

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Prospect Hill
other names/site number Greenway (Preferred) (DHL File No. 56-20)

2. Location

street & number US Route 15
city, town Madison Mills
state Virginia code VA county Madison code 113 zip code 22953

3. Classification

Table with 3 columns: Ownership of Property, Category of Property, and Number of Resources within Property. Includes sub-rows for Contributing and Noncontributing resources.

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
Signature of certifying official: [Signature]
Date: 9/30/88
Director, VA Division of Historic Landmarks

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
Signature of commenting or other official
Date
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:
[] entered in the National Register.
[] determined eligible for the National Register.
[] determined not eligible for the National Register.
[] removed from the National Register.
mother, (explain:)

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

Domestic: secondary structure

Agriculture: storage

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

Domestic: secondary structure

Agriculture: storage

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Colonial: Southern Colonial

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Wood

roof Metal:tin

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

Greenway is located on the west side of U.S. Route 15, approximately half a mile north of the Rapidan River at the hamlet of Madison Mills in Madison County. Built ca. 1780 by Francis Madison, brother of President James Madison, the original portion of Greenway is a story-and-a-half heavy-timber frame structure, on a hall-and-parlor plan, with exterior brick end chimneys and a gable roof. A shed-roofed rear addition was added shortly before 1800. Some minor changes to the interior woodwork were made around the time of the Civil War, and more extensive remodeling and additions were made to the house in the early 20th century. A rear wing, dating from the early 20th century, was enlarged in 1986, bringing the house to its present dimensions. The original portion now forms the central section of the present house. The property, in agricultural use since the late 18th century, continues as a working farm. The nominated acreage contains six contributing and four noncontributing buildings and the family cemetery, which is a contributing site.

B. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
Architecture

Period of Significance
ca. 1780-d1920

Significant Dates
ca. 1780-1800
ca. 1900-1920

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
N/A

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Greenway, the home of Francis Madison, a younger brother of President James Madison, is an excellent example of a vernacular dwelling type commonly used in Piedmont Virginia from the mid-18th century to the first half of the 19th century. Built ca. 1780, the house illustrates that acceptance of this domestic vernacular form extended even to members of such an influential family as the Madisons. Continuing as a Madison residence into the second third of the 19th century, Greenway forms an interesting counterpoint to the grander, more stylish houses of two of Francis's brothers: James Madison's Montpelier in Orange County, a formal Georgian brick house later renovated with the aid of Thomas Jefferson and his workmen; and The Residence, the equally formal home of William Madison, designed by Jefferson in 1793.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The property which is now Greenway was included in a 12,000-acre patent made June 25, 1722 to Cole Diggs, Peter Beverley and William Robertson.¹ The grant lapsed for want of seating, and was regranted September 27, 1729, to John Grymes of Middlesex County, in whose family it remained for nearly half a century.²

See continuation sheet

Culpeper County, Virginia, Deed Records, Circuit Court Records, Culpeper, Virginia.

Madison County Deed, Probate, Chancery and Tax Records, Circuit Court Records, Madison, Virginia.

Mutual Assurance Society Insurance Records, Virginia State Library, Richmond, Virginia.

Virginia Patent Books 11 and 13, Virginia State Library, Richmond, Virginia.

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Va. Div. of Historic Landmarks
221 Governor St., Richmond VA 23219

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 8.5 acres

UTM References

A

1	7	7	4	9	9	6	0	4	2	4	1	1	8	0
Zone		Easting						Northing						

B

Zone		Easting						Northing						

C

Zone		Easting						Northing						

D

Zone		Easting						Northing						

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at a point A approximately 600' SW of the intersection of U.S. Route 15 and Va. Route 230; thence extending approximately 600' NNW to point B; thence continuing approximately 900' SW to point C; thence extending approximately 350' SSE to point D; thence continuing approximately 800' ENE to the point of origin.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated property, of approximately 8.5 acres, comprises the dwelling house and five contributing domestic and agricultural buildings, as well as the family cemetery which is a contributing site, and four noncontributing buildings. A noncontributing late 20th-century tenant house near Va. Route 230 has not been included. With the exception of this tenant house, all buildings on the property are included in the nominated 8.5 acres.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Ann L. Miller - Consultant
 organization NA date 31 July 1988
 street & number P.O. Box 542 telephone (703) 923-4772
 city or town Madison state Virginia zip code 22727

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

GREENWAY (Prospect Hill)
Madison County, Virginia

ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS

Greenway, known in the 18th and 19th century as Prospect Hill, is set on a slight rise overlooking the Rapidan River, just west of U.S. Route 15 at Madison Mills in southern Madison County.

