingham County*, p. 35.

<sup>19</sup> Wayland, *A History of Rockingham County*, p. 36.

<sup>20</sup> Wayland, *Twenty-five Chapters on the Shenandoah Valley*, p. 16.

The white settlers traveling within and throughout the Valley followed animal trails and Indian paths that eventually were widened to accommodate wagons. One of the earliest roads was the old “Indian Trail,” that ran north and south through the Valley. Noted on survey maps as early as 1734 as “The Great Wagon Road to Philadelphia,” this primary transportation corridor was later known as the Valley Turnpike. In some areas, the present U.S. Route 11 closely follows this former Indian trail.<sup>21</sup> In the fall of 1753, this road was traveled by a group of Moravian Brethren, migrating from Pennsylvania to North Carolina. Many Moravian stragglers remained in the Valley temporarily, while other attracted to the region remained permanently.

The settlement of the Valley progressed without interruption from the native Indians for a period of about twenty-three years. By 1754, the Indians had moved from the region, crossing the Alleghany Mountains to the west. While engaged in the French and Indian War, the Indians often traveled back over the mountains to raid the Valley. Between 1758-1760, Indians, sometimes aided by Frenchmen, raided nearby fort, resulting in numerous deaths and the taking of prisoners.

### **Colony to Nation (1750-1789)**

The area now known as Rockingham County descended from York (1643), New Kent (1654), King and Queen (1691), Essex (1692), King William (1702), and Spotsylvania (1721) counties. Spotsylvania County was divided by an act of the General Assembly in August 1734, creating Orange County. Likewise, in 1738, Orange County was redistricted into two counties – Frederick and Augusta. Augusta County was named in honor of Augusta of Saxe-Gotha, mother of George III. The newly formed county consisted of about 1,352 square miles, the majority of which was sparsely inhabited. Consequently, the establishment of the county government was delayed until 1745. The 1775 tithables for Augusta County included at least 150 names of persons within the boundaries of what eventually became Rockingham County.<sup>22</sup>

No battles were fought in the Shenandoah Valley during the Revolutionary War (1775-1781), although a number of men and military organizations from this region of Virginia saw combat on many fronts fighting the British and Indians. The soldiers performed garrison duty at several forts located in present-day West Virginia, and in 1778, dispersed an assemblage of Tories near the Peaked Mountain at Cross Keys in present-day Rockingham County. The Peaked Mountain Church maintains one of the most intact records of local residents enlisted in the fight for independence, with three companies composed of church members. Unfortunately, the majority of muster rolls showing the records of rank and file have not survived. As recounted by William Couper in *History of the Shenandoah Valley*:

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<sup>21</sup> Kalbian, pp. 1-2.

<sup>22</sup> The tithables were levies on a tenth of one's annual income contributed voluntarily or due as a tax, which was often to support of the clergy and church.

Those who lived in the Cub Run Valley first served in the Company of Captain Peachy Gilmore, and this company was later commanded by Captain George Pence, and saw active service in the Revolutionary War.... The members of the old Peaked Mountain Church who lived in the Mill Creek and in the William's Run Valleys first served in Captain Thomas Hewitt's Company.... This company, after Rockingham was separated from Augusta County, was commanded by Captain George Houston, and was in the Expedition against the Ohio River Indians, commanded by General McIntosh, in 1778 and 1779; and it was also in active service when Arnold invaded Virginia in 1781; and participated in the Siege of Yorktown, Va., in 1781....<sup>23</sup>

Following the war, a few Hessian soldiers and mercenaries hired by the British army to fight settled in Augusta County, particularly in the region that later became Rockingham County.

In October 1777, the Virginia General Assembly redistricted Augusta County and enacted legislation for the formation of a new county – a portion of the county was added to Hampshire County (created in 1754), and the balance made into Rockingham County.<sup>24</sup> As enacted in April 1778, the new county and coterminous parish were dubbed Rockingham in honor of British Prime Minister Charles Watson-Wentworth (1730-1782), the second marquis of Rockingham, who had supported colonists in their disputes with Great Britain.

The county and parish were described as:

The residue of the county and the parish of Augusta be divided by a line to begin at the South Mountain, and running thence by Benjamin Yeardley's plantation so as to strike the north river below James Boyd's house, thence up the said river to the mouth of Naked Creek, thence leaving the river [at] a direct course so as to cross the said river at the mouth of Cunningham's branch, in the upper end of Silas Hart's land, to the foot of North Mountain, thence fifty five degrees west to the Alleghany mountains and with the same to the line of Hampshire; and all that part which lies north eastward of the said lien shall be one distinct parish called and known by the name of Rockingham.<sup>25</sup>

On April 28, 1778, the first court for the new county was held in the home of Daniel Smith, one of the first appointed justices. Until the appropriate public buildings could be erected two miles to the south in Harrisonburg, Smith's house served as the courthouse

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<sup>23</sup> Couper, Volume I, p. 653.

<sup>24</sup> No longer part of Virginia, Hampshire County is the oldest county in West Virginia.

<sup>25</sup> Charles Francis Cocke, *Parish Lines: Diocese of Virginia*, (Richmond, VA: Virginia State Library, 1978 reprint), p. 81.

until 1784, with a 12-foot-square log structure erected on the property to serve as the temporary jail. The commissioners appointed to arrange for the erection of permanent public buildings were empowered to choose a site ~~of~~ not less than two acres.”<sup>26</sup> The majority of justices had agreed that the property of Thomas Harrison, located near the head of ~~the~~ Spring,” was the likely choice for the county seat. Harrison (1704-1785), a proprietor who settled about 1739 at this crossroads of an Indian path and the Spotswood Trail, had surveyed and laid claim to 12,090 acres of land that became a part of Rockingham County. For a modest sum, Harrison deeded two and one-half acres of his impressive holdings for public use. In honor of the land’s original owner, the town was named ~~Harrisonburg.~~” On July 1, 1780, the Virginia House of Delegates recognized Harrisonburg as the seat of Rockingham County in the act that also created the city of Louisville (now in Kentucky). The original town limits were Federal Street on the east, Bruce Street on the south, High Street on the west, and Wolfe Street on the north.

Four men were appointed commissioners to oversee the construction of the courthouse. The edifice was to be built of stone, ~~36~~ feet long by 26 in breadth one story of 12 feet in high with a partition at one end twelve feet wide to be divided into two jury rooms with two angle fire places in each of the jury rooms [and] also a prison built with square logs 12 inches thick in inside, 18 feet square in the clear and walled with stone 2 feet thick in the lower story and the wall 18 inches thick in the upper story.”<sup>27</sup> As stipulated in the deed of transfer to the county officials, the stone and lumber needed to erect the building were easily found on Harrison’s plantation. The materials used to erect the building, however, were changed in November 1779 from stone to log, described as:

...square Logs with diamond Corners Thirty feet Long by 20 feet wide from out to out with a partition twelve feet in the Clear across the house divided into two rooms one 12 feet wide and the other 8 feet wide, the room 12 feet wide to have a neat stone Chimney inside at the Gavle End of it the whole to be floored with Earth as far as the Lawiers Bar and then to be raised with a polank floor to the Justices Bench which is to be raised three feet above the floor and the Breast of the Bench to be studed with a railed Top, the pitch of the house to be 10 feet clear Ceiling and lofted with Inch plank with two window on each side of the ho[use] facing the Clks. Table and one in Each of Jury rooms the windows 18 Lights each Glass 8 by 10 Inches, with a Door on – side just Clear of the Jury rooms.<sup>28</sup>

Neither the courthouse nor the jail seems to have been completed until the spring of 1784.

In 1781, there were about 1,500 tithables in the county. Accordingly, the total population of Rockingham County was estimated at about 5,000 persons. This number increased steadily, with nearly 7,500 persons residing in the county by 1790. The population

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<sup>26</sup> Wayland, *A History of Rockingham County*, p. 74.

<sup>27</sup> Wayland, *A History of Rockingham County*, p. 74.

<sup>28</sup> Wayland, *A History of Rockingham County*, p. 79.

increase appears not to have been affected by the 1788 creation of Pendleton County to the west in what later became West Virginia.

### **Early National Period (1790-1830)**

Throughout the Early National Period, Rockingham County continued to grow. In 1791, Keezletown was formed and, between 1801 and 1804, McGaheysville, Port Republic, and New Haven were laid out. The population of the Valley in 1790, as noted by the first official census, was 85,311. Of this, Rockingham County was home to 7,449 residents. The county was predominately white (6,677), with 772 –colored and/or slaves.” Comparatively, the newly formed county had fewer residents than any other county in the Valley with the exception of Rockbridge County (6,548).<sup>29</sup> Including Harrisonburg, the population of Rockingham County had reached over 10,000 by 1800, and continued to increase steadily by 2,000 persons each decade. The first noteworthy increase in the population was recorded between 1820 and 1830, jumping from 14,784 to 20,683 residents in just ten years.<sup>30</sup> The population increase in Rockingham County during the first decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century was comparatively consistent with the other eight existing counties in the Valley. However, by 1830, counties such as Berkeley and Jefferson had begun to decrease in population.

Early census records show that nearly seventy percent of the population of Rockingham County was of German-Swiss descent, the majority located in Plains District adjacent to Shenandoah County. The strongest Scots-Irish elements were located in the Linville District, while the Stonewall District was home to the majority of English immigrants. The majority of residents in Rockingham County had emigrated from Pennsylvania and were either natives or directly descended from natives of various principalities in Germany. A number of Welsh, German, and Scots-Irish immigrants that had originally settled in New York, New Jersey, and Maryland also found their way to the Shenandoah Valley, and Rockingham County by the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>31</sup> As expected, these immigrants brought various religious beliefs, customs, and building traditions from their native lands. Most of the English who came early to the Valley from eastern Virginia were Episcopalians. The Scots-Irish and the few Scots were Presbyterians. The three largest religious sects of the Germans were made up of Lutherans, Mennonites, and Calvinists (Reformers), with later immigrants being members of the German Baptist Brethren, also known as Tunkers or simply as Brethren.<sup>32</sup> The Mennonites and Brethren

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<sup>29</sup> Couper, Volume I, p. 678.

<sup>30</sup> William Couper, *History of the Shenandoah Valley*, Volume II, (New York, NY: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, Inc., 1952), p. 777.

<sup>31</sup> Scots-Irish were Scots who had been living in northern Ireland for several generations.

<sup>32</sup> The Mennonites emerged in Switzerland in the 1520s as radical Protestants desiring a simpler style of life. A parallel movement occurred in the Netherlands, led by Menno Simons. Similar groups emerged in Germany and Austria, with many followers fleeing to Rhineland and the Netherlands, Eastern Europe and America, particularly Pennsylvania. The Tunkers and Brethren, who maintain similar beliefs in the simplicity of dress and living, are one of the religious denominations whose tenets and practices are mainly

were pacifists. With at least one congregation of English Baptists in the Valley (an area now part of Berkeley County, West Virginia), a few other English Baptist congregations were organized in Rockingham County.

The growth of Harrisonburg was almost immediate, and in 1797, the original charter was extended to include twenty-three and one-half acres of land given by Robert and Rueben Harrison, the sons of Thomas Harrison. People of English, Irish, Scots-Irish, and German backgrounds poured into this major trading town of the central Shenandoah Valley. Accordingly, the streets were laid out with names such as Market, Scots-Irish (now Main Street), and German (now Liberty Street).<sup>33</sup> Businesses of all kinds sprang up to serve the permanent residents as well as the constant flow of westward moving settlers. Doctor Samuel Gay's tavern supplanted the informal hospitality of the Thomas Harrison house. The latter had served for half a century as an inn, courthouse, and church, as varying needs arose. In 1798, tax records indicate seventy-one structures existed in Harrisonburg. The number of improvements reached 118 in 1812. By 1820, Harrisonburg was a thriving center of trade, replete with tanneries, shoemakers, saddlers, barbers, silversmiths, and clockmakers. At least ten mercantile stores provided hardware, dry goods, boots, shoes, and hats. Taverns, apothecary shops, and drugstores were numerous. About eight doctors and four lawyers served the population of Harrisonburg.<sup>34</sup>

The first documented educational program in Rockingham County was an elementary school established by the Methodists of Harrisonburg in 1794. Organized by Bishop Francis Asbury, the Harrisonburg School shared the meetinghouse of the Methodists, and followed the strict religious guidelines established by the church. In the pursuit of education, the school also admitted African-American servants in its first year of operation. By 1795, the school had expanded to include two departments and two teachers. Unlike many counties in Virginia where education was taught in the home or at a limited number of private institutions, Rockingham County residents foresaw the need for education and incorporated the Rockingham Library Company in 1806. One of the first such institutions in the Commonwealth, the library company was authorized to procure a library for the improvement of the inhabitants.<sup>35</sup> Similarly, throughout the 1820s and 1830s, additional schools were created, including Rockingham Academy in 1826, Miss Moore's School for Girls in 1827, and the McGaheysville School in 1838.<sup>36</sup>

As generally dictated by their religion, most residents were farmers who worked their own lands, rarely aided by African-American slaves. The Germans, as a rule, were

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those of the Baptist, but also share some of the Quakers. Also known as Dunkers, the sect was founded in Germany in 1708, just years prior to their emigration to the United States.

<sup>33</sup> -History of Harrisonburg," Down-loaded from the internet on November 6, 2000.  
<http://www.ci.harrisonburg.va.us/>.

<sup>34</sup> Report on the Social, Agricultural, and Manufacturing Census, Record Group 287, National Archives at College Park, Department of the Interior, Census Office, (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1840-1870).

<sup>35</sup> Wayland, *A History of Rockingham County*, p. 287.

<sup>36</sup> Wayland, *A History of Rockingham County*, pp. 283-309.

opposed to slavery, and thus, very few owned slaves. The English and Scots-Irish held the majority of slaves in the Valley. Regardless, the number of slaves in Rockingham County, and the Shenandoah Valley as a whole, was exceptionally minimal compared to eastern Virginia. The 1790 census records that Frederick County had over 4,000 slaves, Berkeley County had nearly 3,000 slaves, Augusta County had over 1,500 slaves, Rockbridge County had 682 slaves, Shenandoah County had only 512 slaves, and Rockingham County was home to 772 slaves.<sup>37</sup> Often, slaves were rented from eastern Virginia during the fall harvests.

The first Circuit Superior Court of Law and Chancery for the county was held in Harrisonburg in April 1809 with Judge Hugh Holmes presiding. The primary efforts of the magistrates' court during the latter part of the 18<sup>th</sup> and early part of the 19<sup>th</sup> centuries focused on the improvement and laying of roads, and clearing of fords. As early as 1789, an act was passed for the repair of Swift Run Gap Road. From 1790 to 1800, about -\$3,000 was appropriated to putting the Swift Run Gap Road in order....<sup>38</sup> This road was one of the major thoroughfares in the county, with some of the first purpose-laid roads connecting it with neighboring centers of commerce such as Staunton and Port Republic. Other major transportation routes laid during this period include Keezletown Road (circa 1753) and Dry River Gap Road (1780).

The Valley Turnpike Company was chartered in 1817 to open a road from Salem to Winchester under the engineering direction of Colonel Claudius Crozet. The company was eventually incorporated in March of 1834 and charged with the construction of the Valley Turnpike, extending from Winchester to Harrisonburg. Supported two years later by the Harrisonburg and Staunton Turnpike, the Valley Turnpike ultimately became the primary transportation corridor in the county. This major thoroughfare, known today as U.S. 11, followed the route of the Great Wagon Road, which was established in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Similarly, in 1829, an act was passed to incorporate the Warm Springs and Harrisonburg Turnpike Company. The next year, the Harrisonburg and Thornton's Gap Turnpike Company was incorporated, and in 1832, roads were opened from Harrisonburg to Charlottesville.

### **Antebellum Period (1831-1860)**

By the 1830s, Rockingham County began to experience a population decline. The greatest decrease was noted by the 1840 census, with 17,344 persons recorded. This was a reduction of 3,339 citizens from just ten years prior. By 1850, however, the number of persons residing in the county had increased to 20,294 and, by 1860, the county was home to 23,668 people. The 1840 census records indicate the greatest number of residents, both white males and females, were under the age of 10, or between 20 and 30 years of age. By the 1860s, the number of residents was generally equal from age one to forty for both white males and females. The 1860 census went so far as to note that of

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<sup>37</sup> United States Census Records, 1790, Record Group 287, National Archives at College Park.

<sup>38</sup> Wayland, *A History of Rockingham County*, p. 220.

the 21,021 free persons residing in Rockingham County, 356 people (all of which were white) were not natives of the United States (although the countries were not noted).

Countywide, in 1850, Rockingham was improved by the construction of 3,047 dwellings for 3,064 families. The growth of the county affected the business of the local government, which by 1833 ordered the sale of the first courthouse. This original edifice was removed (believed to have been razed) from the site in March of that year and construction of a larger brick structure began.

The emigration was rapid in Rockingham County, instigated by the subdivision of the growing county to create Page County in 1831. This new county, reaching a population of 6,194 citizens by 1840, consisted of eighty-four square miles formally associated with Rockingham County. Because of its geographic location and topography, Rockingham County had always been a temporary home or distribution center for settlers traveling southward and to the open frontiers of the west and northwest. This was clearly exhibited in the migration of the Moravian Brethren from Pennsylvania to North Carolina as early as 1753. The western movement was launched by the liberal policy adopted by the federal government in 1820 for disposing of public lands. Consequently, by 1840, the populations of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Iowa increased tenfold, while the eastern states experienced a decrease.

The exodus provided the permanent residents with an opportunity to gain additional lands, which were reported to be among the most fertile and settled in the region. About 1845, visitor Henry Howe remarked that “the village [Harrisonburg] is handsomely built, flourishing, and is surrounded by a beautiful and fertile country.”<sup>39</sup> Howe noted the existence of smaller towns and villages, including Mount Crawford, Port Republic, Deaton (known now as Dayton), and Edom Mills. Despite their growth, towns and villages remained as such and were not recognized as principal towns requiring separate census recordation. Harrisonburg, however, was recorded independently in 1860, noting the growing town was home to 1,023 persons. Listed separately, the total number of “free or coloreds” residing in Harrisonburg was thirty.

Rockingham County was one of the leading agricultural producing counties in the Valley during the antebellum period. In 1850, 203,530 acres were improved as farmland, consisting of 1,213 farms. This left 119,234 acres throughout the county unimproved, comprised of wooded forests and mountain ranges. Ten years later, the acreage of agricultural farmland had declined to 200,803, and the unimproved acreage had increased to 145,165. The average farm consisted of between 20 and 100 acres, with the majority of farms containing 100 to 500 acres. The various crops included wool, hay, potatoes, and tobacco. Cereal grains produced included barley, oats, rye, buckwheat, wheat, and Indian corn. In fact, statewide, Rockingham County ranked first in the production of wheat and hay, second in barley bushels and grass seeds, and was one of the leading producers of wool in 1850. By 1860, the county was third in the yield of Indian corn and

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<sup>39</sup> Wayland, *A History of Rockingham County*, p. 114.



second in the production of wool and wheat. Barley yield had been reduced comparatively, thus, the county ranked fifth statewide in 1860. The production of butter, the highest in the Commonwealth, had increased remarkably by 1860.

With the growth of agricultural production, the number of slaves increased during the antebellum period, although overall the sentiment about owning slaves had not changed. The 1840 census recorded 501 slaves residing in Rockingham County. This number increased to 2,331 in 1850, and peaked at 2,387 by 1860. Of the 420 slaveholders in the county in 1860, the majority owned between two and nine slaves. However, the greatest number of slaveholders had only a single slave (104 owners). The 1860 census documented that Rockingham County was home to 532 free "coloreds," an increase of sixty-five persons from 1850.

Commerce during this period included thirty dry goods and grocery stores countywide, with \$303,606 in capital invested. This capital ranked third highest in the western part of the Commonwealth. Because of the vast woodlands ornamenting the county, Rockingham County was responsible for the production of lumber. Like many of its surrounding counties, Rockingham County was dotted with a number of flour mills (35), gristmills (16), and saw mills (42) in the 1840s. The county ranked first statewide in the value of its home made and family made goods in 1840. However, by 1850, this was no longer the case. By 1860, Rockingham County was home to a number of successful manufacturing establishments. The greatest number of these was devoted to the milling of flour and meal (24), blacksmithing (21), boots/shoes (18), and leather (14). The eighteen manufacturers included in the census inventory provided the county with over \$422,000 in products yearly. Although Rockingham County was not a leader in the manufacturing of goods, it was certainly more than prototypical by comparison to its neighboring Valley counties.

With the population increasing steadily again by the 1850s, nearly 2,000 students were attending ninety-seven schools. These schools, open to all, are believed to have been one-room schoolhouses, as the number of teachers employed countywide was equal to that of the schools. Joseph Salyard formed one such school, located in McGaheysville, in 1838.<sup>40</sup> Like many counties in Virginia in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, no college or private academies existed. Furthermore, despite the early establishment of schools, Rockingham County was home to more "whites over twenty unable to read and write" than any other county in Virginia in 1850. It ranked second, behind Henrico County, in the number of "whites five and under twenty years old unable to read and write." Although the Rockingham Library Company had been established in 1806, no libraries were recorded as part of the 1850 Social Census, which included public, school, church, and college libraries.<sup>41</sup>

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<sup>40</sup> Wayland, *A History of Rockingham County*, pp. 283-309.

<sup>41</sup> Report on the Social Census, Record Group 287, National Archives at College Park, Department of the Interior, Census Office, (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1840-1870).

The religious diversity in the county during the antebellum period continued with a total of thirty churches. This statistic included seven Baptist, eleven Lutheran, eight Methodist, and four Presbyterian churches. Surprisingly, by 1850, there were no recorded houses of worship for Disciples of Christ, Episcopalians, Friends, German Reformers, Jews, Mennonites, Moravians, Roman Catholics, or Tunkers (who typically met in private homes). As many of these sects are known to have existed within the boundaries of Rockingham County, it is suggested that the statistics were not properly reported to the federal census office. For example, the Mennonites worshipped in Weaver's Church and Bank Church, both established by 1850.

The need to update and expand the public resources of the county resulted in a bridge lottery in 1833 to enable the construction of a structure across the Shenandoah River on Swift Run Gap Road. Known as the Shenandoah Free-Bridge Lottery, the drawing cost \$4.00 a ticket, with a capital prize of \$10,000. Bruffy and Paul of Mount Crawford also held a lottery, with a prize of \$8,000, for the construction of a bridge across the North River. Similar lotteries were held throughout the 1830s to fund the laying of roads and/or construction of bridges, such as the route from Harrisonburg to Moorefield and the bridge from Port Republic to New Haven. With the need for additional transportation routes, the General Assembly agreed in 1836 to a resolution requesting the Board of Public Works to employ an engineer to survey a route for a proposed railroad from Gordonsville in Orange County to Harrisonburg.<sup>42</sup> Similarly, the Manassas Gap Railroad had been surveyed to Harrisonburg by 1858, but never erected. However, the arrival of this modern mode of transportation in Rockingham County was forced to wait for the conclusion of the Civil War.

The need for transportation routes connecting the county with thriving commercial centers statewide by the middle part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century prompted the incorporation of the Rockingham Turnpike Company. The new company was charged with laying a road from Harrisonburg across Blue Ridge by Swift Run Gap, past Stanardsville and on to Richmond. Present-day Old Route 33 East closely follows this route.

### **Civil War (1861-1865)**

Having seceded from the Union on May 23, 1861, Virginia became the first state to join the Confederate States of America following President Lincoln's call for volunteers. The Commonwealth was to be the site of numerous significant battles and campaigns that profoundly impacted the outcome of the Civil War, beginning with the First Battle of Manassas on June 21, 1861 and ending with Lee's surrender at Appomattox Court House in 1865. The Shenandoah Valley, Virginia's most important agricultural region, was the site of 326 incidents of armed conflict during the Civil War, including six major battles, 21 engagements, 21 actions, and 278 skirmishes. Throughout the Civil War, Confederate armies used the Shenandoah Valley as a natural corridor to invade or threaten invasion of the North. Because of its southwest-northeast orientation, Confederate armies marching

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<sup>42</sup> Wayland, *A History of Rockingham County*, pp. 123-127.

down the Valley approached Washington and Baltimore, while moving the Union armies up the Valley and farther away from Richmond. The Blue Ridge served as a natural screen for the movement of troops. By defending the gaps with cavalry, Confederate armies could move swiftly north behind the protective wall of the Blue Ridge into Maryland and Pennsylvania.<sup>43</sup>

Civil War action in Rockingham County included two battles and five engagements: Battle of Cross Keys, Battle of Port Republic, the five engagements at Harrisonburg, Bridgewater, Mount Crawford, and Brock's Gap, and Lacey Spring. The first two battles, along with the engagement at Harrisonburg, were associated with Major General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson's Valley Campaign, which occurred between March and June of 1862. The four other engagements were the result of Major General Philip H. Sheridan's Valley Campaign between August 1864 and March 1865. Furthermore, there were numerous smaller actions throughout the county during the years of the war.

In the prewar militia system, which dated back to before the Revolution, all able-bodied men were listed on the county muster rolls. They were required to attend periodic meetings to drill and had to be ready to serve at a moment's notice in case of emergency. Non-attendance at the musters resulted in the levy of a small fine that Mennonites and Dunkards [Tunkers] were more than willing to pay. Company captains knew that to avoid doing something that was against their churches' teachings, these peace-loving people would always oppose the bearing of arms.<sup>44</sup> Also strongly opposed to slavery, the Mennonites and Dunkards made up a considerable portion of the populations of Rockingham, Shenandoah, and Page Counties in the Valley. With the onset of the Civil War, however, the paying of muster fines was not acceptable by law, as the militia units became the nucleus of the Confederacy in Virginia. Thus, many pacifists were forced to join the fight. Delegate John T. Harris and "Stonewall" Jackson, both from the Valley, were sympathetic, offering them noncombatant positions when possible. Harris was instrumental in passing legislative relief, passed on March 29, 1862, exempting anyone who did not wish to serve in the army because of religious convictions for a fee of \$500 plus two percent of the assessed value of their property.<sup>45</sup>

### *Shenandoah Valley Campaign of 1862*

Following his success at the First Battle of Manassas on July 21, 1861, Major General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson took command of the Confederate forces guarding the Shenandoah Valley in November 1861. As recounted in *Echoes of Glory: Illustrated Atlas of the Civil War*, Jackson "waged a dazzling war of movement, outthinking and

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<sup>43</sup> "Valley Campaigns, 1861-1865," *Study of Civil War Sites in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia*, produced under public law 101-628, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, September 1992. It is located at <http://www2.cr.nps.gov/abpp/shenandoah/svs2-4.html>. (downloaded January, 2000), pp. 1-2.

<sup>44</sup> John L. Heatwole, *The Burning: Sheridan's Devastation of the Shenandoah Valley*, (Charlottesville, VA: Rockbridge Publishing, 1998), p. 3.

<sup>45</sup> Heatwole, pp. 3-4.

defeating no fewer than three Federal commands sent to destroy his army, which at its largest numbered only 17,000 men. In a string of battles, he saved the grain-rich Shenandoah [Valley] for the Confederacy. By posing a threat to Washington, he drew off thousands of Federal troops that would otherwise have strengthened George McClellan's march on Richmond, the main Union effort in the spring of 1862. The Valley campaign was a superb strategic diversion—and it instilled a lasting fear of the combative Jackson in the hearts of Federal commanders.<sup>46</sup>

By March 1862, as a Federal force under Major General Nathaniel Banks began to advance up the Valley, Jackson retreated to Mount Jackson where he could defend the Valley Turnpike.<sup>47</sup> The “Study of Civil War Sites in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia,” produced by the National Park Service, explains Jackson's task was to:

...prevent deep penetration into the Valley and to tie down as many opposing forces as possible. When he learned that Banks was ready to detach part of his force to assist the Army of the Potomac, then being concentrated on the Peninsula to threaten Richmond, Jackson marched down the [Valley] Turnpike and fought the Battle of Kernstown [in Frederick County] on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Although defeated, Jackson's aggressive move convinced Washington that Confederate forces in the Valley posed a real threat to Washington, and Major General George B. McClellan, with his army preparing to move on Richmond, was denied reinforcements at a critical moment in the Peninsula Campaign.

In late April, Jackson left part of his enlarged command under Major General Richard S. Ewell to confront Banks and marched with about 9,000 men through Staunton to meet a second Union army under Major General John C. Fremont, whose vanguard approached on the Parkersburg Road from western Virginia. Banks was convinced that Jackson was leaving the Valley to join the Confederate army at Richmond. But on May 8<sup>th</sup>, Jackson turned up to defeat two brigades of Fremont's force, under Brigadier General Robert Milroy and Robert Schenck, at [the Battle of] McDowell [in Highland County, WV]. He then marched swiftly back to unite with Ewell against Banks. On May 23<sup>rd</sup>, Jackson overran a detached Union force at [the Battle of] Front Royal [Warren County] and advanced toward Winchester, threatening to cut off the Union army that was concentrated around Strasburg. After a running battle on the 24<sup>th</sup> along the Valley Turnpike from Middletown to Newtown, Banks made a stand on the heights south of Winchester. On May 25<sup>th</sup>, Jackson attacked and overwhelmed the Union defenders, who broke and fled in a panic to the Potomac River. Banks was reinforced and again started up the Valley

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<sup>46</sup> Henry Woodhead, editor, *Echoes of Glory: Illustrated Atlas of The Civil War*, (Alexandria, VA: Time-Life Books, 1998), p. 34.

<sup>47</sup> Mount Jackson is located twenty-five miles north of Harrisonburg.

Turnpike, intending to link up with Brigadier General James Shields' Union division near Strasburg. Shields' division spearheaded the march of Irwin McDowell's corps recalled from Fredericksburg, while Fremont's army converged on Strasburg from the west. Jackson withdrew, narrowly avoiding being cut off from his line of retreat by these converging columns.<sup>48</sup>

#### Battle [Engagement] of Harrisonburg (June 6, 1862)

The Union armies now began a two-prong offensive against Jackson. Fremont's troops advanced up the Valley Turnpike while Shields' column marched up the Luray Road along the South Fork. At this point nearly 25,000 men were being brought to bear on Jackson's 17,000," who were marching to Cross Keys and Port Republic nine and twelve miles away, respectively.<sup>49</sup> The engagement took place on June 6, 1862 about one-and-a-half miles southeast of the town of Harrisonburg, on a small wooded rise known as Chestnut Ridge. Jackson's Seventh Virginia Cavalry, believing Fremont and Shields had been neutralized, were attacked while at rest. Consequently, for the third time in less than a week a Virginia cavalry regiment fled for its life, but once again, at the critical moment, there appeared [Brigadier General Turner] Ashby."<sup>50</sup> Ashby, Jackson's cavalry commander, engaged the Second and Sixth Virginia Cavalry. Despite the initial surprise, panic and chaos, the Seventh Virginia lost not a single man in the affair. Incredibly, the Confederates altogether suffered but one man wounded, Major J.S. Green of the Sixth Virginia. On the other hand, the fight had thoroughly humiliated the Federals. They lost thirty-six killed and wounded and sixty-four captured."<sup>51</sup> After this initial action, Confederate infantry troops marched about four miles outside of Harrisonburg, preparing for a counterattack. The troops moved through the woodlands, expecting to surprise the Union troops. However, the quiet sounds of the forest erupted into the unmistakable crash of a large volley from up ahead, and the Marylanders [First Maryland under Colonel Bradley Johnson] then saw dozens from the Fifty-eighth Virginia, which had advanced to their right-front, come running back through the trees toward their line. The Yankees had obviously pulled off a surprise," with only a portion of the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Reserves, known as the Bucktails.<sup>52</sup> Having lost his borrowed mount to a bullet, Ashby called for the men to cease firing and use the bayonet, "Charge men, for God's sake Charge!" He advanced about ten paces, then a bullet struck him...."<sup>53</sup>

The Battle of Harrisonburg ended as the Union forces were held in check, having lost forty men killed or wounded. The Confederate troops lost about 77 men killed or

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<sup>48</sup> "Valley Campaigns, 1861-1865," pp. 1-2.

<sup>49</sup> "Valley Campaigns, 1861-1865," p. 2.

<sup>50</sup> Darrell L. Collins, *The Battles of Cross Keys and Port Republic*, (Lynchburg, VA: H.E. Howard, Inc., 1993), p. 20.

<sup>51</sup> Collins, p. 21.

<sup>52</sup> Collins, p. 22.

<sup>53</sup> Collins, p. 23.

wounded, including the gallant Turner Ashby. As recounted in *Jackson's Valley Campaign: the Battles of Cross Keys and Port Republic*:

...twenty-four days and some three hundred miles ago Jackson had pulled away from Franklin and begun with Ashby and the rest of the Valley Army the journey that had now brought them to the vicinity of Port Republic. Distant some twelve miles southeast of Harrisonburg, Port Republic, a small village with perhaps fifty buildings and no significant industry, lay on a peninsula formed by the North River flowing from the northeast and the South River from the southwest, the two streams merging at the north end of town to form the South Fork of the Shenandoah River. The North and South rivers were usually fordable, but the recent heavy rains had rendered the former impossible and the latter very risky. The road from Harrisonburg crossed the North River on the span so coveted by both Jackson and Shields, while the South River could still be crossed, but now with some difficulty, at either an "upper" or "lower" ford on the east side of town. Another road led southwest from the village to Staunton and northeast to Luray. The surrounding countryside was rolling, but north of town lay a narrow plain that quickly gave way to heavily wooded hills rising gradually to the east to become spurs of the Blue Ridge. A long, high ridge just west of the South Fork commanded the plain. Less than ten miles in Jackson's rear stood Brown's Gap and a safe retreat should anything go wrong.<sup>54</sup>

With Jackson no longer in retreat, Fremont decided that he would go on the offensive the following day.

Jackson realized that to avoid the risk of fighting both Union commanders simultaneously he must seize the initiative and deal first with one and then, possibly, the other. Because the heights west of the South Fork commanded the narrow plain east of that stream, their retention dictated that he deal with Fremont first. Fortunately, while Shields' advance units were...fifteen miles [away] at Conrad's Store, Fremont at Harrisonburg was only twelve miles away—a distance Jackson sought to reduce even further by posting Ewell's division at Cross Keys, four miles northwest of Port Republic.<sup>55</sup>

The division of General Shields, about 10,000 strong, had advanced south from Front Royal in the Luray Valley, but was badly strung out because of the muddy Luray Road. At Port Republic, Jackson possessed the last intact bridge on the North River and the fords on the South River by which Fremont and Shields could unite.

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<sup>54</sup> Collins, p. 26.

<sup>55</sup> Collins, p. 28.

