

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Hough, Bernard, House

Other names/site number: Shannondale; DHR#053-0676

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

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

2. Location

Street & number: 15563 Hillsboro Road

City or town: Hillsboro State: VA County: Loudoun

Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: X

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A ___ B X C ___ D

 Signature of certifying official/Title: _____	<u>6/29/2021</u> Date
<u>Virginia Department of Historic Resources</u> State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting official: _____	Date

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Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government
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4. 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
- other (explain:) _____

Signature of the 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

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AGRICULTURE: subsistence: agricultural outbuilding

LANDSCAPE: pond

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MID-19th CENTURY/Greek Revival

NO STYLE

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK; METAL;
WOOD

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Bernard Hough House is a two-story, five-bay Greek Revival residence located in northwestern Loudoun County near the small village of Hillsboro. Completed just before the Civil War, its size and sophistication are unusual for a mid-19th century dwelling in western Loudoun County. Situated at the foot of Short Hill Mountain, a half-mile south of the Hillsboro Historic District (236-0040; NRHP 1979), the dwelling and dependencies stand on 24 acres purchased by Hough in 1854, and augmented four years later by the acquisition of an adjacent 145-acre farm. The main section and rear ell were completed c. 1859 in 5-course American bond. A brick walkway leads to a five-bay frame porch and double front doors. Heavy, molded cornices underlay the house and porch roofs. A balustrade central deck, surrounded by four capped chimneys, sits atop the main hip roof; another interior chimney protrudes from the gable end of the ell. The only changes to the exterior are a framed enclosed porch off the rear kitchen and a small deck on the south side. The interior remains similarly intact, with no change to the original floorplan and virtually all of the historic elaborate woodwork, plaster molding, and 10 fireplaces in place. The house sits in a 5-acre yard, graced by ancient trees, and a stream that also bisects fields on each side and feeds a large pond. Directly behind the main house is a 1½ story tenant cottage with vertical plank siding over single-course brick, standing seam roof, exterior fieldstone chimney, and a basement once used to store ice. A one-room frame wing was added c. 1960, but most of the interior remains as originally constructed to house enslaved workers. A

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stucco/cinderblock garage (c. 1955) stands at the head of the current driveway. At the yard's northwest corner is a 1½-story, mid-19th century frame barn with two large open bays below, feed bins on the top floor, and a corn crib and enclosed shed on opposite sides. A 1950s open shed protrudes from the rear that still shelters sheep and cattle pastured on the farm. Together with an additional 10-acre field to the rear, the 23-acre lot holding the Hough House and its dependencies preserve the site's agricultural setting, and the Hough House (currently known as Shannondale Farm) remains one of the last operating farms on Hillsboro's south side, most others having been broken up to accommodate modern homes.

Narrative Description

Setting

Today, the Bernard Hough House is reached by a long gravel driveway off the west side of Hillsboro Road, which crosses a stream in the front yard via a concrete bridge (c. 1930) before ascending to an oval turnaround linking the garage, kitchen/quarter/icehouse and north side of the main house. The residence and its dependencies are surrounded by large old growth hardwoods, boxwoods and other ornamental plantings. Beyond the main house and secondary buildings is open pastureland.

Exterior

The Hough House, built ca 1859, is a rare example of a vernacular adaptation of a five-bay double-pile, central passage brick residence constructed in the Greek Revival style for rural northwest Loudoun County. The house is laid in five-course American bond on all elevations with scored mortar joints still showing traces of whitewash. The 2-story main block is 42' square, with a single-story porch (8' x 40') across the east façade and an ell extending to the rear. Double sash, six-over-six wood windows topped with flared, flat brick arches are spaced symmetrically throughout the building, varying in height from 7' on the main wing's first story and 6¼' on the second story, to 4½' throughout the ell. (Barred, 3-light, half-windows illuminate the basement.) The main block's low-pitched hipped roof and the rear ell's gable roof are clad with metal roofing. The house's stature is magnified by a gradual downward slope in grade from the rear to the front of the dwelling. A stone walkway leads from the circular driveway to an entry at the juncture of the main block's west (rear) elevation and the north wall of the ell. The entry features a deeply paneled door with original lock.. A wooden landing and steps in front of this entrance were replaced by curved brick steps and a wrought iron railing in 1951.

The east façade's entrance begins with a massive carriage stone, followed by an ascending, boxwood-lined brick walkway (re-laid in 2016) leading to broad porch steps. The five-bay, full-width, frame porch rests on brick piers, and its shallow, hipped roof is supported by square, chamfered wood columns and pilasters with caps. While only traces of a wood porch railing remain, metal railings on the porch steps were added in 2016 when the steps and porch floor were replaced with Trex. The main entrance off the porch is via double doors below a two-light

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transom that open into the central hallway. The doors have original locks and silver doorknob, and each is decorated with three molded wooden modillions. Original shutters adorn the two windows on each side of the front entrance and the five above the porch.

A box cornice with deeply molded trim underlays the house and front porch hip roofs. At the time that the original standing seam roofing was replaced with pre-painted metal roofing and membrane hidden gutters, all existing cornices were replaced in kind with identically molded ones of African mahogany. Four capped brick chimneys rise from the main roof, and another interior chimney is located at the gable end of the ell. A balustrade deck sits in the center of the main roof, accessible by a steep stairway from the 2nd floor. In 2010, the deck's flat floor and trapdoor were recovered with copper, and its often-restored railing with synthetic material.

At the west (rear) end of the ell is a small enclosed stairwell with brick walls, hip roof and box cornice that shelters outside steps leading down to a cellar entrance. Originally, the space next to this stairwell was occupied by a wooden deck off the kitchen door, where a hand pump connected to a hand-dug well beneath was located. In 1951, this porch was replaced by one with a flagstone floor and steps on a brick foundation. Ten years later, the flagstone deck was enclosed with framed siding, metal windows/door, and a standing seam roof. A second door off the porch was added in 2016. The only other exterior change to the house's original footprint is the 2016 addition of a small (10' x 14.5') deck with metal railing on the south side of the ell, access to which is via a converted pantry window.

