

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: Craghead, John, House
Other names/site numbers: Faodail; VDHR 033-5449, 033-5460
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: 1609 Windlass Road
City or town: Moneta State: VA County: Franklin
Not For Publication: n/a Vicinity: x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 nomination request for determination of eligibility meets
the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic
Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I
recommend that this property be considered significant at the following
level(s) of significance:

national statewide local
Applicable National Register Criteria:
 A B C D

Julie V. Sargent 2/9/2022
Signature of certifying official/Title: Date
Virginia Department of Historic Resources
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

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
- Structure
- Object

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC – Single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC – Single dwelling

VACANT/NOT IN USE

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EARLY REPUBLIC: Federal

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK, STONE, 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

Faodail (Gaelic for “a lucky find” and named by the current owners) is the primary surviving structure of the John Craghead (Craighead) plantation. The two-story, single-pile, side-gabled brick house with a coursed-stone foundation, four-bay façade, and two-story rear ell, stands on a .812-acre lot, carved out and saved from the 1990s development of The Waterfront community and country club at Smith Mountain Lake, located in the Moneta area of Franklin County, Virginia. Built circa 1825 and well-preserved, the house is representative of a vernacular Federal-style farmhouse. Among its notable features are front and rear molded brick cornices fashioned from hand-molded ovolo- and cavetto-shaped bricks, supporting the roof eaves. The house’s brick walls are laid in five-course common bond, an unusual choice for facades of the period. Exterior chimneys are located on both ends of the house. The house interior, comprised of a two-over-two-room plan without a passage, is exceptionally well-preserved with original woodwork, pine floors and plaster walls throughout. Decades before the house withstood the threat of demolition for the development, it was barely spared by the creation of the lake. Unfortunately, except for a contributing c. 1910 secondary dwelling, all domestic and agricultural outbuildings and structures associated with the house were lost; and much of the historic setting of the plantation is now inundated by the lake, an impoundment of the Blackwater and Roanoke rivers behind a hydroelectric dam completed in 1963. The lake covers 32 square miles and reaches depths of 250 feet, submerging numerous historic farms and small communities in Franklin, Bedford and Pittsylvania counties. The house now ranks among few surviving antebellum brick buildings within the vast area surrounding the lake.

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Narrative Description

Location and Setting

The house is located near the northern terminus of Windlass Road (Route 654), 1.6 miles northeast of the junction with Scruggs Road (Route 616), to the south and east of the sprawling Waterfront development. East of the house is a peninsula on Smith Mountain Lake known as Breezy Point. The nearest cove to the house is 600 feet to the northeast. The house faces southwest toward Waterside Circle and is set back about 100 feet from both Waterside Circle and Windlass Road to the east. The City of Roanoke, Virginia, is twenty miles to the northwest and the Franklin County seat, the Town of Rocky Mount, is fifteen miles to the southwest. The 0.812-acre parcel on which the house is located is generally flat, but slopes downward toward the rear. It is covered with grass, two or three very old Catalpa (also known as catawba) trees, a few scattered thick and round American boxwoods, and a hedgerow along the west border. A catalpa tree immediately in front of the house is especially notable for its huge size, very old age, and unique twisted trunk that has invited tree climbers over many generations. Other than the contributing secondary dwelling described below, there are no known extant historic resources associated with the house; although the surrounding yard is thought to have some potential for historic-era archaeological deposits.

House, Detailed Description

The house is built on a neatly coursed foundation of quarried sandstone cut into roughly square slabs, containing a full basement. Lighting and ventilating the basement were barred vents, later adapted into windows, just above the exterior ground surface. The upper walls of well-fired, uniformly molded bricks, probably made on the premises, are laid in five-course common bond with neat, penciled jointing on all elevations. The mortar joints, almost all of which are original and undisturbed, are scored at the top rather than through the middle as was more typical; although scored joints had fallen out of fashion years earlier, by circa 1815.

Topping the front and rear exterior walls are S-shaped cyma recta molded brick cornices above a single corbelled course of bricks at the transition. The four-bay façade has two entrances in the central bays, flanked by windows in the outer bays. Both front entrances have a single-leaf, stacked-panel wooden door with built-in mortise locks, and a metal storm door. Another stacked-panel door opens onto the rear porch, and yet another similar but wider door opens onto the screened-in side porch.

The second story has four windows in the front and also had four windows in the rear, but two of those rear windows are now inside the house. One of them has become a doorway. The tall first-story windows have nine-over-nine sash and shorter second-story windows have six-over-six sash. A centered front porch shelters the two entrances and has a fully rebuilt hip roof supported by four plain square posts, which are connected by a square balustrade.

There are semi-exterior brick chimneys at each end of the dwelling, both with first- and second-floor fireplaces. In addition, the east chimney serves a basement fireplace within the chimney base, constructed of coursed stone, with a massive stone lintel, six feet in length and nearly a foot

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thick. A shed-roofed screened-porch extends from the west gable end (side) wall, the roof wrapping around the chimney. The main and porch roofs are covered with V-crimp sheet metal.

The original dwelling has exceptional interior integrity, retaining original wood flooring, plaster walls, baseboards, door and window casing, stair railings, fireplaces, mantels, and built-in cupboards with paneled doors in each of the four front rooms. The east rooms, measuring twenty-by-twenty feet, are larger than the west rooms, which measure twenty-by-fifteen feet. The most elaborate fireplace mantel is in the first-floor east room.

A total of three enclosed corner winder stairs (two with built-in cupboards beneath) are extant within the brick main block of the house, two leading to the upstairs chambers, which are not themselves connected, and the second-floor west chamber stair leading to the garret in the northeast corner of the room.

A two-story frame rear addition with a one-story porch along its east side was built circa 1901, adding two more bedrooms (one on each floor), each with a fireplace, as well as a back staircase. A small, square, two-story addition with bathrooms on each floor was built in the late 1960s at the nexus of the main block rear elevation and the rear ell west elevation.

Exterior stairs under the west side porch lead to a squat doorway, the only entrance to the fully excavated stone-walled basement, with a likely original batten door hung on hand-forged iron strap hinges. The basement has two rooms divided by a brick wall, both lighted by at-grade windows that were formerly barred vents. The smaller west room, likely used as a winter kitchen, has a brick floor and a large stone fireplace spanned by a massive sandstone lintel. Both basement rooms now have concrete floors. The first-floor joists exposed in the basement are large hewn and pit-sawn white oak beams.

