

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

STATE: Virginia
 COUNTY: Frederick
 FOR NPS USE ONLY
 ENTRY DATE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**
 (Type all entries complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:
Cedar Creek Battlefield and Belle Grove
 AND/OR HISTORIC:
Cedar Creek Battlefield and Belle Grove

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
on Va. Route 727 near Middletown (Belle Grove) and vicinity
 CITY OR TOWN: Middletown CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Seventh (7th)
 STATE: Virginia CODE: 51 COUNTY: Frederick CODE: 069

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ Comments _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
National Trust for Historic Preservation
 STREET AND NUMBER:
748 Jackson Place
 CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D.C. CODE: 11

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Frederick County Clerk's Office
 STREET AND NUMBER:
 CITY OR TOWN: Winchester STATE: Virginia CODE: 51

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey
 DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress/Annex
 STREET AND NUMBER:
Prints and Photographs Division
 CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D.C. CODE: 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Virginia
 COUNTY: Frederick
 ENTRY NUMBER
 DATE
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Isaac Hite, the builder of Belle Grove was a successful farmer who began with 483 acres in 1783 and acquired 7,437 by 1814. In 1820 a west wing was added to the mansion, increasing its dimensions from 74 x 40 feet to one exceeding 100 x 40. Sometime between 1815 and 1828, outbuildings were added. The smokehouse and icehouse are still extant.

In 1836 Major Hite died and in 1860 his family sold it to John and Benjamin Cooley. War damages forced them to sell to an Englishman, James Davison, in 1867. The names of Union soldiers can still be seen scratched on the walls and ceiling over the north portico.

Belle Grove was maintained as an inn from 1907 until the late 1920's. In 1929 Francis Hunnewell of Wellesley, Mass. bought Belle Grove and began its restoration. He bequeathed the mansion and 100 acres to the National Trust in 1964. Today, Belle Grove is an operating farm that also serves as a center for the interpretation of rural folk life.

It conducts varied educational programs, including, for the last three summers, student excavations on the mansion grounds. These have so far uncovered the remains of a late 18th or early 19th century outdoor bake oven, the limestone foundation of an early 19th century dairy, and numerous artifacts.

Belle Grove mansion is a dressed limestone house of one full story on a very high basement. The walls are quoined with rough-hewn stone, and keyed flat arches of stone emphasize each window opening. Four widely spaced chimneys, also of stone, rise symmetrically from the broad hip roof. Belle Grove was designed in the Classical Revival style; its four porticoes, three of which had been removed, are now restored to their original condition.

Some of the earthworks used by the 6th Corps at the beginning of the battle are still in existence. They surround the crest of a round hill just west of the Belle Grove mansion.

BOUNDARIES:

The boundaries are those recommended by John D. McDermott and Edwin C. Bearss in their 1969 Special Report on Cedar Creek Battlefield and Belle Grove, Frederick County, Virginia, done for the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings. The boundaries include all the area where fighting occurred on October 19, 1864, except for Interstate Highway 81, which divides the site into two sections. The southern section contains Robert's Ferry and Bowman's Ferry, where the Confederates crossed the Shenandoah, and the site of the morning position of Crook's VIII Corps. The northern section contains Belle Grove, and the sites of the original positions of Wright's VI Corps and Emory's XIX Corps. The latter unit's entrenchments are the only ones still prominent. Enclosed is their verbal description of the boundaries. Also included are maps showing the position of the battle's focal points on the U.S.G.S. topographic maps for this area, and a sketch map showing the relationship of the buildings and excavations at Belle Grove.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM(NATIONAL HISTORIC
LANDMARKS)

Cedar Creek Battlefield (Continuation Sheet)

STATE Virginia	
COUNTY Frederick	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries) #7 Description Page #2