Interior

The main block of the Hough House is a good example of a double-pile, central passage plan house. The interior is equally well preserved and reflective of the high craftsmanship found outside. A wide central hallway runs between the front and side doors; its 12' high ceiling decorated with a plaster cornice restored in 2014. Four large, 6-panel doors with wide architectural trim on both sides connect the hall to rooms in each corner of the double-pile main block. (All interior doors, including on closets, are original.) The two rooms on each side of the hall are interconnected by heavy 8-panel pocket doors with matching trim. Both parlors on the north side have carved, white marble mantels. (One fireplace is no longer functional to accommodate a flue for the basement furnace.) The two rooms on the south side have carved, coral marble mantels, and molded wood aprons below the windows. Built-in bookcases were added to the library in the 1950s and in 2016. A wooden molded plate rail, added in 2016, complements the original chair rail in the dining room. With the exception of the rear ell's pantry/kitchen and two upstairs bathrooms, all flooring is original heart pine that was only refinished in 1951 and 2015.

A small pantry connects the dining room with the kitchen in the rear ell, and, as noted earlier, now includes a door leading onto the south deck. In 2014, the original built-in, bead-board stepback pantry cupboard was replaced with modern cabinetry and a small sink, refrigerator, and oven. A large cooking fireplace with wooden mantel occupies the west end of the kitchen, and is

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flanked by original paneled cabinets and work counter on one side, and a door leading to the back porch on the other. While doors, windows and floorplan remain as originally built, the kitchen has undergone several reconfigurations, most recently by the current owners, who replaced most 1950s cabinetry, while keeping some cabinets crafted from wood taken from feed bins in the barn. A door opposite the one to the pantry connects the kitchen to a small passage leading back to the main hall, as well as the dining room. Back stairs to the ell's second floor, evidently for use by servants, as well as stairs to the cellar, lead off this hall. In 2017, a small powder room, originally installed c. 1960, was enclosed within this space, the only change to the house's original floor plan.

The main stairway rises from the front hall, providing space below it for a coat closet that opens near the side entrance. A "weighty," turned walnut newel post anchors the walnut stair rail, which rests on turned balusters, set on risers with decorative scrolls. A landing provides access to the second floor of the ell, before ascending further to the main upstairs hallway, which has a ceiling height of 10.5'). As below, four, equally sized bedrooms occupy the corners of this floor. Each has its own fireplace with a Greek Revival-influenced wooden mantel. Speaking tubes, since plastered over, once enabled occupants to signal servants in the basement. Particularly unusual for agricultural Loudoun County were the inclusion in each bedroom of a spacious walk-in closet, with built-in, floor-to-ceiling shelving and chest-of-drawers. At the end of the hall is a smaller room that has served as a bathroom since at least the early 20th century, and was most recently remodeled in 2012. An enclosed stairwell leading to the attic and roof deck occupies part of the upstairs hall, and also provides space beneath the stairs for an original linen closet. The inside of the door leading to the attic was never repainted and still displays original faux graining that once adorned much of the woodwork in the house. A central HVAC system servicing the upstairs main wing was installed in the attic in 2015 and a similar unit for the downstairs rooms was placed in the basement. The rooms in the ell are serviced by a single split-system, external unit.

The second floor of the ell currently includes a small office, a larger room housing a washer/dryer, and a full bath. The narrow hall connecting these rooms also houses a small closet with a beaded board door, and back stairs to the lower floor.

A basement underlies the entire house, and is accessible by the aforementioned interior stairs, as well as enclosed external stairs. The latter were originally of wood, but when replaced with concrete steps, c. 1930, the words "Mint and Ice" were inscribed, probably an earlier name for the property. When the Chamberlins bought the property in 1950, the wooden flooring in the cellar had long since been torn up for firewood, and the entire basement was filled with cinders from a coal furnace that heated the house through a single grate cut in the front hall. (The wood cut for this opening was found and used to fill it in.) After the cinders were removed to provide a base for the driveway, a concrete floor was poured throughout the cellar. At the same time, an oil-burner was installed to heat hot-water radiators throughout the house. An indoor bathroom that was installed in the 1950s to service the kitchen/quarter/icehouse was removed in 2013. At this time damage due to dampness from this bathroom and leaks from outside were addressed. A cooking fireplace, directly below one in the kitchen, remains intact, and would have been used in

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the summer when cooking and dining frequently took place in the cooler basement. The walls and ceiling on the south side of the basement were re-plastered and painted in 2017; the north side remains to be done. An unfinished central hall houses heating and plumbing equipment.

Secondary Resources

Kitchen/Quarter/Icehouse (ca. 1859, Contributing)

Directly behind the main dwelling is a ca. 1859 1½ story building that originally served as a kitchen/quarter/icehouse. Prior to the Civil War, enslaved African Americans likely lived and worked here. The building served as a tenant cottage for an unknown amount of time. The exterior walls of the 14 x 24' building rest on a fieldstone foundation and exhibit single-course brick construction, sheathed externally with vertical wood paneling and with plaster within. The standing-seam metal roof is steeply pitched, and an exterior fieldstone chimney abuts the north gable end. A central entrance faces south towards the main house, and is reached by fieldstone steps leading to a plain wood door, topped by a 4-light transom and flanked by a double sash, 6/6-light window on each side. Three single sash, 3-light windows are equally spaced above, just under the roof. The back of the house has two 6/6 windows below, and two 3-light windows above, plus small casement windows on each end. In the early 1950s, a flag-stone patio was laid off the south side of the cottage. This patio was later converted into a one-room addition with wood siding and a steep metal roof that matches the original wing. Anderson windows flank the central door on the wing's gabled south end, as well as on each side.

The cottage was originally constructed with a deep basement on the south half of the house for storage of ice cut from nearby ponds. Only accessible by a trapdoor inside the house, it had been used as a refuse pit over the years. After the Chamberlins bought the property, it was cleaned out and laid with a concrete floor to provide space to install plumbing and a laundry. External concrete steps, covered by metal Bailey Doors, were installed leading down into the basement on the back (west) side, the only external change to the building besides the small south extension.