### Battle of Cross Keys (June 8, 1862)

At the onset of darkness on June 7<sup>th</sup>, Fremont's advance guard encountered Jackson's pickets near Cross Keys Tavern (082-0030). A few shots were fired and the U.S. cavalry fell back. Shortly after dawn the following day (June 8<sup>th</sup>), Colonel Samuel Carroll scattered pickets in an effort to secure the North River Bridge at Port Republic for Shields. Carroll forded the South River, and moved into Port Republic. In response, Jackson and his men:

...raced down the main street from headquarters and across the bridge, narrowly eluding capture. Carroll deployed one gun aimed at the bridge and brought up another. Jackson directed the defense, ordering Poague's battery to unlimber on the north bank. Carrington brought up a gun from the vicinity of Madison Hall to rake Main Street. The 37<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry charged across the bridge to drive the U.S. cavalry out of the town. Carroll retreated in confusion, losing his two guns, before his infantry could come within range. Three Confederate batteries unlimbered on the bluffs east of Port Republic on the north bank of the South Fork and fired on the retreating Federals. Carroll retired several miles north on Luray Road. Jackson stationed Taliaferro's brigade in Port Republic and positioned the Stonewall Brigade near Bogota (082-0029 at 5375 Lynnwood Road) with the artillery to prevent any further surprises.<sup>56</sup>

Meanwhile, Fremont renewed his advance from the vicinity of Harrisonburg, with Colonel Gustave P. Cluseret in the lead:

After driving away the Confederate skirmishers, Cluseret reached and deployed his right flank along the Keezletown Road near Union Church. One by one, the U.S. brigades came into line: Schenck on Cluseret's right, Milroy on his left, and Stahel on the far left, his left flank near Congers Creek. Bohlen's and Koltes' brigades were held in reserve near the center of the line. A regiment of U.S. cavalry moved south on the road to secure the right flank. Batteries were brought to the front.<sup>57</sup>

General Ewell deployed his Confederate infantry division behind Mill Creek, while Trimble's brigade was on the right across Port Republic Road, and Elzey's was in the center along the high bluffs. Ewell concentrated his artillery, consisting of four batteries, at the center of the line. As the Federal troops deployed along Keezletown Road, Trimble advanced a quarter of a mile to Victory Hill and deployed Courtney's battery to a hill to his left supported by the 21<sup>st</sup> North Carolina Regiment. The 15<sup>th</sup> Alabama, which

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<sup>56</sup> -Valley Campaign, 1861-1865: Cross Keys, June 8, 1862,"  
<http://www2.cr.nps.gov/abpp/shenandoah/svs3-5.html>, page 3.

<sup>57</sup> -Valley Campaign, 1861-1865: Cross Keys, June 8, 1862," page 3.

had been skirmishing near Union Church, rejoined the brigade, as Trimble held his regiments out of sight.<sup>58</sup>

...Fremont determined to advance his battle line with the evident intention of developing the Confederate position, assumed to be behind Mill Creek. This maneuver required an elaborate right wheel. Stahel's brigade on the far left had the farthest distance to cover and advanced first. Milroy moved forward on Stahel's right and rear. U.S. batteries were advanced with infantry lines south of Keezletown Road and engaged the Confederate batteries. Stahel appeared oblivious to Trimble's advanced position. His battle line passed down into the valley, crossed the run, and began climbing Victory Hill. At a distance of "sixty paces," Trimble's infantry stood up and delivered a devastating volley [into the 8<sup>th</sup> New York. Only the 8<sup>th</sup> New York] recoiled in confusion with heavy casualties. The Union brigades regrouped on the height opposite Victory Hill, but made no effort to renew their assault.<sup>59</sup>

Stahel did not renew his attack but brought up a battery (Buell's) to support his position. Trimble moved the 15<sup>th</sup> Alabama by the right flank and up a ravine to get on the battery's left. In the meantime, Ewell sent two regiments (13<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> Virginias) along the ridge to Trimble's right, attracting a severe fire from the Union battery. With a shout, the 5<sup>th</sup> Alabama emerged from their ravine and began to climb the hill toward the battery, precipitating a melee. Trimble advanced his other two regiments (16<sup>th</sup> Mississippi and 21<sup>st</sup> Georgia) from their position on Victory Hill, forcing back the Union line. The Federal battery limbered hastily and withdrew, saving its guns. A U.S. regiment counter-attacked briefly striking the left flank of the 16<sup>th</sup> Mississippi but was forced back in desperate fighting.<sup>60</sup>

Trimble continued advancing up the ravine on the Confederate right, outflanking successive Union positions. In the meantime, Milroy advanced on Stahel's right supported by artillery. Milroy's line came within rifle musket range of the Confederate center behind Mill Creek and opened fire. Union batteries continued to engage the Southern batteries in an artillery duel. Bohlen advanced on the far left to stiffen Stahel's crumbling defense. Milroy's left flank was endangered by Stahel's retreat, and Fremont ordered him to withdraw. Jackson brought Taylor's brigade forward to support Ewell if needed, but Taylor remained in reserve on Port Republic Road near the Dunker Church.<sup>61</sup>

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<sup>58</sup> "Valley Campaign, 1861-1865: Cross Keys, June 8, 1862," page 3.

<sup>59</sup> "Valley Campaign, 1861-1865: Cross Keys, June 8, 1862," page 3.

<sup>60</sup> "Valley Campaign, 1861-1865: Cross Keys, June 8, 1862," page 3.

<sup>61</sup> "Valley Campaign, 1861-1865: Cross Keys, June 8, 1862," page 3.



Seemingly paralyzed by the decimation of [the 8<sup>th</sup> New York] on his left, Fremont was unable to mount a coordinated attack. He ordered Schenck's brigade forward to find the Confederate left flank south of Union Church. Ewell reinforced his left with elements of Elzey's brigade. Severe fighting erupted along the line, but quickly died down. Southern brigadier generals Elzey and Steuart were wounded in this exchange. Fremont withdrew his force to Keezletown Road, placing his artillery on the heights to his rear on Oak Ridge. Artillery firing continued. At dusk, Trimble pushed his battle line forward to within a quarter mile of the Federal position, anticipating a night assault.... Ewell ordered Trimble to withdraw without making the attack.<sup>62</sup>

RMT map of cross keys battlefield or page 70 in Collins

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<sup>62</sup> –Valley Campaign, 1861-1865: Cross Keys, June 8, 1862,” page 3.

The Battle of Cross Keys, stretching over 5,400 acres, engaged 11,500 Federal troops and 5,800 Confederate troops in a single day of fighting. The Union lost 664 men (114 killed/443 wounded/127 missing), while the South lost 287 men (42 killed/230 wounded/15 missing).<sup>63</sup> This Confederate victory, engaging two separate armies, shattered a larger Federal force and stalled Fremont's attack.

#### Battle of Port Republic (June 9, 1862)

During the night, the Stonewall Brigade had withdrawn from its forward position near Bogota and rejoined Jackson at Port Republic. The brigade was assigned to spearhead the assault against Federal forces south of South River. Trimble's brigade and elements of Patton's were left to delay Fremont's forces at Cross Keys, while the rest of Ewell's division marched to Port Republic to be in position to support the attack.

...Brigadier General E.B. Tyler's brigade joined Colonel Samuel Carroll's brigade north of Lewiston on the Luray Road. The rest of Shields' division was strung out along the muddy roads back to Luray. General Tyler, in command on the field, advanced at dawn on June 9<sup>th</sup> to the vicinity of Lewiston. He anchored the left of his line on a battery positioned on the Lewiston Coaling, extending his infantry west along Lewiston Lane (present day Route 708) to the South Fork near the site of Lewis' Mill. The right and center were supported by artillery, with sixteen guns in all. <sup>64</sup>

#### Map of port republic battle

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<sup>63</sup> -Valley Campaign, 1861-1865: Cross Keys, June 8, 1862," page 1; Collins indicates the Union engaged 10,500, losing 684 men and the South had 3,500 men, with 288 killed, p. 82.

<sup>64</sup> -Valley Campaign, 1861-1865: Cross Keys, June 8, 1862," pp. 1 and 2.

The Coaling, which was the key to the battle yet to come, was a charcoal manufacturing operation set up on a hill at the base of the Blue Ridge Mountains.<sup>65</sup> Under Brigadier General Charles Winder, the Stonewall Brigade:

...crossed the river at [five in the morning] and deployed to attack east across the bottomland. Winder sent two regiments (2<sup>nd</sup> Virginia and 4<sup>th</sup> Virginia) into the woods to flank the Federal line and assault the Coaling. When the main Confederate battle line advanced, it came under heavy fire from the Federal artillery and was soon pinned down. Southern batteries were brought forward on the plain but were outgunned and forced to seek safer positions. Ewell's brigades were hurried forward to cross the river. Seeing the strength of the Federal artillery at the Coaling, Jackson sent Taylor's brigade to the right into the woods to support the flanking column that was attempting to advance through the thick underbrush.<sup>66</sup>

Winder's brigade renewed its assault on the Union right and center, taking heavy casualties. General Tyler moved two regiments from the Coaling to his right and launched a counterattack, driving Southern forces back nearly half a mile. While this was occurring, the first Confederate regiments probed the defenses of the Coaling, but were repulsed. Finding resistance more fierce than anticipated, Jackson ordered the last of Ewell's forces still north of Port Republic to cross the rivers and burn the North Fork bridge. These reinforcements began to reach Winder, strengthening his line and stopping the Northern counterattack. Taylor's brigade reached a position in the woods across from the Coaling and launched a fierce attack, which carried the hill, capturing five guns. Tyler immediately responded with a counterattack, using his reserves. These regiments, in hand-to-hand fighting, retook the position. Taylor shifted a regiment to the far right to outflank the Northern battle line. The Southern attack again surged forward to capture the Coaling, [and was driven off again. In a third assault, supported by Ewell, the hill was taken]. Five captured guns were turned against the rest of the Union line. With the loss of the Coaling, the Federal position along Lewiston Lane became untenable, and Tyler ordered a withdrawal about 10:30 am. Jackson ordered a general advance.<sup>67</sup>

Fresh troops, under Brigadier General William Taliaferro, arrived from Port Republic and pressed the retreating Federals for several miles north along the Luray Road, taking several hundred prisoners. The Confederate army was left in possession of the field. Shortly after noon, Fremont's army began to deploy on the north bank of the South Fork, too late to aid Tyler's defeated command," yet stationed artillery on the high bluffs to

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<sup>65</sup> The Coaling is located just northeast of the present intersections of U.S. 340 and Route 708.

<sup>66</sup> "Valley Campaign, 1861-1865: Cross Keys, June 8, 1862," page 2.

<sup>67</sup> "Valley Campaign, 1861-1865: Cross Keys, June 8, 1862," page 2.

harass the Southern forces. Jackson gradually withdrew along a narrow road through the woods and concentrated his army in the Vicinity of Mount Vernon Furnace. Jackson expected Fremont to cross the river and attack him on the following day (June 10<sup>th</sup>), but during the night Fremont withdrew toward Harrisonburg.”<sup>68</sup>

The Battle of Port Republic on June 9, 1862 was a fierce contest between two equally determined foes and was the most costly battle fought by the Army of the Valley during its campaign. The Union fielded about 3,500 soldiers to Jackson’s 6,000 over nearly 5,000 acres of battlefield. The Federal army lost 1,002 (67 killed/361 wounded/574 missing or captured) and the Southern army lost 816 (88 killed/535 wounded/34 missing). At its conclusion, Union forces withdrew down the Valley, freeing Jackson’s command to go to aid General Robert E. Lee in the Seven Days’ Battles against Major General George McClellan’s army. A Confederate victory, the Battle of Port Republic was the last battle of Jackson’s five-week Valley Campaign.<sup>69</sup> Jackson’s Valley Campaign had tied up Union forces three times his strength, infusing new hope and enthusiasm for the Confederate cause, and materially contributing to the defeat of McClellan’s campaign against Richmond.<sup>70</sup>

Although the fighting had moved southward to Richmond, to the Second Battle of Manassas, and then progressing north into Maryland, the residents of Rockingham County continued to be affected by the war and its far-reaching devastation, unaware the worst was yet to come. In 1860, a total of 2,387 slaves lived in Rockingham County, however, in just three years, this number had been reduced to 2,039 as slaves had run away or been given their freedom. Furthermore, the number of horses was reduced from 7,670 to 6,656, and the number of cattle went from 21,4113 to 14,739 as the military forces confiscated necessary supplies.<sup>71</sup>

Soldiers familiar with farming remarked upon the productivity of the region, which was termed the “Breadbasket of the Confederacy.” As recounted in *The Burning: Sheridan’s Devastation of the Shenandoah Valley* by John L. Heatwole, “one infantryman later recalled that “the wheatfields were large, well fenced with rails, and worked with modern machinery.... In the rich pasture-fields were large herds of cattle, hogs, and sheep.” Colonel George Wells, commanding one of General George Crook’s Army of West Virginia brigades, called the Shenandoah “the loveliest valley in the world.”<sup>72</sup> Heatwole clearly explains that “it was the very productivity of the Valley that eventually led to its burnt landscape.”<sup>73</sup>

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<sup>68</sup> “Valley Campaign, 1861-1865: Cross Keys, June 8, 1862,” page 2.

<sup>69</sup> “Valley Campaign, 1861-1865: Cross Keys, June 8, 1862,” page 1.

<sup>70</sup> “Valley Campaigns, 1861-1865: Cross Keys, June 8, 1862,” p. 2.

<sup>71</sup> Wayland, *A History of Rockingham County*, p. 148.

<sup>72</sup> Heatwole, p. 2.

<sup>73</sup> Heatwole, p. 2.

### *Shenandoah Valley Campaign of 1864*

By 1864, the Confederate's three-year hold on the Valley was in peril. It was necessary for the South to maintain this region, with its agriculture, livestock, and access to the Virginia Central Railroad and the Virginia & Tennessee Railroad. The Union threat began early in May 1864, when General Robert E. Lee learned that two Federal armies were moving into the Valley—one from the west, by way of Dublin, and another from the northern, or lower, end of the Valley at Martinsburg, West Virginia. The impending Valley Campaign of 1864 was not to be confined to the Shenandoah, however. It would begin in the remote valleys of the Alleghenies to the west and along the banks of the New River far to the south; it would reach Lynchburg in June and spread to the outskirts of Washington, D.C. in July.<sup>74</sup>

In June 1864, the county court records were removed from the courthouse for safekeeping. The wagons carrying the records were captured by the Federal troops, who set fire to them. Mary Keezel was successful in extinguishing the flames, saving some of the records.

General Ulysses S. Grant sent Major General Philip H. Sheridan to command the Army of the Shenandoah and to recapture the Valley and crush Major General Jubal Early's army in August 1864. One of Sheridan's greatest tasks upon gaining control of the Valley was to destroy it. Grant order Sheridan to ~~give~~ the enemy no rest, and if it is possible to follow the Virginia Central [rail]road, follow that far [to Charlottesville]. Do all the damage to railroads and crops you can. Carry off stock of all descriptions, and negroes, so as to prevent further planting. If the war is to last another year, we want the Shenandoah Valley to remain a barren waste."<sup>75</sup> Accordingly, in neighboring Clarke and Frederick Counties, Sheridan ordered the seizure of ~~all~~ mules, horses, and cattle that may be useful to our army. Loyal citizens can bring in their claims against the Government for this necessary destruction. No houses will be burned, and officers in charge of this delicate, but necessary, duty must inform the people that the object is to make this Valley untenable for the raiding parties of the rebel army." As stated by Heatwole, ~~this~~ action was contained and not general, as it was meant to be a warning to the residents not to support or harbor raiders."<sup>76</sup> Furthermore, as the campaign continued, Sheridan ordered that all guerillas and bushwhackers [be] put to death when captured, and anyone in civilian clothes caught with a weapon in his hands was to be shot.<sup>77</sup>

Sheridan's full-scale attacks on Early began with the Third Battle of Winchester (also known as Opequon) in Frederick County on September 19, 1864. The two met again at the Battle of Fisher's Hill in Shenandoah County on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. Sheridan continued

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<sup>74</sup> Thomas A. Lewis, *The Shenandoah in Flames: The Valley Campaign of 1864*, (Alexandria, VA: Time-Life Books, 1987), p. 19.

<sup>75</sup> Heatwole, p. 31.

<sup>76</sup> Heatwole, p. 15.

<sup>77</sup> Heatwole, p. 18.

his pursuit of the Confederates, who were scattered and moving quickly to a strong defensive position in Brown's Gap in southeastern Rockingham County. Prior to the Union appearance in Harrisonburg, residents prepared by hiding wheat, hay, food, and all personnel items. The cavalry arrived on September 25, 1864. Heatwole describes the situation:

...as Sheridan settled into his headquarters, his infantry camps spread over the hills surrounding the town, from which they made daily forays into the countryside to gather livestock. Some units bivouacked along the Valley Pike for several miles south of town, while others went into camps to the west and south, along the Warm Springs Turnpike. A Vermont soldier wrote to his local newspaper: "We are lying quietly here near the village of Harrisonburg—a pretty place once, containing some fifteen hundred inhabitants, but now, like almost all of these Southern cities and villages, bearing abundant evidence of the paralyzing effect of war. The camps are spread out on both sides of the city, enlarging its borders and making it tenfold more populous for the tented suburbs annexed."<sup>78</sup>

The XIX and VI Corps settled into camps in south central Rockingham County, mostly around the town of Mount Crawford. "The houses of the town hugged both sides of the Valley Pike, the western side of the settlement framed by a bend of the North River. To the south and east were small farmsteads scattered among rolling hills."<sup>79</sup>

Sheridan was ordered to press on from his success at Fisher's Hill, push Early's crippled force out of the way, cross the Blue Ridge and destroy the rail center at Charlottesville, then go even farther if he could and wreck the James River Canal at Lynchburg.<sup>80</sup> The destruction of crops, barns, mills, and businesses that would be of use to the Confederates engaged the Federal forces of Sheridan and his men, weakening their ability to force the gaps in the Blue Ridge and descend on Charlottesville as ordered. Thus, Sheridan would have had to cross the area just burned and barren of supplies. He wrote Henry Halleck on October 1<sup>st</sup>, "all the crops, mills, etc., have been destroyed from Staunton to Mount Crawford, which is my present front."<sup>81</sup>

The forces of cavalry commander General Alfred Tolbert in Augusta County and Brigadier General Wesley Merritt in Rockingham County were to begin the journey toward Charlottesville. Merritt was commanding all of the horsemen in Rockingham County, while in Augusta County, Tolbert was responsible for the activities of the cavalry detachments assigned to the rear guard, picket duty along the nearby rivers, gap watching, stock herding, scouting, and destruction of all materials that might benefit the enemy. With brigades at Cross Keys and Port Republic, Merritt clashed with

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<sup>78</sup> Heatwole, p. 25.

<sup>79</sup> Heatwole, p. 26.

<sup>80</sup> Heatwole, p. 31.

<sup>81</sup> Heatwole, p. 52.

Confederate cavalry daily. The destruction under the direction of Merritt included such examples as William Downs' and William Kite's tanneries, mills along the South Fork of the Shenandoah River, the McGahey sword workshop, and many agricultural outbuildings on the farms in McGaheysville, Keezletown, Port Republic, Cross Keys, Conrad's Store, and the bluffs known as New Haven. The barns of ministers, widows, and persons willing to barter or plead with the Federal troops were sometimes spared destruction, as were those empty of foodstuff. Such was the case when the Northern troops arrived at the Lewis family mill about a mile and a half below Port Republic. Superintendent of the Mount Vernon Furnace, John F. Lewis had emptied the mill of all grains and milling equipment. Thus, the mill was spared. The furnace, however, did not fare as well, and was damaged beyond repair.

Sheridan estimated that ~~what~~ we have destroyed and can destroy in this Valley is worth millions of dollars to the rebel government."<sup>82</sup> Merritt was sent by early October to the Valley Pike, leaving Colonel William Henry Powell to continue the ravaging from Port Republic to Luray in Page County, and to cross into Warren County to secure the railroad at Front Royal.

Notable engagements in Rockingham County included cavalry actions on October 2<sup>nd</sup> in Bridgewater and Mount Crawford, and on October 6<sup>th</sup> in Brock's Gap. During another skirmish on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, Lieutenant John Rodgers Meigs, Sheridan's topographical engineer and son of the quartermaster general of the Union Army, was killed. In retaliation for what he thought was a bushwhacking, Sheridan ordered every house within a three-mile radius of Dayton burned to the ground. ~~The~~ "Burnt District" extended from Harrisonburg northwest along Rawley Springs Turnpike, and southwest to Dry River just before Mole Hill, southwest to North River, then southeast to the Valley Pike. Fortunately for the residents of Dayton, Sheridan was ultimately persuaded to rescind the order to burn the town, although the direction to destroy the outlying area held. By October 7<sup>th</sup>, the soldiers had left Rockingham County and turned their destruction on Page County and Shenandoah County.

### Burnt District Map

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<sup>82</sup> Heatwole, p. 77.

Rockingham County officials immediately tallied the destruction in their jurisdiction:

Dwellings burned:	30
Barns burned:	450
Mills burned:	31
Fencing destroyed in miles:	100
Bushels of wheat destroyed:	100,000
Bushels of corn destroyed:	50,000
Tons of hay destroyed:	6,232
Cattle carried off:	1,750
Horses carried off:	1,750
Sheep carried off:	4,200
Hogs carried off:	3,350
Factories burned:	3
Furnace burned:	1 <sup>83</sup>

Although the burning of the Valley in other areas had ended by November 1864, engagements continued. The engagement of Lacey Spring occurred just before daylight on December 21<sup>st</sup>. Brigadier General George A. Custer's division, consisting of 3,000 cavalry, was surprised by a small cavalry force under Major General Thomas L. Rosser and Colonel William H. Payne, who were approaching from the west. Consequently, the surprised Custer moved out of the area by way of the Valley Turnpike.

The destruction of the Valley in 1864 rendered the region unsupportive for a Confederate force to subsist off the land. As recounted by John L. Heatwole, "the flow of supplies to Lee's army would necessarily be reduced from a bountiful flood to a miserable trickle. And the Union troops in the field, exhilarated by their telling victories over the Confederates in the Valley, who were once perceived as invincible, could see the end of the war in sight."<sup>84</sup> In a letter to his wife, Daniel Snyder of the Eleventh Virginia Cavalry describes the ruin in the Rockingham County area, "...complete destruction as far as the necessary supplies to subsist man or beast are concerned. You recollect the many fine barns, mills, etc. that met the eye on your way through it last winter. Nothing remains now but a pile of ashes and rubbish to mark the spot."<sup>85</sup>

With the Confederate threat in the Valley eliminated, Sheridan led his cavalry overland to Petersburg to participate in the final campaign of the war in Virginia.

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<sup>83</sup> Heatwole, p. 192.

<sup>84</sup> Heatwole, p. 221.

<sup>85</sup> Heatwole, p. 221.



## Reconstruction and Growth (1866-1917)

Despite the devastating destruction, the Valley recovered more rapidly from the war than any other region of Virginia. This was largely due to the fertility of the soil, and the limited slave labor traditionally employed to cultivate it. The repair, rebuilding and replacement of the many destroyed houses, barns, fencing, and mills became the primary objective of the residents. Between the war's end and 1868, nearly five hundred residences were erected countywide, in addition to at least 150 barns and twenty gristmills.<sup>86</sup> In addition, two iron foundries were operating in Port Republic by April 1866. Retold by John W. Wayland, the Valley's remarkable progress was narrated in the *Rockingham Register*:

The remarkable display of energy by the people of the Valley, since the close of the war, is the most forcible commentary that could be given of their character. Without a currency, almost destitute of money, their fields laid waste, barns and other farm houses destroyed, stock stolen and driven off, no surplus supplies on hand, and their labor system broken up, yet they have managed to rebuild their fences and barns, repair their premises generally, and [make] progress in improvements heretofore not enjoyed. Throughout the entire Valley stream saw-mills dot almost every neighborhood, factories, and foundries are being built, and the slow and imperfect implements of agricultural husbandry heretofore used supplanted by the most improved labor-saving machinery.

...At Mount Crawford, a large Wollen Factory is in process of construction; also, an Earthen Ware establishment. In Harrisonburg, Messrs. Bradley & Co. have in successful operation their Foundry, and will shortly commence erecting a much larger one, on ground recently purchased for that purpose near the old buildings. At Port Republic and McGaheysville, the spirit of enterprise is fully awakened, factories, foundries and mills being put into operation as rapidly as the workmen can complete their contracts. Carding mills are, also, multiplying throughout the county, and many other improvements are being inaugurated, which we have not space to enumerate.<sup>87</sup>

From 1866 to 1872, no less than five bridges had been reconstructed or erected by John Woods, a prominent bridge builder of Shenandoah County. Furthermore, the Orange, Alexandria, and Manassas Railroad was extended to Harrisonburg by the end of 1868, providing the first mode of railroad transportation into the area. This spurred the construction of additional railroad lines that soon traversed the county. The Virginia Improvement Company, chartered in 1873, was instrumental in building the North River Railroad, which led to the late-19<sup>th</sup>-century growth of Bridgewater. In 1873, work began

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<sup>86</sup> Hess, p. 245.

<sup>87</sup> Wayland, *A History of Rockingham County*, pp. 157-158.

on the Washington, Cincinnati & St. Louis Railroad, a narrow gauge railroad surveyed to the west of Bridgewater. The following year, the Valley Railroad was extended to Staunton from Harrisonburg. Soon, Rockingham County, and the entire Valley, was growing in terms of commerce, trade, settlement, and ultimately, migration westward. Additionally, tourism progressed in the Valley as hotels, resorts, and religious camps were served by the new railroad lines. The hotels and resorts were, for the most part, already established prior to the Civil War. The new railroad lines made them easier to get to – Rawley Springs could now be reached after a short coach ride from the Harrisonburg train station.

The United States Census recorded in 1870 that Rockingham County was home to 23,668 people, an increase of 260 from 1860. The increase in residents is striking considering the loss of soldiers and casualties from the war and the flight of slaves. Interestingly, Harrisonburg doubled in size from 1,023 citizens in 1860 to 2,036 in 1870. This increase was the direct result of the railroad. Neighboring counties such as Page, Shenandoah, Augusta, and Frederick also increased in population during this ten-year period. Despite increased emigration to the West, the population of Rockingham County continued to rise, reaching 33,527 in 1900. This was a seven-percent increase over 1890. The number of white residents had steadily increased over the decades, while the number of African-American citizens decreased to just 2,632 by 1900. The majority of the foreign-born residents, reaching one hundred in 1900, had immigrated primarily from Germany and Ireland.<sup>88</sup>

In the early part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, no public schools had yet been established in Rockingham County. In an effort to remedy this common problem throughout the state, the Commonwealth of Virginia required in 1846 that the courts appoint a public school superintendent and commissioners, and by 1860, required that each county create no fewer than three public schools. The growth of the educational system, however, throughout the state during the middle part of the century was drastically affected by the pressures of the impending Civil War, and thus, Rockingham County did not act on either law until the 1870s. A number of private schools and institutions had been established, however, just prior to and during the war years. This included the Rockingham Male and Female Seminary in 1851, Pleasant Grove Academy in 1860, and the Cedar Grover Seminary in 1862. During the Reconstruction Period, the number of private schools increased to include the Female Institute, the Male Academy, the School for Children, the School for Young Ladies, and the Classical School. All of these schools were located in Harrisonburg, however. The less populated towns were served by the large school at Beaver Creek, directed by John H. Moore; Keezletown Academy, opened in 1867 by B.W. Hawkins; and the Classical School in Bridgewater that was created by W.S. Kennedy in 1868.

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<sup>88</sup> Report on the Social Census, Record Group 287, National Archives at College Park, Department of the Interior, Census Office, (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1870-1900).

In the fall of 1871, the Harrisonburg Grade School was organized under the new public school system. In March 1876, State Superintendent W.H. Ruffner visited Rockingham County to encourage the town council to erect a public school building. Construction of the school in Harrisonburg began in 1879, and was estimated to cost \$5,000 to complete. A.C. Kimler, who was a prominent teacher in River Bank and McGaheysville, undertook the countywide construction of public school facilities and the need for higher education. Accordingly, more schools were established under the public school system, including the two-room school in Mount Clinton that was expanded in 1890 to include a four-year high school. In addition, Bridgewater College (formerly the Spring Creek Academy) opened in 1880, and was chartered as a college in 1889.<sup>89</sup>

In July 1876, the county superintendent reported that the total school population in Rockingham County, age 5 to 21, was 9,815 enrolled. The students attended one of 157 schools for about five months of the year. The monthly salary of teachers was \$32. The school system owned and maintained just twenty-four of the school buildings, while the rest were leased. By 1889, due to an increase in the school population to 7,348 whites and 617 African-Americans, there were 203 schools for whites and sixteen for African Americans. The student body continued to increase with nearly 10,000 students enrolled by 1905.<sup>90</sup> In 1912, there were 142 school buildings, including eleven high schools, in the public school system.<sup>91</sup>

The increase in population also increased the number of active farms in the county. By 1880, there were 2,567 farms, the majority of which were between 100 and 500 acres. This number increased to 2,760 by 1890. As noted by the agricultural census, nearly all of the farms were cultivated by the owners, with less than three hundred rented for shares in the profits. The 1900 census records that the number of farms had reached 3,293, with the average stead just over 100 acres. Although managers and tenants maintained a number of the farms, owners cultivated the majority. Of these farms, nearly all were improved by houses collectively valued at nearly \$4,000,000. As noted before the war, Rockingham County ranked in the top five counties statewide in the cultivation of barley, wheat, corn, oats, rye, apples, cherries, peaches, and flax throughout the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Furthermore, the farms included poultry, beef cattle, eggs, and the production of milk, butter, and cheese.<sup>92</sup>

General manufacturing, a generic term inclusive of such industries as carpentry, mills, foundries, distilleries, and bakeries, recorded 169 such establishments in Rockingham County in 1880. The two iron establishments were valued collectively at \$50,000 despite not operating during the census year. A selective sampling of such industries in the county by the census recorders documented three agricultural plants, three fertilizer

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<sup>89</sup> Wayland, *A History of Rockingham County*, pp. 281-303.

<sup>90</sup> Wayland, *A History of Rockingham County*, p. 303.

<sup>91</sup> Report on the Social Census, Record Group 287, National Archives at College Park, Department of the Interior, Census Office, (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1870-1900).

<sup>92</sup> Report on the Agricultural Census, Record Group 287, National Archives at College Park, Department of the Interior, Census Office, (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1870-1900).

plants, fourteen tanneries, thirty-two flour and gristmills, and thirty-six lumber mills. By 1890, the number of establishments reporting reached 186, with a collective value nearly reaching \$1 million. Interestingly, despite the profound reduction in the production of tobacco, "Harrisonburg manufactured more cigars than any other town in Virginia, except Richmond" in 1888.<sup>93</sup>

The growth of the county necessitated the construction of a third county courthouse in 1874. Charlestown, WV architect Julius C. Holmes designed the imposing building, located in a rectangular lot of land at the center of town. A stone edifice, the fourth and final courthouse, replaced Holmes' brick building in 1896.<sup>94</sup> It was accompanied by a new jail. The services provided to the residents expanded to include free mail delivery service by May 1899. By 1912, there was a hospital, thirty-seven post offices, a weekly newspaper, about seventy miles of macadamized road, a dozen bridges, and twenty regular railroad stations along some eighty miles of track operated by four different companies. There were ten incorporated towns, several of which were illuminated by electric lights, and at least thirty towns connected by telephone systems.<sup>95</sup> The number of churches countywide had increased ten-fold with a nearly all denominations represented. This included Baptists, Christians, the Church of the Brethren, Church of Christ, Episcopalians, Jews, Lutherans, Mennonites (new and old), Methodists, Presbyterians, and United Brethren. The city directory documents that at least forty doctors and surgeons, fourteen dentists, six veterinary surgeons, and twenty-seven lawyers provided for the residents and their animals.<sup>96</sup>

The 1778 act forming Rockingham County also created Rockingham Parish (Episcopal), which as was traditionally the case, followed the same boundary lines. The late-19<sup>th</sup>-century growth of the county, however, justified division of the parish. Thus, in 1905, Lynwood Parish was formed by a resolution of the Council of the Diocese of Virginia. The new parish was described as bounded by Page County on the northeast, Greene and Albemarle Counties on the southeast, Augusta County to the southwest, and a straight line extending from Goode's Mills in Augusta County to Page County on the northwest.<sup>97</sup>

### Map of new parish lines

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<sup>93</sup> Hess, p. 67.

<sup>94</sup> Hess, pp. 230-231 suggests this was the fourth and fifth courthouses, rather than the third and fourth.

<sup>95</sup> Wayland, *A History of Rockingham County*, p. 182.

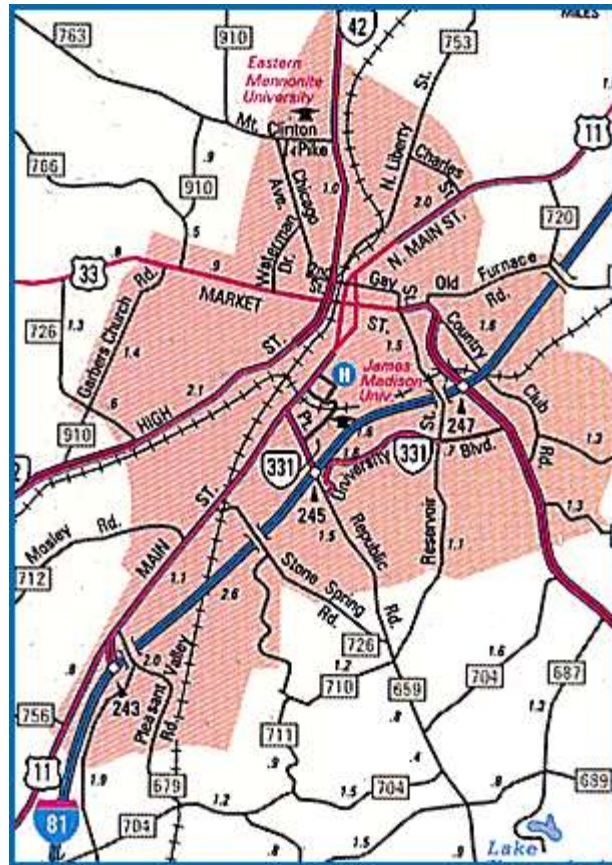
<sup>96</sup> Wayland, *A History of Rockingham County*, pp. 461-462.

<sup>97</sup> Coker, p. 239.

Established in 1780, Harrisonburg, the county seat of Rockingham County, had grown tremendously since its incorporation in 1849 as a town. A major annexation occurred in 1870, when 1,082 acres were added to the town, thereby increasing its land area size three-fold and resulting in a total population of approximately 2,000 persons. On March 11, 1916, the Town of Harrisonburg was incorporated as an independent city by court order under the general law because the population had reached over 5,000 people. Surrounded by farmland, the city was gateway to both the Shenandoah National Park and George Washington National Forest and christened the “Hub City” of the Shenandoah Valley.

### World War I to World War II (1918-1945)

Increased commercial, educational, and industrial opportunities in Virginia’s urban centers during the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century resulted in population shifts from rural areas to growing cities and towns.<sup>98</sup> Thus, the population of rural Rockingham County decreased between 1910 and 1930, but showed a slight increase by 1940. This was the greatest population decline in the history of the county since its founding in 1778, and was largely the result of the incorporation of Harrisonburg as an independent city. The



<sup>98</sup> Kalbian, p. 111.

number of citizens in the rural areas began to rise by the middle part of the century, reaching 35,079 by 1950. In contrast, within the two-mile-square city limits, the populace rose steadily with nearly 6,000 residents by 1920, and reached over 10,000 by 1950. Three small annexations in 1937, 1938, and 1950 added a combined 302 acres to the City of Harrisonburg.

The economy of Rockingham County continued to be centered around agriculture, a trend noted in neighboring counties as well. This included apples and peach orchards, corn, tomatoes, poultry and livestock, dairy, and eggs. In fact, with the emergence of the turkey by the 1920s as part of the holiday feast, the turkey industry in Rockingham County thrived. Accordingly, the county is known as the “Turkey Capital of the East,” leading in the production of over 750,000 turkeys annually by the 1950s.