The fireplaces in each of the main block's four rooms feature original mantels and floor-to-ceiling closed cupboards with paneled doors on the right-hand sides of each fireplace. Two of the fireplaces have undisturbed brick hearths, while two consist of single pieces of flagstone. The finest mantel in the house is that of the first-floor east room. Designed in a late Federal style, it features pilasters on each side comprised of paired, fluted colonettes, spanned by an entablature with a plain frieze framed by a beaded border, and a reeded band and coved cornice. Surrounding the firebox is a spiral-molded architrave. The other three mantels in the brick main block of the house are identical to each other, plainer versions of the aforementioned first-floor east room mantel. Lacking pilasters, the fireboxes are surrounded by a double architrave, above which is a plain frieze framed by a beaded border and spanned by a simple Greek ovolo cyma reversa cornice. The two mantels on the first and second floors of the ell surround faux fireplaces with stove flue inserts, therefore, no hearths were needed. The wood floors continue to the base of the mantels. The mantels are fairly simple, but unusual late Victorian designs with chamfered and reeded pilasters spanned by a multiple-part frieze with horizontal reeding. Like the four-panel doors in the ell, and the staircase with turned newel and balustrade, the mantels are finished with faux graining.

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The attic is divided into two equal rooms by a hand-planed-vertical-board partition wall with an original batten door hung on hand-wrought-iron strap hinges. The roof rafter pairs and cross ties are vertically sawn, lapped and joined with wooden pegs, and feature Roman numeral marriage marks.

Secondary Dwelling

A second contributing dwelling [VDHR ID 033-5460] is located on the nominated parcel, between the Craghead House [033-5449] and the Craghead Cemetery [033-5459] on a separate and otherwise vacant, wooded parcel bordered by Windlass Road to the west, Shore Drive to the north, and Lanyard Lane to the east. Heavy overgrowth surrounds the house. Likely built to shelter two families of farmhands or tenant farmers around 1910, the house was historically associated with the Craghead Farm. Presumably after Smith Mountain Lake was created in the 1960s, the nearby Roanoke (Staunton) River was impounded and the land was subdivided into lots, and this house was separated from the extant brick Craghead House. Eventually it fell into vacancy and neglect. Recently, however, the Kedzierskis purchased both parcels (not including the Craghead Cemetery) and are intent on preserving both dwellings.

The secondary dwelling is a two-story weatherboard-clad frame structure with a stone foundation, two front doors but otherwise sparse fenestration, and a side-gable roof clad with presumably original standing-seam tin. The front doors are located about four feet apart, near the center of the facade, and are sheltered by a pent roof awning that is currently lacking its support posts at the outer corners, leaving it effectively cantilevered. The two-over-two-room interior features flush board covered walls and ceilings, enclosed corner stairs and brick stove flues against the interior wall in each room, and stacked-panel front and rear doors.

Historically Associated Resources

Tobacco barns and other outbuildings once located on the property were torn down during expansion of The Waterfront development in the 1990s. A 400-foot-deep cylindrical well, located 30' west of the screened-in side porch on the west side of the house, was filled in by the previous owners.

The nearby Craghead family cemetery [VDHR ID 033-5459], although now part of another property and not included in the nominated parcel, bears mention here. The partially overgrown cemetery is located on the immediate south side of Breezy Point Lane, 125 feet east of the junction of Shore Drive and Lanyard Lane, on a wooded parcel. Two large gravestones with markings are for John Craghead, (Jr.), who would inherit the property from his father and John Jr.'s wife, Sallie (Sarah). Sallie Craghead was born January 16, 1776, and died November 21, 1876 (100 years old); John Craghead (Jr.) was born September 25, 1774, and died January 24, 1859 (84 years old). Smaller plain stones indicate that others were buried nearby, but without dated and named markers.

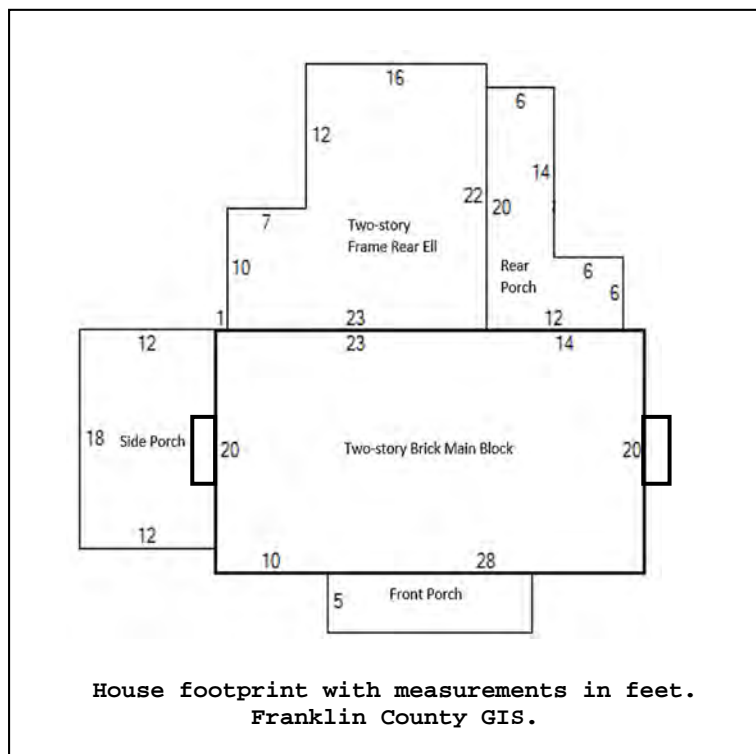
Integrity Analysis

As elaborated in sections 7 and 8, the house is remarkably well preserved, both on the exterior and interior. The massing of the house has changed little since the rear ell (with east-side porch)

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was added circa 1901. The only change is the late 1960s small addition incorporating first-and second-floor bathrooms, built at the nexus of the main block rear elevation and the rear ell's west elevation. The front porch roof was built in the 1970s or 1980s and the west side porch is also of relatively recent construction, but both replaced previous porch structures of the same approximate dimensions; and the front porch, especially, with its small size and hip roof, appears generally appropriate to the overall design and time period. The front porch's brick piers, square wooden posts, and balustrade rail are likely at least 100 years old, and the side porch is fronted by a flight of stone steps that clearly predate the porch itself. The house's roofing material has changed over time from wooden shingles to V-crimp sheet metal, but the shape of the roof has not been altered. On the interior, the plaster walls and some ceilings are well intact, as well as the original two-room (main block) floor plan, heart pine flooring, three enclosed corner staircases, fireplaces, hearths, mantels, chair rails, windows, window trim, and paneled doors throughout the house. The two-story rear ell is currently clad with vinyl siding over the original weatherboards. The ell interior with its own staircase at the front and one-over-one-room plan, is largely undisturbed; as is the two-room (main block) basement, which retains its stone fireplace and likely original batten door hung on wrought-iron strap hinges. The property has been encroached upon by the lake and The Waterfront development, leaving just under an acre of open space to comprise the front, back, and side yards of the house, and all associated secondary resources such as a smokehouse or privy have been lost; thus the integrity of setting has been impacted. Overall, however, the integrity of association, design, feeling, location, materials, and workmanship remains very good.



