

VLR - 6/17/98
NRHP - 10/30/98

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

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 for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Echols Farm

other names/site number 81-5012, 44RB216, 44RB217

2. Location

street & number Intersection of Routes 130 and 501 not for publication N/A

city or town Glasgow vicinity X

state Virginia code VA county Rockbridge code 163

zip code 24555

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally ___ statewide X locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] 9/23/98
Signature of certifying official Date

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register _____
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the _____
 National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the _____
 National Register
- removed from the National Register _____
- other (explain): _____

Signature of Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u> 5 </u>	<u> 0 </u>	buildings
<u> 1 </u>	<u> 0 </u>	sites
<u> 3 </u>	<u> 1 </u>	structures
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u>	objects
<u> 9 </u>	<u> 1 </u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>Domestic</u>	Sub: <u>single dwelling</u>
<u>Commerce</u>	<u>secondary structures</u>
<u>Agriculture/Subsistence</u>	<u>warehouse</u>
<u>Industry/Processing/Extraction</u>	<u>storage</u>
	<u>agricultural field</u>
	<u>extractive facilities</u>

See continuation sheets

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>Domestic</u>	Sub: <u>single dwelling</u>
<u>Landscape</u>	<u>natural feature</u>
<u>Agriculture/Subsistence</u>	<u>agricultural field</u>

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Other

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone
roof asphalt
walls weatherboard
other brick
wood

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

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

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Transportation
Commerce
Architecture
Industry
Agriculture
Engineering

Period of Significance 1855 ca. to 1948

Significant Dates 1855 ca.
1857
1880
1914

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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

Name of repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 253 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>17</u>	<u>638100</u>	<u>4166500</u>	2	<u>17</u>	<u>638080</u>	<u>4166460</u>
3	<u>17</u>	<u>638520</u>	<u>4166200</u>	4	<u>17</u>	<u>638080</u>	<u>4165340</u>

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

See continuation sheet.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Alison S. Blanton / Architectural Historian

organization Hill Studio, P. C. date April 17, 1998

street & number 120 West Campbell Avenue telephone 540-342-5263

city or town Roanoke state VA zip code 24011

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Dr. Porter B. Echols, Jr., President Echols Farms, Inc.

street & number 1096 VES Road telephone 804-384-8555

city or town Lynchburg state VA zip code 24503

See continuation sheet.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Echols Farm
Rockbridge County, Virginia

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>Landscape</u>	Sub: <u>natural feature</u>
<u>Transportation</u>	<u>rail-related</u>
	<u>water-related</u>

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Echols Farm
Rockbridge County, Virginia

7. NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Summary

Echols Farm is situated on the east bank of the Maury River in Rockbridge County, directly across from the town of Glasgow and just north of the confluence of the Maury and James Rivers at Balcony Falls. The farm, which consists of approximately 253 acres, includes the canal trace and the two extant locks #13 and #14 (44RB216 and 44RB217) of the James River and Kanawha Canal as well as fertile bottom lands for farming and mountain terrain rich in iron ore and other mineral deposits (Photo 1). The one-and-one-half story, vernacular frame farmhouse dates to the 1850s, when Edward Echols purchased the property, and was later enlarged ca. 1914 to a two-story dwelling with a hipped roof and wrap-around porch. A cross-rail fence (ca. 1990) separates the yard from the river bottom and mature deciduous and evergreen trees and boxwoods surround the house with gravel walks leading to the front and the rear entrances. This complex is surrounded by late-19th and early-20th century domestic and agricultural outbuildings that relate to its continued use as an operating farm and family gathering place. The stone foundation of a ca. 1850s warehouse survive to testify to the role Edward Echols played as a canal operator and merchant in the mid-19th century. The property continues to be located along a major transportation route as State Routes 130 and 501 intersect the property and threaten the property with their increased traffic and planned expansions. In addition, flooding along the Maury River has eroded the river banks, changing its course and destroying the vegetation along the banks.

Inventory

1. Main dwelling (ca. 1855). Contributing building.
2. Tenant house (ca. 1928). Contributing building.
3. Spring house (ca. 1928). Contributing building.
4. Equipment shed (ca. 1940). Contributing building.
5. Garage (ca. 1930 on foundations of ca. 1855 warehouse). Contributing building.
6. Canal trace (ca. 1857). Contributing site.
7. Canal lock #13 (44RB217, ca. 1857). Contributing structure.
8. Canal lock #14 (44RB216, ca. 1857). Contributing structure.
9. Corncrib (ca. 1920). Contributing structure.
10. Swimming pool (ca. 1987). Non-contributing structure.

Main House: Exterior Description

The main house of Echols Farm stands today as a two-story, three-bay frame dwelling with hip roof on a raised basement of uncoursed limestone (Photo 2). What may have been an original office projects from the northwest corner of the front facade. Weatherboard siding covers the exterior walls and two-over-two sash windows puncture the facade. A single-leaf, four-paneled door of pegged construction provides the main entrance. A rectangular transom with eleven irregularly-spaced lights and sidelights consisting of two lights over one panel surround the door. Another entrance from the front porch leading into the living room features a double-leaf door with three lights over one panel and an early screened door with scroll-sawn corner brackets. A third entrance with a single-leaf, four-

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panel door similar to the front door leads into the original office space. Another double-leaf door with three lights over one panel leads out to the roof of the porch from the second floor.

A one-story, seven-bay, frame wraparound porch with standing-seam metal-clad hip roof supported by squared columns and balustrade extends around the southwest corner (Photo 3). Stuccoed brick piers support the porch at the exposed basement level where a single-leaf, vertical door with strap hinges leads into the former dining room and basement area. The hip roof, covered with asphalt shingles, features a molded cornice with wide eaves. Two exterior end brick chimneys with a single set of shoulders at the cornice line and an enlarged base with corbelled brickwork frame the structure. A ca. 1914 two-story frame wing with intersecting-hip roof and one interior brick chimney flue extends out the back of the building (Photo 4).

The original 1850s farmhouse was a one-and-a-half story frame structure with a side-gable roof with dormers and a fully exposed stone basement. The single-pile, central-passage section of this original structure remains intact. The two single-leaf, four-panel doors are original, as an early-20th century photograph shows that the north end of the porch was enclosed prior to the 1914 remodeling. The structural system of this section features hand-hewn timbers with mortise-and-tenon joints, which are visible at the basement level (Photo 5).

Main House: Interior

The original section of the house consisted of a central-corridor, single-pile plan with the kitchen and dining room located in the basement. The interior of the current dwelling consists of a central-passage, double-pile plan with a small office projecting from the front northwest corner and a kitchen wing at the rear. With the exception of the original wide-plank floors in the office, hardwood floors of narrow-width boards with a molded baseboard dating to the 1914 renovations extend throughout the interior. Picture molding trims the plaster-and-lathe walls. The 12-foot plaster ceilings on the first floor retain the original early 20th century light fixtures in many of the rooms. The original doors in the ca. 1855 section are four-paneled while the ca. 1914 doors of the rear section and second floor feature five horizontal panels. A plain-board trim with simple cornice shelf surrounds the window and door openings. The central hall features a simple, single-run staircase with squared newel and balustrade that date to the 1914 renovation. Corner blocks detail the front door surround with its rectangular transom and sidelights (Photo 6). The sidelights appear to be removable for ventilation. Typical of early 20th century interior design, the passage from the hall to the living room is wide and flanked with paneled wing walls. In this case, the columns are missing (Photo 7). The living room mantel is simple with a shelf supported by smooth pilasters and a raised central tablet. Ceramic tile surrounds the decorative iron firebox (Photo 8).

Directly across the hallway from the living room is the original front bedroom. This room features a simpler mantel with smooth pilasters and a single-board entablature. This is the only other mantel in the house. A four-panel door off of this bedroom leads to the space projecting at the front of the house that appears to be Edward Echols' original office. Although the walls of this room have been covered with modern paneling and the windows have been replaced, the original, wide-plank floors and the original doors are extant.