Yet, Maral Kalbian wrote in *Frederick County, Virginia: History Through Architecture*, “. . . improved farming techniques and machinery led to a decrease in the labor required to farm, [and] many agricultural laborers were forced to look for other work.”<sup>99</sup> One such example was found in the many minerals formed deep in the earth. Mining, which had begun back in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, extracted rich deposits of coal, lime, onyx, and pig iron. Depletion of these resources forced many of the mines to be closed by the end of World War I, however, the quarrying of limestone continues. The Linville Lime Company, one of the largest industrial establishments in the county in the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, advertised that lime was “95 percent pure and was called the \_finest in the world.”<sup>100</sup>

In light of the beauty of the Blue Ridge Mountains, the Shenandoah Valley, and Rockingham County, the Shenandoah National Park was created. The formation of this 196,149-acre park was authorized in May 1926, although it was not fully established until December 26, 1935. President Franklin D. Roosevelt dedicated the Shenandoah National Park at Big Meadows in July 1936. This forty-mile range, described as “being on top of the world,” was glorified for its recreational opportunities.<sup>101</sup> The park has more than five hundred trails, including 101 miles of the Appalachian Trail, and Skyline Drive, a 105-mile road that winds along the crest of the mountains.

### **New Dominion (1946-present)**

By 1950, the population of Rockingham County had reached over 35,000, making it the most populated of the twelve Valley counties. The 1960 census recorded 40,485 county residents, while the City of Harrisonburg was home to 11,916 citizens. The towns of Bridgewater and Elkton, the largest communities in the county, had 1,815 and 1,506 residents, respectively. The towns of Broadway, Dayton, Grottoes, Timberville, and Mount Crawford were collectively home to just over three thousand persons. The

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<sup>99</sup> Kalbian, p. 111.

<sup>100</sup> Hess, p. 89.

<sup>101</sup> Hess, p. 108.

population of Rockingham County continued to rise, reaching 47,890 in 1970, and 52,054 by 1980. Bridgewater endured as the largest town, with nearly 4,000 residents by 1990. Interestingly, the northern town of Timberville exhibited the greatest population increase between 1960 (412 residents) and 1990 (1,596 citizens).

Despite the enduring rise in inhabitants during the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, just 289,118 acres of the 851-square-mile county was utilized as farmland by the third quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The average farm consisted of slightly more than one hundred acres, which is comparatively smaller than the average farm in neighboring counties. However, in 1964, Rockingham County was home to more farms (2,587) than any other county in the Valley. By the late 1970s, the number of farms was reduced to 1,872 on just 252,152 acres of farmland. These statistics ranked Rockingham County second in the Valley, with Augusta County listed first (303,370 acres of farmland). Interestingly, the number of acres maintained by each farm had increased by 1978 to an average of 135 acres. Despite the increase, however, the average farm remained comparatively smaller in size than those in neighboring counties. By 1987, the number of farms countywide had increased to 1,895, while the acreage devoted to farming had decreased to 242,224 acres.<sup>102</sup> To this end, Judge John Paul donated 173 acres of farmland set to the southwest of Harrisonburg to the Virginia Department of Forestry in 1963. Known locally as Paul's Woods, Paul State Forest was granted for such purposes as experimentation in or demonstration of approved forestry practices.<sup>103</sup>

Harrisonburg, despite its continued growth and numerous annexations, was one of the smallest independent cities in the Valley in 1950. The boundaries of the city were expanded again in 1965 and 1970 to encompass industrial areas east of Interstate 81 and adjacent to U.S. Route 33. By 1970, Harrisonburg had grown to an area of 3,828 acres or 5.98 square miles with a population of approximately 19,700. The most recent annexation, effective January 1, 1992, added 11.64 square miles and approximately 4,702 additional residents. According to the 1996 estimates, Harrisonburg encompassed 17.394 miles with a population of 33,800 people.

The 1990 census documented that the county was home to 57,482 people, with only 10,519 citizens moving to Rockingham County since 1985. Equally proportioned between males and females, the greatest percent of the total population lives in the rural districts rather than urban areas. Overwhelmingly, the residents are white, with a limited number of African Americans, Asians, and Hispanics. The 1990 census records indicate that the ancestry of the population is overwhelmingly German. As expected, a notable number of today's residents also descended from the English, Dutch, French, Irish, Scots-Irish, Scottish, and Swiss. Of the 22,614 houses countywide, over half are owner

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<sup>102</sup> "Figure 5: Agricultural Land in the Shenandoah Valley," *Study of Civil War Sites in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia*, produced under public law 101-628, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, September 1992, (down loaded from the internet November 2000)  
<http://www2cr.nps.abpp.shenandoah/svsfig5.html>.

<sup>103</sup> Emily J. Salmon and Edward D.C. Campbell, Jr., editors, *The Hornbook of Virginia History*. (Richmond, VA: The Library of Virginia, 1994), p. 251.

occupied, and the vast majority of citizens have lived in the same house for a number of years. The majority of the residents are employed within the county, working as farmers, maintenance workers, government workers, machine operators, or salespersons. Within the industry field, most workers are devoted to construction, manufacturing, and the sale of merchandise.

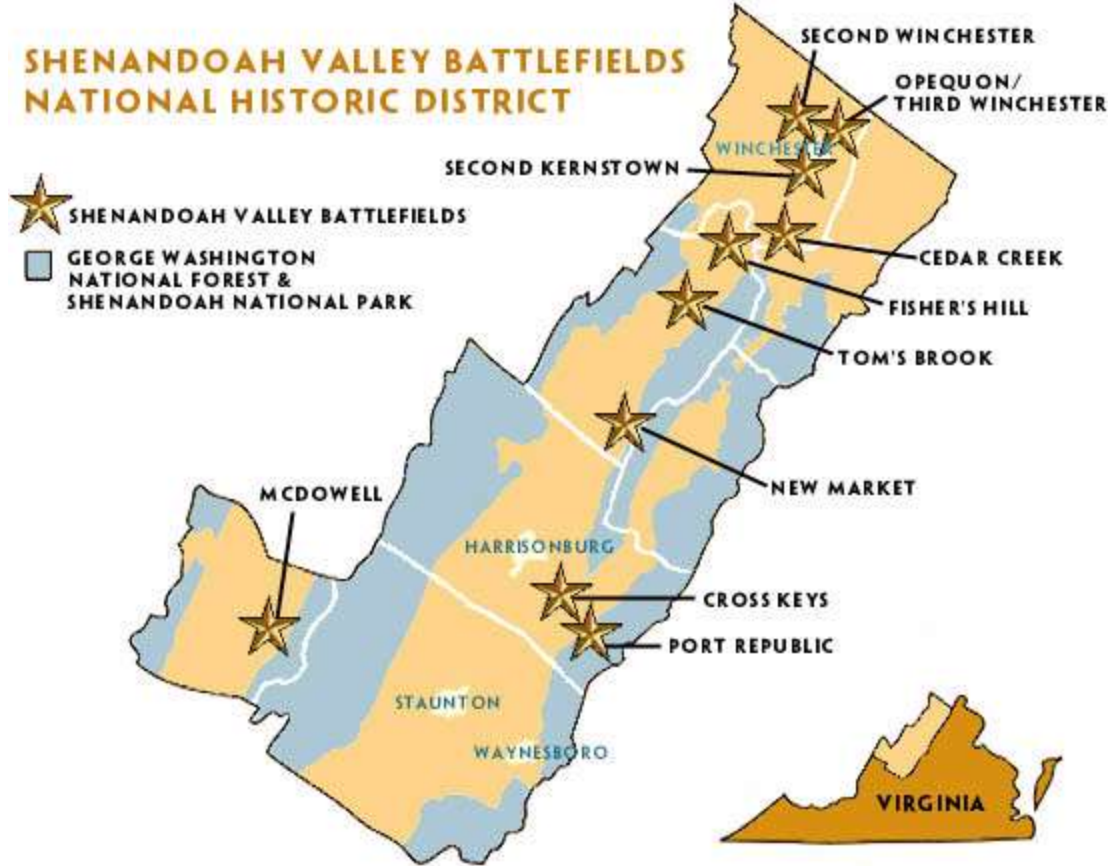
Recognition of the built environment and the significant events that took place within the boundaries of Rockingham County began in the 1970s, as it did throughout much of the country. One of the best examples is the restoration of the Daniel Harrison House (also known as Fort Harrison, 206-0001) as a house museum by Fort Harrison, Inc. The study of the historic and architectural heritage of the county includes the documentation, nomination, and listing on the State and National Registers of the Lincoln Homestead (the home of Abraham Lincoln's great-uncle, 082-0014), the double-pen log Baxter House (082-0071), the stone John K. Berry Farmhouse (082-0002), the Bethlehem Church (082-0003), and the brick Tunker House (082-0025) to name a few. The village of Singers Glen (082-0125) was recognized as a National Register Historic District in 1978 for its association with Joseph Funk and the 19<sup>th</sup>-century Mennonite settlement that grew up around his farmstead, originally known as Mountain Valley. In 1984, the towns of Bridgewater (176-0003) and Dayton (206-0002) were recognized as ~~the~~ largest and most intact of a string of towns that developed along the Shenandoah Valley's former Harrisonburg-Warm Springs Turnpike." Both towns were listed as historic districts on the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places.<sup>104</sup>

Furthermore, the Battlefields of Cross Keys and Port Republic were identified as part of the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District, an eight-county National Historic District consisting of ten battlefields within the Shenandoah Valley. The district also includes the battlefields of Cedar Creek, Second Kernstown, Fishers Hill, Second Winchester, McDowell, Third Winchester, New Market, and Tom's Brook. The historic district, overseen by a volunteer commission appointed by the Secretary of the Interior, was created by an act of Congress in November 1996. The objectives of this innovative designation are to preserve the region's heritage, promote the history of the battlefields, and evaluate the resources located on each battlefield. Similarly, the Civil War Preservation Trust, formerly the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites (APCWS), owns about eight acres of the Coaling, a key site to the Union position in the Battle of Port Republic. The Lee-Jackson Foundation, founded in 1953 in Charlottesville, owns 100 acres of ground on Victory Hill. In 1981, the village of Port Republic was listed on the National Register of Historic Places for its association with the war, as well as its collection of 19<sup>th</sup>-century buildings. In 1991, the Society of Port Republic Preservationists purchased the ~~Turner~~ Ashby House," the Civil War home of Frank Kemper where General Turner Ashby was taken after he was killed.

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<sup>104</sup> Calder Loth, editor, *The Virginia Landmarks Register*, (Charlottesville, VA: The University Press of Virginia, 1999), pp. 470-475.





## **HISTORIC CONTEXT THEMES**

The Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) has developed eighteen historic themes that capture the context of Virginia's heritage from the earliest times. These themes are defined under the heading "Survey Findings" in this report. Whenever possible, the documented resources are placed within the eighteen historic context themes established by VDHR to allow for a better understanding of the historic development of the survey area. Sixteen of the eighteen themes were documented in the survey of Rockingham County. The most prevalent theme is the Architecture/Community Planning theme, followed closely by the Domestic theme. A substantial number of properties representing the Subsistence/Agriculture, Commerce/Trade, Funerary, Religion, and Education themes were noted. Properties depicting the Ethnicity/Immigration, Government/Law/Political, Health Care, Industry/Processing/Extraction, Military/Defense, Recreation/Arts, Social, Technology/Engineering, and Transportation/Engineering themes were recorded, although only minimally. The remaining themes – Settlement Patterns and Landscape – were not identified during this survey.

The survey set out to record all domestic properties in the southern part of the county that were erected prior to 1865. Furthermore, every attempt was made to record all non-domestic properties fifty years or older, and note all undocumented historic properties on USGS maps. As the survey progressed, however, the pre-1865 date was extended to allow for better sampling of late-19<sup>th</sup>-century and early-20<sup>th</sup>-century residential buildings. Accordingly, the construction dates of identified properties stretch from 1727 to 1948. The survey comprehensively documented resources that date from the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, while providing a wide sampling of early- to mid-20<sup>th</sup>-century properties relating to sixteen of the historic context themes.

Prior to the 2000 survey efforts, VDHR maintained a database that contains more than 750 property records for Rockingham County, excluding the City of Harrisonburg. EHT Tracerics resurveyed sixty-eight of these properties in an attempt to update and incorporate additional documentation where necessary. A total of 207 properties were recorded for the first time in Rockingham County during this survey. Thus, EHT Tracerics updated, recorded, and documented a total of 275 records, primarily in the southern part of the county. Consequently, VDHR maintains a database that contains nearly 1,000 properties countywide, including the communities of Mount Crawford, Grottoes, and Elkton (excluding Harrisonburg). Of the properties recorded during this survey by EHT Tracerics, 262 primary resources were surveyed at the reconnaissance level and thirteen primary resources were documented at the intensive level. The following discussion, grouped alphabetically by identified historic context themes, includes all 275 properties during the survey of Rockingham County.

## **THEME: ARCHITECTURE/COMMUNITY PLANNING**

The survey of Rockingham County, which experienced two distinct periods of development and growth, revealed fifteen different styles. Largely domestic, the buildings' styles range from 18<sup>th</sup>-century Colonial and Federal to 20<sup>th</sup>-century Moderne, with the Queen Anne, Gothic Revival, Greek Revival, and Colonial Revival styles dominating.

The majority of properties in Rockingham County, typically the domestic resources, were constructed for a particular function and often were influenced by the shapes, materials, detailing, or other features associated with the architectural styles that were currently in vogue. The survey documented vernacular interpretations of many traditionally high-style architectural details that were more commonly associated with cities, which often served as laboratories for new styles. As these new fashions spread from the cities to the suburbs and to the rural communities, the styles were transformed to accommodate smaller resources, local craftsmen, local needs, and indigenous materials. Often referred to as vernacular or folk housing, the rural buildings incorporated stylistic detailing and popular ornamentation, if only in a diluted state. The dilution often resulted in a number of surveyed properties to be categorized "other," a generic term applied by VDHR for vernacular buildings. The majority of vernacular buildings tend to have little or no stylistic detailing and are typically constructed by local builders with locally available tools and materials. Vernacular architecture accounts for the majority of the built environment and reflects the traditions of society, rather than the whims of the architect.<sup>105</sup> Throughout Rockingham County, there are a number of vernacular stone and log houses. Limestone, for instance, was readily available in the county, with quarries located throughout the region. Commonly, these random rubble stone dwellings are two stories in height, and single-pile with side gable roofs. This continuity of form is a result of folk architecture and the reliance on constructing forms that had been built by the previous generation.

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<sup>105</sup> Dell Upton and John Michael Vlach, editors, *Common Places: Readings in American Vernacular Architecture*, (Athens, GA: The University of Georgia Press, 1986), pp. xv-xvi.



**Figure 1: Staggered Flemish Bonding**

Any applied architectural ornament detailing the buildings in Rockingham County is generally restricted to the primary façades of the buildings and their interiors. The simplified detailing on exteriors included cornice returns, molded entablatures, modillions, bracketed posts on porches, and projecting front gables with window openings. Often, brick bonding was more fashionable or decorative on the façade than on the side and rear elevations. This was noted when the façade brickwork was laid in Flemish bond, while the remaining elevations reflected American bond brickwork. Of particular note is the staggered Flemish bond, a rare and unusual pattern that has also been noted in neighboring Page County. Staggered Flemish bond entails the alignment of the headers and stretchers, rather than the alternating pattern traditionally associated with Flemish bond. This staggered pattern contributes verticality to the elevation. One of the documented examples is laid with paired headers and single stretchers. Interestingly, of the eighteen examples of staggered Flemish bond noted, thirteen are examples of the Greek Revival style, although a number of Italianate-style dwellings with the same bond were also recorded. The eighteen examples are:

1. 7916 South Main Street (082-0009)
2. 8000 Alumnae Drive (082-0010)
3. 8620 Warm Springs Road (082-0016)
4. 5375 Lynnwood Road (082-0029)
5. 67 Cross Keys Road (082-0032)
6. 6398 Mossy Creek Road (082-0182)
7. 7855 Warm Springs Road (082-0298)
8. 3327 Cross Keys Road (082-0368)
9. 9780 Cave Hill Road (082-0386)

10. 4643 Cross Keys Road (082-0452)
11. 4090 Cross Keys Road (082-5096)
12. 5525 Cross Keys Road (082-5101)
13. 8008 Wise Hollow Road (082-5116)
14. 8610 Wise Hollow Road (082-5118)
15. 4605 Cromer Road (082-5140)
16. 111 Koogler Lane (082-5144)
17. 1819 Pleasant Valley Road (082-5155)
18. 221 Shenandoah Avenue (216-5008) \*paired headers

On the interiors, typically, fashionable ornamentation was often more influenced by style, and generally restricted to the first floor. It was displayed on the mantels, chair boards and rails, window and door casings, baseboards, ceiling medallions, and stairs. The survey documented that many of the exterior and interior elements ornamenting dwellings from the early to late 19<sup>th</sup> century were similar in form and design, if not identical. The fashionable ornamentation for any given period and/or style was often published in architectural magazines and books, and thus, could be easily produced by local craftsmen. This supposition was supported by the number of buildings documented in the southern part of the county that are strikingly similar, and even identical. Specific examples are the Peale House (082-0032) and Bogota (082-0029), nearly identical imposing dwellings erected in the mid-1840s for unrelated persons.

### **Colonial Style**

The Colonial style, extending from 1600 to the 1830s, was the first domestic form employed in Rockingham County. The majority of Colonial-era houses in America were simple, well-built log and/or stone dwellings. Log structures, the majority of which do not survive, were particularly quick to erect and easy to cover with the wood siding produced at local mills. In the Mid-Atlantic region, where good lime was readily available, stone was the preferred material and considered a status symbol favored by the rural gentry. The most common roof form associated with this style was the gable, often with the ridge parallel to the front of the building. A huge chimney that absorbed heat from daytime fires and radiated it back into the house at night generally pierced the steeply pitched gable roofs on the side or in the center.<sup>106</sup>

Although a number of properties identified during the reconnaissance survey date from this period, the majority are vernacular or have been so substantially altered that they no longer illustrate the traditional elements of any particular style. Several of the buildings from the Colonial era reflect the forms commonly associated with the style and, therefore, are addressed in more detail in the Domestic theme section of this report.

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<sup>106</sup> James C. Massey and Shirley Maxwell, *House Styles in America*. (New York, NY: Penguin Studio, 1996), pp. 15-23.

Two notable examples of the Colonial style in Rockingham County are the Bowman Homestead (082-5201) and Mannheim (082-0005). Now enlarged, both dwellings were originally more square in form with an unequal three-room-plan (Penn or Germanic plan). Indicative of this plan, the buildings are serviced by massive stone central chimneys that protrude off-center from the roofs.



**Figure 2: Bowman Homestead (082-5201)**

The Bowman Homestead, dating from the middle of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, is constructed of large hewn logs of pine and oak with V-notching and lime chinking. Banked into the sloping site, the one-and-a-half-story house is constructed on a coursed limestone foundation with a full-height basement. The steeply pitched side gable roof, now clad in standing seam metal, has the indicative German Colonial flared eaves that provide shelter to the front and rear porches. The window openings were originally casement, as indicated by exposed framing around the present 6/6 double-hung, wood sash on the facade. This now-vacant dwelling is one of several mid-18<sup>th</sup>-century buildings erected by George Bowman near Timberville, possibly with a Mr. Hudlow serving as the main builder. The building was subsequently enlarged to the east with the construction of a center hall and east parlor. This portion of the building, dating from the early 18<sup>th</sup> century, is also constructed of hewn logs with dovetail notching and lime chinking. Although the interior of the building is exceptionally modest in detail, both of the log portions contain molded baseboards, chair boards, and casings. The wide wooden door to the east parlor consists of six panels with mortise-and-tenon joints. It has a Colonial-era metal Moravian box lock with lever handle.



**Figure 3: Mannheim (082-0005)**

More indicative of the rural gentry, the stone dwelling known as Mannheim was constructed for Michael Kauffman (also seen as Coffman) in the second decade of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The plantation, originally consisting of over 360 acres, was named after the Kauffman family's hometown in Germany. Restored in the latter part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the main block of the two-story dwelling measures three bays wide with a Germanic three-room-plan. The coursed limestone structure is pierced by narrow openings that are elongated and more ornately finished on the first story. The off-center entry is surrounded by wide wooden architraves with a molded profile and topped by a four-light transom and jack-arched lintel of stone. The flanking window openings hold 9/6 double-hung, wood sash with molded surrounds, wood sills, and jack-arched lintels of stone. The second-story openings hold 6/6 double-hung, wood sash windows with molded surrounds and wood sills. The steeply pitched roof, now clad in standing seam metal, is finished with a boxed cornice and quarter-round bed molding.

### **Georgian Style**

The Georgian style (1700-1830), rooted in the principles of classicism, was brought to the American Colonies through British pattern books and the immigration of English masons, carpenters, and joiners. The rigid symmetry, balanced proportions, and classical detailing used in Georgian buildings reinforce the formality of the style. Typical features include a paneled central front entrance with an ornate crown, a decorative cornice, and symmetrically placed

double-hung, sash windows. This style was employed throughout the colonies and was wholeheartedly adopted by the rural gentry throughout Rockingham County by the latter part of the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

Five examples of the Georgian style were noted during the survey – Green Meadows (082-0017), Lynnwood (082-0015), the house at 1299 North River Road (082-5110), the Jackson House (082-0118), and the Emanuel Roller House (082-0086). Each of these domestic buildings presents a diluted, or more vernacular, interpretation of this typically grand and imposing style. The prominent buildings are five bays wide, and at least two bays deep with end chimneys. Several of the examples reflect the transformation of the heavy Georgian style of the late 18<sup>th</sup> century with the more refined ornamentation of the Federal style of the early 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The two wood frame dwellings known as the Jackson House and the Emanuel Roller House are nearly identical in detailing and form. In form, the buildings reflect the influences of the Georgian style, although the more elegant, refined ornamentation of the Federal style is clearly evident on the exteriors. These early-19<sup>th</sup>-century buildings have central-passage, double-pile plans with large exterior end chimneys. The two chimneys of the Roller House are set on limestone bases with exposed brick shafts. Weatherboard siding obscures the upper stacks of the chimneys. Both structures are slightly raised on coursed limestone foundations. The first-story windows of both houses are elongated with narrow molded surrounds. The second-story openings have standard-sized double-hung, wood sash windows that are also finished with narrow wood surrounds and wood lintels. The steeply pitched side gable roofs are edged with denticulated wood cornices. Late-19<sup>th</sup>-century porches were added to the façades of the dwellings.

Similarly, the transition Georgian/Federal-style dwelling at Green Meadows is located on property historically associated with Adam Miller, the first documented individual to establish a permanent settlement east of the Massanutten Mountains. This wood frame building, dating from the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, is pierced on the façade by a central entry flanked by double-hung, sash windows. The long rectangular structure, which is resting on a limestone foundation, is anchored by paired exterior-end brick chimneys on one side elevation and a single interior-end brick chimney on the other side elevation. This latter chimney has an exposed shaft that is obscured by weatherboard siding at the second story.

### **Federal Style**

Thoroughly British in origin, Federal architecture became the signature style of America's wealthy mercantile class. Members of the Federalist aristocracy whose international business trade kept them closely linked to England embraced the style, despite American independence. Chaste, conservative, and gracefully elegant, the style first appeared in important coastal cities, but eventually was adapted everywhere in simpler vernacular forms. Brick was the material of choice for simplified Federal-style facades, marked by refined decorations and elongated



proportions.<sup>107</sup> Typically, as stated previously, the brick façades were laid in Flemish bond, while the side and rear elevations are laid in American bond. Features commonly associated with this style are low-pitched roofs, smooth symmetrical facades, elliptical fanlights, and slender sidelights. During the Federal period (1780-1840), ornamental details, particularly interior elements, echo the work of the Adam brothers of Britain. Much of this refined detailing was substantially diluted when applied to the buildings of Rockingham County. Thus, Federal-style ornamentation was reflected in the narrow form, window openings, muntin width, cornice detailing, and transoms.

The survey resulted in the documentation of forty Federal-style dwellings in Rockingham County, including several of the transitional Georgian/Federal-style buildings previously mentioned. The majority of the Federal-style buildings (27 primary resources and one addition) are constructed of brick on either limestone or brick foundations. Four of the buildings are constructed entirely of limestone and eight are built of wood frame. Of the brick buildings, at least eleven have façades laid in Flemish bond with the side and rear elevations laid in American bond. In form, the majority of the brick buildings detailed in the Federal style are nearly identical – two-and-a-half-stories on slightly raised foundations, measuring three- to five-bays in width with side gable roofs and end chimneys.

The Cross Keys Tavern (082-0030), also known as the Rodham Kemper Store, is one of the few wood frame Federal-style buildings included in the survey. This now-vacant and deteriorated building is set on a solid random rubble limestone foundation. The once-imposing building measures five bays wide with a central-passage, double-pile plan. The first-story windows are elongated, although the sash are no longer extant. Dating from the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, this two-and-a-half-story building has served the community of Cross Keys as a tavern, post office, and store. During the Civil War, the building was used as a hospital for wounded soldiers from the Battle of Cross Keys (June 8, 1862).

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<sup>107</sup> Rachel Carley, *The Visual Dictionary of American Domestic Architecture* (New York, NY: Henry Holt and Company, 1994), p. 91.



**Figure 4: The Dell (082-0330)**

The Dell at 7384 Latimer Road (082-0330) is one of the larger brick Federal-style dwellings documented during the survey, reflecting a form more consistent with Georgian architecture. This imposing structure is constructed of brick laid in three-course American bond on a random rubble limestone foundation. In contrast, the façade is laid in Flemish bond. The symmetrical openings are elongated on the first story, while those of the second story are standard in size. All of the window openings hold 6/6 double-hung, wood sash with narrow molded muntins and beaded surrounds. The centrally placed entry on the façade is uncharacteristically modest in detailing, consisting of a single-leaf wooden door framed by a beaded surround and five-light transom. The side gable roof, now clad in standing seam metal, is finished with a three-course corbeled cornice of brick and anchored by tall exterior end brick chimneys. The building is banked into a sloping site, creating an English basement on one side elevation and the rear, where a series of additions have been constructed.

The building at 8218 Port Republic Road (082-0493), known as the Benjamin Yount House, measures five bays wide with a central-passage, single-pile plan. The structure is constructed of Flemish bond brick on a random rubble limestone foundation. Rising two-and-a-half-stories in height, the building is finely detailed with queen closers, jack-arched lintels, and a boxed cornice of wood with an ovolo-molded bed molding. The symmetrically placed window openings are elongated on the first story, holding 9/6 double-hung, wood sash. The second story openings hold 6/6 double-hung, wood sash. Again, the centrally placed entry is uncharacteristically modest in detailing, consisting of a single-leaf wooden door framed by a beaded surround and

five-light transom. Hillcrest at 8398 Greenhouse Road (082-5106) is comparable in detailing and form. Minor differences include the stretcher-course lintels, seven-course American bond brickwork on the side and rear elevations, and the three-course corbeled brick cornice on the façade.

The Federal-style building known as Farmingreen (082-5202) was constructed in 1825 for Henry Wenger. The property, originally consisting of 600 acres, is currently owned by the seventh generation of the Wenger family, and the sixth generation to live in the dwelling. This striking house is constructed of five-course American bond brick set on a coursed rubble foundation of limestone. The three-bay-wide façade, marked by a wooden portico of a later date, is constructed of brick laid in Flemish bond with struck joints and queen closers. The first-story windows are elongated, holding 6/6 double-hung, wood sash with jack-arched brick lintels, beaded surrounds, and louvered shutters. The standard-sized second-story windows abut the cornice, which is detailed with rounded bricks and a header course. Characteristic of the Federal style, the central entry to the hall/parlor dwelling is topped by a semi-circular brick arch and has a fanlight and paneled soffitt with bulls-eye detailing.



**Figure 5: Miller-Huffman House (082-0180)**

The contemporaneous dwellings constructed of limestone present many of the same stylistic details and forms associated with the Federal style. Yet, the limestone was fashioned to serve as an ornamenting material in place of brick. The dwelling known as the Miller-Huffman House at 9843 Centerville Road (082-0180) is an excellent example of this. Dating from the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, this two-and-a-half-story dwelling is entirely constructed of limestone. It is detailed with large stone quoins edged by smaller stones that read as queen closers. Furthermore, the building is ornamented with stone lintels over the first-story openings and stone corbels on the shoulders of the exterior-end chimneys. The side gable roof is finished with a boxed wood cornice with narrow bed molding and vergeboard over the returns. As with other Federal-style buildings, the first-story openings are elongated, while those of the upper story are standard size.

The interior of many of these Federal-styled buildings were ornately finished, such as that seen at Bell Manor (082-0209), which was under renovation at the time of the survey. The first-floor plan is divided into two separate dwellings connected on the interior by a single-leaf entry. Each dwelling consists of two parlors and an enclosed winder stair. The high-style Federal detailing includes six-and-a-half-inch ogee-capped baseboards, inset windows with five-inch-wide molded surrounds, four-inch-wide molded chair rails and paneled wainscot, and exceptionally tall mantels with pilasters, projecting shelves with ornate molding and carved panels. All seven of the mantels found throughout the house are different in detailing and design.



**Figure 6: Bell Manor (082-0209)**

Like a number of pre-Civil War dwellings in Rockingham County, the attic of Bell Manor displays pit-sawn and circular-sawn marks, machine-cut nails with both handmade and machine-made heads, mortise-and-tenon joints, and pegged joints. Of particular note were the exceptionally large, and therefore easy to locate and read, Roman numeral scribe marks on the rafters. Large scribe marks such as these were noted throughout Rockingham County.



**Figure 7: Bell Manor Attic (082-0209)**

### **Early Classical Revival Style**

The Early Classical Revival style, popularized in 1770 by Thomas Jefferson, looked to Roman Classicism for inspiration. With this style, the newly formed United States of America had discovered an appropriate architecture of a new democracy. Like the popular Georgian and Federal styles, the buildings designed in the Early Classical Revival are symmetrical, usually three, five, or seven bays wide. Drawing on the temple form, Early Classical Revival style buildings typically feature a one-story temple front with variations on the Roman orders, often taking the form of a front-gabled portico with four supporting columns. Typically, a raised first story reflects the stereobate and stylobate of the temple. Classical moldings are unornamented and generally painted white.

Four examples of the Early Classical Revival style were identified in the survey of Rockingham County—Royer House (082-0495), River Bend (082-5194), and the houses at 609 Pineville Road (082-5095) and 3837 Carrier Lane (082-5182). Dating from the second quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, all four of these dwellings present a five-bay-wide, center-passage plan. Two of the examples are constructed of brick (Flemish bond on the façades) and the other two examples are constructed of wood frame with weatherboard siding. Despite subsequent alterations, it is evident that each building originally displayed the characteristic two-story portico on the façade.

The house at 3837 Carrier Lane, a two-and-a-half-story wood frame structure, is the only example to retain this portico configuration. One bay wide, the wood frame portico is set on a modern concrete foundation. It consists of large square Tuscan posts and pilasters supporting an enclosed front gable. The wide entablature of the portico is classical in design with a deep soffit, wide frieze, and boxed cornice. The overhanging eaves of the building's roof are detailed with a raked molding. Unlike its stylistic contemporaries, the entry openings consist of a single-leaf wood door with no sidelights or transoms.



**Figure 8: Royer House (082-0495)**

The entry openings at the Royer House and the house at 609 Pineville Road are more indicative of the style, although the upper stories of the porticos are no longer extant. The openings are ornately trimmed by sidelights that consist of four fixed lights set over a molded panel. The former example has a wide eight-light transom on the first-story opening. No transom is present on the second-story opening as the entry abuts the wide frieze of the building's entablature. The latter example has an eight-light transom on the second story that is not as heavily detailed as the transom on the main entry of the first story.

The classical detailing at River Bend is generally limited to the grand entry portico. Set on a raised brick foundation, the portico is composed of paired Tuscan columns that support a wide entablature. The expansive overhang of the portico is heavily detailed with molded profiles. A balustrade of square corner posts and square balusters edge the flat roof. The entries are rather modest in detailing with no sidelights; a two-light transom caps the primary entry on the first story.

### **Greek Revival Style**

Whereas the Federal style derived from the Palladian ideal of ancient Roman design, the Greek Revival adhered strictly to the Greek orders, systems of proportion and ornament. Modeled on English precedents, the Greek Revival style was imported to America and spread rapidly along the East and into the frontier. Linked by an educated elite to the ideals of ancient Greek

democracy, it became associated with the young democratic government and was considered a natural choice for civic monuments. As a stylistic influence, the Greek Revival filtered down to even the most modest of rural farmhouses. Grander houses generally featured a columned portico supporting a triangular pediment – as on a Greek temple. Country builders accomplished the same effect simply by turning the gable end of a house to the street, boxing in the gable with a triangular raking cornice, adding pilasters to the corners, and/or painting the building a pristine white.<sup>108</sup>

The Greek Revival style, extending from 1825 to 1860, was extremely popular in Rockingham County. Forty properties with the characteristic detailing of the Greek Revival style were documented in the survey of southern Rockingham County. Although this particular style was embraced for religious architecture, all of the Greek Revival examples noted in the survey were domestic. Two of the examples – 5745 Cross Keys Road (082-5100) and 7591 South Main Street (082-5087) – were erected several decades prior to the fashion of the Greek Revival. Yet, both dwellings have been updated to present the style.



**Figure 9: Daniel Miller House (082-0216)**

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<sup>108</sup> Carley, p. 100.



Typical of the style because of subsequent alterations is the Daniel Miller House at 5719 Spring Greek Road (082-0216). Dating from the middle part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, this brick building has a Flemish-bond façade, with seven-course American bond on the sides and rear elevations. It is banked into a hill, a position that allows for an even grander appearance with the addition of the full-height portico on the façade. Ghosting of alterations, as well as the modest south elevation, suggest the portico was a later addition. This imposing addition is set on a raised brick foundation, pierced by semi-circular arched openings. The supporting columns are Tuscan with a Chinese-style balustrade. The roof is composed of an exceptionally wide entablature with a deep soffitt, wide frieze, and molded cornice. The pediment is edged with a raked cornice and the tympanum is pierced by a lunette.



**Figure 10: House at 8254 Ironhorse Road (082-5105)**

The more modest brick building at 8254 Ironhorse Road (082-5105) is more in keeping with the dilution of the Greek Revival style in rural counties such as Rockingham. Further, because of alterations, this dwelling exhibits the stylistic fashions of the Gothic Revival style. The bond of the brick house varies from three- to six-course American. Dating from the second quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the two-and-a-half-story building is symmetrically pierced and anchored by end chimneys. The front portico, providing the greatest level of Greek Revival detailing, is set on a brick pier foundation. Sheltering the central entry on the façade, this portico has a molded front gable roof supported by paired Tuscan posts. The wide frieze is finished with ogee-molded bed molding and a boxed cornice. The raking cornice frames the enclosed pediment of the portico.



**Figure 11: Bogota (082-0029)**

One of the most common features of Greek Revival-style buildings in Rockingham County is the stepped parapet on the side elevations and the grand front porticos. These two elements were noted a number of times, and include such examples as the Hooke House (082-0010), Miller House (082-0016), Peale House (082-0032), and Bogota (082-0029). Dating from the second quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, these houses are strikingly similar in form and design. It can be inferred from the resemblance that local construction trends and/or the same carpenters were responsible for the form and detailing of these dwellings. The rising stepped parapets of these brick buildings are composed of two coped steps that lead to the partially exposed end chimneys. Several of the examples are double-pile, thus presenting paired end chimneys.