The front entrance opens onto a small passage connecting the two rooms on each end of the original block. A woodstove, the only source for heat until electric baseboard heaters were added in the 1950s, has been removed to better reveal the original fireplace and mantel in the living room. Wide pine boards still cover the floor and a stained beaded board partition separating it from the stairway leads to the 2nd floor. A kitchen occupies the opposite side, with modern cabinetry and appliances filling most of the wall space. A small powder room, installed c. 1960 under the stairs, lies off the kitchen, which also has the once-exterior door with transom leading into the south addition.

Stairs leading to the second floor start directly opposite the front door and are encased on both sides by stained, beaded board. There is a bedroom and half-closet on each side of the small landing at the top of the stairs. As below, wide pine flooring was used in both rooms, a register being cut into one room to allow heat to rise from the woodstove below. Like the rooms below, each room has a small, wall-mounted HVAC unit, part of a split system installed in 2017. A

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partial wall partition in the south bedroom houses a sink, toilet and shower installed in 2018. Despite changes required to meet the rental market over the years, the former tenant cottage still retains the external appearance and interior architectural detailing that make it an unusually well-preserved example of a combined kitchen/quarter/icehouse dating to the late 1850s.

Barn (ca. 1859, contributing)

A frame 19th century barn with attached sheds sits at the northwest corner of the yard. The 1½-story, main block (25' x 30') has two 9.5' wide bays for storage of hay and farm equipment. The north bay is open-ended so wagons can be loaded/unloaded through a trapdoor in the floor above, where wooden feed bins are located. A raised platform to the right of the bays provides access to a door opening on stairs to the upper floor. The back of this small vestibule also houses a door into the corncrib, which extends to the rear of the barn and is supported off the ground on brick piers. The front gabled end above the bays has wood siding, the back gable is board and batten. Both gables have double-sash windows to light/ventilate the top floor. The sides of the crib are vertical boards with space between for ventilation. A steeply pitched metal roof covers the main structure. A more gently sloping metal roof starts just below the main roof on the south side and covers an animal shed that projects 12' from the south bay. Evidently built at the same time as the main structure, the shed has siding on the front and south walls, similar to that above the front of the main bays. A door and double-sash window occupy the shed's front side; two single-sash windows on the south side were replaced by vinyl sliding ones. Access for animals into an inner stall is via a door in the shed's plain wood west (rear) wall. Although most of the main barn appears original, as does the front of the shed, the siding on the latter's south end and joists supporting the shed roof had to be replaced in 2019 due to termite damage. A 2' x 38' wooden shed with corrugated roof and open to the barnyard on the south side was added to the west (rear) end of the original shed/barn in the 1950s.

Garage (ca. 1950, Noncontributing)

A two-car garage (24' x 24') sits at the top of the driveway, 55' from the kitchen/quarter/icehouse. Built in the 1950s, it has stucco-covered cinderblock walls on three sides, gable ends with vinyl siding, double sash windows in each end and, on the south side, metal sliding carport doors, and an asphalt shingle roof. The garage is noncontributing because it postdates the property's period of significance.

Springhouse (ca. 1951, Noncontributing)

Across the stream in the front yard stands a small springhouse built in 1951 with wooden lattice on three sides, attached to part of the brick wall remaining from the original structure, and covered by a corrugated metal roof. The original c. 12' x 15' brick building had an interior trough around its perimeter, through which spring water flowed before exiting into the stream. The roof and walls had collapsed by 1950, when the resulting cavity was filled in. The springhouse is noncontributing because it postdates the property's period of significance.

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Bridge (ca. 1930, Noncontributing)

The property's entrance drive has a ca. 1930 concrete bridge that crosses a stream flowing north/south across the property's eastern side. The bridge is noncontributing because it postdates the property's period of significance.

Integrity

The Bernard Hough House has remarkably high integrity. The main dwelling and secondary sources are on their original locations and the 24 acres associated with the property preserves its historic rural setting. That the property continues as an active farm further contributes to its integrity of setting. The primary dwelling has seen typical installation of and updates to its mechanical systems since the early 20th century but considerable care has been utilized to prevent these systems from intruding on the house's historic floor plan, design, and materials. Where worn materials have been replaced, such as the box cornices, roof deck balustrade, and front porch flooring, appropriate materials have been used that preserved original design elements. The dwelling's interior floor plan and finishes have been carefully preserved and, as needed, restored, such as plasterwork on the main floor's ceilings. Where materials had deteriorated or were leading to maintenance issues, such as dampness from the basement bathroom, those elements were removed. Thus, the dwelling's integrity of design, materials, and workmanship is very high. Likewise, the kitchen/quarter/icehouse has received similar careful treatment, thus preserving an increasingly rare antebellum resource type in an area that has suburbanized considerably in the past 70 years. The barn, still in active agricultural use, also contributes to the property's integrity of setting, design, workmanship, and materials. The noncontributing resources, consisting of a ca. 1950 garage, ca. 1951 springhouse, and ca. 1930 driveway bridge, are small in scale and unobtrusive in design, and do not detract from the property's integrity. Given its excellent state of preservation, the Bernard Hough House has high integrity of feeling as a late antebellum Greek Revival main house with a small complement of outbuildings. The property's integrity of association is exemplified as well by its architectural character and documentation of its historic ownership.

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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 grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1859

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Hough House is sited along the west side of Hillsboro Road, a few miles south of the Village of Hillsboro. The imposing brick residence was built by Bernard Hough on the cusp of the Civil War (ca. 1859) and represents a well-preserved Greek Revival style brick dwelling located in northwestern Loudoun County. The house and contributing outbuildings are locally significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture as an excellent representation of the Greek Revival style for rural Loudoun and for its brick construction, which was rare in this region of the county where stone, log and frame construction dominated residential architecture in the late 18th through the mid- to late 19th centuries. The period of significance begins and ends ca. 1859 with construction of the main house, the kitchen/quarter/icehouse and the barn. The house and its dependencies have not undergone any alterations that compromise their exterior or interior architectural integrity. Particularly noteworthy is the survival intact of the house's elaborate woodwork, molding, fireplaces and other detail. The property includes a 23-acre lot, containing a large yard and surrounding fields that preserve the original setting of the house. The barn and fields, plus an additional portion of Hough's original farm, are currently leased to a religious community in Hillsboro that still grows and sells produce within the nearby Hillsboro Historic District (236-0040; NRHP 1979).