In 1914, the house was enlarged to include a second story as well as two additional rooms and a kitchen at the rear of the original single-pile structure. A built-in china cabinet and molded chair rail distinguish the dining room

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(Photo 9). A second bedroom to the rear of the original bedroom features detailing similar to the rest of the house as well as an original light fixture and a bathroom (remodeled). The kitchen wing at the rear of the house was enlarged by enclosing a side porch in the 1960s and has since been remodeled.

Secondary Resources

Echols Farm was originally surrounded by a full complement of outbuildings relating to its various functions as a self-sufficient, rural, antebellum home, an operating farm, a productive iron mine, and a commercial port on the James River and Kanawha Canal. A sketch map drawn sometime after 1960 by Ralph Echols from his memory of the farm prior to 1914 shows the following outbuildings situated between the canal and the mountain: an "unused" church; a log corn crib; the warehouse; a chicken house; a privy ("four hole, three sizes"); a colored privy; a wood/coal shed; an old wellhouse later used for ice, meat, and milk storage; another wellhouse; a garden; a chicken house; two barns; approximately eleven houses for slaves or mine workers; a schoolhouse; and the two canal locks (See attached sketch map "Echols Home Prior to 1914"). A swinging bridge connected the property to the west bank of the Maury River. All that remains of this extensive mid- to late-19th century complex is the uncoursed stone foundation of the frame warehouse, which burned in 1925, and the two canal locks. The present tile-block garage with shed roof was constructed on the foundation of the warehouse in the early 1930s in connection with the Echols Brothers Construction Company which was founded in 1929 (Photo 10). The canal locks #13 and #14 (44RB217 and 44RB216) are located to the north and south of the main dwelling and survive in relatively good condition. The canals are constructed of granite ashlar blocks with narrow vertical slots for the stopgate. Lock #14 was used as an outlet lock for the water from the dam at Balcony Falls (Photos 11 & 12).

Early-20th century outbuildings located to the north of the house relate more directly to the farming operations and include: tenant house, a springhouse, a corncrib, and an equipment shed (Photos 13 & 14). The ca. 1928 tenant house is a one-story brick bungalow with an integral porch which has been infilled. The side-gable roof features wide eaves with knee braces and shingled gables. The windows are typical of the style with four vertical lights over one single light. The ca. 1928 springhouse is also constructed of brick on a concrete foundation with a side-gable roof with exposed rafters and casement windows of four vertical lights. The corncrib, constructed ca. 1920, is a frame structure on a concrete-block pier foundation with horizontal-board siding and a standing-seam metal gable roof. The ca. 1935 equipment shed is frame on a concrete foundation with weatherboard siding, double-leaf vertical-board doors, and a shed roof. A swimming pool was built up the hill to the south of the house in the early 1950s and rebuilt in 1987.

The sides of the mountain to the rear (east) of the house are numerous sink-holes that were the site of the iron ore mines. The pre-1914 sketch map refers to the area northeast of the juncture of Routes 130 and 501 as "Ore Bank" and "Doshen's Dump" where mining activity probably took place. Sand pits for the manufacture of glass are also located in the mountain side. The approximate site of an historic schoolhouse is at the base of the mountain in this area as well. Although no documentation remains to determine the date and physical appearance of this schoolhouse, it probably dates to the early 20th-century occupation of the farm by the Ernest Echols family. Based on references in Civil War letters owned by the family, an earlier schoolhouse was known to exist on the property.

Although the house was greatly expanded in the early 1900s and many of the mid-19th century outbuildings

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associated with the canals, the mines and the antebellum farmstead are now gone, the farm has continued to operate as a farm and serve as the family seat for the Echols family over succeeding generations. The construction of State Routes 130 and 501 directly behind the house had a significant impact on the property. The original road followed the railroad bed/canal towpath in front of the house. Prior to this early road, the property was reached by either the canal or the swinging bridge across the Maury River, neither of which survive today. The present State Route 130 bridge over the Maury River leading into Glasgow was constructed in 1932, thereby bisecting the riverfront property of the farm. The relocation of State Routes 130 and 501 to the rear of the house in the 1920s separated the mountain terrain of the property from the house and the river. The steep mountain terrain could cause future road expansion or improvements to further infringe on the farmhouse and its immediate surroundings. In addition to the potential road improvements, the continual erosion of the banks of the Maury River threatens the historic integrity of the Echols Farm property. The Echols Farm currently retains its integrity as an early 20th century farmstead situated along the Maury River with the mountain ridges behind it. The canal trace, the locks, and the foundation of the warehouse preserve the mid-19th century association of the property with the James River and Kanawha Canal.

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8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Summary

Echols Farm, constructed ca. 1855 by Edward Echols on the Maury River in Rockbridge County, is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C with significance in the areas of transportation, commerce, engineering, industry, architecture, agriculture, and education. Echols Farm stands as an example of a typical mid-19th century farmstead located on the James River and Kanawha Canal. From this strategic location, Edward Echols operated two locks, canal boats, and a warehouse associated with the commercial and shipping aspects of the canal, which operated from 1857 to 1880. In addition to Echols' commercial interests in the canal, he was also involved in mining iron ore from the mountains to the east of the residence. The Echols Iron Company operated from the time of the Civil War into the mid 1890s. The property was a typical example of a self-sufficient farm with domestic and agricultural outbuildings that included housing for the slaves and mine workers as well as a school house for the family's children. The Echols Farm complex -- which consists today of the main residence (ca. 1855, remodeled 1914), canal trace, two canal locks, the foundation of the warehouse, and mining sites in the mountain range as well as early-20th century outbuildings -- is significant on the regional level for the period between 1855 to 1948 as the seat of the Echols family.

History

Captain Edward Echols (1817-1874), an alumni of Washington College (later Washington and Lee University) and prominent farmer in the Lexington area, purchased 27 acres at the mouth of the North River (later Maury River) from Peter and Eureka Sallings for \$2500 in October 1851.¹ An additional 50 acres was purchased from John and Lucy Jordan for \$3000 in March 1854.² It was during this time that Edward Echols and his second wife, Susan Hobson Burke Echols (1834--1870), constructed the original one-and-one-half story frame house and warehouse along the newly-constructed canal of the North River Navigation, which would soon become part of the James River and Kanawha Canal.

The North River Navigation Company was chartered by the General Assembly in 1850 in response to petitions by the citizens of Rockbridge County to develop a canal as a cheaper means of shipping the various products of the region -- including marble, iron ore, and limestone as well as agricultural surplus -- to the ports and cities of the Tidewater region.³ This movement was prompted by the completion of the James River and Kanawha Canal from Richmond to Lynchburg in 1840 and to Buchanan in 1851. By constructing the North River Navigation Canal system, the town of Lexington became an inland port and shipping point to Richmond and the ports of the Chesapeake Bay. Soon after its completion in 1857, the North River Navigation Company became part of the James River and Kanawha Canal. Undoubtedly, the construction of the canal prompted Edward Echols to move from his home on the South River to the mouth of the North River where he became a canal boat operator, lock-keeper, and merchant. Edward's son Ernest Echols (1864-1926) remembered canal boats debarking at the warehouse and as many as twenty passengers joining the Echols family for meals in the basement dining room of the house.⁴

Although no records have been located documenting Edward Echols' canal boat and merchant business, letters written home during the Civil War clearly reference these activities with advice as to their upkeep by the family at

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home.⁵ Canal boat traffic must have slowed, however, during the War with the emergence of the railroad as the preferred means of transportation and the shortage of able-bodied men to operate the canal boats and locks. In August 1861, Captain Echols writes from his station as quartermaster in Strasburg to "let the old boat horses be used and to sell the boat mules to the C.S. Government."⁶ The canals did continue to operate during and after the war until 1880. In 1863, Stonewall Jackson's body passed through the locks at Echols Farm as the cortege travelled the canal to his final resting place in Lexington.