Location: Generally, Cedar Creek Battlefield lies between Middletown and Strasburg in Frederick County, Virginia. Interstate Highway 81 divides the battlefield into northern and southern units. North Section: Beginning at 78° 18' 46" Longitude and 39° 0' 33", the boundary line runs in a northeasterly direction to 78° 17' 16" and 39° 1' 23", then in a northwesterly direction to 78° 17' 21" and 39° 1' 26", then in a northeasterly direction to 78° 16' 47" and 39° 1' 53", then in a northwesterly direction 78° 16' 55" and 39° 2', then in a northeasterly direction to 78° 16' 30" and 39° 2' 15", then in a north-easterly direction to 78° 16' 6" and 39° 2' 35", then in a northwesterly direction to 78° 16' 42" and 39° 3' 1", then in a southwesterly direction down the center of State Highway 625 to its intersection with State Highway 621, then in a southeasterly direction down the center of State Highway 621 to its intersection with State Highway 625, then in a southwesterly direction down the center of State Highway 625 to 78°17'40" and 39° 1'49", then in a westerly direction 78° 18'2" and 39° 1'55", then in a westerly direction to 78° 18'28" and 39° 1' 48", then in a northwesterly direction to 78°18'38" and 39°2', and then down the center of Cedar Creek in a southerly direction to the point of beginning. Excepted within this section is a rectangular unit whose boundary line begins at 78° 18' 34" Longitude and 39° 1'16" Latitude and runs in an easterly direction to 78°18'2" and 39°1'20", then in a northerly direction to 78°18'4" and 39°1'33", then in a westerly direction to 78°18'4" and 39°1'33", then in a westerly direction to 78° 18'38" and 39° 1'20" and then in a southerly direction to the point of beginning. Generally, this rectangle excludes most of the small community of Meadow Mills. South Section: Beginning at 78°19'15" Longitude and 38°58'29" Latitude, the boundary runs in a northeasterly direction to 78°17'40" and 38°58'56", then follows the center of State Highway 611 to its intersection with State Highway 612, then continues in a northerly direction down the center line of Highway 612 to 78°18'12" and 39°0'11", then in a westerly direction to 78°19'30" and 39°0'6", then down the center of Cedar Creek and the North Fork of the Shenandoah River to the point of beginning.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1797-1864

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Belle Grove was one of the first mansions built in the Shenandoah Valley; it was completed in 1797 for a sister of James Madison and her husband. In 1864 it was made into Union General Philip Sheridan's headquarters, and served as a focal point for the Battle of Cedar Creek.

Cedar Creek Battlefield, which extends for miles in every direction from Belle Grove, was the site of the last decisive conflict in the Shenandoah Valley. The Confederate defeat here forced their final retreat from the area, after which General Sheridan devastated it from end to end.

HISTORY

Belle Grove was built in 1794 by Major Isaac Hite, the grandson of Jost Hite. The older man was one of the first settlers in the Shenandoah Valley and held claim to 140,000 acres there. Isaac Hite was granted 483 acres in Frederick County by his father early in 1783. That same year he married Eleanor Conway Madison, sister of the future President. Certain architectural refinements of the main structure are attributed to Thomas Jefferson, Madison's close friend.

In 1864, Belle Grove stood in the direct line of march for both the Union and Confederate armies in the Shenandoah Valley. Major General Philip Sheridan had orders to advance through the valley and destroy everything of use to the Confederacy. After pushing back Jubal Early's army at Winchester and Fisher's Hill in late September, Sheridan was able to destroy most of the farmland north of Staunton.

Sheridan halted his march in early October and drew up a temporary defensive position along the low-lying hills on the north side of Cedar Creek. Belle Grove, located to the center rear of the crescent-shaped line, became Sheridan's headquarters. Sheridan then left for Washington to confer with Secretary of War Edwin Stanton and General Grant, assuming that his troops faced no immediate threat.