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Historical Background

The Bernard Hough House is best understood by first looking at the nearby town of Hillsboro. Straddling a major road running through a gap in the Short Hill Mountain, it has served as a gateway into western Virginia since colonial times. Water power from nearby Catoctin Creek and its location on this busy thoroughfare fueled the settlement's early growth, which peaked just before the Civil War and gradually declined thereafter. Yet, this same isolation in Loudoun's northwestern corner, as well as restraints imposed by its natural surroundings, preserved the linear village and led to its designation as a National Register-listed historic district in 1977 (enlarged in 2012).

Quaker settlers began coming to the area in the 1740s, and after establishing the Gap Meeting here in 1755, they would help set up the early mills and commercial establishments that catered to travelers and nearby farms. However, by the time their Meeting closed in 1805, many Friends had begun to gravitate into the Methodist Church. Previously known only as The Gap, the town of Hillsboro was formally established in 1802, and the following decades saw it flourish. Many of the houses still lining the main street were built during this period using stone quarried from the surrounding mountain. By the 1850s, Hillsboro had become a regional commercial center with five mills in the immediate area, and prospects that it would soon be linked to Alexandria by rail.

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Bernard Hough (1815-1880) descended from these early Quakers, but his father left that faith to marry into the prominent Clendening family, which owned property on both sides of the Short Hill and relied on an enslaved workforce of African Americans. After marriage in 1837 to a member of his mother's family, Sarah Ann Clendening (1811-1903), Bernard ran a store and post office in town that he purchased from Samuel Clendening, Sr. The couple remained childless, but by 1850 Bernard could list himself as a merchant with \$3,000 in property. When he lost his postmastership later that year, "B. Hough & Co." turned to investments in real estate and other commercial ventures.

The Hough House story begins in 1854 when Bernard paid \$1,227 for a 24-acre parcel in the southeast corner of the Copeland Homestead. (The seller, Crawford Copeland, had been forced to raise cash to buy out co-heirs to this venerable property directly south of Hillsboro that was first surveyed by George Washington.) Massive oaks in the yard today suggest that it was wooded then, so Bernard had to clear the site and begin digging clay to fire brick in an on-site kiln for his proposed home.

Sectional differences had begun to split Loudoun, and may have influenced Bernard's decision to move out of Hillsboro, which was becoming a secessionist stronghold. Matters came to a head in 1858 when many members of Bernard's Arnold Grove Methodist Church, located just east of town, left to join the Methodists' southern branch and erect their own church inside the village. Bernard's Quaker roots, Whig Party affiliation while postmaster, and Northern business ties may have inclined him to remain neutral, although in November 1859 he helped raise funds to equip the Hillsboro Border Guards, then involved in keeping John Brown's slave insurrection at Harper's Ferry from spreading into Loudoun.

In 1859 Bernard augmented his Copeland parcel with the purchase of an adjacent 145-acre farm from Crawford White for \$4,800. (An earlier fire had burned the log dwelling on the White farm, the foundations of which lie just south of the current Shannondale Farm boundary.) The Houghs' new home was finished about this time, but its grandeur and expense suggest Bernard and Sarah were more interested in making a statement about their status than in actual farming, as their new dwelling was a far cry from the restrained stone and log structures more typical in Hillsboro and its environs. However, a large brick springhouse (no longer standing), and storage space for ice cut from adjacent ice ponds (now replaced by a single farm pond) suggest Bernard may have envisioned starting a dairy, whose products could be shipped to market by a proposed railroad in which he had invested. This line would have passed through land that he and his wife's family owned, and the "widow's walk" on his new house was reportedly built so he could watch the trains pass by.

In any case, the 1860 census shows Bernard (age 45, occupation farmer) and Sarah residing in the house with a single female servant. A family of six enslaved persons (2 adults and 4 children), plus an 18-year old enslaved female owned by one of Sarah's relatives, lived in the kitchenquarter/icehouse directly behind the main house. But the approaching war soured his business ventures and work on the rail line halted five miles short of Hillsboro. Bernard and

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Sarah may have sought refuge in Baltimore at the outbreak of hostilities, as he did not participate in the May 1861 referendum on secession, when Hillsboro voted 84 to 38 to leave the Union. If the Houghs did leave the area, they would have made sure to leave the property occupied, and the identity of a well-to-do family that was boarding there at the end of the war is known. Such an estate did not escape the attention of Federal troops, and Bernard (with property valued at \$30,000) was on an 1864 list of “disloyal” land owners who could be taxed to compensate losses suffered by Unionists. At some point during the war, Bernard became a minister, and a former Confederate officer recorded going to hear him preach in October 1865. Research indicates Bernard living in the Hillsboro “parsonage” at an unspecified period, so he may have been called to take over the local Methodist South branch at the end of the war. Yet, by 1870 he and Sarah were living in Baltimore, where he ran a wholesale company. (His clients would have included his older brother William N. Hough, who took over the family retail business in Hillsboro after proving himself enough of a Unionist to win appointment as postmaster in 1865.) In 1870 Bernard and Sarah sold their house and 190 acres to Francis Kirk, also of Baltimore, for \$24,000. At some point in the following decade, the Houghs returned to Loudoun, where he died at their new home in Hamilton in 1880. “Rev” Barnard Hough and Sarah Hough are buried in the Hillsboro Cemetery.

The Hough House shows no sign of having suffered significant damage during the war and its aftermath, although the possibility that Union troops burned a barn/outbuilding during their November 1864 raid into the area cannot be dismissed. Throughout the period prior to 1880, the land and house were rented, first by Bernard and later by Baltimore speculators trying to recoup what they had paid for the property. The advent of a rail line into western Loudoun in the 1870s brought summer boarders from Washington DC, and the Hough House’s spacious rooms and bucolic setting would have attracted city dwellers. Oral tradition holds that it once served as the Chinese summer embassy after the legation opened in 1875.