The Echols property was also valuable for its iron ore deposits in the mountain ranges to the east. With their strategic location near the canal, Edward Echols started developing the iron mines in 1859 as he states in a letter to his son John dated April 9, 1859:

...that Mssrs. Jordan Winn & Co. of Richmond were starting a large furnace near Richmond and expect to get the most of their iron ore from here. They are now running two heavy tunnels into the mountain, above the school house, for the purpose of reaching the vein of ore and when they do so they will commence a very heavy work here. They now have employed at this point 16 hands and have authorized me to employ 6 or 8 more. All the houses on my little place are pretty well filled at present and they are erecting more for their miners.⁷

Letters written home during the Civil War by Captain Echols also indicated the ongoing operations of the mines in support of the Confederate war effort. In January 1862 he writes "If any boats come up for ore let them load and take their receipt for it to be delivered to the Virginia Iron Manufacturing Company at Westham near Richmond."⁸ Later that same month he declared in a letter to his son that "I will work the mines myself and not lease it to Mr. Jordan."⁹ (Mr. Jordan owned Jordan's Furnace, one of the largest iron furnaces in the area, and operated a number of mines to supply the furnace.) Captain Echols did in fact return home to operate the Echols Iron Company after his war duty was completed as evidenced by a letter dated April 6, 1864 addressed to a Captain Gordon complaining that a quartermaster had impounded his corn supply for his miners and if the corn were not released, he would have to close the mine for lack of food.¹⁰ This letter implies that the iron supply was still of critical importance to the Confederate army and should be exempt from the impoundment policy. Although there are not any exact figures detailing the iron ore production of the Echols mines, the Echols Mine Company continued to be listed in state business directories as late as 1894.¹¹

After the Civil War, the Echols family and businesses suffered hard times as did the rest of the South during Reconstruction. The canals had been heavily damaged during the Civil War and required extensive repairs. Edward Echols participated in this work as he spoke of a contract to repair the canal in a letter dated December 12, 1870.¹² The canals, however, never regained their prominence after the war. The growing domination of the railroad combined with a disastrous flood in 1877 lead to its final demise and the canal was sold to the Richmond & Alleghany Railroad in 1880. The canals were infilled and the towpath was used as the bed for the new railroad.

The Echols family participated in the development of this new transportation system as well. Edward Echols' brother, General John Echols (1823-1896), served as president of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad and the South-Western Railroad Company. He and Edward were directly involved in the construction of these lines after the Civil War as they recruited workers (typically former slaves) and hired them out as railroad gangs to construct sections

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of line in the area. The Echols merchant business continued to enjoy a strategic location along the railroad line and continued to operate until the 1885. During the later years, it was operated by John Rowland Echols and A.E. Sherwood (husband of Allie Echols) and known as Echols & Sherwood.¹³

Financial troubles eventually overtook Edward Echols as he had invested heavily in Confederate war bonds, and in 1872 he declared bankruptcy. Family tradition tells that the old warehouse was full of barrels of Confederate money that the children of Ernest Echols played with in the early 1900s. The property, which included 200 acres of land, was indentured in 1866 to a Mr. Holladay of New York for \$13,000.¹⁴ In 1872, the farm was bought at bankruptcy by John J. Echols in partnership with Rowland and Edward with the deed to be held by General John Echols as trustee for his brother Edward and his children. However, Edward died in 1874 at the early age of 57 and the deed reverted to General John Echols as the bonds went unpaid. In 1881, Rowland Echols contracted with John Jordan Echols to purchase the property and the household was broken up with items being distributed among the children of Edward Echols. It appears that Rowland defaulted on his loan in 1885 and the farm, described as "the store and real estate bought from J.J." was deeded to W.W.H. Harris Trustee to be offered at public auction in 1887. At this time, John Jordan Echols (J.J.) purchased the farm for \$5085, and after clearing the title from claims by Edward Echols' heirs, J.J. deeded the property to General John Echols in 1887. After General John Echols death in 1896, the property was inherited by his son Edward Echols. In 1900, Ernest Echols (1864-1926), the eldest son of Edward Echols by his marriage to Susan Hobson Burke, purchased the property for \$3500, thereby returning the Echols Farm to the Edward Echols family.¹⁵

In 1900 Ernest Echols moved his family from Caperton, West Virginia, where he had interest in the Big Ben Coal Co., to the farm on the Maury River. Ernest and Nannie Carter Echols raised their eight sons and one daughter on the farm in Glasgow while Ernest commuted back to Caperton to work for twenty years. He also was financially involved in the Baldwin-Echols store in Glasgow. In 1914, the house was enlarged to a two-story, double-pile structure to accommodate the growing family. Mr. Echols and his neighbor Mr. Locher employed a teacher for their children who attended a one-room school on the property until ca. 1915 when they matriculated to Buena Vista. Many of the stories of the farm date to this period as told by the eight surviving sons of Ernest and Nannie Echols who grew up on the farm. A post-1960 sketch map drawn by Ralph Echols shows that many of the outbuildings still existed at this time. In 1910, a ca. 1855 slave cabin directly behind the house that was occupied by Aunt Fannie burned and in 1925-1926, the old canal warehouse was also destroyed by fire. After the death of Ernest Echols in 1926, the farm was managed by a tenant and the tenant house was constructed in 1928. The Echols family, proud of its heritage, continues to use Echols Farm as a vacation home and as a gathering place for the descendents of Edward Echols.

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Endnotes

1. Deed Book, BB, p. 447.
2. Deed Book, DD, p. 292.
3. Hemphill, Dr. Edwin, "Records of Rockbridge County in Richmond," 1961:50.
4. Echols, Gordon, "Echols Farm, Rockbridge County: Preliminary Information Form," 1997:3.
5. Humphreys, Katherine N., ed., *The Echols Letters: 1858-1904*, 1993: passim.
6. *ibid.*, p. 15
7. *ibid.*, p. 3.
8. *ibid.*, p. 21.
9. *ibid.*, p. 23.
10. *ibid.*, p. 31.
11. Chataigne, J.H., *Chataigne's Virginia Gazetteer and Classified Business Directory, 1893-94*. 1894:565.
12. Humphreys, *ibid.*, p. 68.
13. Chataigne, J.H., *Chataigne's Virginia Gazetteer and Classified Business Directory, 1884-1885*. 1885:566.
14. Mitchell, Lota Jo Echols, "Echols History of Farm and Family," 1995:5.
15. *ibid.*, pp. 7-8.

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Echols Farm
Rockbridge County, Virginia

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Section 9 Page 11

Echols Farm
Rockbridge County, Virginia

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Section 10 Page 12

Echols Farm
Rockbridge County, Virginia

10. GEOGRAPHIC DATA (continued)

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
5	<u>17</u>	<u>637540</u>	<u>4165490</u>	6	<u>17</u>	<u>637490</u>	<u>4165380</u>
7	<u>17</u>	<u>637400</u>	<u>4166060</u>	8	<u>17</u>	<u>637760</u>	<u>4166300</u>

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries for Echols Farm are indicated on the accompanying Rockbridge County tax parcel map titled "Natural Bridge District, Section 108" which is drawn at a scale of 1"=600'. An enlargement of this map drawn to a scale of 1"=200' is also provided.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries for Echols Farm are drawn to include the approximately 253 acres that historically have been associated with the farm and that retain their integrity. In addition to the main dwelling and the outbuildings related to the farmstead, these boundaries include the trace of the canal with its two existing locks and the bottom lands extending to the banks of the Maury River to the west and south. To the east, the boundary extends across Route 501/130 to the property line along mountain ridge to include the sand and iron ore deposits which were mined by the Echols Iron Company and the Echols Glass Company. To the north, the boundary extends to the property line and includes an area where housing for the domestic, farm and mine workers as well as a schoolhouse for the Echols children were located along an earlier road just west of the present State Route 501. These boundaries include the buildings, land, canal trace, and natural features that have historically been identified with the Echols Farm property.

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Section Photographs Page 13

Echols Farm
Rockbridge County, Virginia

PHOTOGRAPHS

Echols Farm

Rockbridge County, Virginia
Alison S. Blanton, Photographer
Date of Photographs: March 1998
VDHR File Number: 81-5012
Negative Number: 16483

Location of Negative: Virginia State Library Archives, Richmond, Virginia

NOTE: The information above is common to all photographs.