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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

Ca. 1825 – Ca. 1910

Significant Dates

ca. 1901

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.)

Faodail, as it is now called, is a two-story single-pile brick Federal-style dwelling built circa 1825 on property that was originally a 730-acre parcel granted to John Craighead and Thomas Camp in 1794 by Robert Brooke, Esquire, Governor of Virginia. The Craighead (now Craghead) surname continues to be fairly common in Franklin County. Built near the western bank of the Roanoke River for farmer John Craghead, Jr. (1774–1859) the house appears in the land tax books for the first time in 1826, valued at \$1,000. In 1901 a substantial two-story frame rear ell was built, a significant addition. Home to generations of the Craghead family until 1917, the house is one of two surviving, contributing resources on the property; the other being a modest one-story frame dwelling built ca. 1910. As a rare, exceptionally well-preserved, and relatively unusual survival built with local materials, craftsmanship, and notable architectural design features, the Craghead House is nominated at the local level of significance under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. The period of significance spans from construction of the brick house circa 1825 to circa 1910 when the extant secondary dwelling was constructed.

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

Criterion C: Architecture

The Craghead House is an architecturally notable and somewhat unusual example of a circa 1825 dwelling within Franklin County and surrounding areas of Virginia's Piedmont and Blue Ridge provinces, where brick houses, or brick buildings of any kind, were only beginning to become common in the 1820s. Antebellum brick buildings are especially rare in the broad three-county area surrounding Smith Mountain Lake, where less than a half-dozen are known to exist. Among the Craghead House's unusual features is its two-room plan, each with its own front entrance, and the lack of a center passage. The two rooms each have a corner stair that leads to a separate, unconnected room on the second floor. Although similar arrangements are not unheard of in Franklin County, by the 1820s, most two-story brick houses had a single, central front entrance entering into an unheated passage that continued through to a rear entrance, with the same plan on the first and second floors. Another atypical feature is the use of five-course common bond (or American bond) on the front elevation. The vast majority of brick houses of the period employ Flemish bond on all elevations, or at least to emphasize the hierarchical importance of the principal façade, while common bond is more likely to have been used for less conspicuous side and rear elevations. The Craghead House's mortar joints, almost all of which are original and undisturbed, are *scored* or *ruled* at the top rather than through the middle as was more typical; although scored joints had fallen out of fashion altogether years earlier, by circa 1815, in favor of a plain overhand struck joint that remained standard throughout the remaining nineteenth century.

The recently demolished Major John Meador Holland House [VDHR 033-0011] had only one front entrance and typical struck mortar joints, yet was a close cousin of the Craghead House,

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with its two-over-two-room plan, three corner staircases, vernacular Federal-style woodwork, molded brick cornices, and exclusive use of five-course common bond. The two houses were built about the same time and stood only seven miles apart, both within Franklin County. The Holland-Duncan House [033-0046] at Westlake Corner, 3 ½ miles west of the Craghead House, is another rare surviving two-story brick house of the 1820s or 1830s in the Smith Mountain Lake area. It has similar massing, molded brick cornices and vernacular Federal-style woodwork, but differs from the Craghead House in a number of design aspects. The Holland-Duncan House has a balanced five-bay façade with a single entrance, jack-arched apertures, Flemish bond on all elevations, typical struck mortar joints (not to mention the unfortunately sand-blasted bricks) and a center-passage interior plan. The Holland-Duncan House has been in use as a commercial office building for decades, and now appears to be threatened by commercial development. The Hatcher-Hancock House [033-0048] at Westlake Corner was a two-story three-bay Flemish-bond brick house built in the 1830s and sadly demolished circa 2007. Considering the loss, or impending loss of these most-similar houses, and its exceptionally high level of historic integrity, the Craghead House is very likely the best representative of its type in eastern Franklin County or nearby areas of Bedford and Pittsylvania counties, and possibly a much broader area.

The molded brick cornices carrying the roof eaves along the front and rear elevations of the Craghead House are yet another notable feature. Neatly fashioned from hand-molded ovolo- and cavetto-shaped bricks combined to form an S-shaped *cyma recta* molding, the specialized bricks required great care to produce. Brick masons of the colonial and early national periods referred to this particular type of molding as an *ogee*.¹ While such cornices are not necessarily rare in Franklin County and other counties along the eastern slope of the Blue Ridge, they are quite rare, if not unheard of, further east in Piedmont, Southside, and Tidewater Virginia. The greatest concentration of molded brick cornices in the United States is found in the central Great Valley of western Virginia, particularly Augusta, Rockbridge, and Rockingham counties, but they are also occasionally found in northern Virginia, especially in Alexandria, as well as in West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee. Most molded brick cornices, of which many variants may be encountered, are found on houses built in the 1820s and 1830s, and are quite rare both before and after this period; yet documented examples in Virginia range from ca. 1812 to 1859. In her landmark article on the subject, architectural historian Pamela H. Simpson notes that “Far from being a provincial offshoot of eastern Virginia cornice forms, it represents a separate tradition. It is, moreover, a type more difficult and expensive to make than other standard cornice forms. It represents not provincialism, but a significant local choice.”²

In addition to the two-over-two-room plan with separate front entrances, separate staircases, and lack of second-floor communication, each of the four rooms in the original (brick) portion of the house has a fireplace with Federal-style mantel, a built-in press or small cabinet tucked into a corner between the fireplace/chimney and front or rear wall, a chair board (chair rail) along each wall, splayed window jambs, plaster walls, and heart-pine floors. The use of stacked-panel doors at all exterior entrances, with five recessed or raised panels arranged in a single vertical column, rather than the far more typical six-panel configuration with side-by-side pairs, represents another unusual choice. It is indeed unusual to find all of these features undisturbed in a house of this vintage in rural western Virginia.