The 1870 sale to Kirk included a separate deed naming Bernard’s brother, William N. Hough, as trustee holding two promissory notes on the property totaling \$11,000. After Kirk defaulted on these debts in 1872, William had the 190-acre farm put up for auction on the courthouse steps, where it was bought by Aaron Fenton for only \$5,700 (\$30/acre). It traded hands to another Baltimore investor for \$8,000 in 1874. Absentee ownership ended in 1880, when Samuel B. Hoopman of Baltimore paid \$6,000 to acquire the entire farm. Perhaps his widowed mother, Mary A. Hoopman, boarded there and influenced him to buy the property. In any case, Samuel sold it to her three years later for \$12,000. Mother and her adult son resided on the property until 1915, when, shortly after her death, Samuel sold a 51-acre lot containing the house to George T. Beans for \$5,776, and an additional 54 acres to Ella D. Beans for \$2,735.

The Beans family retained the property until 1940 when John Gibb borrowed \$5,500 to acquire the 51 acres with the house, and the following year borrowed another \$2,000 to acquire the remaining 54 acres. The Gibb family farmed the land and occupied the house through 1950, when both parcels were acquired by Edward and Kathryn Chamberlin for \$22,500. After initiating the first substantial renovations in 90 years, the Chamberlins moved into the house with their son Taylor in mid-1951. They renamed it Shannondale Farm after the original William

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Fairfax land grant (Shannondale Manor), which formed the back property line, and operated it first on shares and then as a rental. A decade after Edward Chamberlin died in 1977, his widow subdivided the farm into 10-acre lots, which were gradually sold. The current 23-acre parcel with the house/dependencies and an additional 10 acres are what remain of the farm.

After Kathryn Chamberlin moved to a retirement home in 2007, Taylor and his wife Cordelia undertook extensive restoration of the house, including replacement of the roof, cornices and some shutters, installation of an HVAC system, and upgrading the kitchen and baths. Aside from strengthening several basement beams and minor brick work, the house was structurally sound. Most interior walls, however, required a plaster skim-coat, and water damaged molding in the main hall had to be rebuilt. Heart pine floors were refinished for only the second time since laid, and many rooms were found to have their original paint under a second coat added in 1950. After almost a decade of restoration, Taylor and Cordelia Chamberlin moved into the house in 2016, the year his mother died.

Architectural Significance

An architectural survey of the Hough house conducted in 1982 found it to be an “unusually sophisticated mansion for Loudoun County.” Brick used on such a large scale was not common in the area in the mid-19th century. The refined proportions and exterior details are also atypical northwestern Loudoun architectural features. There is no similar house in an area where even prosperous farmers built their vernacular homes with local stone and timber. In this area of northwestern Loudoun County, many of the residences, whether in villages or on farms, were settled by Quakers or German settlers from Pennsylvania. Upon settling the region they constructed houses using traditional building techniques and locally sourced materials. These trends continued well into the 19th century. Many of the dwellings in the nearby Hillsboro Historic District (236-0040) represent this trend and are two-story, frame and stone buildings. Whereas northwestern Loudoun County was settled by the Quakers and Germans from Pennsylvania, southwest Loudoun County was settled by the second sons of the Tidewater plantation class and many of the houses constructed in this area reflect the building styles and materials found in the Tidewater region, east of Richmond.

The Hough House is similar to Green Garden (DHR#053-0509), located near Middleburg in Loudoun County. Like the Hough residence, Green Garden is an imposing brick Greek Revival house, constructed ca. 1846. By the time the Hough house was built in 1859, Hillsboro had become a hotbed of secessionist furor. Bernard Hough may have been influenced by the *beau ideal* of a Southern plantation home for his new dwelling and chose to construct a residence more like those found in the southwest portion of the county. His landed neighbors and members of his wife’s family expected Virginia to secede and a way of life based on slavery to continue. What resulted was an unusual example of a house built on the cusp of a war that would soon render its deliberately *antebellum* style obsolete, at least until reverence for the “Lost Cause” generated revival of plantation lookalikes.

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Hough employed the best craftsmen available, which helps explain why the house is so well preserved, inside and out, after 160 years. In addition to keeping its original external appearance and footprint, the main house retains its interior floorplan and virtually all inside decoration/woodwork. The builder also employed features reflective of more sophisticated areas, such as built-in cabinetry and walk-in closets, which still contribute to making the house livable without having to make substantive changes.

The Greek Revival style was immensely popular in Virginia during the early to mid-19th century. In addition to houses, numerous other building types were suite to the style, including churches, banks, schools, public buildings, and hospitals. In part due to its similarity to the Classical Revival style, Greek Revival became associated with classical Greek ideals and deployed similar characteristics, such as entrance porticos with Greek versions of the classical orders, square columns, symmetrical massing and fenestration, plain boxed cornices, low-pitched roofs, and relative austerity in external ornamentation, especially when compared to the more ornate Classical Revival and Gothic Revival styles that also were popular at this time.¹ The Hough House displays these character-defining aspects of the Greek Revival style. The dwelling's main block and rear ell feature the highly symmetrical design that is essential to the style, a full-width front porch with square columns, 6-over-6 window sash (one of the most typical sash types for Greek Revival houses in Virginia), a low-pitched roof, and exterior ornamental features that are limited to brick arches, wood shutters, and corbeled chimneys. The main block's intact, central-passage, double-pile plan has not been altered and interior finishes, including paneled wood doors, molded window and door casing, and mantels in upstairs rooms that feature simple pilasters and flat friezes, are largely intact. The mantels in the first-floor rooms are more ornate than is usually seen with the Greek Revival style, but are appropriate for the entertaining spaces in the home of a socially prominent family.