VIEW: front elevation with canal trace, looking southeast
NEGATIVE: 16483-23
PHOTO: 1 of 14

VIEW: front elevation, looking east
NEGATIVE: 16483-22
PHOTO: 2 of 14

VIEW: front and south elevation with tenant house, looking southeast
NEGATIVE: 16483-21
PHOTO: 3 of 14

VIEW: south side elevation, looking northwest
NEGATIVE: 16483-20
PHOTO: 4 of 14

VIEW: floor joist detail extending from basement under porch
NEGATIVE: 16483-18
PHOTO: 5 of 14

VIEW: interior: stair and entrance hall
NEGATIVE: 16483-4
PHOTO: 6 of 14

VIEW: interior: living room
NEGATIVE: 16483-6
PHOTO: 7 of 14

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Section Photographs Page 14

Echols Farm
Rockbridge County, Virginia

VIEW: interior: living room mantel detail
NEGATIVE: 16483-7
PHOTO: 8 of 14

VIEW: interior: dining room with china cabinet
NEGATIVE: 16483-11
PHOTO: 9 of 14

VIEW: ca.1930 garage on stone foundation of canal warehouse,
looking west
NEGATIVE: 16483-24
PHOTO: 10 of 14

VIEW: canal lock #13 (44RB217), looking south
NEGATIVE: 16483-32
PHOTO: 11 of 14

VIEW: canal lock #14 (44RB216), looking south
NEGATIVE: 16483-36
PHOTO: 12 of 14

VIEW: tenant house, storage shed, and corncrib, looking northeast
NEGATIVE: 16483-27
PHOTO: 13 of 14

VIEW: workshop, looking northwest
NEGATIVE: 16483-26
PHOTO: 14 of 14

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Property Owners Page 15

Echols Farm
Rockbridge County, Virginia

PROPERTY OWNERS

Dr. Porter B. Echols, Jr.	1096 VES Road Lynchburg, VA 24503
Mr. Percy W. Echols	4119 N. 23rd St. Arlington, VA 22207-3920
Ms. Lota E. Mitchell	844 Foxland Place Pittsburgh, PA 15243-1106
Mr. Ernest C. Echols	P.O. Box 1183 Staunton VA 24402
Ms. Sarah E. Leslie	3844 Peakland Place Lynchburg, VA 24503
Mr. Steven I. Echols	1110 Laurel Lane Wilson, NC 27893
Ms. Pamela E. Smith	2600 Weymough Place Greensboro, NC 27408
Ms. Nancy E. Wilder	7309 Peachtree Dunwoody Road, NE Atlanta, GA 30328
Mr. Gordon Echols	104 Carriage Way Lynchburg, VA 24503
Dr. Sherrie W. Echols	c/o Mr. and Mrs. E.V. Echols 815 Tanglewood Road Charlottesville, VA 22901
Ms. Randi E. Carr	75 Bethlehem Pike Philadelphia PA 19118
Mr. Ernest V. Echols, Jr.	5200 Porter Road Pendleton, SC 29670

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Section Property Owners Page 16

Echols Farm
Rockbridge County, Virginia

Ms. Anne E. Townsend	Rt. 8, Box 235 Charlottesville, VA 22911
Ms. Dorothy Kropf	704 Pheasant Rd. Kennett's Square, PA 19348
Mr. Doug Mitchell	125 Duncan Farm Road Siler City, NC 27344
Dr. Charles L. Echols, Jr.	4948 E. Rockbridge Road Phoenix, AR 85018
Ms. Anne E. Bayer	c/o Dr. Charles L. Echols, Jr. 4948 E. Rockbridge Road Phoenix, AR 85018
Mr. Gray T. Echols	c/o Dr. Charles L. Echols, Jr. 4948 E. Rockbridge Road Phoenix, AR 85018
Mr. Charles T. Echols	410 Fifth Street Ambridge, PA 15003

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Section Property Owners Page 17

Echols Farm
Rockbridge County, Virginia

ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS

B.G. Locher Jr.	P.O. Box 918 Lexington, VA 24450
Lena A. Matthews	110 Leroy Avenue Lee-High Acres, FL 33966-5611
Burlington Industries	P.O. Box 21207 Greensboro, NC 27420
George Washington and Jefferson National Forest	Glenwood-Pedlar District P.O. Box 10 Natural Bridge Station, VA 24579
Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company	750 North Washington Avenue Saginaw, MI 48607-1374

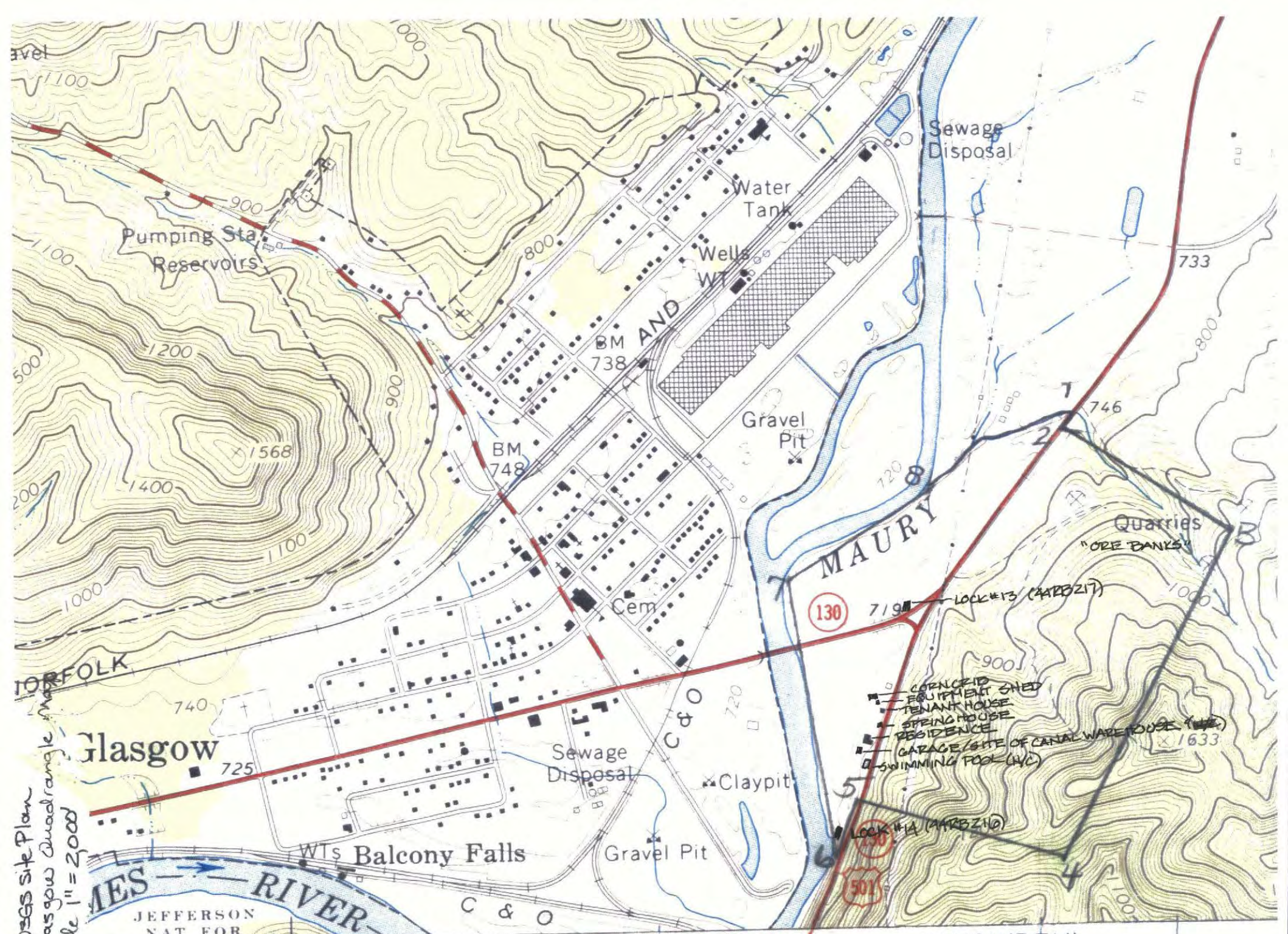
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Section Additional Documentation