The original section of the house is the story-and-a-half structure, built on a hall-and-parlor plan, which now forms the center block of the present house. The southeastern (main) facade originally had two front doors, one providing access into each downstairs room of the house. These doors were originally flanked by a window on each outer side. Alterations in the early 20th century replaced these two doors with a single front door. Since much of the original beaded weatherboarding still survives, the pattern of the original fenestration is readily discernible where the former openings have been infilled with later weatherboarding.

The two rooms of this section were originally separated by a hallway which contained an enclosed stair. In the renovations to the house in the early 20th century, the hallway partition was removed, and the two rooms now communicate directly with each other. The woodwork in these rooms is extremely simple. The walls are plastered, and simple chair rails and baseboards define the plain wainscoting. The mantels are not original, but are simple classical mantels added after the Civil War.

More elaborate woodwork is present in the two shed rooms in the northwest (rear) of the original section. Family tradition states that these rooms were added ca. 1790 to ca. 1800. A Mutual Assurance Society policy dated May 31, 1799, shows the shed addition already in existence. Both rooms have plastered walls. The mantel of the smaller east room has been replaced by a classical mantel similar to those in the front rooms. The larger west room retains its original fine vernacular mantelpiece. The raised panels of this mantelpiece echo the wainscoting elsewhere in the shed rooms. The mantel is flanked by fluted pilasters which are interrupted at the level of the top of the fireplace opening, then continue upwards into, and break forward from, the tiered mantel shelf. An arched opening defines the actual fireplace surround.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

GREENWAY (Prospect Hill)
Madison County, Virginia

Section number 7 Page 2

Access to the upstairs is via an entrance to the enclosed stair in the west room in the original (front) section of the house. The stair leads up into a small cross-hall which contains a storage closet. Notations of soap and other domestic items stored in the closet, dated for various years in the 1830s, are still visible on the plastered walls of this closet. Original upstairs rooms are at either end of this cross-hall; both of these rooms have plastered walls with simple chair rails and mantels which are extremely simplified versions of the mantel surviving in the downstairs shed room. A storage area is located over the shed room and is accessible from each upstairs room. The roof, now covered with standing seam metal, was originally pierced by three gable-roofed dormers, the center dormer lighting the cross-hall and the outer dormers providing light to each upstairs room. The center dormer was replaced by the present porch chamber in the early 20th century, and this porch chamber and the first story porch now form a dominant feature of the front exterior facade.

The one-story wings which now flank the older sections were also added in the early 20th-century renovations, probably between 1910 and 1920.

A story-and-a-half rear gable-roofed addition, also added in the early 20th-century remodeling, was enlarged and renovated in 1986. Extending from the rear of the house, it forms a modern living room.

To the rear and west of the house stand a variety of outbuildings. A wood frame dairy to the west of the house was rebuilt in 1935 as a maid's house. To the southwest of the main house are a 19th-century brick dairy, later converted to a smokehouse, and a wood frame pumphouse built ca. 1920. A guest house, located to the north of the dwelling, was erected in 1972 on the site of the old kitchen, and is a noncontributing building.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

GREENWAY (Prospect Hill)
Madison County, Virginia

Section number 7 Page 3

To the northeast of the house is a garage constructed in the early 20th century by Dr. Lee Taliaferro. It reportedly housed the first automobile in Madison County, used by Dr. Taliaferro on his medical rounds. The garage was heated, and equipped with many devices for the care and upkeep of a car.

In the barn lot to the southwest of the house is a frame corn crib dating to the late 18th or early 19th century, the sole agricultural building on the property to survive from the period prior to the 20th century. Farther to the west are two barns, one of wood frame construction and the other of concrete block, and a wood frame equipment shed, all noncontributing buildings dating from the mid-20th-century.