Bogota in Port Republic is constructed of five-course American-bond brick with a Flemish-bond façade. The now-painted structure is five bays wide and three bays deep with a central-passage, double-pile plan. The paired chimneys, replete with corbeled caps, are anchored within the stepped parapets on the side elevations. The expansive window openings hold 9/6 double-hung, wood sash. Like the Early Classical Revival-style buildings described previously, the Greek Revival-style Bogota has a two-story front portico. This portico is one bay square and shelters the primary entry. It is set on a random rubblestone pier foundation. The imposing Tuscan columns rise two stories in height with banding at the second-story level and at base of the capital. A decorative pierced wood balustrade encloses the portico. The classically inspired pediment has a molded frieze, ogee-molded cornice, coffered soffitt, and enclosed tympanum.

Bogota is virtually identical to the Peale House at the corner of Cross Keys Road and State Route 33. This particular property also includes a tenant house with stepped parapet and end chimneys.



**Figure 12: Bogota Interior (082-0029)**

The interiors of many of these Greek Revival-style dwellings are remarkably intact as originally designed, displaying details that are similar in form and ornament. With the frequent use of the summer hall in the central-passage plan during this period, many of the resources have exceptionally ornate, high-style interior embellishments. Typically, within the interiors viewed, the summer halls were spacious, containing two double-leaf main entry openings and a grand hollow-newel stair. The stairs are all similarly trimmed with molded wall stringers, paneled and bracketed carriage stringers, thin square or tapered round balusters, and ornately turned newels. One of the most outstanding features on the stair is the round handrail with landing newels, easements, and gooseneck crooks.

## **Gothic Revival Style**

The Gothic Revival was the first of the Victorian-era styles to challenge the symmetry and ordered reason of Classicism. Brooding and romantic, it was a picturesque mode with vaulted ceilings, battlements, lancet-arched windows, and tracery, all suggesting the mysterious architectural vocabulary of a distant past. The Gothic Revival was well suited to the dark brownstone increasingly used for the urban rowhouse, but it was most commonly applied to the large country "villa" and to the small cottage. The first house type in America designed specifically for the middle class, the domestic structures constructed during this period were drawing from architectural styles published in house plan books, such as Alexander Jackson Davis' *Rural Residences*, published in 1832, and Andrew Jackson Downing's *Cottage Residences* of 1842. The Gothic Revival style was particularly adaptable to rural architecture. The vernacular interpretations of the style were identified by steeply pitched roofs, decorative bargeboards, and one-story porches with flattened Gothic arches. Popular between 1840-1880, the Gothic Revival style dominated rural communities, as it was compatible with the natural landscape.

The survey of Rockingham County identified nineteen examples of the Gothic Revival style: seventeen primary resources and two secondary structures. Predominately modest in detail when compared with high-style Gothic Revival archetypes, the resources of Rockingham County display the traditional steeply pitched open pediment and ornately arched openings. Commonly, in rural communities like Rockingham County, the rigid box of the traditional I-house form was distorted by the addition of a single projecting pediment or gable on the primary elevation. This stylistic feature was often added to existing dwellings or incorporated into the original design. The gables are often pierced with narrow window openings. In Rockingham County, the influence of Andrew Jackson Downing's Gothic Revival is visible well into the fourth quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Residential examples of the Gothic Revival style in Rockingham County are limited to just four properties – 401 Aspen Avenue (228-5001-0010), 1398 Pleasant Valley Road (082-5154), 411 South Main Street (082-5078), and 205 South Main Street (082-5082). As noted in the Greek Revival discussion, the building at 8254 Ironhorse Road (082-5105) also displays a Gothic Revival bargeboard in the central front gable.



**Figure 13: Store/Dwelling at 401 Aspen Avenue (228-5001-0010)**

The two-story dwellings at 401 Aspen Avenue and 1398 Pleasant Valley Road are similar in form and detailing, displaying the common vernacular interpretation of the Gothic Revival style. Each structure is marked on the façade by a central front gable that provides the only stylistic expression to the rural building. As typically seen throughout Virginia, the gables are pierced by a narrow opening.

The dwellings at 411 South Main Street and 205 South Main Street in Mount Crawford present more applied detailing commonly associated with the Gothic Revival style. Each building is ornately detailed with a scroll-sawn bargeboard in the front gables.



**Figure 14: Grottoes Methodist Church (228-5005)**

Of the nineteen examples of the Gothic Revival style documented, thirteen are churches. The association of the style with religious architecture is common, as the style included lancet-arched windows and steeply pitched gables that lent themselves well to church design. Typically, the churches have cross plans, although a few open nave, rectangular plans were noted. The structures, whether constructed of wood frame or brick, were covered by steeply pitched front gable roofs. Many of the churches have corner entry towers or steeples with intricate cross-gabled roofs or crenellation. These include the Mount Olive Presbyterian Church at 9001 Rawley Pike (082-5125), Grottoes Methodist Church at 300 4<sup>th</sup> Street (228-5005), and Elkton Presbyterian Church at 110 Ashby Avenue (216-5016).

The Mount Olive Church is constructed of wood frame and covered by a steeply pitched front gable roof. The two-story corner tower, consisting of a steeple and bell tower, is finished with lancet-arched openings, brackets, and a steeply pitched gable. Pointed arches holding 2/2 double-hung, wood sash windows of stained glass pierce the main block of the building. A multi-foil round window marks the gable end of the façade.

The Grottoes and Elkton churches are similarly ornamented, each presenting a front-gabled façade. The Grottoes Church has a centrally placed tower consisting of a main entry and steeple with bell tower. The openings are lancet-arched with tracery windows and molded surrounds. The roof of the tower consists of a four-sided cross gable roof with a pyramidal cap. The Elkton

Church has just a steeple with bell tower, composed of a four-sided cross gable roof with a pyramidal cap. Rather than lancet-arched openings, the Elkton Church has pointed openings marked by intricately patterned muntins. The gable end, which is not pierced, is clad with sawtooth wood shingles and finished with sawn bargeboard.



**Figure 15: Trinity Reformed Church (082-5092)**

Also in keeping with the Gothic Revival style is the Trinity Reformed Church on North Main Street (082-5092) and the Elkton Methodist Church at 205 Warren Street (216-5010). Constructed of brick, these two churches have intricate cross-gabled forms with corner towers. The openings are lancet-arched with stained glass and molded surrounds. The towers, although not identical, are similar in the presentation of three lancet-arched openings in the upper stories. Also, each building has blocking buttresses with limestone coping.

The Pleasant Valley Train Depot (082-5148) on Station Lane in Pleasant Valley also exhibits elements of this fashionable style. Dating from 1874, the wood frame building is set on a solid limestone foundation with board-and-batten siding. It has a T-shaped plan with a rising center gable decorated with scroll-sawn bargeboard and a finial. The train depot has wide overhanging eaves finished with brackets. No longer in use, the train depot instigated the development of the surrounding village with the arrival of rail service in the 1870s.

## **Italianate**

Well represented in pattern books, the Italianate style emerged in the 1830s along with the Gothic Revival and eventually proved to be even more popular, lasting well into the 1870s. With square towers, asymmetrical plans, broad roofs, and generous verandahs, the rambling Italianate houses that began to appear in both the suburbs and the countryside were rather free and highly romanticized interpretations of the villas of Tuscany, Umbria, and Lombardy. During the mid-1800s, the Italianate style was enthusiastically adapted for urban rowhouse architecture and reached its zenith in the brownstone-fronted rowhouses of New York City, characterized by ornate door and window designs, weighty bracketed cornices, and high stoops with robust cast-iron stair rails.<sup>109</sup>

The Italianate style was noted thirty-eight times during the survey of Rockingham County. Most of the examples are domestic, dating from the 1840s to the first part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The rural interpretation of the Italianate is generally found on the cornice, which is typically trimmed with overhanging eaves, wide fascia, and scroll sawn brackets. Identified examples include Meadowview Farm (082-0053), Kisamore/Baker House (082-0373), Whitesel Farm (08-0414), Hotel Rockingham (228-5009), and the Pennington Building (216-5037) to name just a few.

## **Queen Anne Style**

Among the attractions generating considerable interest at the 1876 Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia were several English buildings designed in the Queen Anne style, which would prove to be widely influential in America from the 1870s until the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The style was identified with the Scottish-born architect Richard Norman Shaw and his followers, whose domestic work in England was a tremendously free and eclectic hybrid of forms drawn from a range of sources, including Classical, Tudor, and Flemish architecture. Queen Anne style dismissed the impractical Gothic by emphasizing human scale and domestic comforts. Its facades showed a great variety, featuring projecting oriels, bay windows, and odd rooflines. It was also rich in texture, with cut and molded brick, terra cotta, and ornamental plaster. The open, asymmetrical plan centered on a "great hall" with an enormous fireplace and cozy built-in inglenooks.

In America, the style found an exuberant expression in wood, and frequently incorporated classical columns and decorative motifs borrowed from our own colonial architecture. The Queen Anne style was favored for everything from rowhouses to sprawling seaside retreats, whose designs frequently came from pattern books. All were resplendent in patterned shingles, spindles, brackets, and curlicue cutouts; many boasted ample verandahs, turrets, and sleeping

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<sup>109</sup> Carley, p. 143.



porches.<sup>110</sup> Many of the Queen Anne-style buildings of Rockingham County are more restrained than the Queen Anne-style houses in more urban locations. In their attempts to mimic the style, builders often sacrificed irregular forms and asymmetrical massing but included many details associated with the style. The form of the buildings may be traditional and symmetrical, however, the detailing is pure Queen Anne with canted projecting bays, sawn balusters, cornice returns with dentil molding, and chamfered posts with brackets.

Twenty-six Queen Anne-style resources were identified during the Rockingham County survey. Although this style traditionally lent itself well to a variety of building forms and uses, including schools, hotels, and commercial buildings, only single-family dwellings were recorded during the survey. Interestingly, the majority of the Queen Anne-style dwellings were located in the smaller towns rather than the rural areas of the county. Of the twenty-six examples noted during the survey, three are located in Bridgewater, eight are located in Elkton, eight were recorded in Grottoes, four in Mount Crawford, and the remaining three are located in the rural regions of the county. Excellent examples of this style include the house at 535 South Main Street (082-5089), the house at 17869 Mount Pleasant Road (082-5178), and the house at 14649 Model Road (082-5192) to name just a few.



**Figure 16: House at 14649 Model Road (082-5192)**

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<sup>110</sup> Carley, pp. 154-155.

Located in the vicinity of Solsburg, the house at 14649 Model Road was erected in the last quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. This two-and-a-half-story wood frame dwelling has a T-shaped plan augmented by projecting gables, paired window openings, and porches. Indicative of the style, the building is dressed with diamond-pattered wood shingles, scroll-sawn brackets, bull's-eye cornerblocks in the lug lintels, and a sawn bargeboard. The many projecting gables of the cross gable roof are ornamented with a solid bargeboard of vertical board cladding with applied curlicue cutouts.

Extremely asymmetrical in form and massing, the large dwelling on Mount Pleasant Road was constructed in 1901. The irregular plan is united by the one-story wrap-around porch, which is detailed with square balusters, turned posts, fan-like brackets, spindlework frieze, and bracketed modillions. As the porch wraps around the side of the building, the corner of the structure is canted to create a flat wall plane. Single openings with 2/2 double-hung, wood sash windows pierce the wall, sheltered by the overhanging corner of the roof. The projecting front gable wing dominates the façade. This canted structure has 2/2 double-hung, wood sash windows with louvered shutters, wood sills, and molded hoods. Like the corner of the main block, the overhang of the front-gabled roof shelters the canted sides of the projecting bay. The enclosed tympanum of the gable has a molded bargeboard, dropped finials, scroll brackets, and exceptionally wide overhanging eaves.

The high-style dwelling at 535 South Main Street has an irregular plan augmented by a wrap-around porch and front-gabled wing. Erected in 1907, the dwelling is modest in scale, although the ornamentation is rather grand. The wrap-around porch is supported by thin turned posts with sawn brackets, a spindlework frieze, and carved finials. The front gable of the building, which is now clad in vinyl siding, has a two-story canted bay. The base of the bay is finished with recessed panels set under the slightly projecting wood sill that encircles the structure like a stringcourse. The three openings hold 1/1 double-hung, wood sash windows. The pent roof dividing the first and second stories is ornamented with a denticulated cornice, ogee molding, and scroll brackets. The second story of the bay is similarly finished with three 1/1 double-hung, wood sash windows and scroll brackets on the half-pyramidal roof.



**Figure 17: House at 535 South Main Street (082-5089)**

### **Colonial Revival Style**

Following on the heels of America's Centennial celebrations in 1876, the Colonial Revival style emerged strongly in the early 1880s. The style, which borrowed heavily from early American architecture -- particularly Georgian and Federal buildings -- was largely an outgrowth of a new nationwide pride in the past and a rapidly growing interest in historic preservation. In the early phase, the Colonial Revival style remained the exclusive domain of fashionable architectural firms and was favored for the large residences of wealthy clients. Designs incorporated characteristic features of Colonial buildings, including Palladian windows, gambrel roofs, pedimented porticoes, columns, and Classical detailing such as swags and urns, and crisp white trim. This new building type was larger, however, than its historic counterparts, with details also enlarged and plans laid out on a grandiose scale. As the style spread to more rural areas, it was more conservative in design and scale, and was often applied to modest residences. Identifying features of the style commonly includes accentuated main entry doors, symmetrically balanced facades, single and paired double-hung sash windows, and side gable or gambrel roofs. Despite its frequent use for domestic buildings, the style also lent itself well to religious and institutional buildings such as churches, elementary schools, municipal buildings, and college buildings.

Within the survey area, eighteen buildings were documented that exhibit the Colonial Revival style. As noted with the Queen Anne style, the Colonial Revival-style building recorded in the

southern part of the county were generally located in the small towns rather than rural areas. Four buildings reflecting this style were noted in Bridgewater, five were recorded in Elkton, and five were located in Grottoes. Buildings that exhibit the common elements of the style include Mount Bethel Church of the Brethren (082-5124), Grottoes Municipal Building (228-5008), and the houses at 335 Rockingham Street (216-5006) and 425 Rockingham Street (216-5004) to name only a few.

One of two churches illustrating the Colonial Revival style, the Mount Bethel Church of the Brethren at 8550 Robinson Road was constructed in 1912. Built of brick, the two-story church has an open nave plan with a corner entry tower. The church has lancet-arched window openings, round clerestory windows, and brick quoins. The greatest degree of stylistic ornamentation is found on the corner entry tower. Square in plan, the tower is edged with brick quoins. Concrete steps edged with metal rails provide access to the raised entry. The double-leaf doors are framed with a common Colonial Revival-style surround that is composed of Tuscan pilasters, a wide entablature with banding and dentil molding, and a broken swan-neck pediment with an urn. The two-story tower is finished with a wide wood entablature with exaggerated dentil molding and an ogee cornice. A solid paneled balustrade surrounds the steeple with corner posts capped by needle spires. The steeple itself has vertical panels on the octagonal base, with a small octagonal shaft pierced by louvered openings. An exceptionally tall needle spire caps this structure.

Dating from the middle part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the modest Grottoes Municipal Building reflects the Colonial Revival style. This long rectangular structure, constructed of concrete blocks, has a front gable roof with an open tympanum. The ornamentation is primarily limited to the façade, fronting 6<sup>th</sup> Street. A wide Colonial Revival-style surround composed of Tuscan pilasters, an entablature, and ogee-molded lintel frames the recessed single-leaf entry. The door consists of four panels set below a fanlight window. The opening is framed by metal-framed picture windows.

Similarly, the collegiate buildings at Bridgewater College display many of the elements associated with this style. This includes Memorial Hall (176-0003-0046), Yount Hall (176-0003-0047), and the now-altered Cole Hall (176-5001). All three buildings have brick cladding, pedimented entry bays, brick quoins, colonnaded porticoes, and lunettes.



**Figure 18: House at 335 Rockingham Street (216-5006)**

A few of the buildings documented in the survey have stylistic elements that reflect a contemporaneous association with the Queen Anne style. Such elements include an irregular plan, imposing scale, wrap-around porches, and projecting gables. Three excellent examples include the houses at 335 Rockingham Street (216-5006), 403 Rockingham Street (216-5005), and 425 Rockingham Street (216-5004) in Elkton. Dating from the first decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, these dwellings are constructed of wood frame on raised foundations. The asymmetry that transitioned from the Queen Anne style is evident on all three buildings, although the massing and fenestration attempts to be balanced. The first stories are sheltered under wrap-around porches supported by columns. The Tuscan columns at 335 and 403 Rockingham Street are joined by square balusters with a curved form. The paired Ionic columns at 425 Rockingham Street are joined by turned balusters. Each dwelling has single, paired, and triple openings, with a single example of a band of four elongated openings noted on the projecting bay at 335 Rockingham Street. The entries are framed with ornate surrounds that include such elements as sidelights, transoms, fanlights, and broken pediments with urns.

Typical of the more modest Colonial Revival-style dwellings noted throughout Virginia are the houses at 304 4<sup>th</sup> Street (228-5004), 306 6<sup>th</sup> Street (228-5013), and 1002 Gum Avenue (228-5018) in Grottoes. Dating from the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, all three examples are constructed of wood frame with modest rectangular forms. Shallow-pitched hipped roofs clad with standing seam metal cover the houses at 304 4<sup>th</sup> Street and 306 6<sup>th</sup> Street. The dwelling at 1002 Gum Avenue has a front gable roof with an open tympanum and overhanging eaves. The stylistic

ornamentation is generally limited to the porch supports and narrow molded surrounds on the window and door openings. As seen at 304 4<sup>th</sup> Street, the full-width front porch has square balusters, square Tuscan posts, and a molded entablature on the half-hipped roof.

### **Romanesque Revival**

The most robust masonry forms and rich texture of the romantic late-19<sup>th</sup>-century styles were derived from the medieval Romanesque architecture of France and Spain. The characteristic features of the Romanesque Revival, including heavy rough-cut stone, round arches, squat dwarf columns, deeply recessed windows and densely carved decoration with interlaced motifs, were imaginatively interpreted in massive freestanding dwellings and rowhouses. Romanesque Revival buildings were constructed of solid masonry. The architect Henry Hobson Richardson developed the style in the Boston area in the 1870s, and a monograph of his work published after his death in 1886 had a major influence throughout the country. Although the style faded in the 1890s for domestic architecture, the style's monochromatic brick or stone lent itself well for collegiate buildings in the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.



**Figure 19: Founder's Hall, Bridgewater College (176-0003-0045)**

Now united by a late 20<sup>th</sup> century addition, Wardo Hall and Founder's Hall at Bridgewater College (176-0003-0044/0045) are excellent illustrations of the collegiate adaptation of the Romanesque Revival style in the first decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Erected in the first decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, these two classroom buildings are constructed of brick laid in six-course Flemish bond. Four-story central towers augment the long rectangular plans of the three-story structures. The monochromatic brick structures, ornamented with brick quoins, are highlighted by segmentally arched openings holding paired 1/1 and 2/2 double-hung, wood sash windows. The foundations, constructed of brick, are accented on the exterior with a rough-cut stone watertable. Large semi-circular arched openings and triple-wide flat-arched openings pierce the center towers, where the main entries are located. A massive hipped roof with a wide overhanging cornice caps each tower.

### **Tudor Revival**

The high-style Tudor Revival style of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries was derived primarily from English Renaissance buildings of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries, including those of the Elizabethan and Jacobean periods. These rambling, asymmetrically massed dwellings typically featured steeply pitched gables, decorative -- rather than structural -- half-timbering, and long rows of casement windows. By the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the Tudor Revival style was adapted to the middle-class suburban house and eventually became especially popular for the affordable small houses of the 1920s and 1930s. The style, with its battlements, crenellation, hood lintels, and buttresses was ultimately adapted for use by civic and religious structures that wished to emphasize the permanence and stability of Elizabethan and Jacobean period castles and forts.



**Figure 20: Saint Paul United Baptist Church (216-5055)**

Saint Paul United Baptist Church (216-5055) at 523 East Spotswood Avenue in Elkton reflects this latter adaptation of the Tudor Revival style. Constructed in 1934, the church is a masonry structure constructed of brick on a poured concrete foundation. The T-shaped plan consists of a projecting entry bay with battlements and buttresses and a corner entry tower with stringcourses and crenellation. The openings, ranging from single to triple windows, are recessed within the brick structure and have lug sills and hood lintels of stone. The double-leaf entries in the projecting bay and entry tower are framed with stone quoins. The cross gable roof, now clad in asphalt shingles, is edged by a parapet with molded stone coping.

### **Classical Revival Style**

The Classical Revival was based on the Neoclassical architecture of 18<sup>th</sup> century France and England. Popular in America between the 1890s and 1950s, the fashion favored the French Neoclassical, which provided a striking alternative to the ostentatious sculptural ornament associated with the Beaux-Arts style. By contrast, the style was subdued and dignified, although often equally monumental in scale. Facades were markedly symmetrical and punctuated by rhythmic rows of columns, windows and entry doors. A grand two-story portico often emphasized the centrality of the design.

Three examples of this architectural style were noted in the reconnaissance level survey in the southern part of Rockingham County – Pleasant Valley School #2 (082-5134), Old Gymnasium at Bridgewater College (176-0003-0043), and the Bank of Elkton (216-5015). The best example is the Bank of Elkton at 410 West Spotswood Trail in Elkton, erected in 1907. The masonry building is constructed of brick set on a coursed limestone foundation. It has a front gable roof with an enclosed tympanum. Indicative of the style, the two-bay wide building has a full-width front portico supported by one-and-a-half-story Ionic columns. The wide entablature, now embossed with “Rockingham Heritage Bank,” is composed of a molded frieze board, denticulated bed molding, overhanging ogee-molded cornice, and raked cornice with dentil molding. A round window holding snap-in muntins pierces the wood-shingle-clad tympanum. The single-leaf entry has a wide surround with Tuscan pilasters, bull’s-eye-molded lintel, and fanlight. The wide window opening to the side has multiple fixed lights capped by a fanlight. A similar portico, sheltering a secondary entry, extends from the side elevation of the building.

### **Bungalow/Craftsman Style**

The Craftsman/Bungalow style (1905-1930) was derived from the 19<sup>th</sup>-century English Arts and Crafts movement, where truth in materials, the decorative use of structural elements, and the beauty of craftsmanship were the popular aesthetic. These principles were spread throughout America with Gustav Stickley's *Craftsman* magazine. The *Craftsman* was responsible for the widespread popularity of the Craftsman bungalow, a snug one-and-a-half-story house with a wide overhanging roof, a deep, wide porch, and simple interiors with built-in amenities such as



cupboards and cozy inglenooks. Modest in scale and constructed of readily available materials, the bungalow could be quickly and easily built. After years of popular revival styles, the Bungalow/Craftsman style provided America with a domestic architecture style it could call its own.



**Figure 21: Service Station at 18700 Spotswood Trail (082-5180)**

Although Bungalow/Craftsman is typically one of the most popular styles and building forms noted throughout Virginia, the scope of the project precluded the comprehensive documentation of this particular style. However, a sampling survey was conducted. This included the recordation of abandoned Bungalow/Craftsman service stations. Four such service stations were documented, all dating from the second quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. These include the stations in the 8000 block of McGaheysville Road (082-5158), 10072 McGaheysville Road (082-5159), 18700 Spotswood Trail (082-5180), and 209A 6<sup>th</sup> Street (228-5012) in Grottoes. Although all examples reflect the detailing commonly associated with the Craftsman style, only the first three properties are bungalowoid in form.

The stations documented are all masonry structures that stand one story in height. The window openings are paired, generally with three or four vertical lights over a single-light sash. The single-leaf entries are located on the primary elevations, fronting the road. The buildings are square in plan with an inset canopy or roof extension where the car could be driven off the road and gas was pumped. The stations at 18700 Spotswood Trail and the 8000 block of McGaheysville Road have hipped roofs that extend to cover the inset canopies. The service station at 10072 McGaheysville Road has a front-gabled roof that covers the entire structure.



**Figure 22: House at 115 Broad Street (176-5003)**

The domestic examples of this style noted throughout the county presented the indicative low-pitched gable roof, wide overhanging eaves, exposed roof rafters, decorative false beams under the eaves, and full-width front porches with roofs supported by tapered square columns set upon brick posts or turned posts with square balusters. The only documented example is the house at 115 Broad Street (176-5003) in Bridgewater. Dating from the third decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, this one-and-a-half-story dwelling is constructed of wood frame set on a solid concrete block foundation. The imposing side gable roof, clad in standing seam metal, extends over the full-width front porch. This expansive porch is finished with square balusters, tapered Tuscan columns, and is set on brick piers. A shed roof dormer that holds paired 1/1 double-hung, wood sash windows pierces the roof. Large 6/1 double-hung, wood sash windows with narrow surrounds flank the central entry.

## **Art Deco**

The term “Art Deco” derives from the title of a 1925 Paris design fair, called the *Exposition Internationale des Arts Decoratifs et Industriels Modernes*, where numerous rooms in the style were on display. Art Deco had begun to appear in Europe before World War I. It was a curious blend of Modernism, history, and fantasy, influenced by the speed-infused aesthetic of the Italian Futurists and the mystical images of Italian Futurists and the mystical images of Mayan, Assyrian, and Moorish cultures. These, in turn, were expressed by the richest of materials: marble, colored terrazzo, chrome, and ebony.

The modernistic styles received their first major impetus in America in 1922 when the *Chicago Tribune* held a worldwide competition for a headquarters building. Although the first prize went to a Gothic design, the second prize went to an Art Deco design by a young Finnish architect, Eliel Saarinen. His design was widely publicized, encouraging the style as the latest architectural fashion. The Art Deco style was seldom used for single-family houses, but reached its apogee in New York, Los Angeles, and Miami, primarily in apartment buildings and city skyscrapers, which seemed best suited to this style of applied, concentrated decorations. The style is noted for its smooth wall surfaces, usually clad with stucco, zigzags, chevrons, and other stylized and geometric motifs.<sup>111</sup>

The single example of this style noted during the architectural survey is the Elkton Theater (216-5016), located at 413 West Spotswood Trail. Dating from 1948, the theater was designed by architect Bernard Spiegel and constructed by the local firm of Conquest, Dunn, and Potter. The concrete block structure is finished on the façade with a brick veneer. Standing two stories in height, the building has a flat roof and no fenestration on the side and rear elevations. Characteristic of the building type, the façade presents the only stylistic expression. This includes the recessed entry bays, metal-clad marquee, stuccoed finish on the first story, and the contrasting stringcourse and parapet coping. Indicative of the style, the central bay of the façade directly over the marquee projects slightly and is trimmed on three sides with a contrasting material. This projecting bay presents the verticality of the style, complemented on the exposed side elevation by concrete block buttresses. The metal entry doors are pierced by lunettes, and finished with stainless steel horizontal handles.

## **Streamlined Art Moderne**

Shortly after 1930 a more diffuse influence affected the modernistic styles – the beginning of streamlined industrial design for ships, airplanes, and automobiles. The smooth surfaces, curved corners, and horizontal emphasis of the Art Moderne style resonated not only the economy of line, but also the fascination with aerodynamic speed and streamlined design. Such streamlining

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<sup>111</sup> Carley, p. 228.

was reflected in curving wall planes, flat roofs, soft and rounded corners, and horizontal bands of windows. Ornamentation generally consists of mirrored panels, cement or stuccoed panels, and an occasional metal panel with low relief decoration around door and windows. Aluminum and stainless steel were often used for trim, railings, and balusters.



**Figure 23: Rockingham Cooperative Farm Bureau (216-5014)**

The Rockingham Cooperative Farm Bureau (216-5014) at 406 West Spotswood Trail was the only documented example of this style. Erected in 1938, the masonry structure is constructed of brick laid in six-course Flemish bond. It is located at the intersection of Fifth Street and West Spotswood Trail in Elkton. The corner site allows the structure to employ the soft rounded corners indicative of the style. The distinctive streamlined effect that characterizes Art Moderne is presented by the banded glass block windows, store awnings over large picture windows, flat roof, and smooth wall finish. The glass block window bands are capped by wide concrete stringcourses, and separated by wide mullions of concrete. The horizontal placement of the varying construction materials provides the greatest level of stylistic ornamentation, and is contrasted by vertical brick piers that extend from foundation to roof parapet.

### **Other Styles**

A building that did not conform to a particular style was designated as "Other." This label was a common occurrence during the rural survey of the southern part of Rockingham County. A total of eighty-six primary resources and nearly 550 secondary resources, such as garages, barns, and

sheds, were labeled "Other." As stated previously, the majority of vernacular buildings have little or no stylistic detailing and are typically constructed by local builders with locally available tools and materials. Vernacular architecture accounts for the majority of the built environment and reflects the traditions of society and local craftsmen, rather than the whims of a trained architect. Throughout Rockingham County, there are a number of vernacular stone and log houses. Excellent examples of primary resources designated as "Other" include Kyles Mill Farm (082-5075), Peters-Standley House (082-5200), and the houses at 5442 Thompson Road (082-5137), 4918 Antioch Road (082-5138), and 1503 Pleasant Valley Road (082-5152) to name only a very few. Commercial buildings such as those at 1938 Cecil Wampler Road (082-5153), Tip Top Fruit Farm (081-5190), and 187 West Spotswood Avenue (216-5023) have been labeled "Other." Similarly, a number of rural churches and schools are also listed as "Other." This includes The Church of Solsburg (082-5195), Bethel Christian Church (082-5184), the school at 3705 Fox Mountain Road (082-5166), and the East Elkton Rosenwald Elementary School (082-5173). Utilitarian structures noted as "Other" include the powerhouse on Mount Pleasant Road near Elkton (082-5177) and the bridge at Williamsburg Road and State Route 42 (082-5020).

## **THEME: COMMERCE/TRADE**

### **RESOURCE TYPES: Hotels/Inns, Specialty Stores, Service Stations, and Financial Institutions**

Although populated by the commercial and trade industry today, Rockingham County historically was limited in the number of resources associated with the Commerce/Trade theme. In the past, the early businesses in the county were generally associated with the farm and agricultural industry. However, because the need for such industry was not confined within the boundaries of the rural county, the products were transported to the neighboring cities and counties. As major transportation routes developed, small temporary commercial enterprises, such as retail stores and taverns, were located at small crossroads or small towns to serve local residents and travelers. Typically, with the rise in population and the need for more retail establishments in the mid- to late-20<sup>th</sup> century, the smaller crossroads stores and taverns were abandoned in favor of larger stores and restaurants, and eventually, strip malls providing a variety of services. Thus, many of the historic stores and taverns at crossroads or in smaller towns did not withstand the rapid growth and construction that occurred. Many of these buildings were abandoned, adapted for alternate uses, or razed. Examples of this include the abandoned Cross Keys Tavern (082-0030), the former inn known as Montevideo (082-0079), and the former store at 1938 Cecil Wampler Road (082-5153).



**Figure 24: Store at 19968 Naked Creek Road (082-5167)**

The survey in the southern part of Rockingham County recorded fifty-six properties related to the Commerce/Trade theme. Of these, eleven buildings are located in the rural areas of the county, serving crossroads communities, major transportation routes, or small towns. Unfortunately, six of the buildings are currently vacant, and the remaining are suffering from neglect and deterioration. The remaining forty-five buildings are located in the larger towns, such as Elton, Mount Crawford, and Grottoes. Expectedly, the majority of the commercial buildings located in the larger communities are occupied with no known threat.

#### Hotel/Inns

One of the oldest documented examples of the rural commercial buildings located along major transportation corridors is the Mauzy House (082-0048) at 10559 North Valley Pike. The property where the Mauzy House stands was established as part of a stagecoach route in circa 1800. Located in the crossroads community of Mauzy, which was originally known as Spartopolis, the property was conveniently located midway between Tenth Legion and Lacey Spring. The wood frame structure, dating from the early part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, was constructed for William Pickering and later owned by Albert G. Mauzy. Augmenting its service as a stagecoach stop, the seven-bay-wide house was used as an inn/tavern for travelers passing through the crossroads community, which also consisted of Hays Tavern, a post office, and a variety of stores. Interestingly, the Mauzy House served as a model both in form and use for the inn known as Montevideo (082-0079), constructed by Albert Mauzy in the second quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century at 7995 McGaheysville Road in Penn Laird.



**Figure 25: Mauzy House (082-0048)**

### Stores

The rural commercial buildings of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries were more modest in size compared to the larger inns and taverns of the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Overwhelmingly, this building type was constructed of wood frame, standing one story in height with a shallow pitched roof. The buildings were generally located close to the road on property that also was improved by a single-family dwelling that was set back to ensure a visual separation. The one-story store at 19968 Naked Creek Road (082-5167), dating from the second quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, is an example of a modest commercial building located on a residential property. The now-vacant building is rectangular in shape, measuring three bays wide on the façade. The central entry is flanked by large window openings that are presently covered with plywood. A three-bay-wide porch, covered by a shed roof, extends the full width of the façade. The front gable of the building is concealed behind the stepped parapet located over the porch roof. Clad in weatherboard, the parapet has molded wood coping with scroll brackets. Although located in towns, the modest wood frame building at 903 Dogwood Avenue (228-5015) in Grottoes and the hollow-tile building in the 100 block of North Main Street in Mount Crawford (082-5091) are also excellent examples of this rural commercial building type.

In the more populated towns, commercial buildings are generally set close to the street, with little or no surrounding yard. The flat-fronted buildings typically stand one to two stories in height and are constructed of either wood frame or masonry, such as brick or concrete block. The flat roofs of the masonry building are obscured by ornamented parapets, such as those at the Leebrick Building at 405-409 West Spotswood Trail (216-5032) and the store at 403 West Spotswood Trail (216-5033). Oversized wood cornices hide the sloping roofs of the wood frame structures, which is the case at the Italianate-style entablature seen at the Pennington Building at 306 West Spotswood Trail (216-5013). Modest commercial buildings erected in larger communities like Elkton in the second and third quarters of the 20<sup>th</sup> century are generally unadorned. The two-part commercial fronts consist of a “soft” story that includes large show windows and pedestrian entries. The upper stories are typically used as office space, storage, and/or housing. These stores are typically pierced by flush-center or recessed-cant entries. Examples include 187 West Spotswood Avenue (216-5023), 311 West Spotswood Trail (216-5036), and 903 Dogwood Avenue (228-5015), to name a few.

One of the most interesting commercial spaces is the Rockingham Cooperative Farm Bureau Building in Elkton (216-5014). The building was erected in 1938 to provide services to the local agricultural community. The farming cooperative movement in the United States was strongest in rural areas like Rockingham County and the Shenandoah Valley. Farmers have formed cooperatives for many purposes, including marketing of produce, purchasing of production and home supplies, and provision of credit. The Rockingham Cooperative Farm Bureau, a cooperative corporation, was the legal owner of the property at 406 West Spotswood Trail and was responsible for meeting financial obligations such as blanket mortgage payments, property taxes, and management costs. The members of the bureau determined how the corporation was to fulfill these responsibilities through participation in membership meetings. The first floor of this Moderne-style building included shop space where farmers could sell their produce. Additionally, the first floor had a hardware store and clothing shop. The second and third floors were used as a warehouse for the storage of cement, feed, and cereals.