Echols Farm
Rockbridge County, Virginia

-
1. USGS Site Plan
Glasgow Quadrangle Map
Scale 1"=12,000'
 2. Site Plan
 3. Floor Plan - First Floor
 4. Gilham, William. *Map of the County of Rockbridge, Virginia from surveys made by Wm. Gilham, a Professor of Agriculture at V.M.I. and assisted by Cadets Lumsden, Brockenbrough, Lynch, Doyner, Davidson, WA Smith, and Heth. Drawn by Cadet W.N.P. Otey.* Map Collection, Virginia State Library, Richmond, Virginia, 1859.
 5. Carmichael, John. *Map of the County of Rockbridge, Virginia with information as to mineral development by Professor John L. Campbell of Washington & Lee University.* Map Collection, Virginia State Library, Richmond, Virginia. December, 1883.
 6. "Echols Farm Prior to 1914"
Post-1960 Sketch Map by Ralph Echols.
 7. Photograph of "Aunt Fanny at Glasgow swing bridge w/ house before 2nd story built". Private collection of the Echols family.
 8. Boundary Delineation on Rockbridge County Tax Parcel Map, Section 108, Natural Bridge District
Scale 1"=600'
 9. Boundary Delineation on Rockbridge County Tax Parcel Map, Section 108, Natural Bridge District
Scale 1"=200'



1. USGS Site Plan
 Glasgow Quadrangle Map
 Scale 1" = 2000'

5000 FEET 27'30"

BIG ISLAND 10 MI.
 INCHBURG 20 MI.

(SNOWDEN)
 5150 III SW

130

130

501

LOCK #13 (4420217)

LOCK #14 (4420216)

- CORNCRIB
- EQUIPMENT SHED
- TENANT HOUSE
- SPRING HOUSE
- RESIDENCE
- GARAGE (SITE OF CANAL WAREHOUSE (1840))
- SWIMMING POOL (1840)

1633

Quarries
 "ORE BANKS"

AND

MAURY

Glasgow

TORFOLK

JAMES RIVER
 JEFFERSON NAT FOR

Sewage Disposal

Water Tank

Wells

Pumping Sta.
 Reservoirs

Gravel Pit

Cem.

Sewage Disposal

Claypit

WTs Balcony Falls

Gravel Pit

C & O

733

746

720

719

740

725

BM 738

BM 748

1568

1000

900

1100

1000

1100

1100

1100

1100

1100

1200

1200

1400

1400

1000

1000

1000

1000

1000

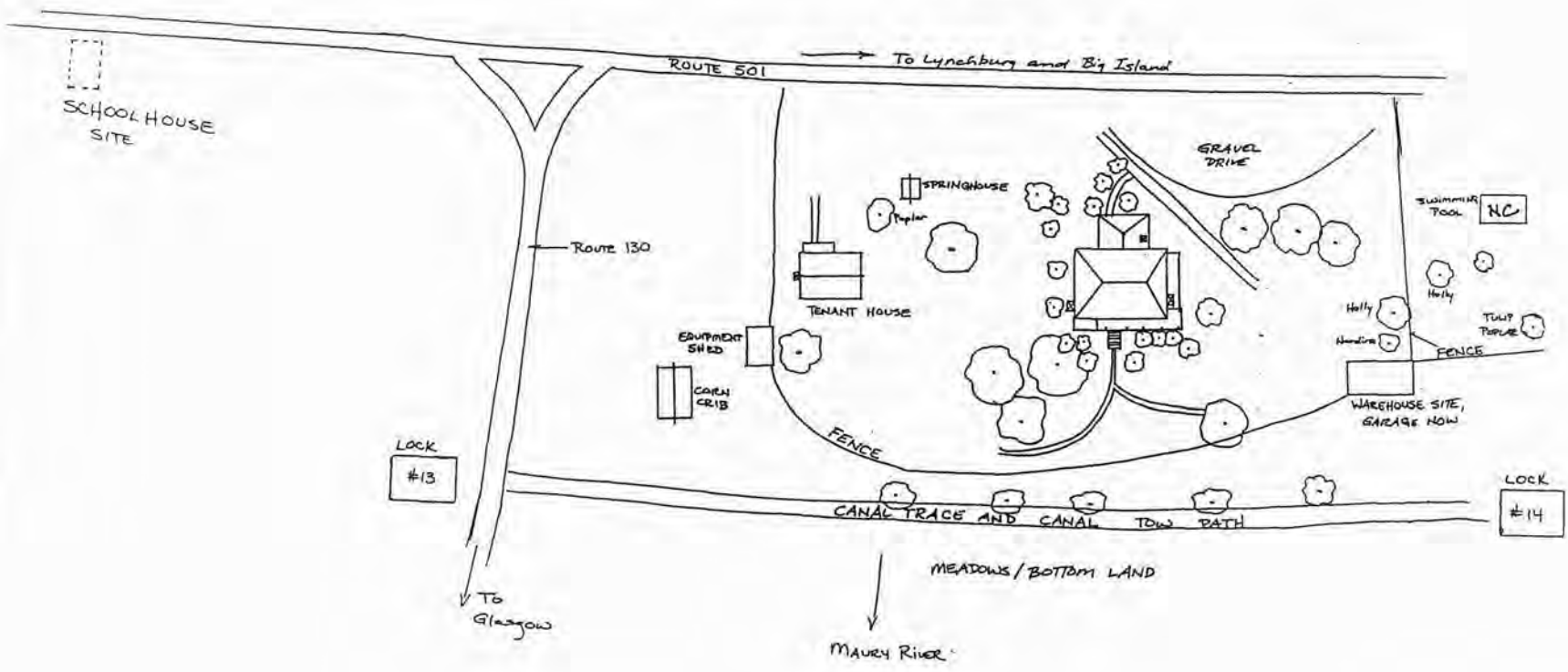
1000

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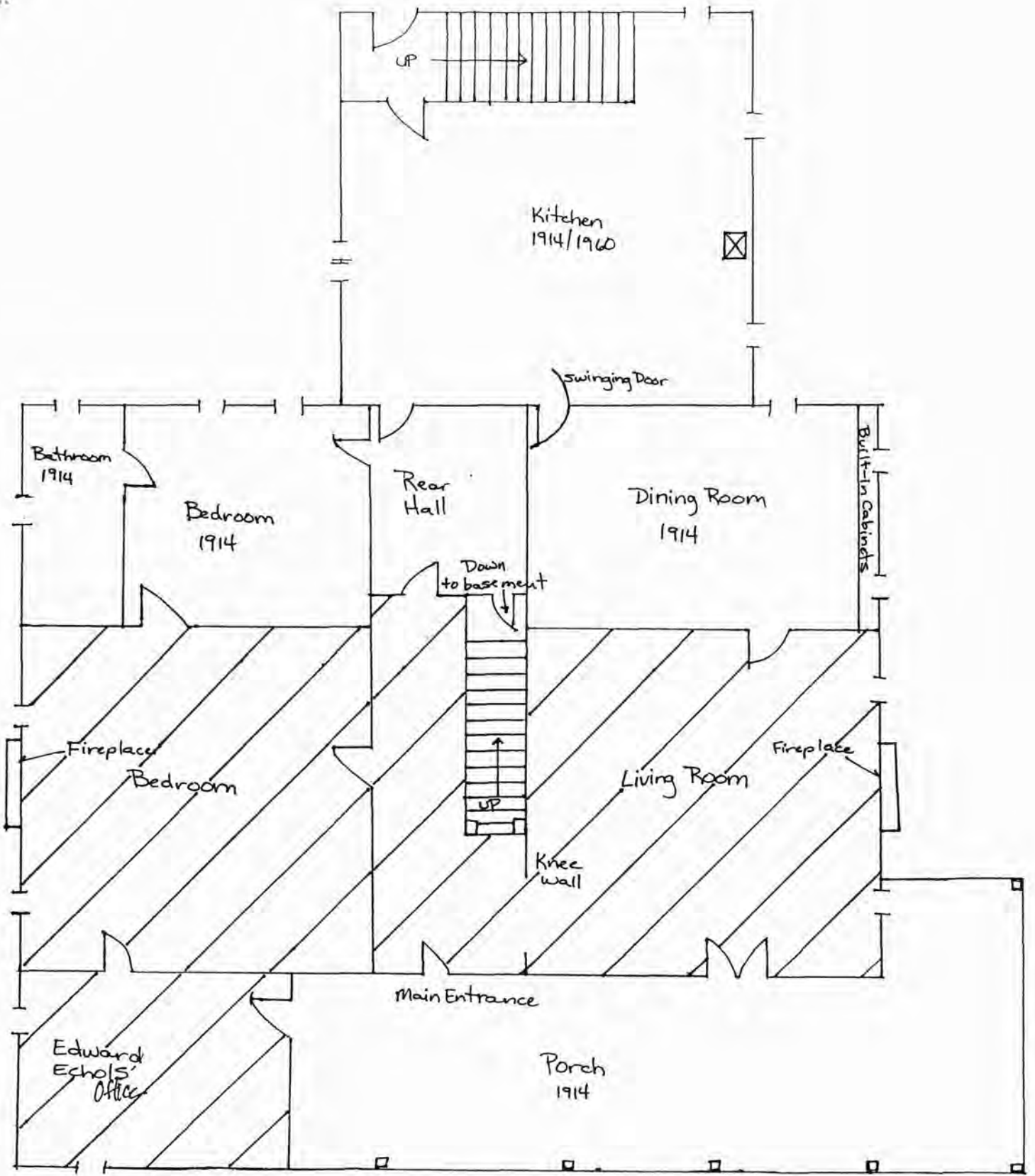
ORE BANK