The Hough House is fortunate to still have some of its dependencies, including a combined kitchen/quarter/icehouse that provides a rare, intact example of antebellum work and living space for enslaved workers. Similarly a period barn complex and more recent animal shed further the impression that little has changed over the years. Enclosed within a 23-acre lot that is still farmed, the site retains its agricultural setting and unimpeded views of the gap in Short Hill that first brought travelers to the area. Surrounding houses sit back on their own 10-acre lots and scarcely intrude on the overall ambiance.

Nor should the site's proximity and interrelationship with the Hillsboro Historic District be overlooked. Bernard and Sarah came from influential families that helped guide the early growth of the village. As postmaster, merchant, entrepreneur and minister, Bernard played a prominent part throughout the area, and his rise to financial success in the 1850s and subsequent reversal mirrored the town's own prosperity and later isolation. Likewise, the "manor" that he built coincided with a period when Hillsboro was in the vanguard of those advocating secession. Not only did the vllage take the lead in raising troops in the wake of John Brown's raid in nearby

¹ Chris Novelli, Melina Bezirdjian, Calder Loth, and Lena Sweeten McDonald, *Classic Commonwealth: Virginia Architecture from the Colonial Era to 1940* (Richmond, VA: Department of Historic Resources, 2015), 42-43, 45-46, 49.

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Harpers Ferry, but one of its residents was editor of a local newspaper that played a key role in moving Loudouners to support secession. Thus the Hough House can be viewed as an architectural symbol of the town's then belief in the Southern cause. While these matters are mainly of historical interest today, Shannondale Farm remains part of the agricultural economy that still helps sustain the town of Hillsboro, just as it did in years past. Now this is carried out by a religious community that leases 28 acres and the barn to supplement a farm and produce market that the group operates within the nearby historic district.

Hough, Bernard, House
Name of Property

Loudoun County, VA
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Chamberlin, Edward and Kathryn, oral history obtained from neighbors and passed to son Taylor.

Chamberlin, Taylor M., *Where Did They Stand?: The May 1861 Vote on Secession in Loudoun County, Virginia*, Waterford, Va.: The Waterford Foundation, 2003.

_____, and John M. Souders, *Between Reb and Yank: A Civil War History of Northern Loudoun County, Virginia*, Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Co., 2011.

Deed and will books, Loudoun Co. Courthouse, Leesburg, Va.

Hillsboro Bicentennial Committee, *Hillsboro: Memories of a Mill Town*, Leesburg, Va.: Potomac Press, 1976.

Loudoun Times Mirror, Leesburg, Va., 6 Feb. 1986, photo of Sarah Hough and reminiscences of Hugh Grubb, who also gave other photos of Sarah and Bernard to Edward Chamberlin.

Chris Novelli, Melina Bezirdjian, Calder Loth, and Lena Sweeten McDonald. *Classic Commonwealth: Virginia Architecture from the Colonial Era to 1940*. Richmond, VA: Department of Historic Resources, 2015.

Poland, Jr., Charles P., *From Frontier to Suburbia*, Marceline, Mo.: Walsworth Pub. Co., 1967.

Rowberg, Anthony A. and Marie C., "Post Offices of Loudoun County", *Bulletin of the Loudoun County Historical Society*, II, pp. 57-72.

Scheel, Eugene M., *Loudoun Discovered: Communities, Corners & Crossroads*, 5 vols, Leesburg, Va.: Friends of the Thomas Balch Library, 2002, (5:28-43 cover Hillsboro).

Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, Va. Holds Copeland scrapbooks (Hough and Hoopman obituaries, and 21 March 1929 article with annotation about Caldwell family staying in Hough House at end of the war), early newspapers (re Hillsboro Border Guards, *Dem. Mirror*, 28 Nov 1859) and Hough family genealogy.

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, survey of the Hough House by David Edwards. February 1982.

U.S. Dept. of the Interior, National Parks Service, National Registers of Historic Places, Registration Form for expansion of the Hillsboro, Va., Historic District, 2010.

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U.S. Census data, Baltimore, Md., and Loudoun Co., Va., 1850 -80.

U.S. National Archives, 20 June 1864 letter to Maj. Gen. Augur citing Hough as a disloyal landowner.

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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): DHR #053-0676

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 22.9

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 39.187970 Longitude: -77.722780
2. Latitude: 39.187420 Longitude: -77.719870
3. Latitude: 39.186070 Longitude: -77.719850
4. Latitude: 39.183780 Longitude: -77.721550

Hough, Bernard, House
Name of Property

Loudoun County, VA
County and State

5. Latitude: 39.184080 Longitude: -77.723120

6. Latitude: 39.185720 Longitude: -77.722620

7. Latitude: 39.185870 Longitude: -77.723359

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

1. Zone: Easting: Northing:

2. Zone: Easting: Northing:

3. Zone: Easting: Northing:

4. Zone: Easting : Northing:

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The historic boundary coincides with the perimeter lines of the tax parcel recorded as #483155823000 by Loudoun County, Virginia. The true and correct historic boundary is shown on the attached Tax Parcel Map.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The historic boundary encompasses the full extent of the 22.9 acre parcel, the main dwelling, and dependencies. The property's historic agricultural setting as well as all known associated historic resources are included within the boundary.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Taylor M. Chamberlin

organization: owner

street & number: 15563 Hillsboro Road

city or town: Hillsboro state: VA zip code: 20132

e-mail: ccordeliac@aol.com

telephone: 540-668-6188

date: 8 March 2021

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Hough, Bernard, House
Name of Property

Loudoun County, VA
County and State

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Hough House

City or Vicinity: Hillsboro

County: Loudoun

State: Virginia

Photographer: Aubrey Von Lindern (DHR)

Date Photographed: 2/4/2020

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of 21. VA_LoudounCounty_HoughBernardHouse_0001, front elevation, looking west

2 of 21. VA_LoudounCounty_HoughBernardHouse_0002, southwest oblique, looking northwest.