#### Mixed-Use Commercial/Domestic Buildings

The mixed-use store/dwelling at 2619 Newtown Road (082-5169) in Newtown is an excellent example of the commercial building type located at crossroads at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. This two-story wood frame building, covered by a front gable roof, is located exceptionally close to the intersection of Fox Mountain, Newtown, and Thoroughfare Roads. The narrow rectangular structure presents a three-bay-wide commercial entry on Newtown Road. Set over a slightly raised foundation, the first story consists of a double-leaf central entry flanked by large 2/2 double-hung, wood sash windows. The second story has a single-leaf central entry flanked by standard-sized 2/2 double-hung, wood sash windows. A two-story wood frame porch unites the stories. The residential portion of the building is delegated to the rear of the structure, with a single-leaf entry located along Fox Mountain Road. A second entry at the rear of the structure provides access to the back of the commercial space. This mixed-use store/dwelling is one of



thirty-one such buildings documented as part of this survey project. The majority of these store/dwellings, however, are located in larger towns such as Elkton, Mount Crawford, and Grottoes. This building type was commonly erected throughout the county as early as the 1850s and continued well in to the 20<sup>th</sup> century.



**Figure 26: Store/Dwelling at 2619 Newtown Road (082-5169)**

### Service Stations

In 1900, more than 8,000 cars were on the road nationwide; just fifteen years later the number was well over two million. In 1910, gasoline stations for roadside refueling were limited to bulk depots, but an organized system of retail gasoline outlets had not yet been formed. “To maximize quick profit return and realize low initial expenditures, the gasoline-producing oil companies initiated a crash campaign to secure existing businesses as new outlets to sell their gasoline to the public...soon this glut of gasoline could be purchased virtually anywhere along urban taxpayer strips, city streets, or country roadsides.”<sup>112</sup> Even though there were approximately 15,000 gas stations operating nationwide in 1920, most buildings were quite primitive.

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<sup>112</sup> Michael Karl Witzel, *The American Gas Station* (Osceola, WI: Motorbooks International Publishers & Wholesalers, 1992), pp. 29 and 39.

The small house type and the house with a canopy supplanted the curbside and shed type gas stations of the first quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The mid-1920s brought the “classic” filling station with ornamentation in the Bungalow/Craftsman, Tudor, Georgian, and Romanesque styles. The most popular style was the small house station that could be built with materials readily available and were compatible with the landscape and neighboring residential architecture. The sight of a little house selling gas along the roadside could also trigger thoughts of friendliness, comfort, and security to a motorist. The buildings were generally rectangular with a hipped or front gable roof, some with a canopy supported by two columns projecting out over a driveway. Most of these stations contained small offices, one or two storage rooms, and public restrooms. Serving the needs of the rural community, the modest buildings typically provided a limited selection of groceries.

Four such service stations were recorded as part of the survey – the 8000 Block of McGaheysville Road (082-5158), 10072 McGaheysville Road (082-5159), 18700 Spotswood Trail (082-5180), and 209A 6<sup>th</sup> Street (216-5012). Each of these buildings, dressed in the Bungalow/Craftsman style, has an inset canopy where the cars could be serviced, and a small convenience store.

### Financial Institutions

A single example of the financial institution, specifically a bank, was documented during the survey. Located in Elkton, the Rockingham Heritage Bank at 410 West Spotswood Trail (216-5015) was erected in 1907 as the Bank of Elkton. This one-story building, constructed of brick, is fashionably ornamented in the Classical Revival style of architecture in an attempt to show the institution’s stability and traditional practices. The bank was originally housed in a late-19<sup>th</sup>-century building erected for Dr. E.R. Pennington, awaiting the completion of the building on West Spotswood Trail. In 1957, the Bank of Elkton ceased to operate and, following renovations in 1996; the Rockingham Heritage Bank has occupied the temple-fronted building.

## **THEME: DOMESTIC**

### **RESOURCE TYPES: Single-Family Dwellings, Hotels, and Secondary Domestic Outbuildings**

During the architectural survey in the southern part of Rockingham County, 193 resources out of a total of 275 properties were documented as being associated with the Domestic theme. The resource types identified in the survey include 163 single-family dwellings, one ordinary, three hotels, thirty-one mixed-use dwellings and stores, and 696 associated outbuildings, such as sheds, well houses, smokehouses, pump houses, and garages. Intense development of domestic buildings in this area began in the Reconstruction and Growth Period (1866-1914), although the scope of the survey documented more properties from the Early National Period (1790-1830) and the Antebellum Period (1831-1860). A total of 104 of the 163 domestic properties

documented date from these two periods, specifically between 1790 and 1860. The greatest domestic growth during this seventy-year period occurred between 1840-1849, with thirty-six percent of the domestic resources dating from this nine-year span. This increase in domestic development was largely sparked by the tremendous population growth during the antebellum period, the need for housing, and the development of commercial and agricultural businesses.

The domestic resources in the survey area are typically two stories to two-and-a-half stories in height, constructed of wood frame or brick on slightly raised brick or stone foundations. The roofs are primarily side gable, and typically clad in standing seam metal. The chimneys, predominately constructed of brick, are equally both interior and exterior end. The dwellings tend to be five bays wide with a central-passage plan, however, a significant number of side-passage plans were documented. In total, 144 of the single-family dwellings have one-story porches on the façade, and twenty-two properties have porticoes. The wood-frame porches were typically three bays wide with Tuscan columns or posts. The architectural styles ranged from the Colonial style of the 18<sup>th</sup> century to the Bungalow/Craftsman style of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The dominant domestic styles are the Federal style of the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the Greek Revival style of the antebellum period. The Federal style was noted thirty-nine times and the Greek Revival was recorded thirty-eight out of the 163 of the domestic properties surveyed. The Italianate and Queen Anne styles were the third and fourth most popular styles identified in the survey, respectively. As explained in the Architecture theme, “Other” was denoted as the style for a substantial number of the vernacular dwellings (54 resources).

The substantial number of mixed-use buildings, joining domestic with commercial uses, was noted during the documentation of domestic resources dating from last quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Typically located in the smaller towns, this specific building type presents a divided primary elevation that distinctly shows the separation of the domestic and commercial spaces on the interior. A total of thirty-one mixed: domestic/commercial buildings were documented during the survey process. These properties are generally wood frame with stylistic detailing commonly associated with both the Italianate style and the Queen Anne style. Interestingly, the greatest level of ornamentation was generally applied to the domestic portion of the building.

Since most of the county developed in the 19<sup>th</sup> century as farmland, many of the properties surveyed include historic sheds, ice houses, summer kitchens, and corncribs to name a few associated outbuildings. The extant outbuildings associated with the agricultural context of Rockingham County were typically of a historic nature. Of the 696 identified, a total of 475 outbuildings were documented as historic. Most notable were the nine animal shelters, seventy-seven barns, blacksmith shop, two carriage houses, eight corncribs, six granaries, nine ice houses, five milk houses, thirty-eight poultry shelters, four root cellars, four slave quarters, and thirty-three smokehouses. The utilitarian function of the buildings dictated the predominantly wood frame, one- to two-story, front gable forms. The most prevalent outbuilding identified was the shed, which tended to be a catchall term for generic outbuildings. A total of 143 sheds were documented, seventy-seven of which were deemed to be historic. The number of barns

documented was also notable, with eighty-eight recorded (77 deemed historic). Like the more suburban areas, rural communities throughout the nation during the 20<sup>th</sup> century were predicated on the use of the automobiles, making garages an essential feature. A total of fifty-nine garages were identified during the survey, forty-one of which were determined to be historic.

## ***SINGLE-FAMILY DWELLINGS***

### **European Settlement to Society Period (1607-1750)**

Although the process of patenting and settling the land did not generally begin until well into the 17<sup>th</sup> century, it is known that Virginia colonists constructed houses in four basic forms during the late 17<sup>th</sup> and early 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. Hugh Morrison, in his authoritative study, *Early American Architecture*, defines four basic plans for these early dwellings: the one-room plan with an end chimney; the two-room plan with hall and parlor; the central-hall plan with end chimneys; and the most sophisticated, and most likely the last of these to be developed, the cross plan with a two-story front projection and a projecting stair tower to the rear.<sup>113</sup> Typically, these dwellings were crudely constructed of local materials without stylistic embellishments.

Five properties were recorded to have been erected during this period, although several of the original structures have been substantially enlarged to reflect styles, forms, and plans more commonly associated with the Early National Period (1790-1830) and Antebellum Period (1831-1860). The original log portion of Lincoln Hall (082-0094), which has undergone three subsequent building campaigns, consisted of a one-story, one-room plan with a massive exterior end chimney. Dating from circa 1742, the original portion of the building is constructed of half-round logs and hand-hewn beams with a dirt floor.

The hall/parlor plan is distinctly recognized through the building's two- to three-bay-wide plan, with the central entry placed slightly off-center and end chimney. Kyles Mill Farm (082-5075) and the house at 5128 Bear Foot Lane (082-5171) display the hall/parlor plan. Both examples are constructed of hand-hewn logs and lime chinking. Kyles Mill Farm, which was enlarged to four bays wide about 1838, had a hall/parlor plan with a winder stair located in the west corner of the hall. The second story contained a single room that measured 18" by 24." A large stone chimney in the parlor heated the house. Iron belts were placed within the mortar joints of the stone and connected to the logs with a tie bar to prevent the chimney from pulling away from the structure.<sup>114</sup>

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<sup>113</sup> Hugh Morrison, *Early American Architecture: From the First Colonial Settlements to the National Period* (New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 1952), pp. 140-141.

<sup>114</sup> Lisa Tucker, "Kyle's Mill House, Rockingham County, VA National Register of Historic Places Registration Form," 2000, Section 7, pp.2-3.

The house at 5128 Bear Foot Lane was erected in the middle part of the 18<sup>th</sup> century in the vicinity of Elkton. The main block of this log building is largely intact as erected, exposing the V-notched joints and lime chinking. Measuring three bays wide, the one-and-a-half-story building has a hall/parlor plan with one massive exterior-end stone chimney. The single-leaf entry is set slightly off-center, indicating the hall/parlor plan of the interior. A stone addition was erected on the now-restored building, which is covered by a steeply pitched side gable roof.

Another plan that commonly was erected throughout the Middle-Atlantic region and upper South was a Germanic interpretation of the common Colonial-era forms.<sup>115</sup> This plan consisted of three unequal rooms – a large hall or kitchen (*Kich*) to the right of the chimney, with a smaller parlor or stove room (*Schtupp*) and chamber or bedroom (*kammer*) to the left. William Penn had urged German settlers in Pennsylvania to adopt this form in 1684, which may have originated with Swedish settlers on the Delaware.

Insert floor plan example of Penn plan

The intensive level survey did aid in the positive identification of two Germanic plans – Bowman Homestead (082-5201) and Mannheim (082-0005). Additionally, the Adam Miller House (082-0017) at 1207-1209 North East Side Highway, which was documented at the reconnaissance level, appears to have a Germanic plan, although this was not investigated.

The original portion of the Bowman Homestead dates to the middle of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, when George Bowman owned the property (See Figure 1). This now-vacant dwelling is composed of two separate log sections joined at the middle by a wood frame structure. The oldest section of the log building, set to the west, is constructed of large hand-hewn square logs of pine and oak with V-notching. Rectangular in plan, this three-room structure consists of a kitchen, stove room, and chamber on the first floor. The second floor similarly has three rooms, accessed by a steep ladder stair located in the kitchen. The eastern portion of the building, dating from the early part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, is constructed of large, exceptionally long, hand-hewn square logs of pine and oak. The structure has dovetail notching, and a partial basement created by the slope

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<sup>115</sup> Massey and Maxwell, pp. 15-25; Carley, pp. 40-41.

of the site. Both log structures have wood scraps and lime chinking. The exterior is whitewashed, and displays nail marks indicating the structure was once clad in weatherboard. The massive limestone chimney is located in the center of the eastern portion of the building. A second, exterior end chimney once heated the addition to the west, but it has since been removed.



**Figure 27: Mannheim Interior (082-0005)**

The stone dwelling known as Mannheim was erected during the Colonial to Nation Period (1751-1789). It is worthy of noting during this discussion of the European Settlement to Society Period (1607-1750) as the building also has a Germanic plan. Located at 4713 Wengers Mill Road, the original portion of this building dates from about 1771 (See Figure 2). It was constructed on a tract of land that was originally part of a 360-acre plantation owned by Michael Kauffman (also seen as Coffman). An off-center door with a four-light transom pierces the three-bay-wide limestone portion of the building. Two elongated 9/6 double-hung, wood sash windows with jack-arched stone lintels and molded wood surrounds also mark the first story of the façade. The second-story 6/6 double-hung, wood sash windows have similar surrounds and are placed just below the slightly overhanging eaves and molded cornice. The three-room Germanic plan of the first floor of the main block is mirrored on the second floor, which is accessed by an enclosed winder stair in the east corner of the building. A wood frame ell was constructed on the rear of the building about 1855.

### **Colony to Nation Period (1751-1789)**

The gradual increase in the number of larger households and the wealth of the planters and merchants during the Colony to Nation Period (1750-1789) began to cause a saturation of the agricultural market. Consequently, an economic depression stymied the county and created a change in the demographic growth of residential development. Despite the growing gap between classes, the population had stabilized and the volume of land conveyed actually was reduced, thereby creating a solid sense of community by the middle part of the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

In general, the dwellings erected during this period continued to be modest in size and ornamentation. Typically Georgian in style, the dwellings of the Middle Colonies were usually constructed of stone or brick with variations of the northern and southern architectural trends. The most common features and details of dwellings in Virginia during this period include the side-gable, a hooded or porticoed main entry, central-passage plan, and interior end chimneys. With the end of the Revolution, the country as a whole began to develop new building styles, such as the Federal and Early Classical styles, based on changing European fashions.

A total of six domestic resources dating from 1751 to 1789 were identified in this survey. One of the oldest domestic dwellings from this period is Mannheim, which was discussed previously. Like Mannheim, the Alexander Kyger House (082-0326) at 8099 Shady Grove Road near Port Republic is constructed of limestone. This large, five-bay-wide dwelling has a central-passage, double-pile plan. Denoted as Federal, this vernacular building was erected in the third quarter of the 18<sup>th</sup> century and stands two-and-a-half stories in height with a side gable roof. The primary façade is marked by the central entry, which holds a six-paneled door with square-edged surrounds and eight-light transom. The 6/6 double-hung, wood sash windows have narrow surrounds with molded backbanding. Two interior-end chimneys with brick caps that protrude from the side gable roof originally heated the structure.

Constructed of brick, Lynnwood (082-0015) and the house at 1299 North River Road (082-5110) are similar to the Alexander Kyger House in form and plan. Lynnwood, located at 9154 Dilworth Drive, was erected about 1754 for Thomas Lewis, the first surveyor for Rockingham County. The structure is constructed of brick laid in three-course American bond. The house at 1299 North River Road, dating from about 1780, is constructed of brick laid in Flemish bond on a randomly coursed limestone foundation. Both dwellings measure five bays in width with central-passage entries and double-pile plans. Exterior-end brick chimneys on each side elevation heat Lynnwood, while the house on River Road has paired end brick chimneys on each side elevation.



**Figure 28: Peters-Standley House (082-5200)**

Although similar in form to the five-bay-wide dwellings just presented, the Peters-Standley House (082-5200) and the house at 5745 Cross Keys Road (082-5100) both have single-pile plans within exposed log structures. Both buildings stand two-and-a-half stories in height on stone foundations, with side gable roofs and exterior-end chimneys. The Peters-Standley House was constructed about 1780 for John Standley on property previously owned by and surveyed for John Peters. The log structure, executed with V-notched joints and wood chinking, has a hall/parlor plan with an enclosed quarter-flight stair at the rear of the hall. Although the house on Cross Keys Road was only documented at the reconnaissance level, based on the form and fenestration, it appears to have a central-passage plan, rather than a hall/parlor plan presented at the Peters-Standley House.

### **Early National Period (1790-1830)**

Throughout the Early National Period, Rockingham County continued to grow. In 1791, Keezletown was founded and, between 1801 and 1804, McGaheysville, Port Republic, and New Haven were laid out. The population of the Valley in 1790, as noted by the first official census, was 85,311. Of this, Rockingham County was home to 7,449 residents. Accordingly, the survey identified a total of forty-five domestic buildings in Rockingham County that had been originally constructed between 1790 and 1830, embracing the various fashionable architectural styles of the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Of the forty-five buildings identified, twenty-two were constructed of brick,



twenty are wood frame, and three are limestone. Generally, the buildings are two-and-a-half stories in height with side gable roofs, end chimneys, and front porches. The buildings are equally three or five bays wide with central-passage entries. Examples of this include the houses at 7591 Lee Highway (082-5087) 8398 Greenhouse Road (082-5106), 1093 Friedens Church Road (082-5111), and 9129 Kiser Road (082-5114).

Typically, the dwellings from this period present central-passage plans, either single or double pile. One noted exception is Farmingreen (082-5202) at 3530 Linville Edom Road. Dating from 1825, this brick structure was erected for property owner Henry Wenger on his 600-acre plantation. Remarkably, the dwelling sits on 121 acres that are presently owned by the seventh generation of the Wenger family. The two-and-a-half-story building has a three-bay-wide main block that presents a hall/parlor plan. Although alterations have been conducted on the interior, it remains remarkably intact with its mantels, paneled wainscoting, projecting chair board, and dog-leg stair. This stair has a round newel on a square base, round handrail with easement and gooseneck, square balusters, paneled carriage wall, scroll brackets, and wall stringer.

The circa 1820 house known as Bell Manor was one of the most interesting domestic buildings documented. This imposing dwelling was originally constructed with an L-shaped plan that afforded two façades. The façades were identically finished with seven-course Flemish-bond brickwork, a four-course rounded brick cornice, and a rowlock brick course running over the wooden lug lintels, which are detailed with bulls-eye molding. The less ornate secondary elevation, facing west, is constructed of brick laid in five-course American bond. Historic photographs reveal a Federal-style portico supported by brick columns on the façade. The columns were composed of four triangular-shaped bricks, each numbered 1 through 4 to ensure the proper circular column. The original porch as been extended to wrap around the east elevation and the full-height brick columns are set on square posts (thereby providing bricks for the east elevation).



**Figure 29: Bell Manor (082-0209)**

The interior of this building also follows the two-façade ideal, as it originally consisted of two public parlors, two private parlors, and two enclosed winder stairs. A single entry opening provided access between the two sets of dwellings. The second floor of the building was also divided into separate living spaces with no interior access.

Contentment, located at 253 Contentment Lane, is a Georgian-style brick building documented during the survey that dates from this period. A side-gabled roof and paired exterior-end brick chimneys dominate this imposing structure, constructed of Flemish-bond brick on four sides. John Grattan owned the property as early as 1769, although the present dwelling was not constructed until about 1825. Symmetrically fenestrated, this building is pierced on the first and second stories with elongated 12/12 double-hung, wood sash windows with lug wood sills and lintels. The roof, now clad in standing seam metal, is ornately edged with a double-coursed sawtooth brick pattern. The full-width front porch was added to the façade in the latter part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. On the interior, the dwelling features the typical Georgian floor plan, with a wide hall flanked by four parlors. The elegant stair, located in the south corner of the building, consists of a dog-leg plan with two half-landings. It is ornamented with a paneled stringer, brackets, turned balusters, and a molded wall stringer and chair board. The newel is composed of a narrow turned shaft set on a square base with a square cap.

The domestic theme also includes inns and ordinaries, such as the Cross Keys Tavern (082-0030). Erected about 1800, the Cross Keys Tavern got its name from the tavern sign that originally hung above the primary entry of the building. This name lent itself to the community that grew around the tavern in the early part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. By 1804, a post office was established in the tavern, with J. Hancock as the first postmaster. From 1823 to 1845, the building served as the residence and general store of Rodham Kemper. In June 1862, the house served as a Civil War hospital during the Battle of Cross Keys. The form of the wood frame structure is typical of the many dwellings constructed in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. It measures five bays wide with a central-passage plan. Rising two-and-a-half-stories in height, the building is serviced by interior-end chimneys of stone.

### **Antebellum Period (1831-1860)**

By the 1830s, Rockingham County began to experience a population decline. The greatest decrease was noted by the 1840 census, with 17,344 persons recorded. This was a reduction of 3,339 citizens from just ten years prior. By 1850, however, the number of persons residing in the county had increased to 20,294 and, by 1860, the county was home to 23,668 people. Countywide, in 1850, Rockingham was improved by the construction of 3,047 dwellings for 3,064 families.

The survey identified fifty-nine antebellum period domestic resources, the majority of which were constructed of brick on brick or stone foundations. The buildings, predominately two- to two-and-a-half stories, have side gable roofs with either exterior-end or interior-end brick chimneys. Often, these houses measured three, four, and five bays in width. Like the dwellings erected in the previous period, the domestic resources of the antebellum period typically have an I-house plan, being central-passage, single-pile with Greek Revival proportions and applied elements. This same I-house plan was also often detailed with Early Classical Revival motifs. Such examples include the houses at 111 Koogler Lane (082-5144) and 210 South Main Street (082-5083).

Dating from between 1840 and 1855, the house on South Main Street in Mount Crawford is constructed of brick laid in Flemish bond. It rises two-and-a-half-stories in height on a limestone foundation. Interior-end brick chimney caps pierce the steeply pitched side gable roof. The window openings are elongated on both the first and second stories of the primary elevation, each holding 9/6 double-hung, wood sash windows. It has a central-passage single-pile plan. The contemporaneous dwelling at 111 Koogler Lane in Dayton is constructed of eight-course American bond brick with a staggered Flemish bond brick façade. Measuring three bays in width, the building is covered by a side gable roof replete with paired interior-end brick chimneys and a four-coursed corbeled brick cornice. It has a central-passage, double-pile plan.

The 1835 dwelling at 609 Pineville Road (082-5095) in Montevideo is constructed of brick laid in Flemish bond. The five-bay-wide façade, originally finished with an Early Classical Revival-style portico, now has a three-bay-wide, one-story porch with Italianate-style detailing. This building has a central-passage, single-pile plan augmented by a two-and-a-half-story rear ell. Located at the eastern end of the rear elevation, the ell is finished with a two-story wood frame porch that wraps around the rear of the main block and west elevation of the ell.

Drawing from the large Georgian plans typical of the Colony to Nation Period (1751-1789) and the Early National Period (1790-1830), the dwellings at 8610 Wise Hollow Road (082-5118) and 4090 Cross Keys Road (082-5096) are more square in form than the rectangular form of their contemporary neighbors. Each dwelling presents a central-passage, double-pile plan set under a hipped roof. Yet, unlike their rectangular counterparts, the dwellings have interior parlors that are nearly square in plan. The placement of the chimney caps at 4067 Cross Keys Road suggests the fireplaces are located on the interior walls dividing the double-pile parlors.



**Figure 30: House at 4090 Cross Keys Road (082-5096)**

### **Civil War Period (1861-1865)**

During the Civil War Period (1861-1865), the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia's most important agricultural region, was the site of 326 incidents of armed conflict during the Civil War, including six major battles, 21 engagements, 21 actions, and 278 skirmishes. Throughout the Civil War, Confederate armies used the Shenandoah Valley as a natural corridor to invade or

threaten invasion of the North. By 1864, the Confederate three-year hold on the Valley was in peril. It was necessary for the South to maintain this region, with its agriculture, livestock, and access to the Virginia Central Railroad and the Virginia & Tennessee Railroad. The Union threat began early in May 1864, when General Robert E. Lee learned that two Federal armies were moving into the Valley. The impending Valley Campaign of 1864 resulted in the destruction of many properties, including a significant number of agricultural outbuildings. Fortunately, no dwellings were reported to have been destroyed. The impact on the economy of the region during the Civil War, however, resulted in a lack of domestic construction. Thus, no dwellings were recorded to have been constructed during the war. Yet, a single resource was documented as having been erected in the first year of the hostilities – the Miller House (082-0016).

Dating from circa 1861, the Miller House at 8620 Warm Springs Road stands two stories in height. It is constructed of brick laid in seven-course American bond with a staggered Flemish-bond brick façade. The shallow-pitched side gable roof, now clad in standing seam metal, is largely hidden from view by the stepped parapets and paired end chimneys that mark the side elevations of the structure. The three-bay-wide façade features a central entry flanked by single 6/6 double-hung, wood sash windows. As the paired chimneys suggest, the building has a double-pile plan with a single window opening illuminating each of the parlors from the side elevations. Typical of the period, a portico ornately shelters the main entry on the façade. This wood frame structure has a flat roof edged with a balustrade. It is supported by large paired Tuscan posts with square balusters set between. Single Tuscan pilasters frame the entry, which is also finished with sidelights and a transom.

### **Reconstruction and Growth Period (1866-1917)**

The Shenandoah Valley recovered more rapidly from the devastation of the Civil War than any other region of Virginia. This was largely due to the fertility of the soil, and the limited dependence on slave labor traditionally employed to cultivate it before the war. The repair, rebuilding and replacement of the many destroyed barns, fencing, and mills became the primary objective of the residents. Between the war's end and 1868, nearly five hundred residences were erected countywide, in addition to at least 150 barns and twenty gristmills.<sup>116</sup>

Nearly one hundred buildings dating from this period were documented during the survey effort, with sixty of those relating to the Domestic theme. The majority of those included in the survey date from the last decade of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, reflecting the steady rise in population that began in the 1870s. The dwellings from this period reflect many of the fashionable architectural styles of the Victorian period, presenting a variety of forms. These forms include the traditional three-bay-wide I-house augmented by a rear ell, the L-shape with inset porch, and the three-bay-wide square plan set under a single hipped roof. Generally, the buildings are set on solid brick or limestone foundations, and are constructed of wood frame or brick. The roofs, typically cross or

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<sup>116</sup> Hess, p. 245.

side gable, are clad in standing seam metal or slate tiles. Examples include the house at 133 Mount Crawford Avenue (176-5002), the house at 411 South Main Street (082-5078), the house at 8649 Warm Springs Road (082-5103), and the house at 4857 Rawley Pike (082-5132) to name a few.



**Figure 31: House at 133 Mount Crawford Avenue (176-5002)**

Erected in the last decade of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the dwelling at 133 Mount Crawford Avenue is constructed of wood frame dressed in Italianate-style detailing. The stylistic embellishments on this vernacular building include the sawn balustrade and scroll brackets on the three-bay-wide front porch and the brackets and wide frieze of the side gable roof. The placement of the chimneys at the center of the structure reflects the introduction of stove heating, thereby allowing side elevations to be pierced by window openings that provide more natural light. The dwelling at 5857 Rawley Pike, constructed in 1888, displays a similar form with center chimneys and high-style Italianate ornamentation.

A number of buildings with commercial spaces were noted throughout the survey area, the earliest dating from the first part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century when single-family dwellings served travelers as inns and taverns. Typically, these shared-use buildings appear to be a single-family dwelling on the exterior with interior space allocated for specific commercial purposes. By the latter part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, buildings erected to serve a dual purpose, such as a store and dwelling, maintained two separate facades within a single structure. This was noted sixteen times during the survey in southern Rockingham County, particularly in the town of Elkton.

Some examples include the buildings at 113 South Main Street (082-5090), 104-106 West Spotswood Trail (216-5017) and 94 Ashby Avenue (216-5054) in Elkton, and 208 6<sup>th</sup> Street (228-5011) in Grottoes.

A unique domestic resource documented only twice during the survey is the hotel. The examples recorded include the Hotel Rockingham (228-5009) at 612 6<sup>th</sup> Street in Grottoes and the hotel at 1512 Cecil Wampler Road (082-5151) in Pleasant Valley. Like single-family dwellings, these buildings are modest in form, located within residential neighborhoods. The Hotel Rockingham, for example, is three bays wide with a central entry flanked by 2/2 double-hung, wood sash windows. The first story is sheltered by a Victorian-era porch consisting of thin turned posts, single and paired brackets, and a wide frieze. The entablature of the two-story structure is composed of a wide frieze clad in vertical siding and pierced by semi-circular arched openings with louvered vents. These openings are set over the molded architrave. The bays of the façade are marked in the frieze by large scroll brackets that stretch from the architrave to the eaves of the building. Smaller scroll brackets visually support the cornice, which is boxed and has a substantial overhang. Because of the building's location on the corner of 6<sup>th</sup> Street and Birch Avenue, this ornate entablature wraps around the three-bay-deep side elevation in an effort to attract patrons. Although the building no longer serves as a hotel, the words "Hotel Rockingham" are still visible on the side elevation under the entablature.



**Figure 32: Hotel Rockingham (228-5009)**

### **World War I to World War II Period (1918-1945)**

During the World War I to World War II Period (1918-1945), Rockingham County experienced the greatest population decline since its founding in 1778. This decrease was the result of the incorporation of Harrisonburg as an independent city followed by several annexations. Furthermore, increased commercial, educational, and industrial opportunities in the urban centers during the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century resulted in population shifts from rural areas to growing cities and towns. Thus, domestic construction was largely centered in these areas rather than the rural regions of the county. This is clearly demonstrated in the survey of the southern portion of Rockingham County, with all seventeen of the documented domestic properties dating from between 1918 and 1945 being located in the towns of Bridgewater, Grottoes, or Elkton. No rural domestic resources were recorded for this period.

Furthermore, the domestic resources dating from the 20<sup>th</sup> century period reflect the mixed commercial/residential use noted in the previous period. Of the seventeen domestic properties surveyed, fifteen were constructed as commercial buildings with residential space. Unlike the mixed-use buildings of the previous Reconstruction and Growth Period, however, these buildings generally present a more commercial form with storefront windows. The residential space is relegated to the second story, reduced to a secondary function. Examples of store/dwellings erected during this period include the building at 313-315 West Spotswood Trail (216-5035), 101 Warren Street (216-5011), 105 Warren Street (216-5044), and 179 West Spotswood Avenue (216-5020), all located in the town of Elkton.

After the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the traditional single-family domestic form continued to be interpreted for economy and convenience. The resulting bungalow mimicked the plan and massing traditionally associated with the fashionable Queen Anne style; yet, the bungalow form was invariably one to one-and-a-half stories in height. Overwhelmingly known as a style rather than a form, the bungalow is covered by a low-pitched, intersecting gable roof that encompassed the often wrap-around porch. The irregular plan allowed for additional window openings and direct access to the porch from various secondary rooms. The modest arrangement of the wood frame buildings made them one of the most popular low- to middle-income domestic forms in growing suburban communities across the United States.

The modest bungalow was often finished with exposed rafter ends, multi-light fixed windows, and massive porch supports. This is illustrated at the dwellings at 806 Edgewood Avenue (228-5019) in Grottoes and 115 Broad Street (176-5003) in Bridgewater. The ornate dwelling at 806 Edgewood Avenue, dating from 1928, is set on a poured concrete foundation. An imposing hipped roof marked by front gable projection covers the wood frame structure, now clad in vinyl siding. Each of the enclosed gables is pierced by tripartite window openings. A front gable dormer with a 1/1 double-hung, vinyl sash window provides additional light to the second floor of the building. The façade is asymmetrically fenestrated with a three-sided canted bay and



single-window opening. The entry to the dwelling is located in the canted bay, which also holds large 6/6 double-hung, vinyl sash windows. A wrap-around porch, a structural element indicative of the bungalow form, shelters the first story of this one-and-a-half-story house. The porch has tapered Tuscan posts and a solid balustrade clad in vinyl siding.

The bungalow at 115 Broad Street, dating from the 1920s, is more modest in form and detailing. Set on a solid concrete block foundation, the wood frame building is clad in weatherboard siding. It is square in plan, augmented by a full-width front porch that is inset under the roof of the main block. A single shed-roofed dormer with paired 1/1 double-hung windows pierces the side gable roof. Tuscan columns, finished with square balusters, support the roof of the porch. Large 1/1 double-hung, wood sash replacement windows flank the central entry.

## ***SECONDARY DOMESTIC STRUCTURES***

### **Plantation-related Domestic Structures**

Rockingham County was the site of numerous agricultural estates of all sizes. The design of the plantation was largely an expression of the owner's tastes, the crops being cultivated, and the number of workers needed to run the estate.<sup>118</sup> Even though ownership of a lavish estate was beyond the reach of most southerners, planters of more modest means still tried to make their houses and gardens fashionable by incorporating some formal qualities of design. The space surrounding the main dwellings of these modest planters, however, suggested an obvious concern with workaday routine that was relieved only slightly by a few ornamental shrubs.

As the number of slaves in Rockingham County was significantly low by comparison, only four examples of slave quarters or servants' quarters were identified in the survey. Discussed at length in the Ethnicity/Immigration theme, the documented slave quarters are located at Mannheim (082-0005) and Bogota (082-0029). Resembling cottages in a small village, the slave quarters were traditionally in a block pattern with the buildings lined in rows. The dwellings were often located a considerable distance from the main dwelling, thus allowing the slaves to create their own landscape. In Rockingham County, the examples identified were typically of masonry construction and one to one-and-a-half stories in height with brick chimneys.

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<sup>118</sup> John Michael Vlach, *Back of the Big House: The Architecture of Plantation Slavery*, (Chapel Hill, NC: The University of North Carolina Press, 1993), pp. 1-6.

<sup>119</sup> Vlach, p. 9.

<sup>120</sup> Vlach, p. 135.

## **Domestic Outbuildings**

### Summer Kitchens

Detached summer kitchens are often associated with single-family dwellings as well as the larger plantations and farms. The kitchens are generally one-story structures set away from the house to confine fire danger and to remove heat from the main dwelling. In Rockingham County, the detached kitchens are constructed of wood frame with end chimneys of brick.

Of the five detached kitchens identified in the survey, the majority post-date the primary dwelling. The ruins of two summer kitchens were also recorded. The wood frame kitchen associated with the Jacob Click House (082-0182) at 6398 Mossy Creek Road is one of the largest examples documented. This wood frame structure, dating from the middle part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, measures one bay wide and two bays deep. The centrally located entry is exceptionally wide for a single-leaf opening. The rear elevation of the one-and-a-half-story kitchen is dominated by an exterior-end chimney of limestone with a shouldered brick stack.

One of the oldest examples of a summer kitchen noted in the survey was located at 5745 Cross Keys Road (082-5100). Dating from the turn-of-the-19<sup>th</sup>-century, this one-story building has a square form set on coursed stone. The structural system of the now restored building is squared log with V-notching and concrete chinking. The shallow-pitched front gable roof projects over the façade, sheltering the wide entry opening. A massive exterior-end brick chimney on a limestone foundation dominates the rear elevation.

### Smokehouses

The smokehouse was used for smoking meat, a process that preserved and enhanced the flavor of the meat. The archetypal smokehouse is a small, one-story rectangular masonry structure with a gable roof. With the exception of the door and small air ventilators, there usually are no other openings. The structures were common during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, but improvements in refrigeration and custom packing of meat during the 20<sup>th</sup> century eliminated the need for them.

Thirty-four examples of the smokehouse were located in Rockingham County during the current survey. Typically these were one-room wood frame structures with steeply pitched gable roofs. Excellent examples of smokehouses are located throughout the county, including those at Mannheim (082-0005), Bowman Homestead (082-5201), and the house 1454 Pleasant Valley Road (082-5147). The circa 1830 smokehouse at Mannheim, for example, is a one-story structure that is one bay square. It is constructed of hand-hewn logs with V-notched joints. The building, which is clad on the primary elevation with vertical and weatherboard siding, is set on a coursed foundation of limestone.

### Privy

The privy, or outhouse, is among the smallest outbuildings. This narrow, single room, rectangular frame structure normally has a shed or gable roof and vertical board wall treatment although occasionally masonry privies were built. Since privies were standard features before indoor plumbing, the structures are found in both rural and urban settings, with several still in use.

A total of twenty privies were documented in the survey, nineteen of which were of a historic nature. Following the common shed roof form, the privy at the Harshbarger Farm (082-0402) is clad with vertical board siding. The window-less structure is pierced by a single-leaf entry. The privy at 4742 Thoroughfare Road (082-5170) is similar, although it is clad in weatherboard siding rather than vertical boards.

