



PRELIMINARY INFORMATION FORM (PIF) for INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES

Note: PIFs are prepared by applicants and evaluated by DHR staff and the State Review Board based on information known at the time of preparation. Recommendations concerning PIFs are subject to change if new information becomes available.

DHR No. (to be completed by DHR staff) 053-6284

1. General Property Information

Property name: Creek Hollow Farm (053-6284)

Property address: 38570 Cassia Lane

City or Town: Lovettsville

Zip code: 20180

Name of the Independent City or County where the property is located: Loudoun County

Category of Property (choose only one of the following):

Building ☐ Site ☒ Structure ☐ Object ☐

2. Physical Aspects

Acreage: 20.14

Setting (choose only one of the following):

Urban ☐ Suburban ☐ Town ☐ Village ☐ Hamlet ☐ Rural ☒

Briefly describe the property's overall location and setting, including any notable landscape features:

Creek Hollow Farm is located northwest of the Town of Lovettsville near the Short Hill Mountain and Potomac River in northern Loudoun County. It was once part of a much larger farm owned by the prominent George family. Patriarch John George added a 101-acre farm to his numerous land ownings in 1831, and this is the site of 20-acre Creek Hollow Farm today. The heirs of John's son Solomon inherited the farm in 1860 after John's death.

The cluster of historic buildings consists of a dwelling, spring house, domestic outbuilding (referred to currently as the cookhouse), and barn remains. It represents an intact layout of domestic buildings on a 19th- and 20th-century farm. The buildings have been modified over time to accommodate the needs of the families who lived there, but they retain most of their historic materials and context. The buildings are sited north of Cassia Lane down a slight slope and near a tree-lined creek. The original access was by a long lane leading from historic George's Mill Road. The property is accessed currently by a gravel road that branches off George's Mill Road.

The current owners live in the 19th-century house and are restoring the cookhouse. The circa-1900s frame barn (as per the 2012 Architectural Survey Form) was destroyed by a storm ca. 2008-2010. Prior owners constructed a new outbuilding that the present owners converted to an avocational blacksmith's shop, called Creek Hollow Forge.

A creek runs through the property and flows into Dutchman Creek to the east. This natural feature was an important water source historically and probably the reason for siting the buildings where they are. The owners have found numerous artifacts in and around the creek, including intact redware bowls and shards.

3. Architectural Description

Architectural Style(s): Vernacular

If the property was designed by an architect, landscape architect, engineer, or other professional, please list here: _____

If the builder is known, please list here: _____

Date of construction (can be approximate): early- to late 1800s

Narrative Description (Please do not exceed one page in describing the property):

Briefly describe the property's general characteristics, such as its current use (and historic use if different), as well as the primary building or structure on the property (such as a house, store, mill, factory, depot, bridge, etc.). Include the materials and method(s) of construction, physical appearance and condition (exterior and interior), and any additions or other major alterations.

The dwelling and cluster of outbuildings represent a collection of domestic and agricultural buildings from the early- to late 19th-century. Modifications were made over time to accommodate the families living there but most of the historic materials are intact, and the buildings remain in their historic setting by a creek. The dwelling consists of two sections: a two-story, side-gable, single pile I-house at the front and a two-story end gable structure at the rear. Both stories of the I-house are log with stone in-fill and originally clad in wood siding. Large, fieldstone chimneys with brick flues stand at the east and west gables. The façade has four visible bays. There are double front-entrance doors, emblematic of the German Two-Door House (Zweiturhaus), a style seen in northern Loudoun County. A prior owner covered the east door with siding, but the original interior door remains. The one-story front porch is centered, spans three-quarters of the house, and is supported by four square columns. Prior owners replaced the windows in both the kitchen wing and I-house, but most of the original windows and shutters are in the cellar.

Interior – First Floor

The I-house contains three rooms: a large center entrance hall with a winder staircase to the second floor; a parlor on the east, once accessed by the now unusable door; and a parlor on the west. The east parlor has beveled window and door molding with flat ornamental blocks at the top corners of the windows and doors. The original fireplace surround has beveled, oblong ornamentation. This room would have been the formal parlor as the west parlor is accessed from the entrance hall. The fireplace mantel has been replaced in the south parlor.

The entrance hall leads to a kitchen and dining room at the rear of the house. The dining room on the west side of the kitchen was once an open porch that was enclosed by a prior owner in 2010. There is an open porch on the east elevation, accessed through the kitchen. A winder staircase with visible hand wrought nails leads from the kitchen to the second floor. The kitchen is frame construction built on a stone foundation that is believed to predate the stone foundation of the I-house. Analysis by a historical tradesman in the early 2000s suggested the earlier building was taken down or burned down and was replaced with the frame structure that exists today.

Interior – Second Floor and Attic

The master bedroom with original fireplace is located above the west parlor, and the adjacent bathroom is above the entrance hall. The hallway leads to a second bedroom with original fireplace above the east parlor. Like the mantel in the formal parlor on the first floor, the bedroom fireplaces exhibit a wide board panel supporting the shelf. A perpendicular hallway leads to a laundry room with original floorboards and a bedroom above the kitchen. A winder staircase in the hallway provides access to the attic. Several beams in the attic have exposed bark. A piece of wood carved with "1882" was found in the attic during an early 2000s renovation, suggesting modifications to the I-house, possibly as Samuel George's family was expanding.