MOUNTAIN RIDGE



2. ECHOLS FARM SITE PLAN
 VDHR # 81-5012



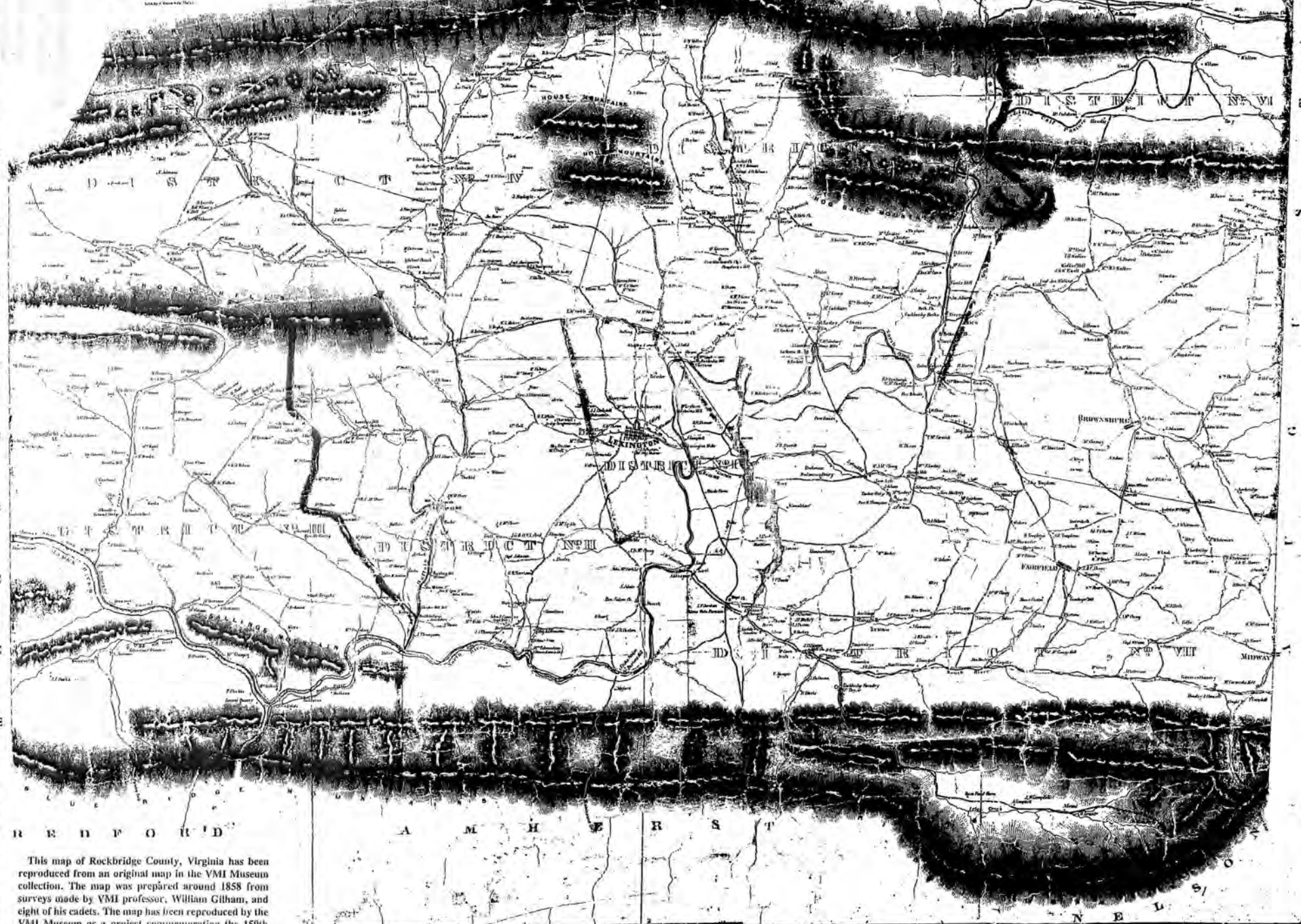


 ORIGINAL
 CA. 1855
 SECTION

ECHOLS FARM VDHR # 81-5012
 INTERIOR - FIRST FLOOR

 NORTH
 n.t.s.

MAP
OF THE COUNTY OF ROCKBRIDGE, VIRGINIA
 FROM SURVEYS MADE BY
William Gilham A.M.
 PROFESSOR OF SURVEYING, VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE.
 Assisted by Cadets
 LUMSDEN, EROCKENBROUGH, LYNCH, POTTER, DAVIDSON, W.A. SMITH, HETH.
 DRAWN BY
 CADET V. H. P. OTEY.



This map of Rockbridge County, Virginia has been reproduced from an original map in the VMI Museum collection. The map was prepared around 1858 from surveys made by VMI professor, William Gilham, and eight of his cadets. The map has been reproduced by the VMI Museum as a project commemorating the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Virginia Military Institute and one and one-half century of positive relationships shared by the Institute, the city of Lexington, and the county of Rockbridge.