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Historical Background

Faodail was built ca. 1825 for John Craghead (1774 –1859), reportedly by Abraham Pawl, who was born c. 1800. The name Abraham Pawl appears in the 1830 Franklin County census. Including himself, there were four white men between 20-30 years of age living in his household, and one female slave between 10 and 20 years old. If the tradition that Pawl (or Paul) was the builder is factual, the other three men may have been apprentices.

A description of the house before Smith Mountain Lake was filled in appears in the Encyclopedia of Virginia Biography, Vol. 5 (1915). It is in reference to John Craghead James, M.D., who is believed to be the first surgeon in the state to use chloroform as an anesthetic and was a descendent of the original John Craghead:

His (John Craghead James, M.D.) mother was the daughter of John Craghead and Sallie Powell, his wife, whose old homestead, with its substantial brick residence, still in striking repair, and owned and occupied by a sturdy great-grandson of the founder, crowning an eminence in Franklin county and overlooking Staunton river and the hills of Bedford, give mute testimony of the means and taste of this long-lived couple.

Family History

The patriarch of the family in Bedford and Franklin counties, John Craghead, Sr., was born in Chesterfield, Virginia, in 1740, and died in Franklin County in 1808. In 1776 he was one of the signers of a petition to form another county. Franklin County was formed in 1786 from parts of Bedford and Henry Counties and was named for Benjamin Franklin. There is a court order recorded in Bedford County stating that on July 25, 1780, John Craghead was sent to prison for being a Loyalist. It was felt he was a sympathizer for the English. He was ordered to prison for six months and fined 1,000 pounds; yet he was later named as a Patriot to the Revolutionary War effort by the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) for giving material aid to the cause on November 2, 1781:

John Craghead has been approved as a Patriot Ancestor by the Daughters of the American Revolution. He “gave material aid, i.e.: 743 lbs of beef for the use of the Republic (certified by Christopher Irwin, District Commissioner of Public Levy)” and “also gave 475 lbs beef, 2 diets, 1 bushel oats.”³

However, historian/author John Salmon has noted that the naming of Craghead as a patriot by the DAR represents a long-standing misinterpretation of what actually happened to Craghead and others. “Craghead didn’t ‘give’ anything, it was taken from him, probably by armed militiamen. He was given a receipt in exchange for what was taken, and later turned it in to a special court so he could be reimbursed. This was all under the authority of the Virginia government’s confiscation or impressment authority, enforced because the currency in use was so worthless that few would voluntarily sell supplies and food to the army. So they took it, with the promise of payment later.”⁴

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In 1786, John Craighead was granted permission to build a water gristmill on Gills Creek, “he being proprietor on both sides of said creek.”⁵ The location of this mill is not currently known. In 1794, Robert Brooke, Esquire, Governor of Virginia, granted 730 acres in Franklin County to Thomas Camp and John Craghead.⁶

In 1802, John Craighead Sr., and his wife Elizabeth, transferred two tracts of property (285 acres and 56 acres) in Franklin County to John Craighead, Jr. (1774–1859). In 1808, the year of his death, John Craighead Sr. (married to Elizabeth) wrote his will which bequeathed to his son John Craghead “the land on Staunton River that he now lives on.” He also named John and Robert Craghead as executors of the will.⁷

On Dec. 1, 1809, John Craghead Jr. & Robert Craghead, as executors of John Craghead Sr., sold property (266 acres) “Together with all & singular the premises in any wise appertaining” to Isaiah Craghead for 402 pounds, one shilling. Isaiah Walter Craghead, born in 1782, was John & Robert’s brother. He died in 1864 in Missouri.⁸

John Craghead Jr., for whom the Craghead House is believed to have been built upon the property he inherited from his father, was born in 1774 in Franklin County and died in 1859 in Franklin County. His wife, Sarah “Sallie” Powell (both are buried near the property) was a great-granddaughter of Ambrose Powell, a surveyor who settled and ran the line between Virginia and Kentucky, and after whom the Powell Valley, Powell River, and Powell Mountain are named.

By the time of the 1830 census, John Craghead Jr. was called John Sr. because he had a son named John and his father had long passed. Enumerated in the 1820 census, this John Sr. had five boys and six girls, and 10 slaves listed within his household. By 1830 he possessed 19 slaves; and in 1840 it appears he and wife Sallie were counted as members of his son John’s household, in the same house he had built about 10 years previously. The 1840 census shows only four white persons in the household: one male and one female between the ages of 20 and 29, one male between 60 and 69, and one female between 50 and 59. The plantation then held 24 slaves.⁹

The 1850 agricultural census lists John Craghead’s farm as having 300 acres with horses, “milch” cows, cattle, sheep, swine. Tobacco is listed as the main crop (1,800 pounds), but other crops included cotton, wheat, corn, oats, wool, potatoes.

In 1877 the property was scheduled to be sold at auction:

Pursuant to a decree of the Circuit Court of Bedford pronounced on the 8th day of September, 1877, in the chancery suit of Craighead’s Exo’r. (executors) vs. Craghead, &c., I shall as Commissioner named in said decree for that purpose sell upon the premises, by way of public auction, On Wednesday, the 3rd Day October, 1877, That valuable Tract of Land known as the ‘John Craghead Place,’ situated in Franklin county, on the line between that county and Bedford, immediately on Staunton River, and extending down said river on the Franklin side, from Radford’s ford, adjoining the lands of George H. Cunningham, Jos. H.

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Rucker and others, containing in all 431 Acres. (old survey). There is upon this land a valuable Two Story Brick Residence, And all the usual improvements of an old settlement – while the land is of the finest quality, embracing a large portion of the FINEST RIVER BOTTOMS. The land is very desirable and such as is not often on the market. It will be sold in one or more tracts to suit purchasers.¹⁰

On July 26, 1898, Isaiah Perdue and wife, Fannie L.W. English Perdue, sold the property to Robert E. Craghead. (It is presumed that Perdue purchased the property at the auction or soon after as his wife's family owned an adjacent property.) Robert E. Craghead (1858–1915) was the son of William & Martha Craghead. On December 22, 1917, R. W. Craghead sold 250 acres to John H. Pasley for \$6,000.00. At this point, the Craghead House was no longer in the Craghead family. In 1954, John Pasley sold the property to Jim Roy Perdue. The farm was eventually purchased by Bremble Properties.¹¹ After Smith Mountain Lake was full, Ron Willard, Sr., developed the land into The Waterfront, a lake and golf course community.