To the east of the main house is the Madison/Taliaferro family cemetery where Francis Madison, members of his family, and members of the Taliaferro family are buried. The cemetery, which is well tended and fenced, is nominated to the Register as a contributing site. Interments date from the late 18th to the the late 19th century. The majority of the burials are marked by fieldstones with no inscriptions, with the exception of two of the Taliaferro graves, which have marble headstones.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

GREENWAY (Prospect Hill)
Madison County, Virginia

Section number 8 Page 1

By deed of November 28, 1777, James Madison, Sr., of Orange County purchased 2,301 acres of the John Grymes paent from Charles Grymes and Benjamin Grymes and his wife, Sally.³ A portion of the land was soon after occupied by Col. Madison's son Francis, to whom Col. Madison transferred 1,000 acres of the tract by the deed of August 14, 1784. In the deed, Col. Madison described the land as the place where his son Francis "now lives," thus confirming the existence of a house on the land by mid-1784, probably the nucleus of the center portion of the present dwelling. Both architectural evidence and family tradition assign the original section of the house a date of ca. 1780, with the shed-roofed rear addition to the original story-and-a-half center block being added between ca. 1790 and ca. 1800.

Francis Madison (1753-1800) called his plantation Prospect Hill.⁵ He seems to have devoted himself to the life of a planter, without taking part in the political interests and county offices held by his father and brothers. His dwelling house, a story-and-a-half frame dwelling built on a hall-and-parlor plan, is the plainest of the known Madison family dwellings, and stands in contrast to other family homes such as Montpelier and The Residence.⁶ It may reflect either simpler tastes or more limited means on Francis's part.

Francis Madison died intestate in early 1800, leaving a widow, Susannah Bell Madison, and nine children. As six of the children were still minors at the time of their father's death, a chancery suit had to be instigated to allow division of the land and personal property. The widow was assigned the homeplace and surrounding 390 acres as her dower.

Susannah Bell Madison died in 1834. As several of her children has predeceased her, a second chancery suit was necessary to divide their shares in the dower land and personal property among the surviving siblings. The dower land was divided among the surviving children by early 1835, with Catherine Bell Madison acquiring the house tract and surrounding land. Her property then included the 65 acres that she had acquired in the division of her father's estate and the 51 acres surrounding the house.⁹

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

GREENWAY (Prospect Hill)
Madison County, Virginia

Section number 8 Page 2

On June 22, 1835, Catherine Bell Madison entered into a pre-nuptial agreement with Alexander Spotswood Taliaferro, whom she would shortly marry. Under the terms of this agreement, she would retain control over her property. If she predeceased her husband, the property would be disposed of under the terms of her will; if she died intestate, the property would pass to him upon her death.¹⁰

Dr. Alexander Spotswood Taliaferro (1798-1855) was a great-grandson and namesake of Alexander Spotswood, who was lieutenant governor of Virginia from 1710 to 1722. A physician by profession, Dr. Taliaferro was educated at Princeton and the University of Pennsylvania. After his marriage to Catherine Bell Madison, Dr. Taliaferro and his wife made their home at Greenway (then still known as Prospect Hill), operating the property as a working plantation while Dr. Taliaferro also maintained a medical practice in the surrounding area.¹¹

Catherine Bell Madison died prior to 1854, intestate and leaving no children. By deed of May 2, 1854, Dr. Alexander Spotswood Taliaferro conveyed the plantation to his three children by his first marriage: Fitzhugh, Judith and Fanny Taliaferro. Fitzhugh Taliaferro acquired the house tract.¹²

According to family tradition, Fitzhugh Taliaferro's absence while fighting in the Civil War, and the house's proximity to the strategically important crossing of the Rapidan River at Madison Mills, only a few hundred yards from the house, occasioned the family to temporarily abandon the house during the war. During this period, the original mantels from the downstairs front rooms in the house were removed,¹³ to be replaced after the war by simple classical mantels.