3 of 21. VA_LoudounCounty_HoughBernardHouse_0003, northwest oblique, looking southeast

4 of 21. VA_LoudounCounty_HoughBernardHouse_0004, rear elevation, looking northeast

5 of 21. VA_LoudounCounty_HoughBernardHouse_0005, kitchen/quarter/icehouse, looking southwest

6 of 21. VA_LoudounCounty_HoughBernardHouse_0006, kitchen/quarter/icehouse, looking southeast

7 of 21. VA_LoudounCounty_HoughBernardHouse_0007, aerial shot

8 of 21. VA_LoudounCounty_HoughBernardHouse_0008, barn, looking southwest

9 of 21. VA_LoudounCounty_HoughBernardHouse_0009, barn, looking northwest

10 of 21. VA_LoudounCounty_HoughBernardHouse_0010, springhouse(NC), looking east

11 of 21. VA_LoudounCounty_HoughBernardHouse_0011, garage(NC), looking northwest

12 of 21. VA_LoudounCounty_HoughBernardHouse_0012, pond, looking south.

13 of 21. VA_LoudounCounty_HoughBernardHouse_0013, interior, front south parlor

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- 14 of 21. VA_LoudounCounty_HoughBernardHouse_0014, interior, center hall stair, newel post
- 15 of 21. VA_LoudounCounty_HoughBernardHouse_0015, interior, center hall stair
- 16 of 21. VA_LoudounCounty_HoughBernardHouse_0016, interior, front north parlor
- 17 of 21. VA_LoudounCounty_HoughBernardHouse_0017, interior, front north parlor doors
- 18 of 21. VA_LoudounCounty_HoughBernardHouse_0018, interior, rear ell, kitchen
- 19 of 21. VA_LoudounCounty_HoughBernardHouse_0019, interior, northwest bedroom, Fireplace
- 20 of 21. VA_LoudounCounty_HoughBernardHouse_0020, interior, front south parlor mantel
- 21 of 21. VA_LoudounCounty_HoughBernardHouse_0021, interior, front north bedroom

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for nominations 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.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

- Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
- Tier 2 – 120 hours
- Tier 3 – 230 hours
- Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.

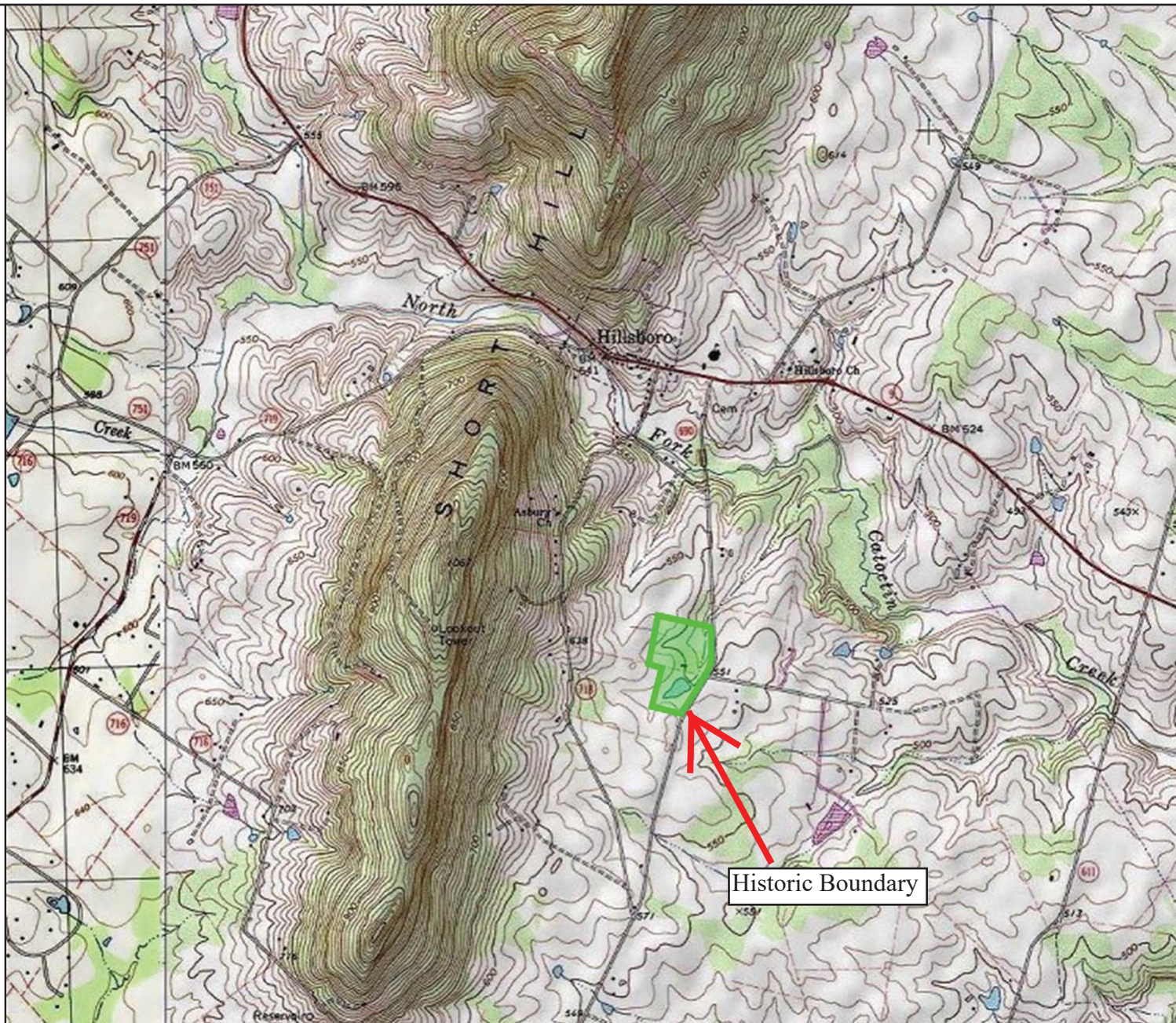


TOPOGRAPHIC MAP

Hough, Bernard, House

Loudoun County, VA

DHR No. 053-0676



Title:

Date: 4/8/2021

DISCLAIMER: Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years from a variety of sources and the representation depicted is a cumulative view of field observations over time and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general information purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses. Map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". More information is available in the DHR Archives located at DHR's Richmond office.