Smith Mountain Lake

Before the lake existed, the area was farmland, fields, and gorges. According to Smithsonian Institute archeologists, about 35 Native American camps once lined the banks of the Roanoke (Staunton) and Blackwater Rivers in the area now covered by the lake. Relics found prior to the flooding indicate that these camps predate Columbus by as many as 500 years. Still other evidence indicates that early man lived here more than 7,000 years ago.¹²

In 1670, a German physician named John Lederer, became the earliest recorded white settler to enter the area. The following year, Abraham Woods led a party of settlers through the Smith Mountain Gap. The area was opened for settlement in 1738-1740. In 1740, two brothers, Daniel and Gideon Smith, arrived and took ownership of the mountain now called Smith Mountain. The area was largely settled by the 1840s, but was still sparsely populated. Farmers lived a quiet, rural life, raising dairy cattle and growing tobacco, wheat, corn, tomatoes and other crops.¹³

In 1924, The Roanoke-Staunton River Power Company formed and planned to build a dam in the gap at Smith Mountain. The company purchased 1,500 acres in Bedford County and 4,000 acres in Pittsylvania County, but studies concluded that construction of the dam was not economically feasible. In 1954, Appalachian Power (APCO) purchased the lands and rights for the Smith Mountain Dam from the Roanoke-Staunton River Power Company, which had liquidated. Construction of the dam commenced in 1960. Many farmers began to sell their properties. Old tobacco barns, livestock pens and outbuildings were torn down or burned. Two APCO officials, Herbert Taylor and Curtis Roberts, spent three years combing 50,000 acres of dam project land for graves that needed to be moved to higher ground. They relocated a total of 1,354 graves that were in the flood area. In 1966, the lake reached full pond: 795 feet above sea level. The water depth at the dam was recorded as 200 feet. Generators at the dam were now making electricity. By 1967, Smith Mountain Lake, the largest inland water recreation area wholly located in Virginia, became nationally known. The 40-mile-long lake covers 22,000 acres, with 500 miles

Craghead, John, House
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of shoreline. Besides being a source of electricity and drinking water, Smith Mountain Lake is a prime recreational resource and home to approximately 21,000 residents.¹⁴

The Waterfront Community

The Waterfront was developed by Willard Construction of Roanoke Valley, Inc., and encompasses 750 acres and 8.5 miles of shoreline. Ronald L. Willard Sr., president of The Willard Companies, grew up on a tobacco farm adjacent to the property that he developed into The Waterfront Country Club in 1976. Condominiums located closer to the Craghead House are later, ca. 1990s, additions to The Waterfront community.¹⁵

Research Notes

It should be noted that information about the history of this house and its occupants has proved to be surprisingly scarce. A search at the Franklin County Virginia Historical Society was fruitless. Books written about the history of the area, including Salmon and Salmon's expansive *Franklin County, Virginia, 1786-1986: A Bicentennial History* (1993), contains only brief mentions of the Craghead family, and nothing about the house or property. Ancestry.com was somewhat helpful in making sense of the lineage and leading to documents such as old census records. Old pictures are either non-existent or remain buried in someone's personal records. However, the Franklin County land tax book for 1826 reveals that the Craghead House had recently been completed (or nearly completed) and was being taxed for the first time that year. The valuation for improvements on the property totaled \$1,000 and a note in the margin indicates the existence of a new house.

Endnotes

1. Carl R. Lounsbury, ed. *An Illustrated Glossary of Early Southern Architecture and Landscape*. UVA Press, 1999.
2. Pamela H. Simpson, "The Molded Brick Cornice in the Valley of Virginia," *APT Journal*, Vol. XII No. 4, 1980.
3. Public Claim Paper State Archives, Richmond VA, dated Nov. 2, 1781.
4. Salmon added, "I've always suspected that the first targets for these takings would have been avowed or convicted Loyalists or those suspected of loyalty to the Crown, rather than those known to be supporting the Revolution. So, I think, most of what the DAR call 'Patriots' were in fact really Loyalists who went to court later to get paid." John Salmon, personal communication, November 2021; also Salmon, John and Emily, *Franklin County, Virginia, 1786-1986: A Bicentennial History*, 1993:59.
5. *An Old Virginia Court – Records of Franklin County Va. 1786-1789*, page 301.
6. Craghead property deed.
7. John Craghead, Sr. Will, 29 May 1808.
8. Paul D. Craghead, "The Craghead Family of Western Virginia." Undated digital copy, circa 2000.

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9. US Census, Franklin County marriage records, Ancestry.com
10. W. M. S. Myler Auctioneer Flyer, September 17, 1877. Reproduced in Paul D. Craghead, "The Craghead Family of Western Virginia" p. 32.
11. Craghead property deed.
12. "Smith Mountain Lake History" May 2019, *Lynchburg News and Advance*.
13. Ibid.
14. Ibid.
15. Waterfront Country Club website. <https://www.thewaterfrontcc.com/> Accessed May 25, 2021.

Craghead, John, House
Name of Property

Franklin County, Virginia
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

An Old Virginia Court – Records of Franklin County Va. 1786-1789, page 301.

Craghead, Paul D. “The Craghead Family of Western Virginia,” Ca. 2000. *Virginia Room Digital Collection*, accessed June 25, 2021,
<http://www.virginiaroom.org/digital/document/CragheadFamily>

Clark, Edythe Maxey. *Maxeys of Virginia*. 1980.

Encyclopedia of Virginia Biography, Vol. 5, 1915: 998.

Franklin County property tax book for 1826.

Franklin County Deed Books 1808—1917.

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~craighead/archives/casto.txt>.

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~craighead/other/books.html>. This site appears to be hosted by Alexander B Craghead.

Lounsbury, Carl R. ed. *An Illustrated Glossary of Early Southern Architecture and Landscape*. UVA Press, 1999.

Nocera, Barb. “SML History.” *Lynchburg News & Advance*, May 2019.

Public Claim Paper State Archives, Richmond VA, dated Nov. 2, 1781. See DAR app 565099 and supplemental DAR app 567615. Virginia Public Claims, Abercrombie & Slatten, 1992, 1: 102. See approved supplemental lineage, Katherine Alvis Patterson, NSDAR Nat’l No. 554,801. <https://alvispat.wordpress.com/craighead-john-of-bedford-and-franklin-counties-va/>

Salmon, John and Emily. *Franklin County, Virginia, 1786-1986: A Bicentennial History*, 1993.

Salmon, John. Personal communication, November 2021.

Simpson, Pamela H. “The Molded Brick Cornice in the Valley of Virginia,” *APT Journal*, Vol. XII No. 4, 1980.