Fitzhugh Taliaferro retained title to the property until 1917, when he deeded it to his son, Lee Taliaferro.¹⁴ It was during the tenure of Fitzhugh and Lee Taliaferro that the bulk of the changes were made to the house. Besides the above-noted replacement of mantels, the present porch, side wings, and front door (replacing the original two front doors) were added between 1910 and 1920. Like his grandfather, Lee Taliaferro was a local doctor, and utilized the west wing of the house for his office.¹⁵

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

GREENWAY (Prospect Hill)
Madison County, Virginia

Section number 8 Page 3

Under the terms of the will of Lee Taliaferro, the property passed to his daughter, Mary Spotswood Taliaferro, who renamed the farm Greenway.¹⁶ As Mary Taliaferro Ewers, she willed the property to her daughter, the present owner.¹⁷ Through various land purchases, the Greenway¹⁸ property, including the house tract, is now 295 acres.

ENDNOTES

- ¹ Virginia Patent Book 11, p.147.
- ² Virginia Patent Book 13, p.385.
- ³ Culpeper County Deed Book I, p.34.
- ⁴ Culpeper County Deed Book M, p.206.
- ⁵ The property is so designated on a Mutual Assurance Society policy dated May 31, 1799 (Mutual Assurance policy R1 V4 No.233).
- ⁶ The nucleus of Montpelier was constructed as a formal Georgian house by Col. James Madison, Sr. ca. 1760. President James Madison, Jr., inherited Montpelier upon his father's death in 1801, and from 1809-1812 embarked upon a course of renovating and enlarging the already sizeable house. His friend Thomas Jefferson recommended a number of these changes, and supplied two of his workmen to Madison. See Richard C. Cote's "Jefferson's Workmen and the Virginia Landmarks Register" in the Virginia Division of Historic Landmarks' Notes on Virginia, No. 28, pp.26-29.
The Residence, home of the youngest Madison brother, William, was also designed by Thomas Jefferson, in 1793. See Elizabeth C. Norfleet, "The Residence," Woodberry Forest Bulletin, Winter, 1976.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

GREENWAY (Prospect Hill)
Madison County, Virginia

Section number 8 Page 4

7 Francis Madison's estate inventory had a total value of L 150 (Madison County Will Book 1, pp.283-286; made May 23, 1801, recorded September 24, 1801). The valuations of estate inventories in Madison County Will Book 1 (1793-1804) range from L 100 to L 5000, indicating that Francis Madison was of average means. No plantation account books or personal papers for Francis Madison are known to survive.

8 Madison County Chancery files, #3-A, Madison vs. Shepherd; Madison County Deed Book 3, p.41.

9 Madison County Deed Book 6, p.300.

10 Madison County Deed Book 12, p.459.

11 Documents regarding Dr. Alexander Spotswood Taliaferro are in possession of Mrs. Virginia Ewers Queitzsch, owner of the Greenway property (Mrs. Virginia Ewers Queitzsch, personal communication, November, 1987).

12 Madison County Deed Book 22, p.2.

13 This family tradition was related by Mrs. Queitzsch (Mrs. Virginia Ewers Queitzsch, personal communication, November, 1987); see also Vee Dove, Madison County Homes (Madison, 1975), pp.222-223.

14 Madison County Deed Book 43, p.310.

15 From a description of the remodeling and use of the house related to Mrs. Queitzsch by older members of the family (Mrs. Virginia Ewers Queitzsch, personal communication, November, 1987).

16 Madison County Will Book 9, p.397. Information on the renaming of the property was furnished by Mrs. Queitzsch (Mrs. Virginia Ewers Queitzsch, personal communication, November, 1987).

17 Madison County Will Book 13, p.254.

18 Madison County Tax Map parcel 66-4 and Madison County 1987 Land Tax Book.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