However, by October 16 Jubal Early had regrouped his scattered forces six miles south of Belle Grove at Fisher's Hill near Strasburg. He took his troops on a predawn march around the base of Look-Out Mountain and then across the lightly guarded north fork of the Shenandoah below Cedar Creek on the Union left. Positioning of artillery, for fear of noise

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Freeman, Douglas Southall, Lee's Lieutenants, 1944.
 Pond, G.E., The Shenandoah Valley in 1864, 1889.
 Wayland, John W., Historic Houses of Northern Virginia, 1937.
 Work Projects Administration, Virginia: A Guide to the Old Dominion, 1940.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES					
CORNER				LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
UTM			Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
NW	17	732430.4325530	0	'	"	0	'	"	
NE	17	736790.4325710							
SE	17	730070.4316950							
SW	17	734270.4317260							

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **900**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Virginia	51	Frederick	069
Virginia	51	Warren	187
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 Stephen Lissandrello, Historian, Landmarks Survey Project

ORGANIZATION: Historic Sites Survey, National Park Service DATE: 2/15/75

STREET AND NUMBER:
 1100 L Street, NW.

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D.C. CODE: 11

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

Landmark Aug 11, 1969

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

Date 5-20-76

ATTEST: Chief, Plan. & Arch. Surveys date

Boundary Survey

Keeper of The National Register

Date 4/24/96 Acting Director, OCHP date

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE Virginia	
COUNTY Frederick	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

Cedar Creek Battlefield (Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries) Statement of Significance Page #2

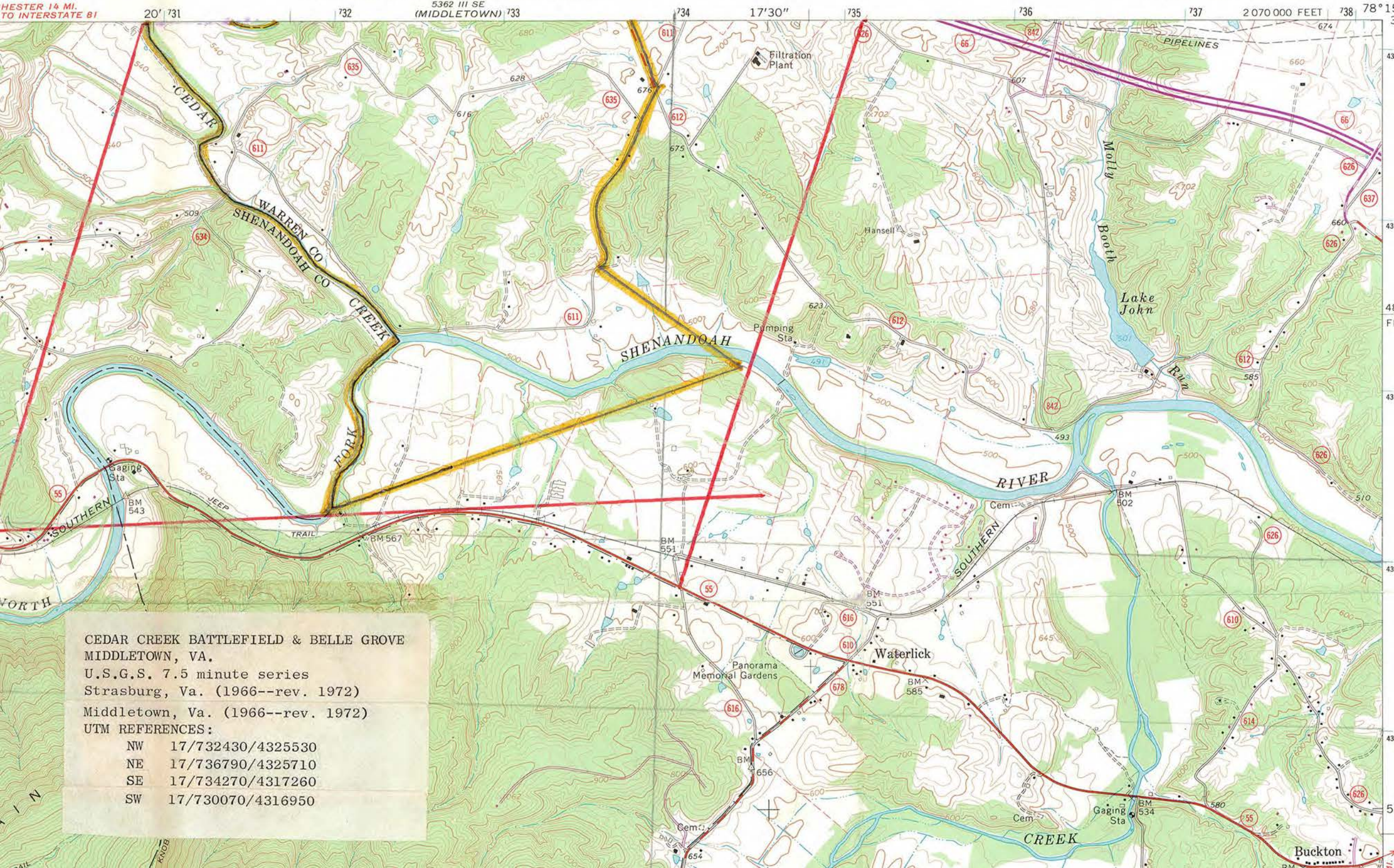
on macadamized roads, was delayed until after the first infantry units struck.