### Springhouses

Springhouses are structures built at sources of water to ensure the protection of springs from pollutants and animals, as well as provide a cool, clean space for storing dairy products. Springhouses were typically constructed of brick or stone, which offered the best insulation, and were located at the base of a slope where a spring usually emerged from the ground. In some cases, the water was channeled through troughs that were located in the floor or were slightly raised from the floor of the springhouses. The water flowed continuously through the springhouse, supplying a steady inflow of cooling water. In order to prevent mildew and mold, adequate ventilation was required, usually accomplished with the use of louvers or roof ventilators. Customarily, the buildings were boxy with shed or gable roofs and a single entry door.

A number of examples of the springhouse survive in Rockingham County; twenty-three were documented during the survey. Typically, these structures are one story in height with gable roofs of standing seam metal. The springhouse at 8340 Wise Hollow Road (082-5117) is set on a stone foundation that is set deeply into the slope of the site. The wood frame structure is clad with weatherboard siding and topped by a gable roof that extends over the primary entry. The springhouse at 111 Koogler Lane (082-5144) is constructed of random-coursed limestone with a stucco finish. The small rectangular structure, consisting of one room, is accessed by a single-leaf opening with a square-edged wood surround.

### Milk Houses

Often functioning in the same manner as springhouses, milk houses were typically constructed of brick or stone, which offered the best insulation, and were located at the base of a slope where the spring usually emerged from the ground. The buildings were boxy with shed or gable roofs

and a single entry door. The dairy is generally a small structure, large enough to provide a cooling container for milk cans.

Few examples of the milk house survive in Rockingham County. Six milk houses on five properties were identified – 8254 Ironhorse Road (082-5105), 1093 Friedens Church Road (082-5111), 9129 Kiser Road (082-5114), 111 Koogler Lane (082-5144), and 1819 Pleasant Valley Road (082-5155). Dating from the middle part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, these milk houses are all constructed of concrete block with gabled roofs trimmed with exposed rafter ends. The structures are one story in height and extending from three to five bays in width.

### Wash Houses

As documented in *An Age of Barns* by Eric Sloane, the wash house was a secondary outbuilding used for the purpose of laundering. One story in height, the typical wash houses of Virginia had rectangular plans with front gable roofs. The foundation plan suggested a three-bay-deep structure; yet, the buildings generally were just two bays deep with a covered "cut-away" porch.<sup>121</sup> Although this two-bay-deep form was commonly found in other regions of Virginia, it was not overwhelmingly prominent in Rockingham County. Rather, the wash houses in Rockingham County were generally covered by gable roofs with no covered porches or ornamentation. Generally, these structures are larger in form, presenting a rectangular plan rather than the squarer plan of the wash houses with cut-away porches. Furthermore, the wash houses documented in Rockingham County are typically one-and-a-half-stories, rather than one story in height. Twenty-six such structures were identified in Rockingham County, including Bogota (082-0029), Hillcrest (082-5106), the house at 806 Edgewood Avenue (228-5019), 535 South Main Street (082-5089), and 133 Mount Crawford Avenue (176-5002) to name just a few.

The late-19<sup>th</sup>-century wash house at Hillcrest on Greenhouse Road is a typical example of the Rockingham County wash house. Standing one-and-a-half stories in height on a shallow foundation, the wood frame structure is clad in weatherboard siding. It has a front gable roof clad in standing seam metal and overhanging eaves that expose the sheathing of the roof structure. The exterior-end chimney, set on the rear of the building, is constructed of stone with a brick shaft. The one-bay-wide façade features a single-leaf entry. The deeper side elevations each have one 6/6 double-hung, wood sash window.

### Icehouse

Unlike many outbuildings, the icehouse was not characterized by distinctive or peculiar architecture; thus, the farmer could express himself freely. Consequently, the icehouse was often the fanciest building on the property, save the main dwelling. The buildings were typically

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<sup>121</sup> Eric Sloane, *An Age of Barns* (Washington, DC: Funk and Wagnalls Publishing Company, Inc. For the American Museum of Natural History, 1967), p. 60.

rectangular and of wood frame construction simply because this form and method of construction were cheapest and most convenient. Occasionally, the buildings were made of brick or stone, and sometimes a round form was employed. Most were freestanding, and many were partially or wholly excavated pits lined with mortar or stone. Providing insulation to guarantee preservation of the ice, the icehouse had thick walls of non-conducting material. Roof ventilators drew off excess warm air, while the roof itself was often covered with hay, straw, or some other insulating material.

Eight examples of icehouses were documented in the survey, all of which were deemed historic. These buildings range in date from the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century to the second quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Several of the examples are set into the slope of hill, allowing the earth to keep the ice cool. All of the eight examples have gable roofs, the majority being front gabled. Many of the icehouses included in the survey are constructed of wood frame, although two limestone examples were recorded. Additionally, the two examples dating from the 20<sup>th</sup> century are constructed of concrete blocks. The examples recorded are located at the Miller House (082-0016), Meadowview Farm (082-0053), Devier House (082-0177), 6449 Williams Run Road (082-5098), 3573 Ash Lane (082-5162), 4742 Thoroughfare Road (082-5170), 18228 Mount Pleasant Road (082-5179), and 14649 Model Road (082-5192).

### Garages

In 1900, more than 8,000 cars were on the road nationwide; just fifteen years later the number was well over two million. America's fascination with the automobile made a tremendous impact on the laying of new roads and the siting of resources within a property. In addition, the trend caused the manipulation of traditional styles and forms as the garage struggled to be architecturally compatible and non-intrusive to the rural landscape.

By the 1920s, the main dwelling house and the garage were being erected simultaneously. Traditionally, garages of this period mimicked the architectural style and detailing exhibited on the dwelling. This was particularly true with regard to building materials, roof form, and plan. A total of forty-four garages were recorded during the survey.

### Other Outbuildings

Other outbuildings documented only minimally include one bake oven, four barbecue pits, three carports, two carriage house, five gazebos, two green houses, one hitching post, four kennels, nine pools, nine pumps, four root cellars, three tennis courts, five wells, fourteen well houses, and five windmills.

**THEME: EDUCATION**

**RESOURCE TYPES: Schools and Colleges**

During the survey of Rockingham County, eighteen properties were documented for their association with the Education theme. Four 19<sup>th</sup>-century properties include historic school buildings where children were taught lessons by private tutors. Similarly, the German Reformed Church Parsonage (082-5204) maintained a dual purpose when the parson provided educational classes in the original one-room portion of the structure. Examples of seven public schools include the Pleasant Valley Schools (082-5134/5135), Elkton Elementary School (216-5053), East Elkton Rosenwald Elementary School (082-5173), and Oakland View School (082-5133). Finally, six buildings associated with Bridgewater College were included in the survey at the request of the Rockingham County Department of Planning.



**Figure 33: Mauzy House Schoolhouse (082-0048)**

Private Tutors

In the early part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, no public schools had yet been established in Rockingham County. Thus, many of the more prominent landowners employed private tutors to teach their young children, and often included the neighboring children. Often, these school buildings were located a short distance from the main dwelling, built of wood frame clad in weatherboard with a side-gable roof. The one-room schoolhouse at the Mauzy House (082-0048) was constructed in the middle part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Set on a stone foundation, the one-bay rectangular building

has a single-leaf entry topped by a multi-light transom and 6/6 double-hung, wood sash windows. A massive exterior-end chimney dominates the rear of the building.

The turn-of-the-20<sup>th</sup>-century one-room schoolhouse at the S.P.H. Miller House (216-5008) is similar in form with its single-leaf entry topped by a single-light transom and 2/2 double-hung, wood sash windows. The shallow-pitched front-gable roof is finished with overhanging eaves, a molded cornice, scroll brackets, and returns. A brick chimneystack rises from the center of the structure.

The schoolhouse associated with the George R. Gibbons House (082-0298) at 7855 Warm Springs Road was constructed in the 1940s. Known as the Stoutamyre School, the educational facility was established for learning-disabled children. The privately operated school was open from the 1940s until the early 1960s. The purpose-built school stands two stories in height on a brick foundation. It has a rectangular plan, measuring three bays wide on the façade and one bay deep. A one-story shed addition augments the one-and-a-half-story wood frame structure.

The log frame structure (082-0487), relocated to its present location behind the McGaheysville Middle School at 7648 McGaheysville Road, is particularly worth noting. Noah Schuler constructed the one-story rectangular structure in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century on his farm, which was located in the vicinity of East Point. Schuler, who was interested in educating his children, as well as those of neighboring families, used the building as a school.

### Public Schools

In an effort to establish public schools throughout the state, the Commonwealth of Virginia required in 1846 that the courts appoint a public school superintendent and commissioners and, by 1860, required that each county create no less than three public schools. The pressures of the impending Civil War during the middle part of the century drastically affected the growth of the educational system, and thus, Rockingham County did not act on either law until the 1870s. A number of private schools and institutions had been established, however, just prior to and during the war years. A.C. Kimler, who was a prominent teacher in River Bank and McGaheysville, undertook the countywide construction of public school facilities. Accordingly, schools were established under the public school system. Seven such schools were documented as part of this survey phase, dating from the 1870s to 1938. Unfortunately, of the seven schools included in the survey, only one continues to serve in this capacity. One school is vacant and in a deteriorated state (6790 Block of Thoroughfare Road, 082-5174), while the other five have been rehabilitated to serve as single-family dwellings.

The Pleasant Valley School #1 (082-5135) at 1834 Cecil Wampler Road was one of the oldest wood frame schools documented. This two-and-a-half-story building was erected in the last quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century to serve the community of Pleasant Valley. Ornamented with Queen

Anne-style detailing, the building is now a single-family dwelling and any evidence of its original use is not visible from the exterior.

The educational needs of the community had grown by the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, requiring the construction of a larger brick school to replace the 19<sup>th</sup> century building. Pleasant Valley School #2 (082-5134) at 1827 Cecil Wampler Road stands two stories in height with an imposing three-story projecting entry tower at the center of the façade. The Classical Revival-style building has a stone foundation, segmentally arched 6/6 double-hung, wood sash windows, and a boxed cornice with overhanging eaves. The tower houses the double-leaf entry doors which are capped by a two-light transom, a segmentally arched 6/6 double-hung, wood sash windows, paired circular-arched openings, and a steeply pitched hipped roof with boxed cornice and overhanging eaves.



**Figure 34: East Elkton Rosenwald Elementary School (082-5173)**

In 1913, Sears, Roebuck and Company President Julius Rosenwald initiated the largest single program benefiting public schools for African Americans in the South since the Reconstruction years. His private contributions and subsequent Julius Rosenwald Fund Rural School Building Program galvanized rural communities desiring better schools. By 1928, one in every five rural schools for African American students in the South was a Rosenwald school. Rosenwald schools housed one-third of the region's rural African American schoolchildren and teachers. At the program's conclusion in 1932, Rosenwald's financial aid had produced 4,977 new schools, 217 teachers' homes, and 163 shop buildings in 883 counties of 15 states, representing a total



investment of over \$28 million in contributions and tax revenues. Within the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Rosenwald Fund was responsible for the construction of 332 schools.

Fisk University, which maintains an inventory of Rosenwald schools, assisted in the recordation of the two Rosenwald school buildings in Rockingham County. Erected in 1922, both schools are modest in form, ornamentation, and materials. The McGaheysville School, which cost \$1,800 to erect, was located on two acres of land.<sup>122</sup> One teacher operated the one-story rectangular school. The East Elkton School (082-5173) in Newtown was constructed for a cost of \$4,500 on two acres of land donated by Robert O. Nizer, a local African-American businessman. The four-room wood frame structure was nearly square in form, covered by a hipped roof pierced with two interior brick chimneys. Operated under the direction of the Rockingham County School Board, the East Elkton School had two large classrooms – one for grades 1-3 and the other for grades 4-7. The third room was used as an auditorium and was divided by folding doors that opened into the first of the classrooms. The fourth room was used as a woodworking shop, and later as a cafeteria.

The Oakland View School (082-5133) and the school at 3705 Fox Mountain Road (082-5166) are similar in form, ornamentation, and material to the East Elkton School. Now single-family dwellings, the former schools have shallow-pitched hipped roofs with overhanging eaves. The Oakland View School, now enlarged by wood frame additions, is constructed of brick laid on a poured concrete foundation. The large window openings have been partially infilled and now hold paired 1/1 double-hung, metal sash windows. The school at Fox Mountain Road is constructed of wood frame that is now clad in vinyl siding. Like the second Pleasant Valley School, this one-story building has a projecting entry tower pierced by a double-leaf entry opening.

The present Elkton Elementary School (216-5053) at 302 B Street in Elkton was constructed in 1938. This two-and-a-half-story brick building is dressed in the Colonial Revival style, a typical architectural trend for educational buildings in the early to middle part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The main entry is framed with a classical-inspired surround with a broken swan-neck pediment and urn. The banded openings, varying from two to nine windows, hold large 6/6 double-hung, wood sash with wide mullions. The side-gable roof is trimmed with a wide frieze, modillions, and an ogee-molded cornice. Tall front gable dormers holding 6/6 double-hung, wood sash windows pierce the roof.

### Higher Education

The Spring Creek Normal and Collegiate Institute opened in 1880, in the area of what is now Bridgewater, under the direction of Daniel Christian Flory. Flory was an alumnus of the University of Virginia and a young progressive leader in the Church of the Brethren, which was

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<sup>122</sup> This building was not located during the survey.

organized in Schwarzenau, Germany, in 1708 by Alexander Mack. A teacher at the Beaver Creek Common School, Flory opened the Spring Creek Institution as a summer school for teachers. The program proved to be so successful, Flory enlisted “unlettered men who „had an abundance of hard sense”” to organize a permanent educational institution.<sup>123</sup> The school was renamed Bridgewater College in 1889 and chartered by the Commonwealth of Virginia to grant undergraduate degrees. Bridgewater conferred its first Bachelor of Arts degree on June 1, 1891, thereby becoming the first of the colleges having historic associations with the Church of the Brethren to grant degrees. John S. Flory, Sr. was the second president of Bridgewater and one of its most influential teachers and John W. Wayland was one of its distinguished professors and is noted as the historian of the Shenandoah Valley. Daleville College at Daleville, Virginia, was consolidated with Bridgewater College in 1923, and Blue Ridge College at New Windsor, Maryland, was affiliated with Bridgewater in 1930.<sup>124</sup>

The college currently has a student body of approximately 1,100 men and women from seventeen states, and ten foreign countries. The college offers a Bachelor of Arts degree in thirty major fields and a Bachelor of Science degree in twenty major fields. The growing campus consists of twenty-six buildings and athletic fields, including Yount Hall (1905), Memorial Hall (1890), Flory Hall (Wardo Hall 1910 and Founders Hall 1903), and Cole Hall (1929).<sup>125</sup>

## **THEME: ETHNICITY/IMMIGRATION**

### **RESOURCE TYPES: Slave Quarters and Schools**

The Ethnicity/Immigration theme explores the material manifestations of ethnic diversity and the movement and interaction of people of different ethnic heritages through time in Virginia. Although all property types may be associated with this theme, properties that exemplify the ethos of immigrant and ethnic groups, the distinctive cultural traditions of peoples that have been transplanted to Virginia, or the dominant aspirations of an ethnic group are of particular interest. Following this directive, three properties were documented in southern Rockingham County for their association with a specific ethnic group and its lifestyle in Virginia – Mannheim (082-0005), Bogota (082-0029), and the East Elkton Rosenwald Elementary School (082-5173). The Rosenwald school, erected specifically for the education of African-American children, is discussed in detail under the Education theme.

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<sup>123</sup> Hess, p. 288.

<sup>124</sup> Bridgewater College Home Page, <http://www.bridgewater.edu>. Downloaded March 6, 2001.

<sup>125</sup> Bridgewater College Home Page, <http://www.bridgewater.edu>. Downloaded March 6, 2001.

### Slave Quarters

The residents of Rockingham County generally worked their own lands, rarely aided by African-American slaves. The Germans, as a rule, were opposed to slavery, and thus, very few owned slaves. The English and Scots-Irish held the majority of slaves in the Valley. Regardless, the number of slaves in Rockingham County, and the Shenandoah Valley as a whole, was exceptionally minimal compared to eastern Virginia. When the need for labor arose, slaves were often rented from eastern Virginia during the fall harvests. Thus, it is a rare discovery in Rockingham County to document slave quarters. Yet, the properties known as Mannheim and Bogota both retain vernacular architecture associated with the African-American culture of Rockingham County during the Antebellum Period (1831-1860).

As stated by John Michael Vlach in *Back of the Big House*, “only a small percentage of plantation slaves was employed as domestic servants. Even if a plantation’s labor force included hundreds of slaves, the domestic staff would usually not number much more than half a dozen. Work in the Big House – unlike field labor, which would usually end at sunset – had a perpetual quality because house slaves were always on call.”<sup>126</sup> “Big House” slave quarters, as Vlach labeled them, were generally set behind or to the side of the planter’s residence, where they would not contend with it visually. Yet, the smaller, subordinate buildings were often viewed as an indicator of wealth, providing visitors with an inventory of a portion of the plantation’s labor force.<sup>127</sup> Typically, the slave houses were clustered together, often creating street-like patterns. Many of the cabins were almost duplicate in design, illustrating an early practice of mass production of dwelling units. Black craftsmen and artisans, who employed the same craftsmanship that went into the elegant houses of the plantation owners, typically constructed this building type.

Several building types were used to house the slaves. The smallest consisted of only one room, usually square in plan. The most common type during the late antebellum period was a two-room structure that usually had its chimney centrally located between the two rooms. Another type of slave quarter was, in its plan, essentially a double-pen house built two stories high. Often the first floor would serve as a kitchen with the sleeping space on the upper story. During Reconstruction, many former slaves’ houses continued to be occupied by their residents.

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<sup>126</sup> Vlach, p. 18.

<sup>127</sup> Vlach, p. 21.



**Figure 35: Mannheim Slave Quarters (082-0005)**

The circa 1830 slave quarters recorded at Mannheim, located at 4713 Wengers Mill Road, are typical of the two-room building type. However, rather than the traditional one interior chimney that served both rooms, the buildings were heated by two interior-end chimneys. Furthermore, the two slave quarters at Mannheim are constructed of brick, rather than wood frame. The one-story buildings, nearly identical in form and detailing, have side-gable roofs, wooden cornices with a brick header-course, and rowlock lintels over the window openings. The single-pile buildings have tongue-and-groove wood floors, plastered walls, pit-sawn rafters, and wooden mantels. The two buildings are set to the west of the main dwelling, across Wengers Mill Road. Interestingly, the main dwelling at Mannheim was constructed for Michael Kauffman. Of Mennonite heritage, Kauffman broke ties with the Mennonite church after he became involved in the African slave trade.

The two slave quarters at Bogota, located at 5375 Lynnwood Road, date from the 1840s. The 1,200-acre plantation was owned by and improved for Jacob Strayer, who purchased the land in 1830. Set to the north of the main dwelling, the smaller of the two buildings is constructed of brick laid in eight-course American bond. The one-room structure is defined by an exterior-end chimney, side-gabled roof clad in standing seam metal, and has a single-leaf beaded board entry door. The other quarter is two bays wide and originally maintained a two-room plan. Constructed of wood frame, this building is clad in weatherboard on a stone pier foundation, and has an interior-end chimney and boxed wood cornice.

**THEME: FUNERARY**

**RESOURCE TYPES: Cemeteries and Graves**

Twenty-three resources associated with the Funerary theme were identified during the survey of Rockingham County. Of those documented, eleven of the cemeteries are directly associated with religious institutions. The six properties include family cemeteries, a common type of funerary interment in rural communities. Similarly, local community cemeteries were noted five times during the survey.

Cemeteries Associated with Religious Institutions

Of the twenty-eight churches included in the survey of Rockingham County, eleven have associated cemeteries. Religious cemeteries in Rockingham County tend to be large in scale and modest in plan. Families are grouped closely together in assigned plots, which commonly have been arranged in rows sited directly behind or to the side of a church building. Several examples of church cemeteries containing between 101 and 1,000 interments were recorded, such as the Ottobine United Methodist Cemetery (082-0165), Union Church Cemetery (082-0362), United Church of the Brethren (082-5143), and Pleasant Grove Cemetery (082-5107). Several of the cemeteries predate the present church buildings, as congregations have erected modern and/or larger structures to meet their needs. This was noted at the circa 1819 Friedens Church (082-0102), where the oldest documented interment was that of Friederick Schwatz (August 10, 1722-May 18, 1793). Many of these cemeteries are currently receiving interments.



**Figure 36: Friedens Church Cemetery (082-0102)**

The congregation of the Friedens Church was formed in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century to serve the growing German population near what became Mount Crawford. The present church, dating from the early part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, was the third structure erected for the church at the property on Friedens Church Road. Thus, the associated cemetery predates the present church. This large cemetery is located at the rear of the property, encircled by a metal fence and a low stone wall. The variety of gravemarkers includes bevel markers, obelisks, flush markers in the ground, headstones, and footstones. The headstones are square in form, or have ornate caps such as a segmental or semi-circular arch. The ornamentation on the markers at the Friedens Church is particularly worthy of note, as many of the headstones have carved scenes and/or symbols such as weeping willow trees. Many of the sandstone markers are inscribed with German epitaphs.

### Family Cemeteries

The dispersed settlement patterns of the Middle Atlantic region and the South often made the custom of churchyard burials impractical for all but those living close to the churches. As extensive plantations and landholding were established to facilitate the production of large-scale cash crops such as tobacco, burial in a churchyard was often problematical. Towns were located far apart, a single church often served geographically large parishes, and transportation was difficult. The distance of family plantations from churches necessitated alternative locations for cemeteries, which took the form of family cemeteries on the plantation grounds. Usually established on a high, well-drained point of land, the family plots were often surrounded by a fence or wall. Although initially dictated by settlement patterns, plantation burials became the tradition once the precedent was set. Along with the variety of dependencies, agricultural lands, and other features, family cemeteries help illustrate the degree of self-sufficiency sustained by many of these plantations.<sup>128</sup>

The six family cemeteries recorded as part of the survey in southern Rockingham County were historically associated with plantations or large landholdings. Unfortunately, it is not all that uncommon for the family cemetery to ultimately be separated from the primary dwelling as the larger tracts of property are often subdivided. This was the case with the Merica Family Cemetery (082-5168), the cemetery in the 9000 block of Robinson Road (082-5126), the Hooke Family Cemetery (082-0391), and the Click Cemetery (082-0181). The cemeteries at Bogota (082-0029) and at 15194 Model Road (082-5193) continue to be associated with dwellings where the families resided.

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<sup>128</sup> Elisabeth Walton Potter and Beth M. Boland, *National Register Bulletin 41: Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Cemeteries and Burial Places* (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, Interagency Resources Division, 1992), p. 4.

The largest of the family cemeteries is the Merica Family Cemetery at 4463 Country Drive near Furnace. Created in 1896 with the burial of Barbara E. Merica, the cemetery includes seven primary rows of markers oriented west to east within an enclosure. The majority of the approximate forty gravemarkers are unmarked rubble stone, although three inscribed headstones with footstones were recorded. Stone carver R. Loewner of Harrisonburg signed two of these inscribed markers.



**Figure 37: Bogota Cemetery (082-0029)**

The oldest of the family cemeteries is found at Bogota, located across Lynnwood Road from the main dwelling. The small cemetery is enclosed by an iron fence and is set on a slightly sloping site overlooking the many acres historically associated with the property. The burial ground includes sixteen interments, the majority of those being members of the Strayer family. The variety of markers includes headstones, footstones, beveled markers, flush markers, and a small obelisk.

### Community Cemeteries

Community cemeteries were created for many of the same reasons family cemeteries were created. Many of those interred in community cemeteries were affiliated with religious institutions that were not easily accessible and transportation was often difficult. The five recorded community cemeteries typically contain hundreds of interments, although a single example of a community cemetery with less than fifty burials was noted. Three of the

cemeteries are not enclosed, while fencing encircles the other two. The oldest cemetery dates from the middle 1700s.

Particularly worth noting is the East Point Cemetery (082-5187), which dates from the middle part of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. A large beveled marker reads *“John Stephen Conrad, Sr. and his wife Anna Catarina Stahlshmidt and more than fifty descendants are buried in this lot outlined by fourteen granite posts coming from Germany. They settled here about 1758. John Stephen, Sr. died in 1767 and his wife in 1768. Their rough unlettered grave stones now support this tablet. East Point Cemetery thus began.”* The graveyard is also the resting place for John Stephen Conrad, Jr., who died in 1822, and hundreds of other residents from the surrounding community of East Point.

## **THEME: GOVERNMENT/LAW/POLITICAL**

### **RESOURCE TYPES: Public Administrative and Service Buildings**

Although the governmental context of Rockingham County extends back as far as its founding in 1778, resources associated with the theme from the 19<sup>th</sup> century and early 20<sup>th</sup> century survive. Furthermore, with the establishment of Harrisonburg as the county seat, the survey did not include the county courthouse and county government-related resources in the City of Harrisonburg. Rather, of the six properties documented that relate to this theme, four served as post offices and the remaining two are related to the local governments of the towns of Elkton and Grottoes.

The Cross Keys Tavern (082-0030), the house at 20385 Hensley Hollow (082-5176) and the commercial building at 403 West Spotswood Trail (216-5033) were all erected for alternate uses, but overtime have functioned as post offices for the neighboring communities. The Onowan Post Office at 5879 Oak Shade Road was erected in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, presumably as a dwelling. This log structure, now in a severe state of deterioration, ultimately served as a post office. In this specific case, however, the building’s use as a post office dictated the name of the property.

The Jail at 106 North Terrace Avenue (216-5045) in Elkton was erected in 1915 to meet the needs of the local community. The one-story building, constructed of brick, measures three bays wide and six bays deep. Subsequent uses include a barbershop, library, and the mayor’s office.

The Grottoes Municipal Building (228-5008) at 103 6<sup>th</sup> Street is a one-story concrete block structure designed in the Colonial Revival-style of architecture. The three-bay-wide building has a temple-front form and features tripartite symmetry. The building was erected in the middle part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and continues to serve the community as a governmental building.



**THEME: HEALTH CARE/MEDICINE**  
**RESOURCE TYPES: Clinics**

Although there have been several well-established medical doctors and clinics in Rockingham County over the years, only one property was identified during the survey that had historical association to the Health Care/Medicine theme – Mannheim (082-0005). Michael Kauffman first developed this expansive property in the 1770s. During the antebellum period, the plantation consisted of 360 acres, improved by the single-family dwelling, slave quarters, agricultural outbuildings, and a doctor’s office. Dr. Samuel Kauffman, the son of Michael Kauffman, erected this one-story wood frame office. The small rectangular structure is one bay wide and two bays deep. Dating from the 1830s, the doctor’s office is Greek Revival in style with a temple-like form. It has an enclosed tympanum, a multi-light transom, sidelights, and 9/6 double-hung, wood sash windows. The one-room interior displays a molded chair rail, plaster and lath ceiling and walls, and molded wood surrounds. It was moved to its present location at the rear of the main dwelling from another location on the Mannheim property.



**Figure 38: Mannheim Doctor’s Office (082-0005)**

**THEME: INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION**  
**RESOURCE TYPES: Kilns; Powerhouses; Mills; and Factories**

In addition to the agricultural activities, residents of Rockingham County actively pursued alternative methods to achieve economic stability in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. One of the more apparent mainstays could be gleaned directly from the ground – lime. Of the six properties associated with this theme, two include lime kilns. Furthermore, in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the growth of manufacturing companies, mills, and factories aided in the growth of the local economy, particularly in the town of Elkton. Three such properties were documented. The final property associated with this theme is an electrical powerhouse.

Lime Kilns

Lime kilns are furnaces used to reduce naturally occurring forms of calcium carbonate to lime. Lime is a caustic solid substance, white when pure, obtained by calcining limestone and other forms of calcium carbonate. Pure lime, also called quicklime, burnt lime, and caustic lime, is composed of calcium oxide (CaO) but commercial preparations usually contain impurities, such as the oxides of aluminum, iron, silicon, and magnesium. When treated with water, lime liberates large amounts of heat and forms calcium hydroxide, sold commercially as a white powder called slaked lime or hydrated lime. Lime is used in the preparation of cement and mortar and as a neutralizer of acid soils in agriculture (burnt lime). It is also used in the manufacture of paper, glass, and whitewash, in leather tanning, sugar refining, and as a water-softening agent.



**Figure 39: Lime Kiln on Erickson Avenue (082-5141)**

Lime kilns were brick-lined ovens constructed of stone and generally set within a hill. The examples noted in the survey at 8620 Warm Springs Road (082-0016) and on Erickson Lane (082-5141) are built into hills and feature random ashlar limestone construction with an arched opening. The openings are brick-lined with a double-row of bricks forming the semi-circular arch. The Miller family of Bridgewater operated the kiln on Warm Springs Road, maintaining a tombstone business between 1870 and 1892. The company was best known for its onyx grave markers, made from onyx deposits found on their own land. The property was appropriately named “Onyxford.”

#### Mills and Factories

Two factories and one mill were documented in the town of Elkton during the survey, including the Elkton Bottling Company (216-5047), Elkton Milling Company (216-5049), and the Maryland Company (215-5043).

The rock-faced concrete buildings at 120-126 North Terrace Avenue historically were home to the Elkton Bottling Company, and later the distribution center for the 7-Up Bottling Company. This property contains two abutting buildings, both dating from 1913. One building stands two stories in height and is five bays wide, and the other is one story in height and four bays wide. Vehicular entry openings and single pedestrian entry openings pierce both facades. The two-

story building has replacement 1/1 double-hung windows, while the one-story building has three industrial windows with metal muntins.

The Elkton Milling Company at 100-104 North Fifth Street consists of two buildings. The first of these buildings was constructed about 1916 as the home of the first Merchants Grocery and Hardware, which served local merchants with its wholesale business. The associated building was constructed about 1926 for the City Produce Exchange, Inc. The Rockingham Cooperative Farm Bureau purchased the entire complex in the mid-1930s, retaining ownership until the 1938. Since 1956, the property has served as the home of the Elkton Milling Company, which operated a feed mill. E.P. Louderback and Sons established the company, with a second mill erected in 1956. This new mill site at 207 North Fifth Street housed the first completely pneumatic mill in the United States. The company erected two additional mill buildings on the property at 100-104 North Fifth Street prior to vacating the entire site in 1984. The buildings associated with the milling company stand two stories in height with gable roofs obscured by stepped brick parapets.

The Maryland Company at 154 West Spotswood Avenue was constructed in 1921. The company, which changed its name to Casey Jones, Inc. in 1922, manufactured clothing. The one-story brick building became the home of the Blue Bell Manufacturing Company in 1944. By the early 1970s, the building was home to the *Valley Banner* newspaper office, housing printing presses. Carl Schumacher began Elkton's weekly paper in the rear of the Pennington Building (216-5037) in 1966. The brick structure at 154 West Spotswood Avenue is covered by two gable roofs obscured by parapets, one being pointed and the other segmentally arched. The primary elevation is six bays wide. The large window openings hold 8/8 double-hung, wood sash windows and have rowlock brick sills. The east side of the building is pierced by paired window openings set in segmentally arched openings. The west side of the building has seven doublewide garage openings for the movement of merchandise into/out of trucks. All but one of the garage openings has been infilled with concrete blocks. The rear addition was erected about 1980 and is constructed of cinderblock.

### Powerhouse

The one-story powerhouse on Mount Pleasant Road (082-5177) in Elkton dates from the second quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Located down a long gravel drive to the north of a small stream, its is surrounded by dense woods. This masonry structure is constructed of brick laid in six-course Flemish bond. It is set on a raised concrete foundation and covered by a side-gable roof with overhanging eaves and exposed rafter ends. Since its construction, the structure has been altered by the addition of brick steps and a side wing.

**THEME: MILITARY/DEFENSE**

**RESOURCE TYPES: Military Facilities**

The Military/Defense theme relates to the system of defending a territory and sovereignty, encompassing all military activities, battles, strategic locations, and events important in military history. No battles were fought in Rockingham County during the Revolutionary War (1775-1781), although a number of men and military organizations from this region saw combat on many fronts fighting the British and Indians. Civil War action in Rockingham County included two battles and five engagements: the Battle of Cross Keys, the Battle of Port Republic, and the five engagements at Harrisonburg, Bridgewater, Mount Crawford, Brock's Gap, and Lacey Spring. Yet, only two properties were identified in the survey of southern Rockingham County that have a direct association with this military activity. Several other properties were known to have existed at the time of these battles, with the occupants watching the fighting from their homes. However, these buildings and their surrounding properties were not directly involved in the activities and, therefore, are not recognized under the Military/Defense theme.

The Cross Keys Tavern (082-0030) served as a hospital for wounded soldiers during the Battle of Cross Keys, which took place on June 8, 1862. The tavern, dating from the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, is located on the west side of Cross Keys Road. This location was west of the battle, allowing wounded soldiers to be removed safely from the site of the fighting.

Confederate General John D. Imboden, the commanding officer of the Valley Brigade, occupied the property known as Contentment (082-0062) at 253 Contentment Lane near Mount Crawford during the Civil War. General Imboden set up his headquarters in the house in 1864, while a significant number of troops camped on the surrounding property. On September 26, 1864, Federal General Philip H. Sheridan sent infantry brigades to Contentment to keep the path open for cavalry returning from Augusta County.

**THEME: RECREATION/ARTS**

**RESOURCE TYPES: Theaters; Music Facilities; and Sports Facilities**

The Recreation/Arts theme relates to the arts and cultural activities and institutions related to leisure time and recreation. It encompasses the activities related to the popular and the academic arts including fine arts and the performing arts; literature; recreational gatherings; entertainment and leisure activity; and broad cultural movements. Four such properties were documented in the survey of Rockingham County, ranging in date from about 1890 to 1948.

The Pennington Building (216-5037) at 306 West Spotswood Trail in Elkton was constructed in the 1890s for Dr. E.R. Pennington, a local dentist. The commercial building, which stands three stories in height, provided community space on the upper story that functioned in the early part

of the 20<sup>th</sup> century as the home of the Elkton Opera. From 1917 until 1996, the third floor was used as meeting space for the Masonic Lodge. N.I. Levinson used the commercial space at the rear of the wood frame building as a movie theater for silent films in 1913.



**Figure 40: Elkton Theater (216-5016)**

The Elkton Theater (216-5016) at 413 West Spotswood Trail opened on February 24, 1949, showing the film *Luxury Liner*. The 1948 MGM musical starred Jane Powell, Lauritz Mechoir, and George Brent. The Art Deco theater was designed by architect Bernard Spiegel and erected by the construction firm of Conquest, Dunn, and Potter. At the time of its opening, the Elkton Theater was known as the “finest theater in the Shenandoah Valley.”<sup>129</sup> In the early 1950s, according to a walking tour brochure produced by the Elkton Main Street Program, well-known artists performed on stage at the theater, including Gene Autrey, Tex Ritter, Sunset Carson, Jimmy Dean and Gabby Hayes. The theater closed in 1966, although it reopened briefly in 1970 as the Roth Theater. Following renovations, the theater operated again from 1977 until 1982.