GREENWAY (Prospect Hill)
Madison County, Virginia

Section number 9 Page 1

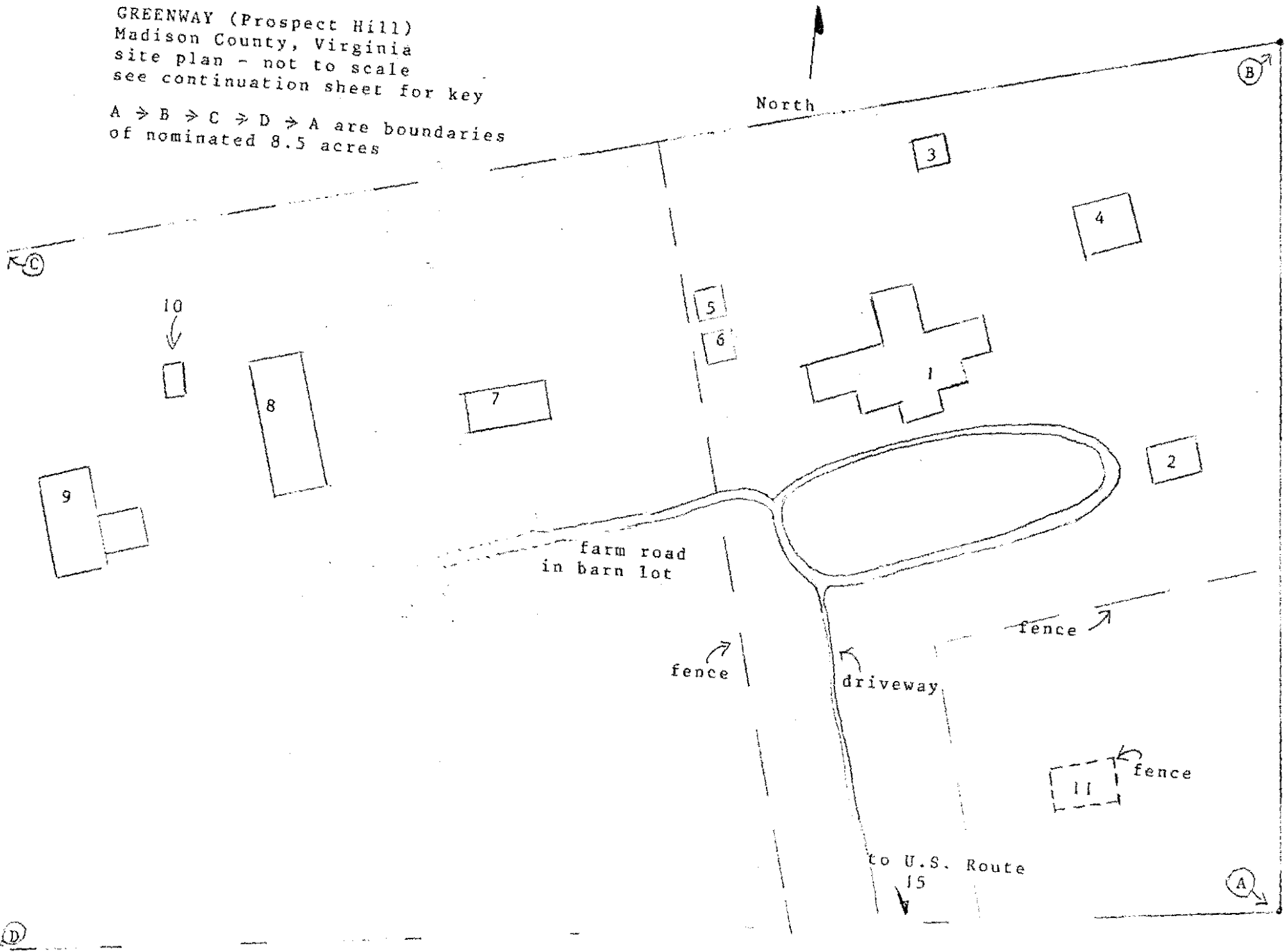
Dove, Vee. Madison County Homes (pvt. prt., Madison,
Virginia, 1975).