Notice if AE sites: Locations of archaeological sites may be sensitive the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) and Code of Virginia §2.2-3705.7 (10). Release of precise locations may threaten archaeological sites and historic resources.



Feet



0 600 1200 1800 2400

1:36,112 / 1"=3,009 Feet



LOCATION MAP

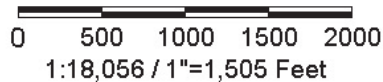
Hough, Bernard, House
Loudoun County, VA
DHR No. 053-0676

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

- 1. Latitude: 39.187970
Longitude: -77.722780
- 2. Latitude: 39.187420
Longitude: -77.719870
- 3. Latitude: 39.186070
Longitude: -77.719850
- 4. Latitude: 39.183780
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- 5. Latitude: 39.184080
Longitude: -77.723120
- 6. Latitude: 39.185720
Longitude: -77.722620
- 7. Latitude: 39.185870
Longitude: -77.723359



Feet



Historic Boundary

Title:

Date: 4/8/2021

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SKETCH MAP/ PHOTO KEY

(exterior views)

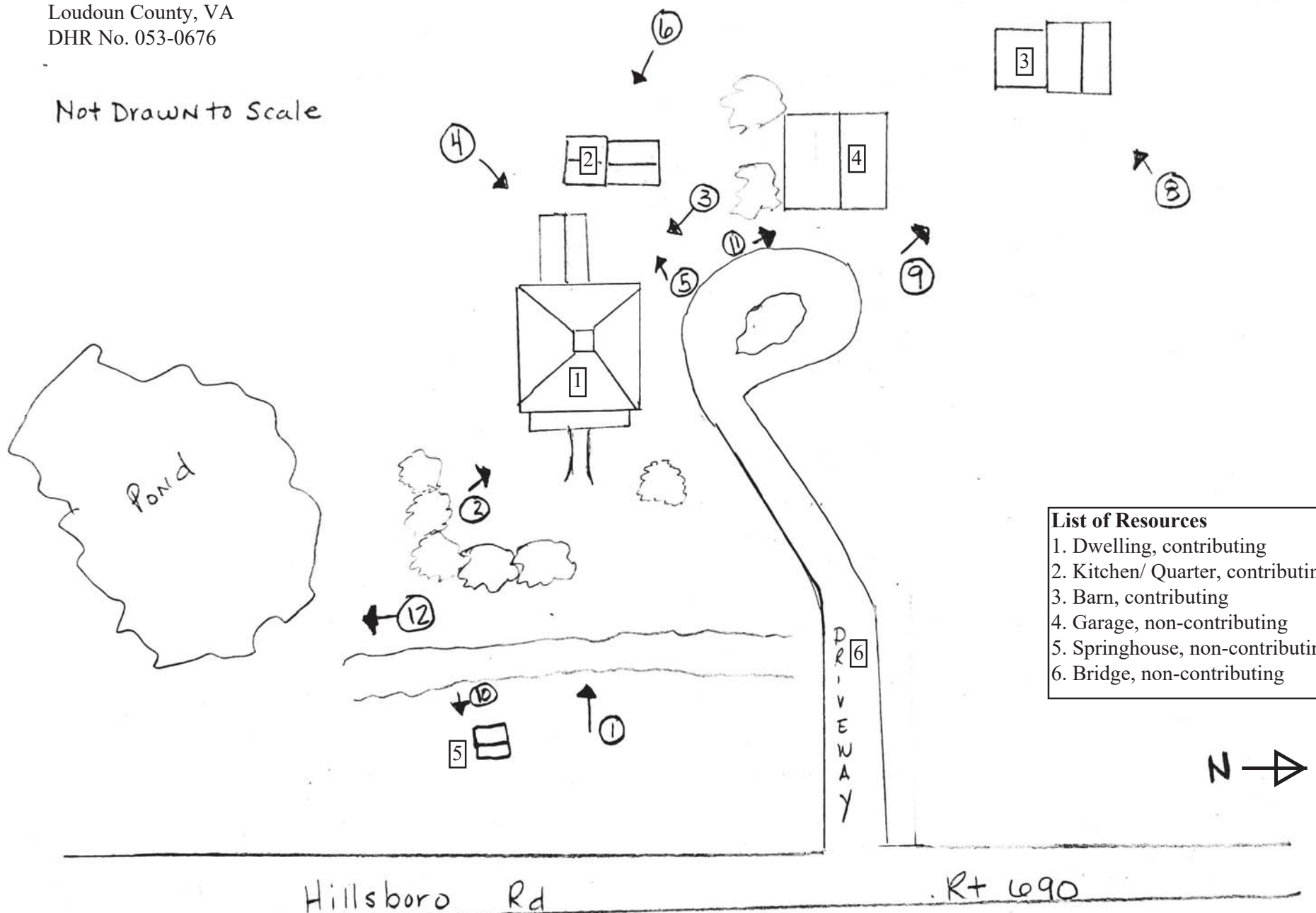
Hough, Bernard, House

Loudoun County, VA

DHR No. 053-0676

Not Drawn to Scale

⑦ Aerial Shot
↙



- List of Resources**
- 1. Dwelling, contributing
 - 2. Kitchen/ Quarter, contributing
 - 3. Barn, contributing
 - 4. Garage, non-contributing
 - 5. Springhouse, non-contributing
 - 6. Bridge, non-contributing

Hillsboro Rd

Rt 690

TAX PARCEL MAP

Hough, Bernard, House

Loudoun County, VA

DHR No. 053-0676

Loudoun County, Virginia
WebLogis - Online Mapping System

Loudoun Home | Mapping | Contact Us | Help | Start Over

Thursday, April 8, 2021

Identify Clear Map Print Map Pictometry

Map Search Tools Results

Find Address

Street address:
15563 HILLSBORO RD

Locate on Map

Get Directions

Parcels - Search by PIN

Parcels - Click on Map

Search Assessments

Parcel No.
483155823000

Historic Boundary

1:7200 0 300 600ft

N

Loudoun County, Virginia

100%

Source: <https://logis.loudoun.gov/weblogis/>

Accessed 4/8/2021