The Old Gymnasium (176-0003-0043) at Bridgewater College was constructed between 1900 and 1905 as a sports facility for the growing school. The Classical Revival-style brick building, however, presently provides office space. Similarly, Cole Hall (176-5001) was constructed in 1929 on the campus of the college as an exhibition hall and theater. The interior of the brick building has an auditorium that seats about 650 people and is equipped with a modern stage, dressing rooms, a stage lighting system, motion picture and sound equipment, an artist grand

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<sup>129</sup> Elkton Main Street, “Walking tour of Historic Elkton, Virginia.”

piano, and three-manual Moeller organ with fifty-one ranks of pipes. The building was a gift to the college from Virginia Garber Cole Strickler, in honor of her father, Dr. Charles Knox Cole. The Reuel B. Pritchett Museum is also located in the building.

## **THEME: RELIGION**

### **RESOURCE TYPES: Places of Worship and Church-related Residences**

Nancy Hess states in *The Heartland: Rockingham County* that 135 churches stood in Rockingham County and Harrisonburg in 1976.<sup>130</sup> The reconnaissance survey of Rockingham County revealed thirty properties related to the Religion theme. One of the properties – the German Reformed Church Parsonage (082-5204) – is a single dwelling which is not associated with a church property, but draws its historical significance and association with the Religious theme through its occupant. By 1880, this late-18<sup>th</sup>-century building was purchased jointly by three congregations – the German Reformed Church, Friedens Church, and the McGaheysville Reformed Church – to serve as the home of the circuit-riding minister. The building was noted on historic maps during this period as the “German Reformed Church Parsonage.”

The remainder of the properties are churches, the denominations of which include Baptist, Episcopal, Methodist, Presbyterian, Lutheran, and Catholic. A number of these congregations date from the middle part of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, when the Valley was first being settled. For example, the congregation associated with the Friedens Church (082-0102) at 3960 Friedens Church Road is believed to have been formed about 1749, although a 1757 date has also been suggested. Because of its longevity, the Friedens United Church of Christ has long been considered “The Mother Church of Rockingham.”<sup>131</sup>

The Ottobine United Methodist Church (082-0165) at 4446 Briery Branch Road is another example of an early congregation. The members of the United Brethren Church were served by circuit riders who preached in the areas of Ottobine and Dry River in the 1820s. Camp meetings were held at a site along Beaver Creek prior to the construction of the first church in 1834.

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<sup>130</sup> Hess, p. 48.

<sup>131</sup> Hess, p. 58.



**Figure 41: Elkton Presbyterian Church (216-5012)**

Interestingly, of the twenty-eight churches, twelve were erected during the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the remaining sixteen date from the first forty years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The architectural styles include the Colonial Revival and Tudor Revival, and Gothic Revival. The ornamentation is presented in the pointed-arch openings, stained glass, multi-light transoms, and projecting towers or steeples. Examples of this include the Mount Sinai United Methodist Church (082-5198), Bethel Christian Church (082-5184), Mount Zion United Methodist Church (082-5188), Elkton Presbyterian Church (216-5012), and Mount Paran Baptist Church (082-5122). These buildings are all constructed of wood frame with front-gabled roofs and a rectangular form.

Eleven of the church buildings were deemed to have no specific architectural influences, but reflected the vernacular interpretations of the building type, religious belief, local builders, and indigenous materials. Additionally, a few of the churches have been so substantially altered that any original architectural influence is no longer discernible.





**Figure 42: Elkton Methodist Church (216-5010)**

Many of the 20<sup>th</sup>-century churches included in the survey are constructed of brick, or veneered in brick. Additionally, each example is more closely associated with an architectural style, specifically Gothic Revival and Colonial Revival. The churches are imposing in scale and form, with gabled roofs, abutting entry or bell towers, and ornately detailed windows. Examples of the identified include Trinity Reformed Church (082-5092), Mount Bethel Church of the Brethren (082-5124), St. Paul United Baptist Church (216-5055) in Elkton, and Elkton Methodist Church (216-5010).

**THEME: SOCIAL**

**RESOURCE TYPES: Meeting Halls**

The overall rural nature of Rockingham County during the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries generally impeded the establishment of social centers, however, social activities flourished within crossroads communities and larger towns. Buildings typically served as the central focus of the community, providing meeting space for churches, schools, and various lodges and temperance groups, in addition to commercial space. During the survey of Rockingham County, two such properties were identified, both located in the town of Elkton.

As noted in the Recreation/Arts theme, the third floor of the Pennington Building (216-5037) was used from 1917 until 1996 as meeting space for the Elkton Lodge #74. The lodge was formed in Elkton on December 7, 1891, and is presently one of three Masonic lodges in

Rockingham County. Masons (also known as Freemasons) belong to the oldest and largest fraternal organization in the world, although the actual origins and the date it commenced are not known. Most scholars believe Masonry arose from the guilds of stonemasons who built the majestic castles and cathedrals of the Middle Ages. In 1717, Masonry created a formal organization when four lodges in London joined in forming England's first Grand Lodge. By 1731, when Benjamin Franklin joined the fraternity, there were already several lodges in the Colonies and, in Canada, the first lodge was established in 1738. Today, there are more than two million Freemasons in North America, representing virtually every occupation and profession. Many of North America's early patriots were Freemasons: thirteen signers of the Constitution and fourteen presidents of the United States including George Washington.

The community building in the 100 block of Terrace Avenue (216-5046) is a brick structure set on a poured concrete foundation. It measures two bays wide and four bays deep with two primary entries. The second floor of the two-story building, which is currently vacant, was used throughout the first part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century for meetings and social gatherings. The community building was erected about 1912 by the Junior Order of United American Mechanics – Blue Ridge Council. The United American Mechanics was founded in Philadelphia in 1845 under the name Union of Workers. It began as a workingmen's organization to fight against labor pressure from increasing immigration populations, specifically the Irish, Germans, and Roman Catholics. In 1853, a junior branch of the organization was founded. The Junior Order American Mechanics (J.O.U.A.M.) became an independent society in 1885. At the height of its popularity, the Junior Order had 200,000 members, dwarfing the high of 40,000 members for its former parent organization. The word "Junior" in the organization's name had no reference to the age of its members after 1885 and similarly, the word "Mechanic" had no relevance to the members' occupations. The Junior Order defined its objectives as promoting the interests of Americans by shielding them from the economically depressing effects of foreign competition, establishing a sick and funeral fund and working to maintain the public school system.

## **THEME: SUBSISTENCE/AGRICULTURE**

### **RESOURCE TYPES: Farmsteads; Agricultural Fields, and Animal Facilities**

Historically, farming and agriculture have been one of the most important industries in Rockingham County. The county was one of the leading agricultural producing counties in the Valley, particularly during the antebellum period. The average farm consisted of between 20 and 100 acres, with the majority of larger farms containing 100 to 500 acres. The various crops included wool, hay, potatoes, and tobacco. Cereal grains produced were barley, oats, rye, buckwheat, wheat, and Indian corn. In fact, statewide, Rockingham County often ranked first in the production of wheat, hay, barley, and grass seeds, and was one of the leading producers of wool.

Despite the enduring rise in inhabitants during the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, just 289,118 acres of the 851-square-mile county was utilized as farmland by the third quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The average farm consisted of slightly more than one hundred acres, which is comparatively smaller than the average farm in neighboring counties. However, in 1964, Rockingham County was home to more farms (2,587) than any other county in the Valley. By the late 1970s, the number of farms was reduced to 1,872 on just 252,152 acres of farmland. These statistics ranked Rockingham County second in the Valley, with Augusta County listed first (303,370 acres of farmland). Interestingly, the number of acres maintained by each farm had increased by 1978 to an average of 135 acres. Despite the increase, however, the average farm remained comparatively smaller in size than those in neighboring counties. By 1987, the number of farms countywide had increased to 1,895, while the acreage devoted to farming had decreased to 242,224 acres.<sup>132</sup>

The agricultural production in Rockingham County played a significant role in defining its character through a wide variety of agricultural-related buildings. The most common agricultural buildings surveyed in the county included sheds (164 identified) and barns (89 identified). Ninety-two properties were identified for their association with this theme.

### Corncribs and Granaries

The term corncrib or granary historically referred to a square or rectangular pen formed by interlocking logs within a larger barn structure. Over time, the definition has come to mean any freestanding structure used to store corn, whether log or not. Thus, corncribs were also constructed of timber frame, cut lumber, masonry, metal, and steel-wire. As the general design of this freestanding corncrib has not changed substantially over time, assigning dates to the structures proves to be rather difficult. According to Allen G. Noble, the precise origin of the corncrib as a separate structure has not been clearly established. One theory is that the type was derived from a simple shelter built by American Indians.<sup>133</sup> In the colonial period, corn production was limited, and the corn could be quickly harvested and stored in a corner of the barn. As farm sizes grew, farmers and planters began to gather the cut corn stalks in vertical stacks in the field, leaving them throughout the winter. By the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the need for corn feed for livestock prompted husking to be done in the fields when harvested. All unhusked corn was then taken to a barn, stripped, and then loaded into freestanding corncribs. Being newly harvested, the corn was moist, and the cribs needed to allow for slow, steady drying in order to reduce mold and mildew. To accomplish this, the crib had to possess certain basic design features that can often be used to classify the structure during surveys. First, the walls must

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<sup>132</sup> "Figure 5: Agricultural Land in the Shenandoah Valley," *Study of Civil War Sites in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia*, produced under public law 101-628, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, September 1992, (down loaded from the internet November 2000) <http://www2cr.npa.abpp.shenandoah/svsfig5.html>.

<sup>133</sup> Allen G. Noble, *Wood, Brick, and Stone, Volume 2: Barns and Farm Structures* (Amherst, MA: The University of Massachusetts Press, 1984), p. 105.

contain a high proportion of open area, usually attained by widely spacing narrow wood slats. Second, the structure must be narrow in order to ensure adequate circulation of air. Traditionally, "the narrower the crib, the freer the movement of wind through the corn, and the greater the likelihood of successful natural drying. The proper width of an ordinary crib in a particular locality depends on the date at which corn normally matures and on the prevailing weather conditions during the first eight months of storage. Among the weather factors that should be considered are humidity, temperature, and amount of sunshine and wind."<sup>134</sup> The walls of some corncribs were constructed to slant outward toward the top, thus providing maximum protection from the weather and practicality for unloading. The openings usually included a man-sized door located in the gable end, as well as a series of smaller doors located at the base of the walls for unloading. The designs usually included an overhanging skirt or other such device for reducing pillaging by rodents.



**Figure 43: Granary at Bowman Homestead (082-5201)**

The survey included the identification of twenty-seven corncribs and granaries, fifteen of which were determined to be historic. These include the front-gable wood frame corncribs at 7563 Spring Creek Road (082-0176) and 5719 Spring Creek Road (082-0216). The corncrib at the Peters-Standley House (082-5200) dates to the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. This wood frame structure has a drive-thru form. The steeply pitched gable roof has exposed rafter ends and is clad in standing seam metal. The building is clad in weatherboard siding with louvered vents on

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<sup>134</sup> Noble, p. 106

the interior. It is set on a stone pier foundation with cornerboards, vertical board doors, and retains the hardware of the sliding doors that are no longer extant.

One of the oldest examples is the granary at the Bowman Homestead (082-5201). Used for storing wheat, the frame structure is contemporary to the log dwelling, which was erected in the middle part of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. This granary is constructed of round logs with V-notching and no chinking, set on a limestone pier foundation. The front gable roof is clad with standing seam metal. A vertical board door with hand-wrought hardware pierces the east elevation. The interior of the structure consists of a center aisle with a double load that includes eight storage pens on either side. The drop-down slats for housing the grain are extant. The wood frame equipment room, clad in weatherboard siding, is an addition to the rear of the structure.

### Dairy Barns and Hay Barns

Generally identified by their relatively large size and distinctive shapes, early-20<sup>th</sup>-century dairy barns are often long, two-story wood frame buildings with gambrel roofs and hay hoods. Rows of small window openings providing natural interior lighting can be found at the first story on the long elevations. The interior spaces of the dairy barns are arranged to accommodate rows of livestock on the first floor and hay storage above. The large loft, created by the gambrel roof, provides maximum storage area for hay and feed for the dairy herds. Hay barns are often identical in exterior form, but generally do not provide the interior partitioning for the dairy cattle on the first floor. Variations of the hay barn form are smaller frame buildings constructed with less detail in an inferior fashion.



**Figure 44: Barn at 333 Centerville Road (082-5102)**

A total of ninety-one barns of varying sizes and shapes were documented in the survey of eighty-two properties. This includes Bogota (082-0029), the Smith House (082-0101), the Jacob Click House (082-0182), Bell Manor (082-0209), The Dell (082-0209), Harshbarger Farm (082-0402), and the property at 333 Centerville Road (082-5102). Typically clad in wood weatherboard, the barns documented in the survey have gambrel and gable roofs with a variety of roof extensions. In several instances, the construction materials visible on the interior of the barns were marked with Roman numerals. Many of the barns were banked into the sloping hillside, making access to the upper story effortless. The gable ends are often pierced with lattice to allow for proper ventilation.

#### Animal Shelters and Poultry Shelters

Another type of barn, specifically stables and animal shelters, are common among the active agricultural farms of Rockingham County. Providing open shelter for livestock, animal shelters were documented twenty-eight times during the survey. With a rectangular form, the shelters were typically enclosed by wood frame on three sides and covered by shed roofs. Poultry shelters, used to house hens, were identified fifty-five times in the survey. The buildings are typically one story, built of wood frame with wood siding and capped by a shed or gable roof.

Examples of these shelters include those associated with the house at 7563 Spring Creek Road (082-0176), the Daniel Cupp House (082-0146), Meadowview Farm (082-0053), River Bank (082-0063), the Peters-Standley House (082-5200), and the Bowman Homestead (082-5201).

Commonly, historic sheds and smaller barns were converted for use as poultry sheds. One of the two poultry houses at the Peters-Standley House was rehabilitated for use as a single dwelling.

### Silos

The silo is an agricultural outbuilding for storing green fodder or ensilage (fermented fodder). Typically, the silos are cylindrical wood structures with conical or hipped roofs. Cylindrical silos constructed of vertical wood staves were held together by iron or wooden hoops. Within the survey area, thirty-six silos were identified. The metal structure at Lynnwood (082-0015), for example, is typical of the non-historic silos identified throughout Rockingham County. The circa 1940s silo at the Null Family Farm (082-0502) at 8066 Shady Grove Road near Port Republic is a concrete structure standing approximately sixty feet in height with a domed metal roof. Similar concrete silos were documented at the Hidden River Dairy (082-5109) at 442 Imboden Road. The cylindrical silo associated with the now abandoned barn at the intersection of Wirt and First Streets in Elkton (216-5052) is constructed of glazed hollow-core tiles. It stands roughly thirty feet in height.

### Sheds

Many of the properties surveyed include sheds (164 were identified), which served a myriad of uses. They generally are constructed of wood frame covered by gable or shed roofs. The shed is typically one story with a square or rectangular form set directly on the ground. Of the 164 documented, eighty-three were determined to be historic.

## **THEME: TECHNOLOGY/ENGINEERING**

### **RESOURCE TYPES: Bridges**

Although the technological aspects of a culture form the primary basis for the interpretation of all themes, the Technology/Engineering theme relates primarily to the utilization of and evolutionary changes in material culture as a society adapts to the physical, biological, and cultural environment. This, however, is far beyond the limits of the architectural survey being conducted. Yet, this theme also involves the practical application of scientific principles to design, construct, and operate equipment, machinery, and structures to serve human needs. In this context, a single resource was identified that relates to the Technology/Engineering theme: the bridge (082-5020) near Linville. Metal truss bridges like the one documented during the survey are generally associated with the steady expansion of transportation networks, specifically roads and railroads. The highway and railroad bridges of the 1900-1960 period are associated with the increasing standardization of highly useful, simply designed truss types.

The bridge spans a narrow section of Linville Creek at the intersection of Williamsburg Road and State Route 42. The narrow, one-lane metal Pratt truss bridge has a single span, terminating

at brick retaining walls on both of the creek's steep banks. Dating from the second quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the pony structure is constructed of steel trusses with an asphalt roadway laid over a wooden deck.



**Figure 45: Bridge on Williamsburg Road (082-5020)**

The truss is a framework composed of individual members fastened together in such a way that the load applied at the joints produces only direct tension or compression. The Pratt truss was first developed in 1844 under the patent of Thomas and Caleb Pratt. Prevalent from the 1840s through the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the Pratt has diagonal elements in tension and vertical elements in compression, except for the hip verticals immediately adjacent to the inclined end posts of the bridge. Pratt trusses were initially built as a combination wood and iron trusses, like the bridge identified in Rockingham County, but were soon constructed of iron only. The Pratt type successfully survived the transition to iron construction as well as the second transition to steel construction. The Pratt truss inspired a large number of variations and modified subtypes during the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.<sup>135</sup>

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<sup>135</sup> "Historic Highway Bridges in Maryland: 1631-1960: Historic Context Report." P.A.C. Spero and Company and Louis Berger and Associates for the Maryland State Highway Administration, Revised October 1995, pp. 62-75.



**THEME: TRANSPORTATION/COMMUNICATION**  
**RESOURCE TYPES: Rail-related; Road-related**

The Transportation/Communication theme relates to the process and technology of conveying passengers, materials, and information. One of the two properties related to the Transportation/Communication theme is the bridge that is located at the intersection of Williamsburg Road and State Route 42 (082-5020). This metal truss bridge, used for automobiles, is discussed at length under the Technology/Engineering theme.

The Pleasant Valley Train Depot (082-5148) in the 1900 block of Station Lane in Pleasant Valley was erected about 1874, when rail service of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad first passed through the small community. The construction of the one-story wood frame depot instigated development of Pleasant Valley, which included approximately eighty citizens by 1912. The building, clad in board and batten, is set on a stone foundation and covered by a side gable roof with expansive eaves. Gothic Revival in style, the depot has a T-shaped plan with a center gable and decorative scroll-sawn bargeboard. Although the building no longer serves as a depot, the railroad tracks along which it stands continue to provide service (now operated by the Chesapeake Western).

## **RESEARCH DESIGN**

### ***Objectives***

The goal of the survey project was to gather and evaluate information about historic properties and their resources in an effort to more fully comprehend and support their contribution to Rockingham County's heritage. The project was intended to: 1) synthesize and complete documentation of previously identified historic properties into a computerized database format; 2) collect additional information on and survey previously unidentified or unevaluated historic properties and potential historic districts; and 3) heighten public awareness about historic resources in Rockingham County to encourage citizens' appreciation of their history.

### ***Scope of Work***

The project was organized into basic tasks:

- 1) The survey and documentation of approximately 262 historic resources -- 250 to the reconnaissance level and twelve to the intensive level;
- 2) The identification of potential historic districts and individual eligible properties for listing on the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places; and
- 3) The preparation of a historic context and survey report which includes the survey findings, with a narrative comparing previous findings, and recommendations regarding further study of any, or all, of the resources retaining significance and integrity within the historic context.

### ***Methodology***

#### **Approach**

E.H.T. Tracerics, Inc. approached this project as a coordinated effort of experienced professional architectural historians working with the Rockingham County Department of Planning and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) in an effort to produce a cost effective survey that would meet VDHR's high standards and the needs of Rockingham County. This was accomplished by working closely with Rockingham County and its representatives to identify important architectural resources; by taking full advantage of the Integrated Preservation Software Database (IPS) to document and analyze historic properties; by understanding local history and geography to ensure that selected cultural resources accurately illustrate the County's historic context through the best-preserved and least-altered examples as subsumed under VDHR's eighteen historic context themes; by utilizing years of sound survey experience to ensure an efficient effort; by employing a management methodology that is designed to result in an on-time product; and by maximizing the potential of an experienced staff.

To achieve the desired products, E.H.T. Tracerics, Inc. organized a team with the credentials, skills, and successful experience to do the work. The team was composed of three members: a Project Manager/Senior Architectural Historian, three Architectural Historian/Surveyors, and one Surveyor. The Project Manager/Senior Architectural Historian managed the administration of the survey project, directed the tasks, and was responsible for preparing the historic context and survey report. She also functioned as the primary architectural historian, working with the team to evaluate the resources based on the historic context and preparing the recommendations for additional work or potential listing in the National Register. The Architectural Historians were responsible for conducting the reconnaissance-level survey and, in conjunction with the Project Manager, the intensive-level surveys. Additionally, the Architectural Historians were required to conduct the primary and secondary research, and manage the survey documentation – synthesizing and consolidating information, undertaking data entry, locating the properties and resources, and updating records as appropriate. The Surveyor worked with the Project Manager and the Architectural Historians, assisting with the on-site fieldwork and the production of the products. The survey team collectively conducted the initial assessment of the properties and participated in the preparation of the final scripted slide presentation.

Basic to the methodology was the determination of criteria for selecting properties to be surveyed using VDHR standards, historic themes and requirements, while meeting the needs of Rockingham County. This was a team effort that allowed on-site decision-making. A system was established to select properties for survey by synthesizing the VDHR standards, the eighteen VDHR historic context themes, the basic historic context outline, and VDHR contractual requirements. Next, a plan was developed for managing the information on the previously recorded properties, for updating records as necessary, and for identifying and surveying 262 resources for survey at the reconnaissance and intensive levels.

The recordation of the properties to VDHR standards ensured the successful completion of the contract. Implementing the Survey Design, 262 resources were surveyed to a reconnaissance level with thirteen properties documented at the intensive level. Each reconnaissance-level survey form recorded a single property, including its primary and secondary resources. Each completed form for resources that contained a contributing primary resource included a detailed physical description of that primary resource as well as a brief description of the secondary resources on the property. It also included a brief evaluation of the property as an entity, placing it in its local historic and architectural context. Labeled, black-and-white photographs that document the property, focusing on the primary resource, accompanied all forms. The photographic documentation included a range of two to five views, with an average of four views of the primary resource and a minimum of one photograph per contributing secondary resource or group of secondary resources if located close together. The photographs sufficiently illustrate the architectural character of the primary resource; at least one photograph was taken at close range. A simple site plan sketch of the property indicating the relationship between primary and secondary resources was completed for each surveyed property. The site plans were prepared neatly in pencil on graph paper and included the main road and any significant natural features. Copies of the relevant section of the USGS quadrangle map were submitted with each form.

The intensive-level survey form requires complete and comprehensive coverage of individual resources. The survey process included a physical examination of the interior and exterior of the primary resource and its related secondary resources, followed by a detailed description and evaluation of the property. Labeled, black-and-white photographs that document the resource, accompanied all forms. The photographic documentation included a range of ten or more views that adequately document the primary resource, any secondary resources, and the property's immediate and general setting or context. Interior inspection, interior photos, and a main floor plan of the property's primary resource were also included. A simple site plan sketch of the property indicating the relationship between primary and secondary resources was completed for each surveyed property. The site plans were prepared neatly in pencil on graph paper and included the main road and any significant natural features. Copies of the relevant section of the USGS map were submitted with each form.

Representative examples of cultural resources over fifty years old, focusing on those constructed prior to 1865, were selected for recordation based on previous survey efforts, as well as our understanding of the history of Rockingham County and related architecture. With assistance from the VDHR staff and the staff of the Rockingham County Planning Department, survey priorities were established. Efforts were made to identify the best-preserved and least-altered examples of various resource types subsumed under the eighteen VDHR historic themes. Special attention was paid to early outbuildings and structures, significant buildings in poor condition or threatened by imminent destruction, resources related to ethnic minority cultures, pre-1860 resources, including outbuildings and farm structures, previously surveyed properties that warranted updated or additional information, and significant buildings that may be affected by transportation network improvements (i.e. road or railroad construction). All properties with primary resources more than fifty years of age were surveyed or noted on USGS maps for future documentation.

To summarize, E.H.T. Tracerics, Inc. approached this project with: a commitment to understand the historic context and development of Rockingham County before we began the survey; with a sound background in the use of VDHR's Integrated Preservation Software (IPS); with a thorough understanding of VDHR's survey requirements; with knowledge of Virginia architecture and its related resources; and with a commitment to conduct a survey that would take advantage of the talents and experience of our staff.

## **Work Plan**

Implementation of the proposed work was based on an incremental process as outlined in the following ten task descriptions.

TASK 1:	PROJECT ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT
TASK 2:	SURVEY DESIGN
TASK 3:	INITIAL PUBLIC PRESENTATION
TASK 4:	SURVEY
TASK 5:	IPS DATA ENTRY
TASK 6:	EVALUATION OF PROPERTIES
TASK 7:	ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY REPORT
TASK 8:	SCRIPTED SLIDE SHOW
TASK 9:	PRODUCTS SUBMISSION
TASK 10:	FINAL PUBLIC PRESENTATION

### **TASK 1: PROJECT ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT**

Project organization consisted of establishing a work schedule, coordination of the team members with the staff of Rockingham Department of Planning, establishment of work assignments, arrangement of the necessary materials to undertake the work tasks, and maintenance of the project schedule. The Project Manager functioned as liaison between the County, the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, and the project team. Activities included regular monitoring of the project's progress, preparation of monthly progress reports, and attendance at required progress meetings with the County and VDHR representatives. The project was managed using a hierarchy of tasks with specific results. Incremental monitoring was combined with milestone review indicated as "Results" for each task listed in the Work Plan. The Monthly Progress Reports recorded milestone completion for VDHR review.

### **TASK 2: SURVEY DESIGN**

Prior to determining the appropriate survey design, all existing materials relevant to Rockingham County contained within the VDHR archives were reviewed. Other information reviewed included indices, topographic maps, and unpublished survey reports. New materials archived at repositories at the county, state and federal level were also studied.

The survey design began through consultation with the County and VDHR staff to review the documentation gathered during previous survey efforts and to evaluate the needs of Rockingham County. The actual on-site survey focused on those properties known to contain the best-preserved and least-altered examples of various resources types subsumed under the following eighteen VDHR historic themes:

- 1) Domestic;
- 2) Subsistence/Agriculture;

- 3) Education;
- 4) Religion;
- 5) Commerce/Trade;
- 6) Industry/Processing/Extraction;
- 7) Ethnicity/Immigration;
- 8) Funerary;
- 9) Government/Law/Political;
- 10) Health Care/Medicine;
- 11) Landscape;
- 12) Military/Defense;
- 13) Recreation/Arts;
- 14) Settlement Patterns;
- 15) Social;
- 16) Technology/Engineering;
- 17) Transportation/Communication; and
- 18) Architecture/Community Planning.

Those properties containing resources over fifty years of age and/or having significant association with the eighteen historic context themes that were not included in the survey were noted on USGS maps, thus allowing for future survey documentation.

### **TASK 3: INITIAL PUBLIC PRESENTATION**

During the initial phase of the project, a public meeting was held to introduce the survey efforts to interested Rockingham County officials, members of the local historical association, residents and property owners. This general presentation introduced the survey team, explained the survey effort and its history, addressed County and VDHR preservation goals, and presented the survey design. The presentation included slides that illustrated the VDHR survey process, historic context themes, and the potential for protecting the County's historic architectural resources.

### **TASK 4: SURVEY**

Implementation of the survey design was initiated with organization and scheduling based on routing, grouping of properties, weather conditions, and staffing availability. This work was revised and updated throughout the survey effort.

Upon completion of a survey schedule, the surveyors began the on-site survey work. The surveyors followed assigned routes (selecting specific properties when necessary or locating pre-selected properties) and initiated the reconnaissance-level survey. All work followed VDHR standards, and properties selected during the on-site survey met the published Survey Criteria. Selected properties were documented to the reconnaissance or intensive level on the appropriate VDHR survey form. Each property and its contributing resources were photographed on the exterior and interior where appropriate (and possible). The photographs taken on-site were developed as the survey progressed. Each photograph was properly labeled and placed within

appropriate envelopes. Color slides were taken and labeled as appropriate throughout the survey effort. All information collected during this task was placed into property file folders.

Concurrent with the on-site survey, archival primary and secondary sources were researched at local, state, and federal repositories. The comprehensive bibliography was prepared. As information from the archival sources was gathered, it was synthesized with individual property survey files, as well as collected for use in the development of the survey report.

#### **TASK 5:     IPS**

Information collected during the on-site survey and recorded on the field forms was entered into the VDHR-IPS database. Properties for which IPS records existed, specifically those documented at the intensive level, were expanded. As on-site and archival work was completed, the photographs and archival data were reviewed. Each IPS property record was edited and expanded by the surveyor responsible for the on-site survey of the property. Each record was completed, reviewed, and revised as appropriate.

At appropriate intervals throughout the project, each IPS property record was reviewed for accuracy and consistency. Upon review of the database and following corrections, frequency reports and tabular reports were generated. These reports provided organized data for analysis and incorporation into the architectural survey report. All required reports were generated for inclusion in the survey report.

#### **TASK 6:     EVALUATION OF PROPERTIES**

Reports generated by IPS were analyzed and properties that were considered potentially eligible for listing in the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places were evaluated within the context of the entirety of the survey database, historic themes and historic context. In addition, a presentation was made to the VDHR National Register Evaluation Team focusing on those intensive-level properties deemed potentially eligible for the National Register.

#### **TASK 7:     ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY REPORT**

A historic context and final report were prepared to conform to the VDHR Guidelines for Survey Reports. The survey findings recorded in the report related all of the surveyed properties associated with the relevant historic themes to the historic context discussion. Illustrations, including photographs, drawings, maps, tables, charts or other graphics were prepared. The draft document was prepared for distribution to the County and VDHR staff in March 2001 and then revised in accordance with their comments.

**TASK 8: PREPARE SCRIPTED SLIDE SHOW**

A scripted slide presentation was prepared that appropriately documents the survey project, findings, and recommendations for further action. The slide show was presented at the final public presentation.

**TASK 9: PRODUCTS SUBMISSION**

This step consisted of assembling and synthesizing the archival and on-site findings in preparation for drafting the historic context and final report to meet submission requirements. One set of VDHR survey file envelopes was labeled by hand in pencil and the appropriate documentation filed within each envelope for submission to VDHR. The labeled photographs and negatives were placed in the appropriate envelopes. The site maps, county base maps generated from the 911 program, and USGS maps were prepared, indicating the surveyed properties. Additional materials collected during the archival research and on-site survey process were filed within associated property files. One set of manila file folders was labeled and filled with the appropriate documentation for submission to the county. Documentation included labeled photographs, location, and site maps, IPS generated survey reports, and any other relevant research. One set of negatives was prepared for VDHR.

The survey data and reports were exported by E.H.T. Tracerics for import into VDHR's master database. Two diskettes containing Rockingham County's survey data were prepared for submission -- one for VDHR and one for Rockingham County. Two diskettes holding a copy of the text of the Architectural Survey Report in Word 7 were prepared. Two original unbound and twenty-five bound copies of the Architectural Survey Report were prepared -- one original unbound and five bound copies for VDHR and one original unbound and twenty bound copies for Rockingham County.

**TASK 10: FINAL PUBLIC PRESENTATION**

At the completion of the survey, a final presentation was made to a selected official body in the County. This presentation summarized the findings and responded to questions and issues.



## **SURVEY FINDINGS**

### *ROCKINGHAM COUNTY DATABASE HOLDINGS*

The survey and documentation of properties in Rockingham County was completed to the approved standards of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR). The results of the project survey are as follows:

**Two Hundred and Sixty-Two Properties were recorded to the Reconnaissance Level.** Each Reconnaissance-Level Survey Form recorded a single property, including primary and secondary resources.

- Two hundred and sixty-two properties were evaluated as historic and fully surveyed to the reconnaissance level. Each form provided a detailed physical description of the primary resource as well as a brief description of the secondary resources on the property. It included a brief evaluation of the property, placing it in its local historical and architectural context. Labeled, black-and-white photographs that adequately document the property's resources accompanied each form. Adequate photographic documentation included several views of the primary resource and a minimum of one photograph per historic secondary resource or group of secondary resources if they were located close together. Photographs illustrated the architectural character of the resource, with at least one photograph taken at close range. A simple site plan sketch of the property indicating the relationship between primary and secondary resources was included for each surveyed property. The site plan sketch indicated the main road and any significant natural features such as creeks and rivers. A copy of the relevant section of the USGS map was filed with each form.

**An Additional Thirteen Properties were recorded to the Intensive Level.**

- Thirteen additional properties were evaluated as historic and fully surveyed to the intensive level. The intensive-level survey form required complete and comprehensive coverage of individual resources. The survey process included a physical examination of the exterior of the primary resource and its related secondary resources, producing a detailed description and evaluation of the property. In all instances, a

physical examination of the interior of the primary resource was also included. Labeled, black-and-white photographs that document the resource accompanied all forms. The photographic documentation included a range of ten or more views that adequately document the primary resource, any secondary resources, and the property's immediate and general setting or context. For interior inspections, interior photos and a main floor plan of the property's primary resource were also included. A simple site plan sketch of the property, indicating the relationship between primary and secondary resources, was completed for each surveyed property. The site plans were prepared neatly in pencil on graph paper. The site plan sketch included the main road and any significant natural features. A copy of the relevant section of the USGS map was submitted with each form.

### SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF SURVEY FINDINGS

#### *Summary*

The VDHR-Integrated Preservation Software System (VDHR-IPS) is a computer system developed by the National Park Service and customized to meet VDHR's computer needs and desires. VDHR-IPS contains an individual database for Rockingham County; created as part of previous survey efforts. With the survey documentation gathered by Tracerics, the Rockingham County database at VDHR contains over 1,000 records. Of these 1,000 records, 275 were documented by Tracerics in 2000.

Various computer-generated IPS reports have been produced for the survey and include an:

- 1) Inventory of All Properties by VDHR ID Number
- 2) Inventory of All Properties Alphabetically By Name

**ROCKINGHAM COUNTY SURVEY:  
INVENTORY OF ALL PROPERTIES BY VDHR ID NUMBER**

**ROCKINGHAM COUNTY SURVEY:  
INVENTORY OF ALL PROPERTIES ALPHABETICALLY BY NAME**

## **ANALYSIS OF SURVEY FINDINGS**

Statistical information was derived from the survey findings by producing computer-generated reports. These reports are designed to yield specific kinds of information for the appropriate analysis of survey findings. Some of the information entered into the database is factual, based upon quantitative analysis; other information is valiative, and is based upon E.H.T. Tracerics' understanding and evaluation of architectural and historical data collected during the survey. The computer-generated reports represent both factual and valiative assessments, and provide statistics on important trends and aspects of the built environment of Rockingham County.

The following analysis was prepared by architectural historians at E.H.T. Tracerics, Inc. and is based upon a professional understanding of the historic properties and resources surveyed, taking into consideration the needs and requirements of Rockingham County and VDHR.

- Identification of Properties

Each record in the database represents a property, that is a location defined by a perimeter measurement, such as a lot or parcel of land or a determined environmental setting. Two hundred and seventy-five properties were identified and surveyed during the course of this project. These properties were identified in two ways: first, by using the property archives located at the county level and at VDHR; and second, through visual identification of primary resources that were not indicated on the historic maps but appeared to hold architectural significance associated with the recent past.

- Categorization of Properties

Each property record was initiated with the determination of a property category for the property as an entity. This categorization reflected the type of resource that was considered to be the primary resource and the source of the property's historicity. The five property categories are as follows: building, structure, site, district, and object. The definitions used are included in *National Register Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* as follows:

**Building:** A building, such as a house, barn, church, hotel, or similar construction, is created to shelter any form of human activity. "Building" may also refer to an historically, functionally related unit, such as a courthouse and jail or a house and barn.

**District:** A district possesses a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development.

**Site:** A site is the location of a significant event, a prehistoric or historic occupation or activity, or a building or structure, whether standing, ruined, or vanished, when the location itself possesses historic, cultural, or archeological value regardless of the value of any existing structure.