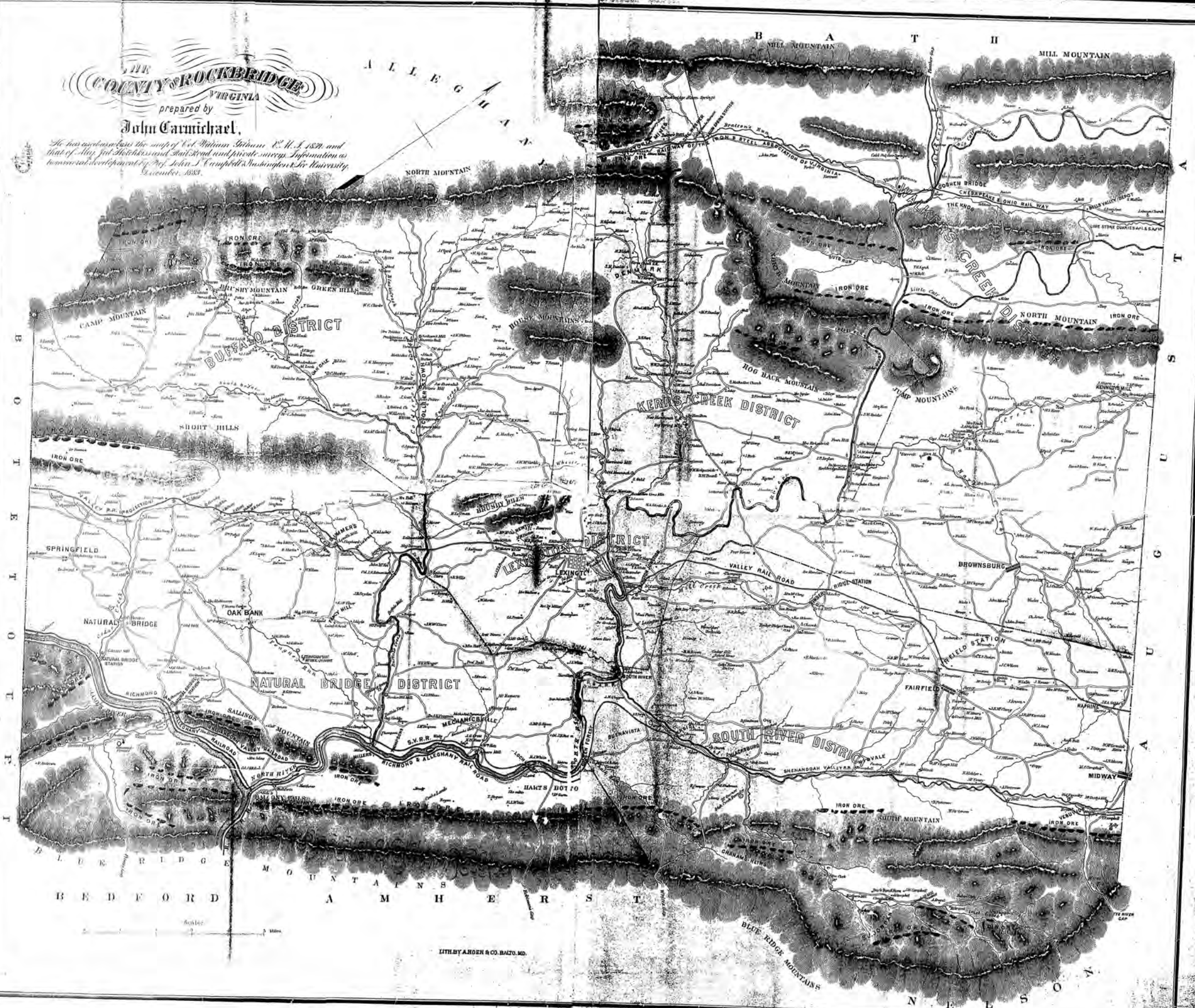
4. Gilliam, William

Map of the County of Rockbridge from survey made by Wm. Gilliam, a Professor of Agriculture at VMI and assisted by cadets Lumsden, Brockenbrough, Lynch, Deyner, Dandson, W.A. Smith, and Holt. Drawn by Cadet W.N.P. Okey. Map collection, Virginia State Library, 1859.

THE COUNTY OF ROCKBRIDGE, VIRGINIA

prepared by
John Carmichael,

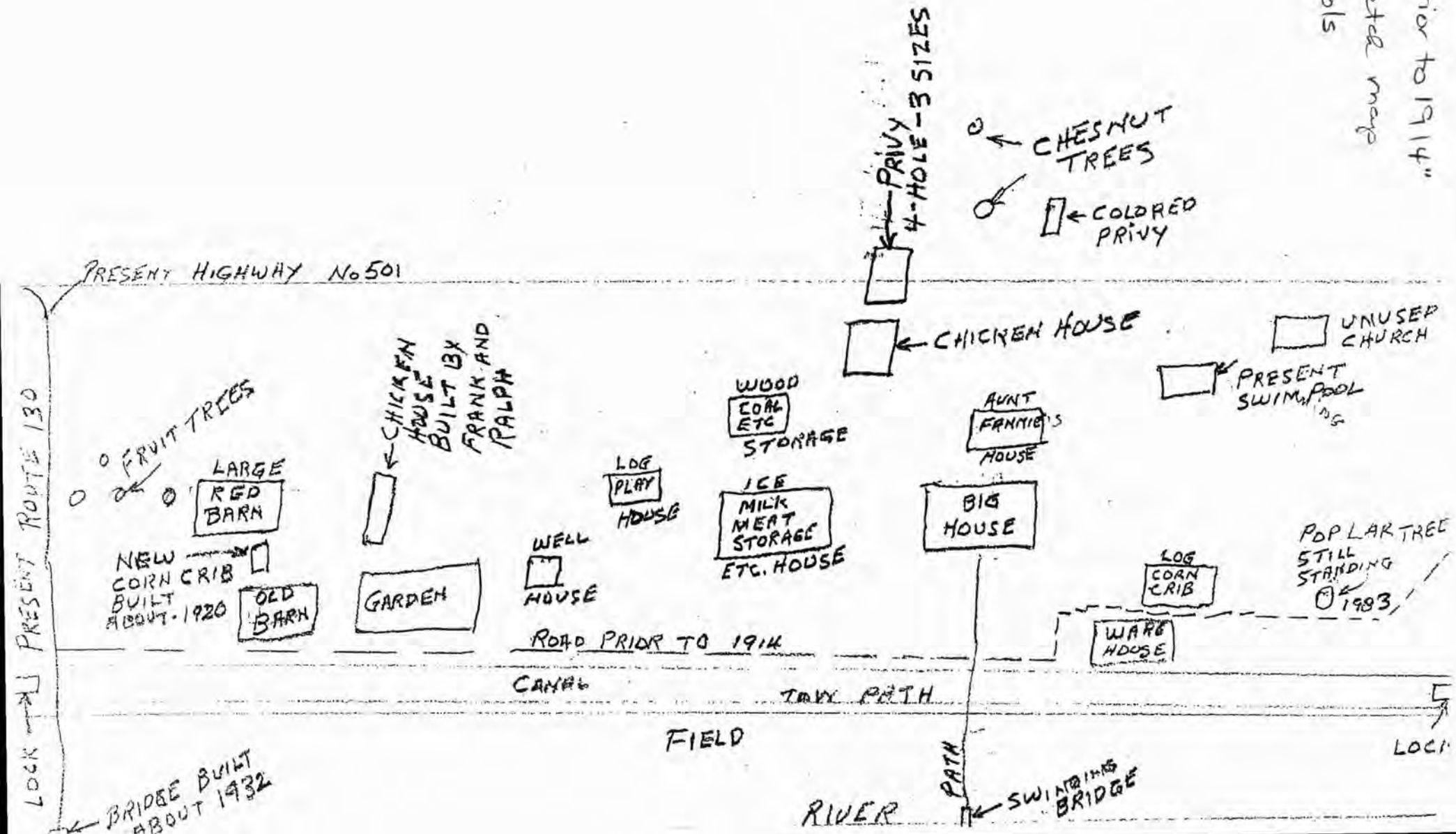
He has prepared this map of Col. William Gilman, E. M. J. 1829, and that of Major Genl. Hitchcock and Rail Road and private surveys. Information as to mineral development by Prof. John S. Campbell, Washington, D. C. University, December, 1887.



5. Carmichael, John
Map of the county of Rockbridge, Virginia
with information as to mineral development
by John L. Campbell of Washington - Lee University
Map collection: Virginia State Library
December 1883