Will, John Craghead, Sr., 29 May 1808. Franklin County Will Book 1, p 57.

Craghead, John, House
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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

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): DHR #033-5449 and 033-5460

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 8.71

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: 37.102820 Longitude: -79.648940
2. Latitude: Longitude:
3. Latitude: Longitude:
4. Latitude: Longitude:

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

Craghead, John, House
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- | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 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 nominated parcel boundary includes Franklin County real estate tax parcels 0310002002 and 0310002003, totaling 8.71 acres as shown on the accompanying Tax Parcel Map. The true and correct historic boundary is shown on the parcel map and the Sketch Map, which has a bar scale of 1"=200'.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated parcel boundary is comprised of the entirety of two legal tax parcels encompassing the Craghead House and associated secondary dwelling, which comprise the surviving components of the historic Craghead farm property.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Wendy Kedzierski, property co-owner, and Michael Pulice, architectural
historian, Virginia Department of Historic Resources

street & number: 2801 Kensington Avenue

city or town: Richmond state: VA zip code: 23221

e-mail: wendykedski@gmail.com michael.pulice@dhr.virginia.gov

telephone: 540-387-5443

date: August 2021

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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**

Craghead, John, House
Name of Property

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Photo Log

Name of Property: Craghead House

City or Vicinity: Moneta

County: Franklin County

State: Virginia

Photographers: Michael Pulice and Wendy Kedzierski

Date Photographed: 2020-2021

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

0001. House context, looking north.
0002. House exterior, looking north.
0003. House exterior, looking northeast.
0004. House exterior, looking northwest.
0005. House exterior, looking southwest.
0006. House exterior, looking south.
0007. House exterior, cornice close up.
0008. House exterior, rear ell, east-side porch.
0009. House interior, first floor west room, west wall.
0010. House interior, first floor west room stair.
0011. House interior, first floor east room, east wall.
0012. House interior, first floor east room, mantel close up.
0013. House interior, second floor west room, northwest corner.
0014. House interior, second floor east room, southeast corner.
0015. House interior, second floor east room, southwest corner stair.
0016. House interior, ell, first floor south room door.
0017. House interior, ell, first floor stair.
0018. House interior, ell, first floor north room fireplace.
0019. House interior, basement, west wall and fireplace.
0020. House interior, basement entry door.
0021. House interior, attic partition.
0022. House interior, roof rafters.
0023. Secondary dwelling exterior, north (front) elevation.
0024. Secondary dwelling interior, first-floor east room, southeast corner.

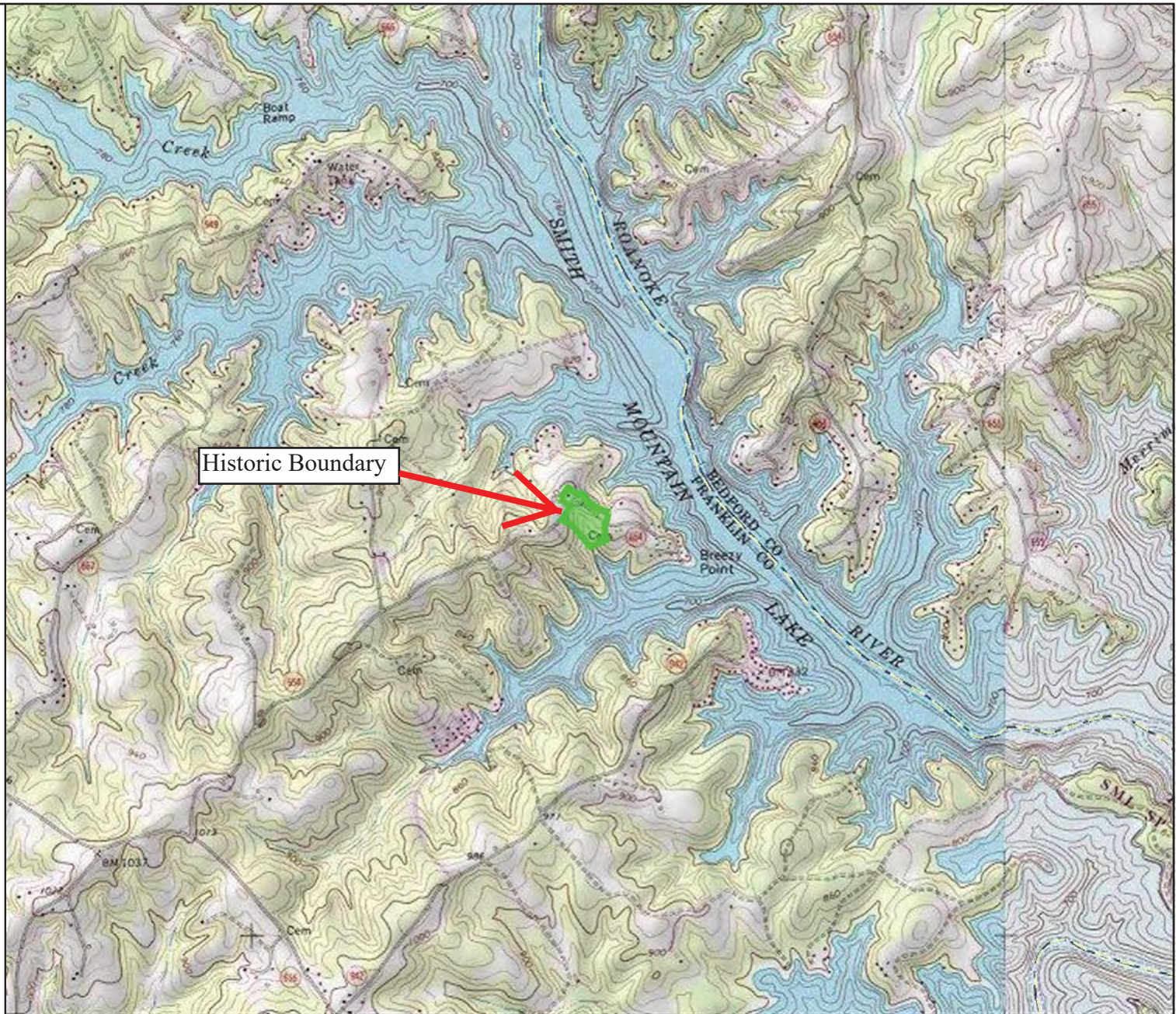
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.). Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

TOPOGRAPHIC MAP

Craghead, John, House

Franklin County, VA

DHR No. 033-5449



Feet

0 600 1200 1800 2400

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

Title:

Date: 11/5/2021

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 to 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.