**Structure:** The term "structure" is used to distinguish from buildings those functional constructions made usually for purposes other than creating human shelter.

**Object:** The term "object" is used to distinguish between buildings and structures those constructions that are primarily artistic in nature or are relatively small in scale and simply constructed. Although it may be, by nature and design, movable, it is associated with a specific setting or environment, such as statuary in a designed landscape.

In Virginia, it is anticipated that a property will include at least one resource, usually considered its primary resource. The historic character of that resource is usually the basis upon which the determination of the property's overall historic or nonhistoric status is made.

The proper categorization of a property is dependent on the proper identification of the primary resource. For example, a property that includes a large residence built in the 1870s and several outbuildings from the same period would be categorized as a "BUILDING." Another property that includes a large residence built in 1995 near the foundation of an 18<sup>th</sup> century farmhouse would gain its historic status from the archeological potential of the site that is composed of the foundation and its environs, not from the no longer extant original building nor from the new house, therefore this property would be categorized a "SITE."

<b>PROPERTY CATEGORIZATION</b>	<b>FINDINGS</b>
Buildings	258
Sites	15
Structures	2
Objects	0
Districts	<u>0</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>275</b>

- Determination of Historic Status

The identification of properties and their categorization was followed by the determination of a historic status for the property. For this survey, the term “historic” was defined as possessing the capacity to convey reliable information about the physical and cultural development of Rockingham County. It was not interpreted as a measure of the level of significance of that information.

Properties were considered HISTORIC if:

- the primary resource was fifty years of age or more; and
- the resource possessed the capacity to convey reliable historic information about the physical and cultural development of Rockingham County.

Properties were determined to be NONHISTORIC if:

- the primary resource was less than fifty years of age;
- no primary resource was visually evident; and
- the primary resource was altered to a level that any historic integrity it might hold was significantly obscured.

<b>PROPERTY CATEGORIES</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>HISTORIC</b>
Buildings	258	258
Sites	15	15
Structures	2	2
Objects	0	0
Districts	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>TOTAL CATEGORIZED PROPERTIES</b>	<b>275 total</b>	<b>275 historic</b>



- Primary Resources

For the 275 properties included in the database, only twenty-seven different primary resource types were identified. The following report identifies the number of each identified resource type of the property's primary resource:

<b>PRIMARY RESOURCE TYPE</b>	<b>NUMBER FOUND ON ALL PROPERTIES</b>	<b>NUMBER FOUND TO BE HISTORIC</b>
Administration Building	1	1
Bank	1	1
Barn	86	1
Bridge	1	1
Cemetery	23	18
Church	25	18
Classroom Building	4	4
Commercial Building	14	11
Depot	1	1
Exhibition Hall	1	1
Factory	1	1
Gymnasium	2	1
Hotel	4	4
Jail	1	1
Lime Kiln	2	1
Meeting Hall	1	1
Mill	2	1
Mixed Use: Other	5	4
Mixed: Commercial/Domestic	31	31
Power Station	1	1
Processing Plant	1	1
Ruins	7	1
School	11	8

<b>PRIMARY RESOURCE TYPE</b>	<b>NUMBER FOUND ON ALL PROPERTIES</b>	<b>NUMBER FOUND TO BE HISTORIC</b>
Service Station	4	4
Single Dwelling	162	156
Tavern/Ordinary	1	1
Theatre	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>275</b>

- Identification and Count of Resource Subtypes [WUZITS]

For each property surveyed in Rockingham County, a complete list of the resources associated with the property was compiled. In each case, the primary resource was surveyed and documented; the other historic resources were counted and recorded in a counter field and then described in a secondary resources notes field. Each property count not only included a count of the resources by general type, but a determination and count of the specific resource subtype. These resource subtypes, classified as "wuzits" in the database, refer to the *original* purpose for which the resource was constructed and range from single-family dwellings to corncribs to cemeteries. For the 275 properties documented in the database, seventy-eight "wuzits" were identified (seventy-eight different types). A complete list in alphabetical order of the type of "WUZITS" identified and the number of each wuzit counted in the course of this survey was compiled.

<b>RESOURCE SUBTYPE</b>	<b>NUMBER IDENTIFIED IN SURVEY</b>	<b>NUMBER IDENTIFIED AS HISTORIC</b>
Administration Building	1	1
Animal Shelter	17	10
Archaeological Site	2	2
Bake Oven	1	1
Bank	1	1
Barbecue Pit	4	0
Barn	89	78
Blacksmith Shop	1	1
Bridge	1	1
Carport	3	0

<b>RESOURCE SUBTYPE</b>	<b>NUMBER IDENTIFIED IN SURVEY</b>	<b>NUMBER IDENTIFIED AS HISTORIC</b>
Carriage House	2	2
Cemetery	23	23
Church	28	25
Cistern	23	19
Classroom Building	4	4
Commercial Building	16	15
Corncrib	20	8
Dairy	3	2
Dairy Barn	2	1
Depot	1	1
Exhibition Hall	1	1
Factory	1	1
Foundation	3	2
Garage	62	42
Gate/Entry	2	1
Gazebo	5	0
Granary	7	7
Greenhouse	2	0
Gymnasium	2	2
Hitching Post	1	1
Hotel/Inn	4	4
Ice House	8	8
Jail	1	1
Kennel	4	0
Kitchen	9	8
Lime Kiln	2	2
Meeting Hall	1	1
Milk House	13	5

<b>RESOURCE SUBTYPE</b>	<b>NUMBER IDENTIFIED IN SURVEY</b>	<b>NUMBER IDENTIFIED AS HISTORIC</b>
Milk Tank	1	0
Mill	1	1
Mixed Use: Other	3	3
Mixed: Commercial/Domestic	32	32
Mobile Home	1	Not determined
Office/Office Building	1	1
Orchard	1	0
Other	6	3
Pool House/Swimming Pool	10	1
Poultry Shelter	55	38
Power Station	1	1
Privy	22	19
Processing Plant	1	1
Pump	9	7
Pump House	7	3
Root Cellar	4	4
Ruins	8	7
Scale/Scale Building	1	1
School	12	11
Servant Quarters	3	3
Service Station	4	4
Shed	164	83
Shelter	9	1
Silo	39	11
Single Dwelling	159	156
Smoke/Meat House	35	34
Spring/Springhouse	23	22
Stable	2	1

<b>RESOURCE SUBTYPE</b>	<b>NUMBER IDENTIFIED IN SURVEY</b>	<b>NUMBER IDENTIFIED AS HISTORIC</b>
Tavern/Ordinary	1	1
Tenant House	20	19
Tennis Court	3	2
Theater	1	1
Trough	1	1
Wall	8	8
Wash House	26	25
Water Tower	1	1
Well	5	4
Well House	14	10
Windmill	5	2
Workshop	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1094</b>	<b>803</b>

These lists reveal that seventy-eight different resource subtypes were identified for the 275 properties recorded in the database. It also reveals that, despite the variety of resource subtypes, one of the most heavily represented resource subtypes, by far, was the single-family dwelling.

- VDHR Historic Themes and Period Contexts

VDHR has defined eighteen cultural themes for Virginia's material culture history from prehistoric times to the present. Although a surveyed property may relate to one or more of the defined themes, only the most relevant themes are indicated in the database. The following list shows the number of historic properties within the current boundaries of Rockingham County that are primarily associated with sixteen of the eighteen historic context themes.

<b>EIGHTEEN THEMES</b>	<b>Number of Associated Properties</b>
Architecture/Community Planning	261
Commerce/Trade	56
Domestic	193
Education	18
Ethnicity/Immigration	3
Funerary	23
Government/Law/Political	6
Health Care/Medicine	1
Industry/Processing/Extraction	6
Landscape	0
Military/Defense	2
Recreation/Arts	4
Religion	30
Settlement Patterns	0
Social	2
Subsistence/Agriculture	92
Technology/Engineering	1
Transportation/Communication	2

- Architectural Style

Rockingham County is host to a variety of architectural building styles. Below is a computer-generated report listing the style and the number of historic resources presenting that style.

<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE</b>	<b>NUMBER OF RESOURCES</b>
ART DECO	1
BUNGALOW/ CRAFTSMAN	5
CLASSICAL REVIVAL	3
COLONIAL	2
COLONIAL REVIVAL	18
EARLY CLASSICAL REVIVAL	4
FEDERAL	40
GEORGIAN	5
GOthic REVIVAL	19
GREEK REVIVAL	40
ITALIANATE	38
MIXED	1
MODERN	1
OTHER	637
QUEEN ANNE	26
ROMANESQUE	2
TUDOR REVIVAL	1

- Source of Date

Below is a computer-generated report listing the source of the date and the number of times that source was utilized throughout the survey for all historic resources. Often, more than one source was used in the dating of historic resources.

<b>SOURCE OF DATE</b>	<b>NUMBER OF RESOURCES</b>
CORNERSTONE	7
DATE STONE/BRICK	2
INSCRIPTION	18
MAP	2
ORAL HISTORY	7
ORAL/SITE VISIT	7
ORAL/WRITTEN	2
OWNER	64
OWNER/SITE VISIT	77
OWNER/WRITTEN DATA	1
SIGN/PLAQUE	15
SITE VISIT	732
STIE VISIT/SIGN	7
SITE VISIT/WRITTEN	24
TAX RECORDS	3
VDHR SURVEY FILE	54
WRITTEN DATE	20



- Condition of Primary Resource

The condition of the primary resource and all historic outbuildings was recorded as part of this study:

<b>CONDITION</b>	<b>NUMBER OF RESOURCES</b>
EXCELLENT	3
GOOD-EXCELLENT	39
GOOD	582
GOOD-FAIR	51
FAIR	94
POOR	43
DETERIORATED/ RUINOUS	35
REBUILT	2
REMODELED	12

Expectedly, the majority of properties surveyed were occupied and in good to excellent physical condition. However, the methodology of the project elected to survey as many unoccupied and severely deteriorated properties as possible to ensure documentation was conducted at least to the reconnaissance level before the primary resource was lost.

### ***Conclusion***

The information gleaned from computer-generated reports and presented here is only a small sampling of the type of analysis that can be done using VDHR-IPS. At this stage, all of the survey information has been entered into the database and is available for retrieval and analysis as necessary. The findings listed in this report are generally summary findings; the information can be further analyzed by looking at the actual computer-generated reports and customizing them to meet specific needs and requests.

## **SURVEY RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **A. Recommendations for Further Study**

- Phase II Architectural Survey at the Reconnaissance Level

Although a substantial number of historic properties have been documented in Rockingham County, additional survey work remains. This work should continue in the northern portion of the county. Particular focus should be on the pre-1900 resources, especially in the rural regions, relating to all eighteen Historic Themes.

Within the boundaries of the 2000 survey area, the survey should be continued to ensure the documentation of all historic resources. This includes a substantial number of late-19<sup>th</sup>-century vernacular dwellings, a building type well represented in the first phase of on-site survey work. Additionally, a number of early-20<sup>th</sup>-century dwellings remain unsurveyed, although a sampling of these were documented. It is therefore suggested that a second reconnaissance-level survey be conducted in an effort to document all properties in the southern region of Rockingham County that are fifty years or older. Each of the unsurveyed resources was documented on USGS maps, indicating a date range and use. This method of recordation will allow for a more thorough survey of all historic properties in the county.

- Properties to be Surveyed at the Intensive Level

The following properties were identified during the reconnaissance-level survey; however, the architectural and/or historical significance of the primary resource or outbuildings warrants intensive-level survey as these properties may be eligible for the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places.

<b>VDHR #</b>	<b>Property Name</b>	<b>Address</b>
082-0009	Kidd, Joel T., House	7916 South Main Street
082-0010	Hooke House	8000 Alumnae Drive
082-0013	Three Springs Farm	3652 Lethe Lane
082-0015	Lynnwood	9154 Dilworth Drive
082-0016	Miller House	8620 Warm Springs Road
082-0017	Green Meadows	1207 North East Side Highway
082-0030	Cross Keys Tavern	3402 Cross Keys Road
082-0032	Peale House	67 Cross Keys Road
082-0053	Meadowview Farm	1776 Cross Keys Road
082-0063	River Bank	4300 Captain Yancey Road
082-0086	Roller, Emanuel House	5888 South Valley Pike
082-0101	Smith House	8529 Port Republic Road
082-0118	Jackson House	8167 McGaheysville Road
082-0126	Armstrong, Eldon W., House	9068 Wise Hollow Road

<b>VDHR #</b>	<b>Property Name</b>	<b>Address</b>
082-0176	House, 7563 Spring Creek Road	7563 Spring Creek Road
082-0177	Devier House	6116 Givens Lane
082-0180	Miller-Huffman House	9843 Centerville Road
082-0216	Miller, Daniel, House	5719 Spring Creek Road
082-0298	Gibbons, George R., House	7855 Warm Springs Road
082-0326	Kyger, Alexander, Farm	8099 Shady Grove Road
082-0330	Dell, The	7384 Latimer Road
082-0368	Webb, Dr. J.B., House	3327 Cross Keys Road
082-0414	Whitesel, Simon, Farm	2238 State Route 680
082-0415	Messick/Rittle Farm	4882 Pleasant Valley Road
082-0461	Kyger, Chris, Farm	2230 Pineville Road
082-0487	Shuler, Noah, School	7648 McGaheysville Road
082-0493	Yount, Benjamin, Farm	8218 Port Republic Road
082-0527	Rivers Bend	2547 Waterloo Mill Lane
082-5087	House, 7591 Main Street, South	7591 South Main Street
082-5090	Store/Dwelling, 113 Main St, South	113 South Main Street
082-5093	Store/Dwelling, 222 Main St, North	222 North Main Street
082-5095	House, 609 Pineville Road	609 Pineville Road
082-5096	House, 4090 Cross Keys Road	4090 Cross Keys Road
082-5097	House, 1395 Stone Spring Road	1395 Stone Spring Road
082-5098	House, 6449 Williams Run Road	6449 Williams Run Road
082-5099	House, 7667 River Road, South	7667 South River Road
082-5100	House, 5745 Cross Keys Road	5745 Cross Keys Road
082-5101	House, 5525 Cross Keys Road	5525 Cross Keys Road
082-5102	House, 8333 Centerville Road	8333 Centerville Road
082-5103	House, 8649 Warm Springs Road	8649 Warm Springs Road
082-5104	House, 7069 Waystation Road	7069 Waystation Road
082-5108	House, 9052 Lee Highway	9052 Lee Highway
082-5110	House, 1299 River Road, North	1299 North River Road
082-5111	House, 1093 Friedens Church Rd	1093 Friedens Church Road
082-5116	House, 8008 Wise Hollow Road	8008 Wise Hollow Road
082-5118	House, 8610 Wise Hollow Road	8610 Wise Hollow Road
082-5119	House, 9259 Centerville Road	9259 Centerville Road
082-5129	Mount Clinton United Methodist Church	1595 Muddy Creek Road
082-5130	House, 1416 Muddy Creek Road	1416 Muddy Creek Road
082-5131	House, 6619 Wheelbarger Road	6619 Wheelbarger Road
082-5132	House, 4857 Rawley Pike	4857 Rawley Pike
082-5134	Pleasant Valley School #2	1827 Cecil Wampler Road
082-5135	Pleasant Valley School #1	1834 Cecil Wampler Road
082-5138	House, 4918 Antioch Road	4918 Antioch Road
082-5141	Lime Kiln, Erickson Lane	3000 Block of Erickson Lane
082-5142	House, 3370 Rawley Pike	3370 Rawley Pike
082-5146	House, 1430 Kaylor Lane	1430 Kaylor Lane

<b>VDHR #</b>	<b>Property Name</b>	<b>Address</b>
082-5147	House, 1454 Pleasant Valley Rd	1454 Pleasant Valley Road
082-5148	Pleasant Valley Train Depot	1900 Station Lane
082-5151	Hotel, 1512 Cecil Wampler Road	1512 Cecil Wampler Road
082-5152	House, 1503 Pleasant Valley Rd	1503 Pleasant Valley Road
082-5154	House, 1398 Pleasant Valley Rd	1398 Pleasant Valley Road
082-5155	House, 1819 Pleasant Valley Rd	1819 Pleasant Valley Road
082-5157	House, 2477 Bear Lithia Spring Rd	2477 Bear Lithia Spring Road
082-5160	House, 10034 McGaheysville Rd	10034 McGaheysville Road
082-5164	House, 3916 East Side Hwy, North	3916 North East Side Highway
082-5171	House, 5128 Bear Foot Lane	5128 Bear Foot Lane
082-5173	East Elkton Rosenwald School	1205 Newtown Road
082-5175	Mount Pleasant Methodist Church	20349 Mount Pleasant Road
082-5178	House, 17869 Mount Pleasant Rd	17869 Mount Pleasant Road
082-5185	House, 3400 Block East Point Rd	3400 East Point Road
082-5189	House, 882 Bloomer Spring Road	882 Bloomer Spring Road
082-5192	House, 14649 Model Road	14649 Model Road
082-5194	River Bend	15553 Model Road
216-5003	House, 515 Rockingham Street	515 Rockingham Street
216-5004	House, 425 Rockingham Street	425 Rockingham Street
216-5006	House, 335 Rockingham Street	335 Rockingham Street
216-5007	Jennings, Dr. Simeon B., House	176 West Rockingham Street
216-5008	Miller, S.P.H., House	221 Shenandoah Avenue
216-5010	Elkton Methodist Church	205 Warren Street
216-5012	Elkton Presbyterian Church	110 Ashby Avenue
216-5013	House, 93 Hill Avenue	93 Hill Avenue
216-5014	Rockingham Cooperative Farm Br.	406 West Spotswood Trail
216-5015	Bank of Elkton	410 West Spotswood Trail
216-5016	Elkton Theatre	413 West Spotswood Trail
216-5017	Store/Dwelling, 419 West Spotswood Trail	419 West Spotswood Trail
216-5018	Store/Dwelling, 104-6 W. Spotswood Ave	104-6 West Spotswood Ave
216-5020	Store/Dwelling, 179 W. Spotswood Ave	179 W. Spotswood Ave
216-5021	Store/Dwelling, 181-3 W. Spotswood Ave	181-3 W. Spotswood Ave
216-5022	Store/Dwelling, 185 West Spotswood Ave	185 West Spotswood Ave
216-5023	Commercial Bldg, 187 W. Spotswood Ave	187 W. Spotswood Ave
216-5024	Store/Dwelling, 189-91 W. Spotswood Ave	189/191 W. Spotswood Ave
216-5025	Store/Dwelling, 124 West Spotswood Trail	124 West Spotswood Trail
216-5026	House, 529 West Spotswood Trail	529 West Spotswood Trail
216-5032	Leebrick Building	405 West Spotswood Trail
216-5037	Pennington Building	306 West Spotswood Trail
216-5039	Store/Dwelling, 206 W. Spotswood Ave	206 W. Spotswood Ave
216-5049	Elkton Milling Company	100 North Fifth Street
216-5051	House, 611 Fourth Street	611 Fourth Street
216-5053	Elkton Elementary School	302 B Street

<b>VDHR #</b>	<b>Property Name</b>	<b>Address</b>
228-5006	House, 85 Cary Street	85 Cary Street
228-5007	House, 700 Edgewood Avenue	700 Edgewood Avenue
228-5009	Hotel Rockingham	612 6th Street
228-5015	Commercial Building, 903 Dogwood Ave	903 Dogwood Ave

- Preliminary Information Form (PIF) Documentation

It is recommended that Preliminary Information Forms be prepared for the following towns to determine if the concentration of buildings which are united historically and aesthetically by physical development merit designation as a historic district.

1. Bridgewater (expansion of present historic district)
2. Elkton
3. Grottoes
4. Mount Crawford
5. Pleasant Valley

## **B. Evaluation/Recommendations for Designation**

### Standards for Evaluation

The properties identified in the intensive-level survey of Rockingham County have been evaluated on a preliminary basis for their historic significance at the local, state, and national levels. As stated in the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for Evaluation*, evaluation is the process of determining whether identified properties meet defined criteria of significance and whether they should, therefore, be included in an inventory of historic properties determined to meet the established criteria.

In association with the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for Evaluation* is the Secretary of the Interior's *Guidelines for Evaluation*. These guidelines describe the principles and process for evaluating the significance of the identified historic properties. In evaluating the historic resources of Rockingham County, both the *Standards* and *Guidelines for Evaluation* were consulted. As a first step, the guidelines suggest that criteria used to develop an inventory of historic properties should be coordinated with the National Register of Historic Places. In the case of Rockingham County, the evaluation process was conducted using the National Register of Historic Places criteria and the Virginia Landmarks Register criteria. The National Register of Historic Places is the official national list of recognized properties, which is maintained and expanded by the National Park Service on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior. The Virginia Landmarks Register criteria, established in 1966, are coordinated with those established for the National Register of Historic Places.

The National Register of Historic Places Criteria states:

The quality of *significance* in American history, architecture, archeology, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- C. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Similarly, the Virginia Landmarks Register criteria are set forth in the legislation as follows:

No structure or site shall be deemed a historic one unless it has been prominently identified with, or best represents, some major aspect of the cultural, political, economic, military, or social history of the state or nation, or has had a relationship with the life of an historic personage or event representing some major aspect of, or ideals related to, the history of the State or nation. In the case of structures which are to be so designated, they shall embody the principal or unique features of an architectural style or demonstrate the style of a period of our history or method of construction, or serve as an illustration of the work of a master builder, designer or architect whose genius influenced the period in which he worked or has significance in current times. In order for a site to qualify as an archaeological site, it shall be an area from which it is reasonable to expect that artifacts, materials, and other specimens may be found which give insight to an understanding of aboriginal man or the Colonial and early history and architecture of the state or nation.

Presently, twenty-one properties in Rockingham County have been listed on the Virginia Landmarks Register and on the National Register of Historic Places:

<b>082-0002</b>	<b>John K. Beery Farm</b>	<b>082-0132</b>	<b>Harnsberger Farm</b>
<b>082-0003</b>	<b>Bethlehem Church</b>	<b>082-0133</b>	<b>Miller-Kite House</b>
<b>082-0014</b>	<b>Lincoln Homestead and Cemetery</b>	<b>082-0134</b>	<b>Stephen M. Harnsberger House</b>
<b>082-0025</b>	<b>Tunker House</b>	<b>082-0137</b>	<b>George Earman House</b>
<b>082-0031</b>	<b>Peter Paul House</b>	<b>082-0323</b>	<b>Big Run Quarry Archeological Site</b>
<b>082-0035</b>	<b>Sites House</b>	<b>082-5075</b>	<b>Kyles Mill Farm</b>
<b>082-0051</b>	<b>Inglewood</b>	<b>117-5001</b>	<b>Linville Creek Bridge</b>
<b>082-0069</b>	<b>Joseph Funk House</b>	<b>176-0003</b>	<b>Bridgewater Historic District</b>
<b>082-0071</b>	<b>Baxter House</b>	<b>206-0001</b>	<b>Fort Harrison (Daniel Harrison House)</b>
<b>082-0123</b>	<b>Port Republic Historic District</b>	<b>206-0002</b>	<b>Dayton Historic District</b>
<b>082-0125</b>	<b>Singers Glen Historic District</b>		

A second consideration cited by the guidelines suggests that the established criteria should be applied within particular historic contexts. In the case of Rockingham County, the criteria were examined to determine how they might apply to properties within the given context. The historic contexts are synonymous with the eighteen historic themes developed by the VDHR and listed as follows:

Architecture/Landscape Architecture/Community Planning Theme: This theme explores the design values and practical arts of planning, designing, arranging, constructing and developing buildings, structures, landscapes, towns and cities for human use and enjoyment.

Commerce/Trade Theme: This theme relates to the process of trading goods, services, and commodities.

Domestic Theme: This theme relates broadly to the human need for shelter, a home place, and community dwellings.

Education Theme: This theme relates to the process of conveying or acquiring knowledge or skills through systematic instruction, training, or study, whether through public or private efforts.

Ethnicity/Immigration Theme: This theme explores the material manifestations of ethnic diversity and the movement and interaction of people of different ethnic heritages through time and space in Virginia.

Funerary Theme: This theme concerns the investigation of gravesites for demographic data to study population, composition, health, and mortality within prehistoric and historic societies.

Government/Law/Political Theme: This theme relates primarily to the enactment and administration of laws by which a nation, state, or other political jurisdiction is governed; and activities related to politics and government.

Health Care/Medicine Theme: This theme refers to the care of the sick, elderly and disabled, and the promotion of health and hygiene.

Industry/Processing/Extraction Theme: This theme explores the technology and process of managing materials, labor, and equipment to produce goods and services.

Landscape Theme: This theme explores the historic, cultural, scenic, visual and design qualities of cultural landscapes, emphasizing the reciprocal relationships affecting the natural and the human-built environment.

Military/Defense Theme: This theme relates to the system of defending the territory and sovereignty of a people and encompasses all military activities, battles, strategic locations, and events important in military history.

Recreation and the Arts Theme: This theme relates to the arts and cultural activities and institutions related to leisure time and recreation.

Religion Theme: This theme concerns the organized system of beliefs, practices, and traditions regarding the worldview of various cultures and the material manifestation of spiritual beliefs.

Settlement Patterns Theme: Studies related to this theme involve the analysis of different strategies available for the utilization of an area in response to subsistence, demographic, socio-political, and religious aspects of a cultural system.

Social Theme: This theme relates to social activities and institutions, the activities of charitable, fraternal, or other community organizations and places associated with broad social movements.

Subsistence/Agriculture Theme: This theme most broadly seeks explanations of the different strategies that cultures develop to procure, process, and store food.

Technology/Engineering Theme: While the technological aspects of a culture form the primary basis of interpretation of all themes, this theme relates primarily to the utilization of and evolutionary changes in material culture as a society adapts to the physical, biological, and cultural environment.



Transportation/Communication Theme: This theme relates to the process and technology of conveying passengers, materials, and information.

After determining how the criteria apply, the Secretary of Interior's *Guidelines for Evaluation* suggests that the integrity of a property should be assessed. In evaluating the integrity, factors such as structural problems, deterioration, and abandonment should be considered if they have affected the significance of the property. In surveying the properties of Rockingham County, the integrity of the resource was evaluated using seven aspects defined in *National Register Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*. The aspects include location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The seventh aspect, association, was not always evaluated while conducting on-site survey work, and often requires further archival research.

Based upon the state and national guidelines and criteria, all of the properties in Rockingham County were evaluated for potential nomination to the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places.

Recommendations for Designation to the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places:

Rockingham County currently contains twenty-one properties listed on the on the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places. The research conducted for the historic context report indicated that at least ten other properties, identified during the intensive-level survey of Rockingham County, are potentially eligible for individual listing in the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places. Two of the properties included in the intensive-level survey are recommended for inclusion in proposed amendments and potential historic districts.

Each property was presented to the VDHR Evaluation Team at the conclusion of the survey. Those properties found to be potentially eligible by the Evaluation Team have a rating score of 30 points or more. It should be noted that the scoring of a property below 30 points does not preclude it from listing, but suggests further documentation be compiled regarding the historical and/or architectural merit of the resource.

**BELL MANOR**

**082-0209**

- National Register Area(s) of Significance: Architecture
- VDHR Criteria for Potential Eligibility: Architecture
- Criterion C: The building was erected circa 1820 for Jacob Harnsberger as a multiple dwelling, although it reads as a single-family dwelling on the exterior. The high-style interior presents two parlors each with public access and two private parlors with limited access. The second floor historically was divided

into two separate living spaces, with no interior connection. Each space was reached via an enclosed, winder stair located in the public parlors. The porch on the exterior, although altered, has ornate round brick columns, created from inscribed triangular bricks.

- *EVALUATION TEAM DETERMINATION* *ELIGIBLE*

## **BOGOTA**

**082-0029**

- National Register Area(s) of Significance: Architecture
- VDHR Criteria for Potential Eligibility: Architecture
- Criterion C: Bogota is a high-style brick example of the Greek Revival style, with staggered Flemish bond brickwork on the façade and five-course American bond on the side elevations. Ownership of the property remains in the original family that erected the dwelling in 1845. This building is virtually identical to the Peale House (082-0032). The property includes eleven associated outbuildings, including a family cemetery, 1756 tenant house, wash house, smoke house, barn, and two slave quarters.
- *EVALUATION TEAM DETERMINATION* *ELIGIBLE*

## **BOWMAN HOMESTEAD**

**082-5201**

- National Register Area(s) of Significance: Architecture  
Social
- VDHR Criteria for Potential Eligibility: Architecture
- Criterion C: This property was improved in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century by George Bowman, possibly with a Mr. Hudlow serving as the main builder of the log structures. It consists of a log Germanic dwelling that has been enlarged (it exhibits two distinct notching techniques) and five contemporary log and limestone outbuildings (two barns, a root cellar, hog house, and granary). The primary dwelling has been described as the “finest example of a German-type log dwelling extant in the eastern United States.” The property, now consisting of 380 acres, contains nine additional buildings and structures.
- *EVALUATION TEAM DETERMINATION* *ELIGIBLE*

## **CONTENTMENT**

**082-0062**

- National Register Area(s) of Significance: Architecture  
Military
- VDHR Criteria for Potential Eligibility: Architecture  
Event
- Criterion A: During the Civil War, Confederate General John D. Imboden, commanding officer of the Valley Brigade, set up his headquarters in the house in 1864, while a large number of troops camped on the property. On September 26, 1864, Federal General Philip H. Sheridan sent infantry brigades to Contentment to keep a path open for cavalry returning from Augusta County.
- Criterion C: The second building on the property, Contentment was constructed in the second quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The dwelling is exceptionally intact and is an example of rural Federal/Greek Revival-style architecture. The interior has four parlors flanking a central hall. The partially enclosed, hollow newel stair is hidden from view in one of the rear parlors.
- *EVALUATION TEAM DETERMINATION* *ELIGIBLE*

## **GEORGE DINKLE HOUSE**

**176-0003-0089**

- National Register Area(s) of Significance: Architecture
- VDHR Criteria for Potential Eligibility: Architecture
- Criterion C: One of the descendants of the Dinkle family had this modest house constructed in the 1830s. The house was a private residence through the 1800s, and in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century served as a girls' boarding house for nearby Bridgewater College.
- *EVALUATION TEAM DETERMINATION* *NOT ELIGIBLE*  
It was recommended that the adjacent Bridgewater Historic District be expanded and the Dinkle House be included as a contributing resource.

## **FARMINGREEN**

**082-5202**

- National Register Area(s) of Significance: Architecture
- VDHR Criteria for Potential Eligibility: Architecture
- Criterion C: Farmingreen was constructed in 1825 for Henry Wenger. The property, originally consisting of 600 acres, is currently owned by the seventh generation of the Wenger family, the sixth generation to live in the dwelling. The Federal-style house has a hall/parlor plan detailed with a fanlight, bull's-eye detailing, arched brick lintels, and scored bricks that were produced on the property.
- *EVALUATION TEAM DETERMINATION* *ELIGIBLE*

## **GERMAN REFORMED CHURCH PARSONAGE**

**082-5204**

- National Register Area(s) of Significance: Architecture  
Religion
- VDHR Criteria for Potential Eligibility: Architecture  
Event
- Criterion A: In 1880, the property was purchased jointly by three congregations – the German Reformed Church, Friedens Church, and the McGaheysville Reformed Church – to serve as the home of the circuit riding minister. It was noted on historic maps as “German Reformed Church Parsonage.” During the week, the minister opened his home as a school, with classes held in the original brick-nogged portion of the building. During the Civil War, Confederate soldiers of the 6<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry, watching and engaged in the Battle of Cross Keys on June 8, 1862, occupied the property.
- Criterion C: Dating from the latter part of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the building originally maintained a one-room plan built of brick nogging with an exterior end brick chimney. It was enlarged in the middle part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, creating a hall/parlor plan.
- *EVALUATION TEAM DETERMINATION* *ELIGIBLE*

## **LINCOLN HALL**

**082-0094**

- National Register Area(s) of Significance: Architecture
- VDHR Criteria for Potential Eligibility: Architecture
- Criterion C: The original log structure, dating from circa 1742, was constructed by the O’Bryan/Bryan family, who purchased 600 acres of the 8,000 acres patented in 1739. It is reported that the family may have been the ancestors of Daniel Boone’s wife, Rebecca Bryan. In circa 1800, the Lincoln family purchased the property. John Lincoln, the great-grandfather of President Abraham Lincoln, and his son, Jacob Lincoln, Sr. owned the property, and Jacob Lincoln, Jr. enlarged the building by encapsulating it within a two-story hall/parlor structure. The Lincoln Homestead (082-0014) is located nearby, across Route 42. The Pennybacker family purchased the property in 1874. The building was enlarged again during their ownership and the primary elevation was moved to what had been a side elevation. The dwelling now presents a central-passage, double-pile plan.
- *EVALUATION TEAM DETERMINATION* *ELIGIBLE*

**MANNHEIM**

**082-0005**

- National Register Area(s) of Significance: Architecture
- VDHR Criteria for Potential Eligibility: Architecture
- Criterion C: Originally part of a 360-acre plantation, Mannheim was constructed for Michael Kauffman (also seen as Coffman) circa 1771 and named after the German town from which the family had emigrated. The original limestone portion of Mannheim is constructed of brick with a Germanic plan. Of Mennonite heritage, Kauffman broke ties with the Mennonite church, as he became involved in the African slave trade. Two slave quarters, constructed of brick during the antebellum period, are located on the property. Kauffman's son, Samuel, was a local physician and maintained a surviving doctor's office on the property.
- *EVALUATION TEAM DETERMINATION* *ELIGIBLE*

**MONTEVIDEO**

**082-0321**

- National Register Area(s) of Significance: Architecture  
Commerce
- VDHR Criteria for Potential Eligibility: Architecture  
Event
- Criterion A: Albert G. Mauzy improved the property in the second quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The family settled in Virginia from South Carolina and established the store/dwelling/inn at Montevideo before purchasing the similar building at 10559 North Valley Pike (082-0048). By 1900, J.S. Huffman, who continued to operate the store and post office, owned the property.
- Criterion C: The two-story store/dwelling was constructed in circa 1835. Greek Revival in style, the wood frame building has a two-story front porch that extends across the seven-bay-wide façade.
- *EVALUATION TEAM DETERMINATION* *ELIGIBLE*

**PETERS-STANDLEY HOUSE**

**082-5200**

- National Register Area(s) of Significance: Architecture
- VDHR Criteria for Potential Eligibility: Architecture
- Criterion C: The two-story log structure dates from the late 18<sup>th</sup> century and was erected by John Standley on property originally owned by John Peters. The squared logs have V-notching and wood chinking. It features a hall/parlor plan with an enclosed stair at the rear and an exterior-end stone chimney. A hyphen now connects the log kitchen to the main dwelling. The dwelling is exceptionally intact, with the application of electricity being the only modernization.
- *EVALUATION TEAM DETERMINATION* *ELIGIBLE*

**STORE/DWELLING AT 445 SOUTH MAIN STREET**

**082-5094**

- National Register Area(s) of Significance: Architecture  
Commerce
- VDHR Criteria for Potential Eligibility: Architecture  
Commerce
- Criterion C: The two-story store/dwelling was constructed circa 1850. The separation of store and dwelling is indicated on the façade by the two entryways, which are sheltered by a full-width two-story front porch. The store consists of a single room and the domestic space presents a hall/parlor plan with a dog-leg stair to the upper floor.
- *EVALUATION TEAM DETERMINATION* *NOT ELIGIBLE*  
It was recommended that the town of Mount Crawford be examined as a potential historic district and this store/dwelling be included as a contributing resource.

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