ECHOLS HOME PRIOR TO 1914

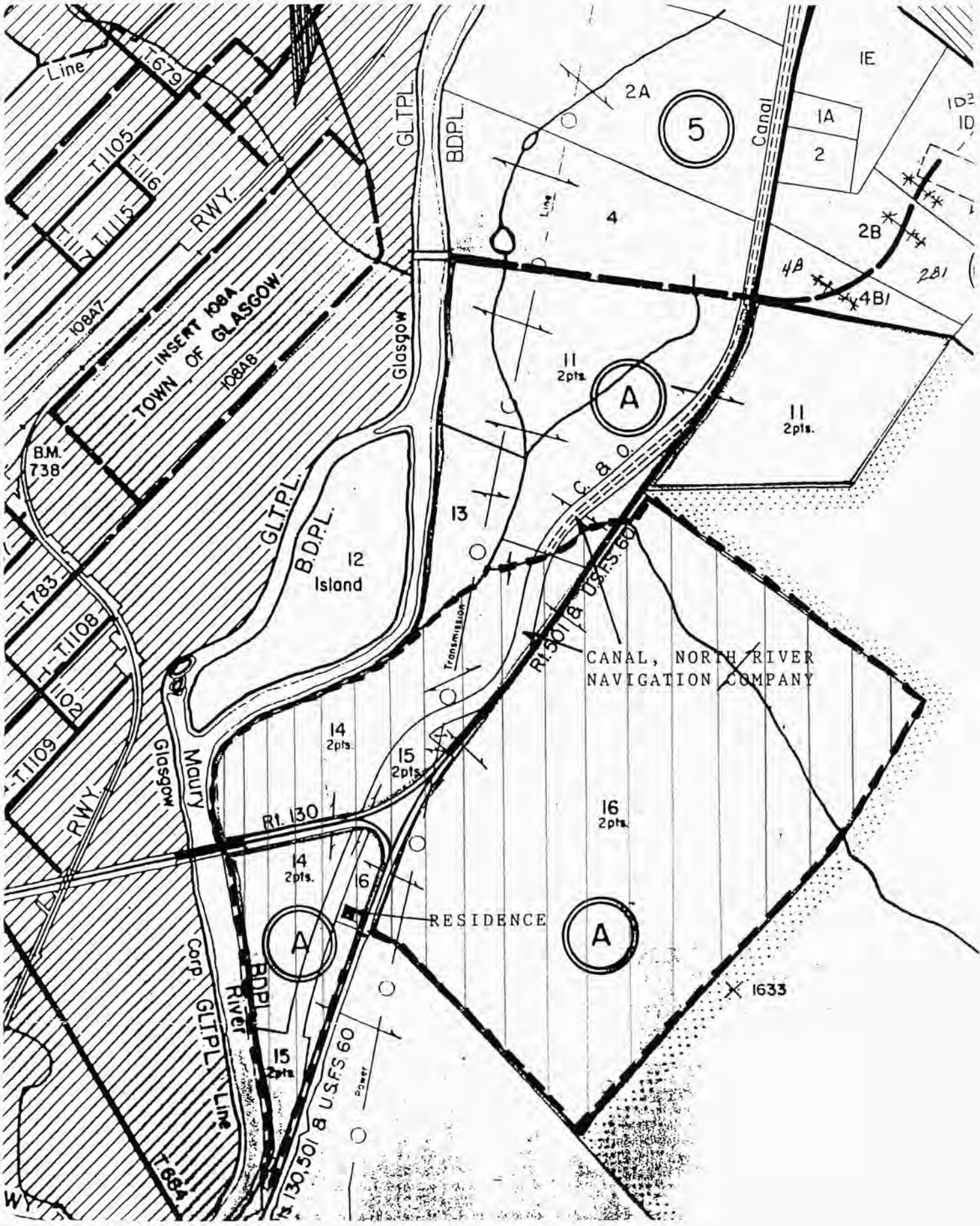
6" Echols Farm Prior to 1914"
Post-1960 Sketched map
by Ralph Echols

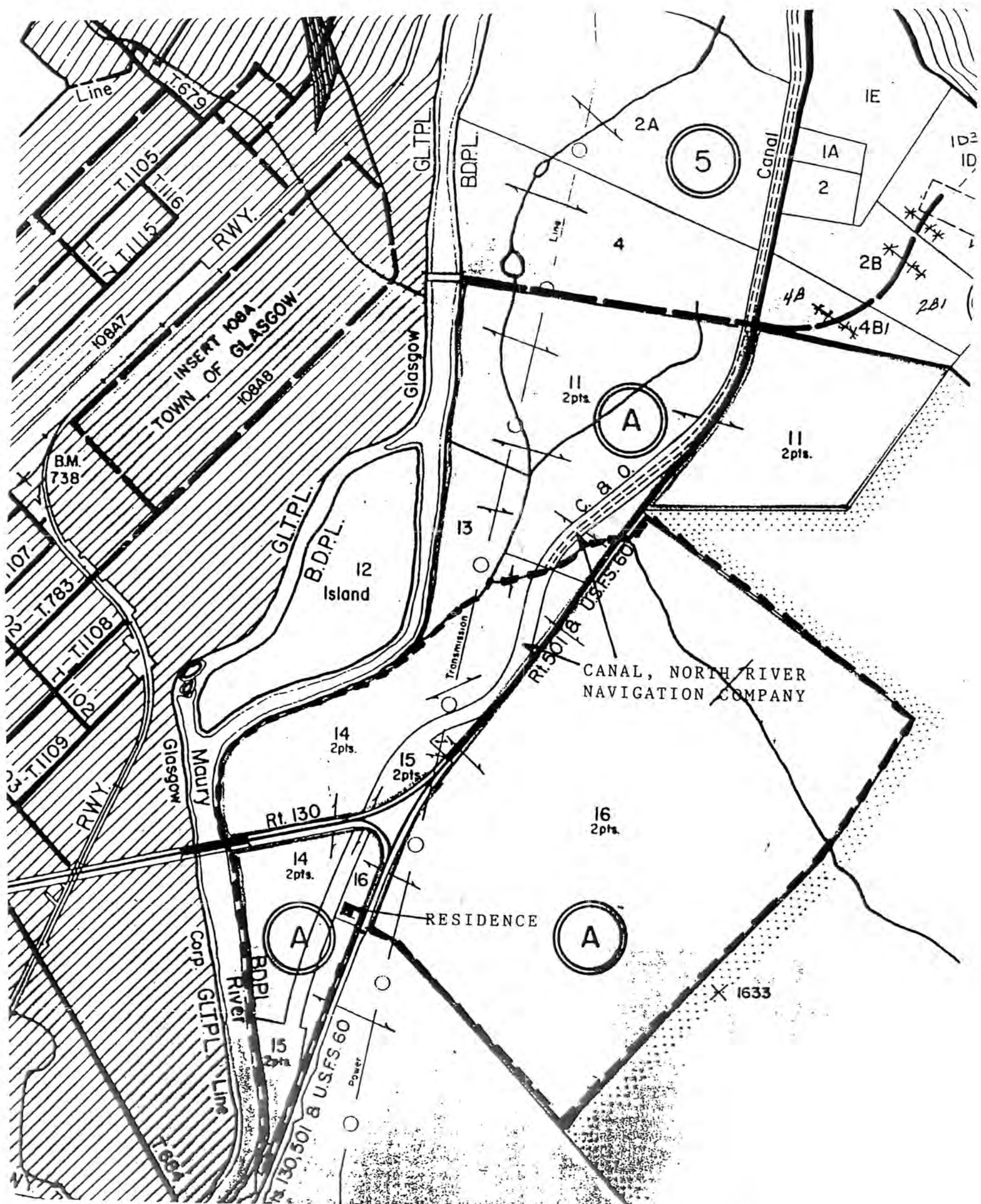




7. " Aunt Fannie at Glasgow
swinging bridge w/ house
before 2nd story built."
Private Collection of
Echds Family

8. Echols Farm Boundary Delineation on Rockbridge County
 Tax Parcel Map, Section 108, Natural Bridge District
 Scale 1" = 600'





Line T.679

T.1105
T.1116
T.1115

R.W.Y.

108A7
INSERT 108A
TOWN OF GLASGOW
108A8

BM 738

T.1107
T.783
T.1108

T.1109
R.W.Y.

Glasgow
Maury

Rt. 130

Glasgow Maury Corp
Rt. 130
U.S.F.S. 60
Power

GLT.P.L.

BD.P.L.

GLT.P.L.
B.D.P.L.
12
Island

Transmission

Rt. 501 & U.S.F.S. 60

CANAL, NORTH RIVER NAVIGATION COMPANY

Canal

2A

5

IE

1A
2

102
10

4

2B

2B1

4B

4B1

11
2pts

A

11
2pts

13

14
2pts

15
2pts

16
2pts

14
2pts

16

RESIDENCE

A

1633



ROANOKE 39 MI.
BUCHANAN 13 MI.

ECHOLS FARM
81-5012

1-17/638100/4166500
2-17/638080/4166460
3-17/637520/4166200
4-17/638050/4165340
5-17/637540/4165490
6-17/637490/4165380
7-17/637400/4166060
8-17/637760/4166300

(Glasgow Quad)

37° 37' 30" 79° 30' 633 635 1 720 000 FEET 27' 30" BIG ISLAND 10 MI. LYNCHBURG 29 MI. (SNOWDEN) 5159 III SW SCALE 1:24 000