The attack took the Union left completely by surprise. The disorganized Federal troops fell back in confusion through the predawn mist. By 9 a.m., the Union forces had been driven through Belle Grove to a tenuous position four miles from those they had held the previous day. Except for the veteran 6th Corps and some cavalry units, the Union command structure had all but disintegrated under the impact. Thousands of men were fleeing northward along the valley pike towards Winchester.

Early had few reserves with which to press home his advantage. He may have been unaware of the magnitude of his success so far. In any case, the Confederates halted by mid-morning to regroup north of Middletown.

Sheridan had returned from Washington to Winchester the night before. By 9 a.m. he had heard the distant artillery fire and immediately began a pell-mell 20 mile gallop to the battlefield. Rallying troops all along the way, he arrived to the shouts and cheers of his reinvigorated soldiers. By 4 p.m. the Union counterattack had begun. Early's army, exhausted and outnumbered, broke and ran. Most of the Confederate artillery and supplies were lost and the army irrecoverably beaten. Of the 40,000 men involved on both sides, one-fifth were casualties. The Shenandoah Valley never was used, as an invasion route or as a granary, by Confederate forces again.

HESTER 14 MI.
TO INTERSTATE 81



CEDAR CREEK BATTLEFIELD & BELLE GROVE
MIDDLETOWN, VA.

U.S.G.S. 7.5 minute series
Strasburg, Va. (1966--rev. 1972)

Middletown, Va. (1966--rev. 1972)

UTM REFERENCES:

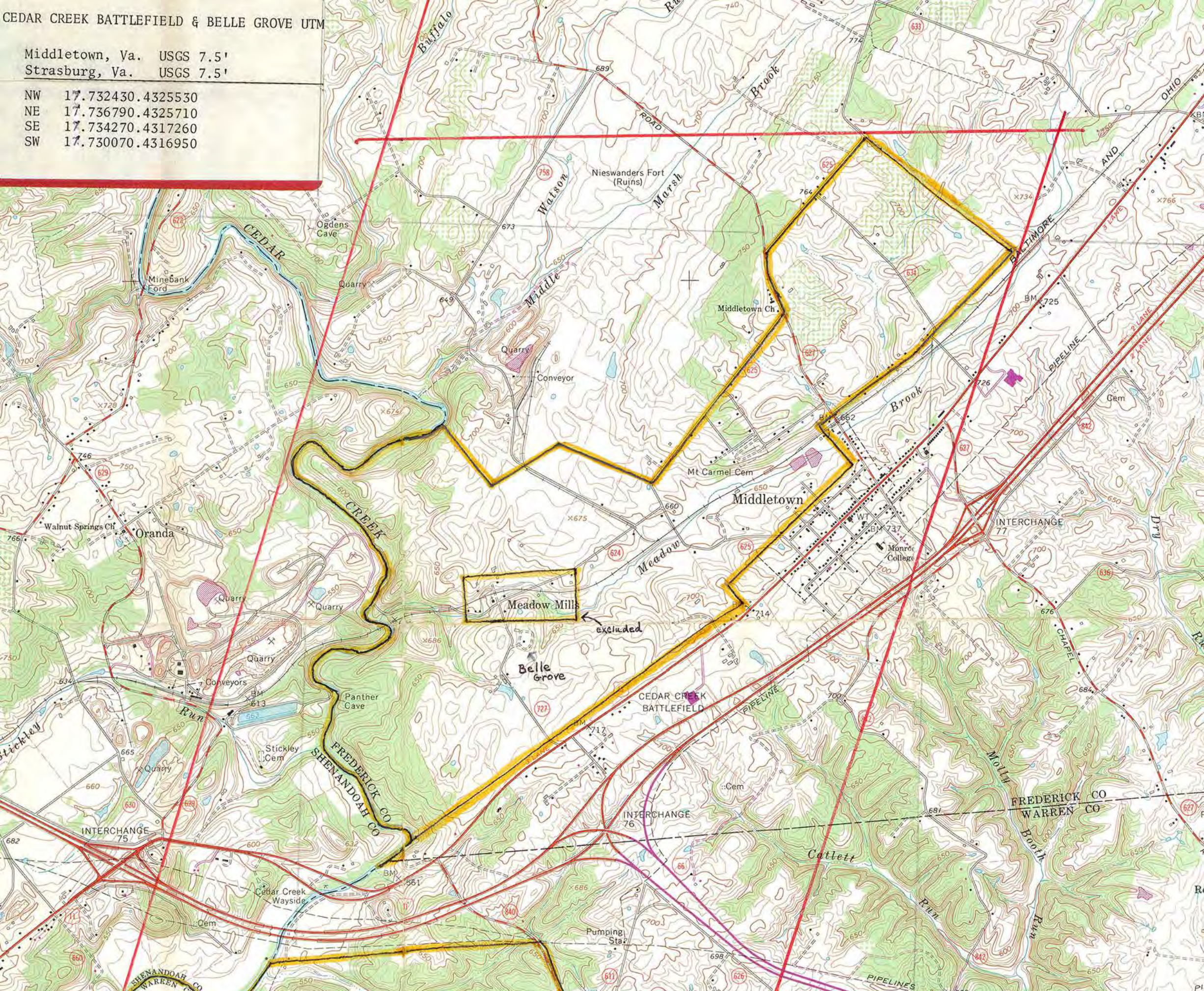
NW	17/732430/4325530
NE	17/736790/4325710
SE	17/734270/4317260
SW	17/730070/4316950

Buckton

CEDAR CREEK BATTLEFIELD & BELLE GROVE UTM

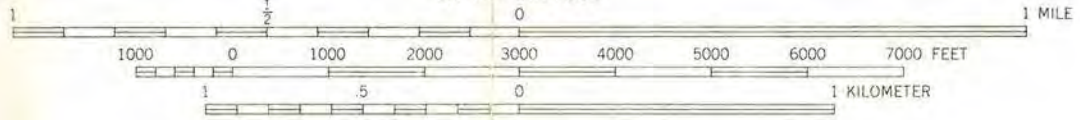
Middletown, Va. USGS 7.5'
 Strasburg, Va. USGS 7.5'

NW 17.732430.4325530
 NE 17.736790.4325710
 SE 17.734270.4317260
 SW 17.730070.4316950

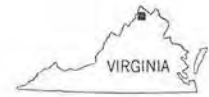
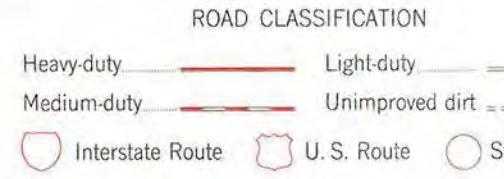


20' 731 732 (STRASBURG) 5361 IV NE 734 17'30" 735 736000mE

SCALE 1:24 000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
 DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL



MIDDLETOWN, VA