LOCATION MAP

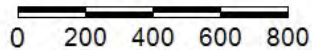
Craghead, John, House
Franklin County, VA
DHR No. 033-5449

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates:

Latitude: 37.102820
Longitude: -79.648940



Feet



1:9,028 / 1"=752 Feet

Title:

Date: 11/5/2021

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.

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AERIAL VIEW - VICINITY

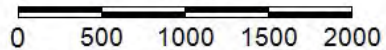
Craghead, John, House

Franklin County, VA

DHR No. 033-5449



Feet



1:18,056 / 1"=1,505 Feet

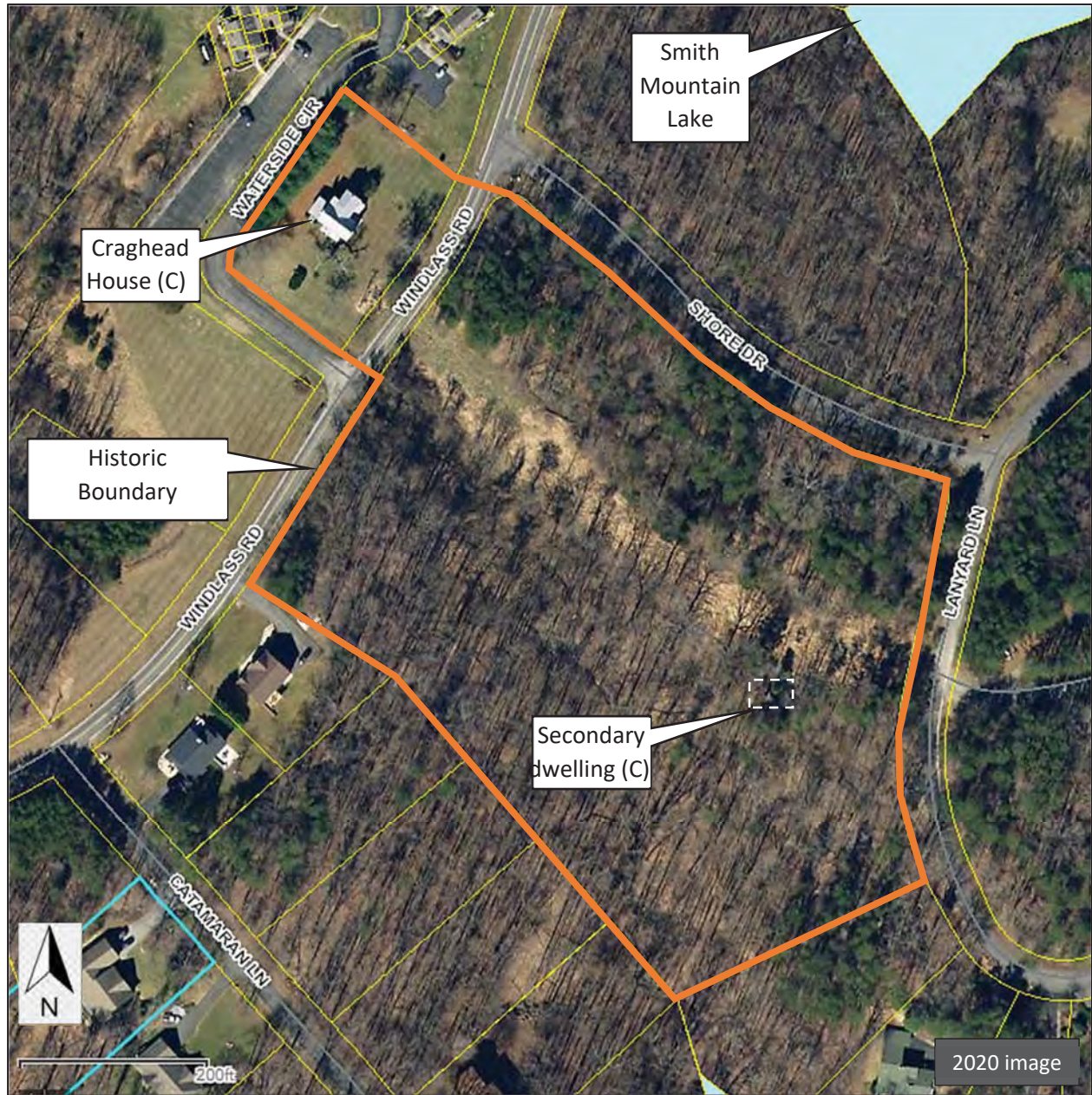
Title:

Date: 11/5/2021

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.