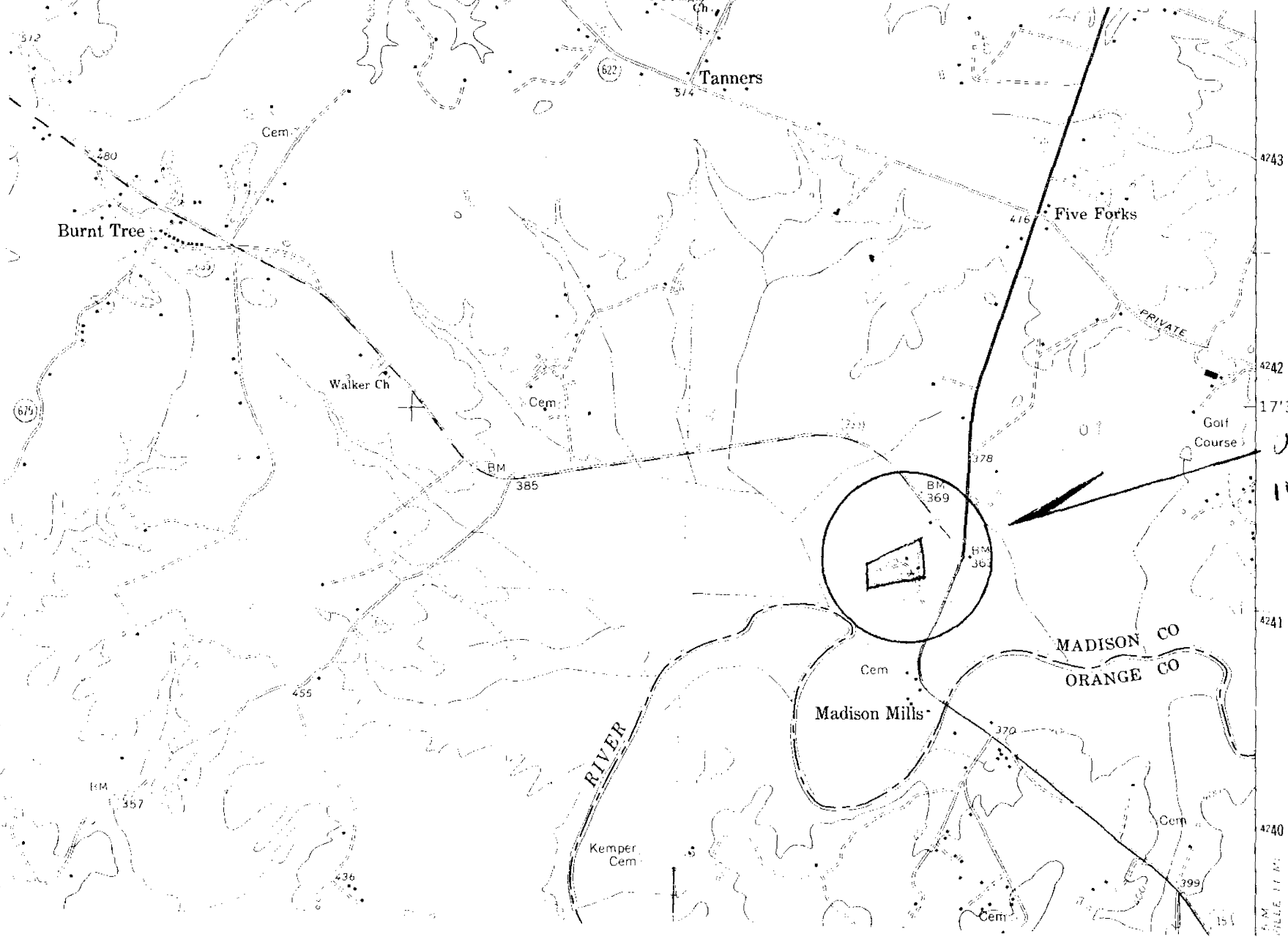
Norfleet, Elizabeth C. "The Residence", Woodberry Forest
Bulletin, Winter 1976.

Taliaferro family papers, in possession of Mrs. Virginia
Ewers Queitzsch, Greenway, Madison Mills, VA 22953.

GREENWAY (Prospect Hill)
Madison County, Virginia
site plan - not to scale
see continuation sheet for key

A → B → C → D → A are boundaries
of nominated 8.5 acres





Greenway
Madison Mills

JTM References:
11/74 12/74 1/75

4743

4242

17'30"

4241

4240

S.M.
MILE 11 N.

Burnt Tree

Tanners

Five Forks

Walker Ch

Madison Mills

MADISON CO

ORANGE CO

RIVER

Kemper Cem

Cem

Cem

Cem

Cem

Cem

622

514

416

280

512

675

BM 385

BM 369

BM 361

BM 357

455

436

370

399

151