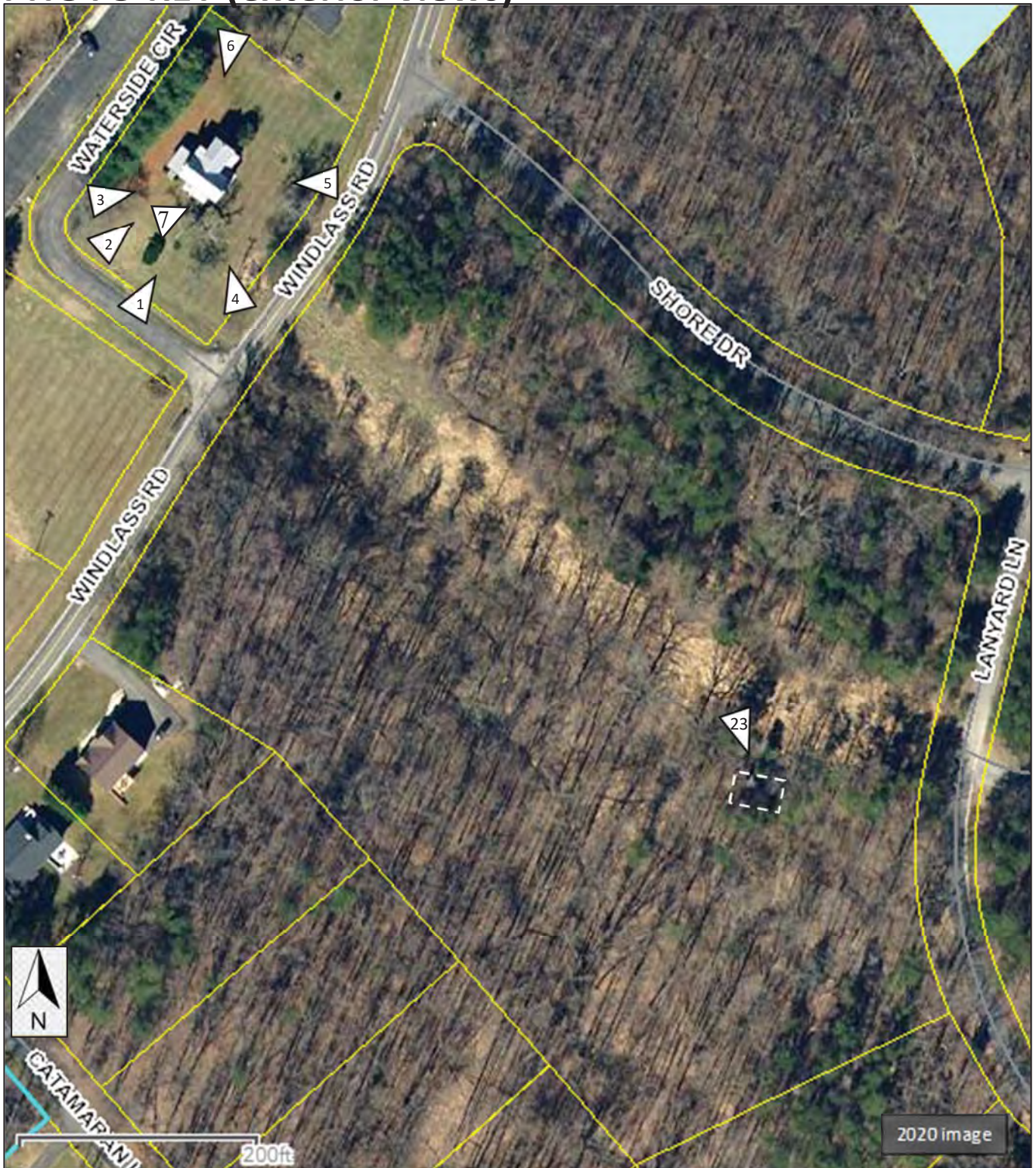
Notice if AE sites: Locations of archaeological sites may be sensitive the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) and Code of Virginia §2.2-3705.7 (10). Release of precise locations may threaten archaeological sites and historic resources.

SKETCH MAP



Craghead, John, House, Franklin County, Virginia
DHR No. 033-5449
(C) = contributing

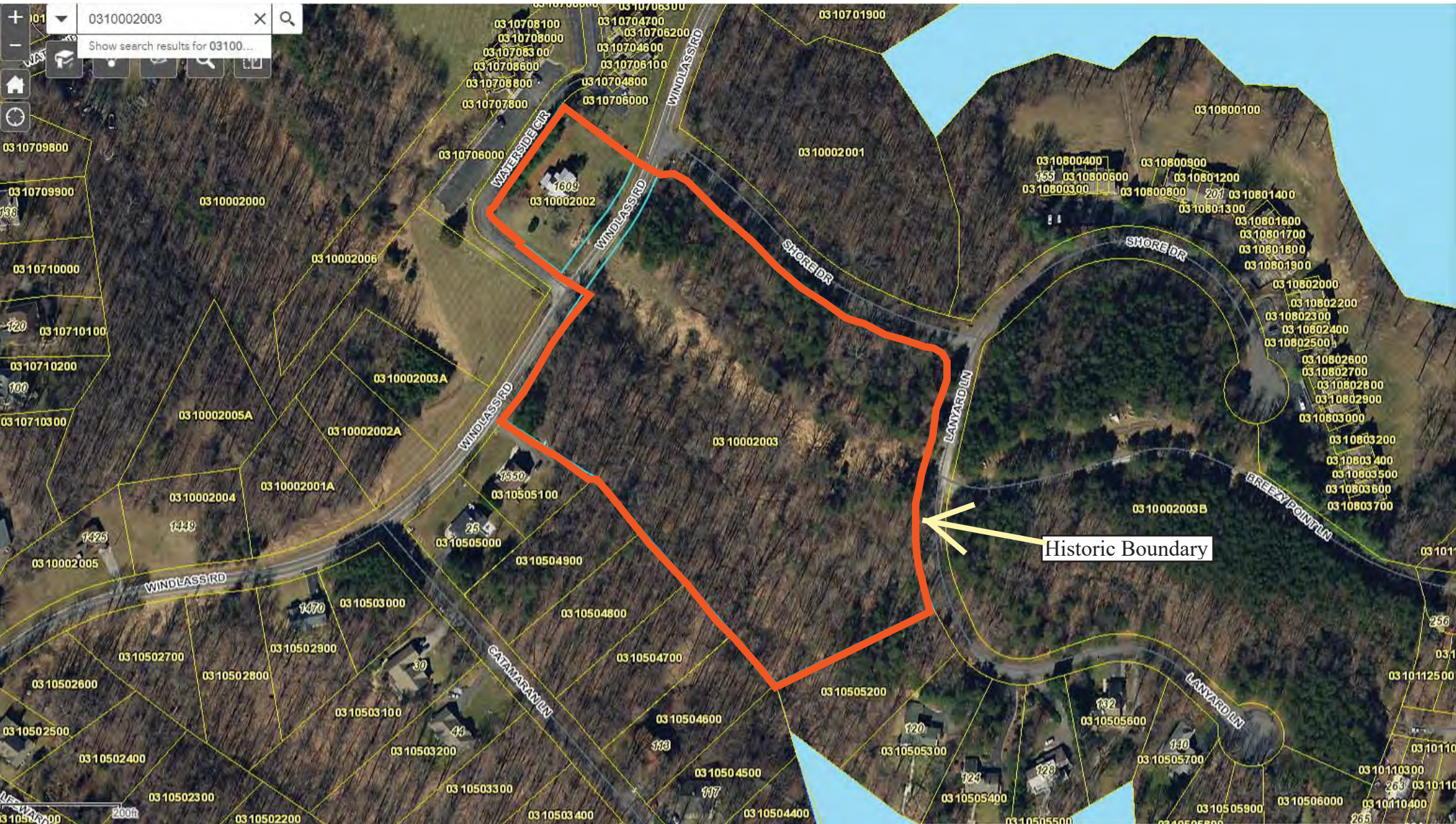
PHOTO KEY (exterior views)



Craghead, John, House, Franklin County, Virginia
DHR No. 033-5449
Site Plan with Exterior Photo Points

TAX PARCEL MAP

Craghead, John, House
Franklin County, VA; DHR No. 030-5449



<https://gis.franklincountyva.gov/compviewer/index.html>
Accessed August 27, 2021