Outbuildings

The cookhouse is the most significant of the contributing structures. It is a combination of frame construction and mortise and tenon around the fireplace. Two entrance doors lead to a large open area with a winder staircase to the second floor. A small room on the first floor has the original metal, long, sliding lock that closes off the room from the rest of the space. The large stone fireplace had a massive beam to support the chimney, representative of early- to mid-19th century construction. The fireplace had crumbled during the

20th century and was recently restored. A sub-floor was installed, and the original wide floorboards re-installed. The old standing seam metal roof was replaced with a new roof of the same materials. Hand wrought nails and other forged metal work are visible in the cookhouse, and hand-wrought metal pieces were found underneath the floorboards. It is not clear if part of the building had been modified in the late 19th-century, possibly enlarging it from a half-story structure to a two-story. Its pre-Civil War use was probably living and working space for the people enslaved by the George family. After the war, two African American men lived on the Samuel W. George property, and this outbuilding could have been their dwelling.

The one-story spring house is located behind the dwelling by the creek. It has rectangular hewn logs chinked with mortar. The standing seam metal roof forms a gable at the front, and the gables are clad in vertical boards. Estimated construction is early- to mid-1800s, and the building is in good condition.

In a bullet list, include any outbuildings or secondary resources or major landscape features (such as barns, sheds, dam and mill pond, storage tanks, scales, railroad spurs, etc.), including their condition and their estimated construction dates.

- Two-story, side gable domestic outbuilding (cookhouse) with two entrance doors – frame construction with mortise and tenon construction around the fireplace – early- to late-1800s construction and modifications – poor condition until recent restoration of the large stone fireplace and roof replacement – contributing
- One-story spring house of log construction – early- to mid-1800s – roof has been replaced – good condition – contributing
- Stone foundation remains of frame barn – ca. 1900 – non-contributing
- Cement block chicken coop – ca. 1980s – good condition – non-contributing
- Run-in shelter (east) – 2016 – good condition – non-contributing
- Run-in shelter (west) – 2016 – good condition – non-contributing
- One-and-one-half-story frame barn/garage – 2004 – good condition – non-contributing
- One-story loft barn used primarily as a blacksmith forge and secondarily as tractor and equipment storage – built 2015 – excellent condition – non-contributing
- Creek that flows into Dutchman Creek

4. Property's History and Significance (Please do not exceed one page)

Briefly explain the property's historic importance, such as significant events, persons, and/or families associated with the property.

If the property is important for its architecture, engineering, landscape architecture, or other aspects of design, please include a brief explanation of this aspect.

The George family lived in the Lovettsville area since the mid-1700s when the area was known as the German Settlement. Unlike most property owners in the vicinity, John George acquired land continuously over his lifetime, and he owned 18 parcels totaling approximately 1,175 acres at the time of his death in 1860. All but the wood lots were contiguous parcels, forming a large complex lived on and farmed by John and his sons. He was also the owner of a mill and schoolhouse near the Creek Hollow Farm property. John bequeathed his farms and enslaved people to his children or his children's heirs. His son Solomon drowned in 1848, and his heirs were given a farm, a portion of an adjacent farm, a 10-acre wood lot, and an enslaved girl named Emily. A young woman and man were already enslaved by Solomon's family, according to the 1840 Census. As Solomon owned no land himself, it is assumed that he and his family were living on the land his heirs inherited in John George's will.

In the lead-up to the Civil War, the George family was one of many in which family members were on opposing sides. When Loudoun County voted on the secession question, Solomon's eldest child, Samuel Washington George, and Solomon's brother John voted to secede. Samuel's uncle and other family members voted to remain in the Union. Despite their differences, the family did not fracture. During the war, wood and livestock were confiscated by both armies, and in the winter of 1865, General Thomas Devin's 6th New York Regiment camped on George properties. The schoolhouse was used as a headquarters. Artifacts have been found at Creek Hollow Farm, such as a bayonet near the new barn. Bullets were found in the front wall of the I-house.

After the war, Solomon's eldest child, Samuel Washington George, was 25 years-old and the head of a household that included his wife Margaret, two-year-old daughter, mother Mary, and two siblings. Two African American men, Frederick Lawson and Joseph Hagen, were recorded in the 1870 Federal Census as living on the property. Further research might determine if they had been enslaved by the George family.

Samuel farmed the land, and over time, purchased his three siblings' interest in the property. He expanded his land holdings by acquiring adjacent or nearby farms. Modifications of some sort were made to the dwelling in 1882 as evidenced by the carved piece of wood found in the attic. Samuel became a full owner in 1891 after his mother's death the prior year. Land tax records indicate a new building was added in 1891, possibly the large frame barn that once stood across the creek.

Samuel was killed in a tragic collision in November 1916 in Paeonian Springs when a west-bound milk train ran through a crossing and struck his car, killing him instantly. His son-in-law died soon after. The other passengers – Samuel's two daughters – survived. The farm remained in the family for 30 more years until Samuel and Margaret's children sold the farm to the Molers. They began to subdivide the large property in 2002, and lot #17 is present-day Creek Hollow Farm.

The property is significant under Criterion C for its intact collection of 19th-century domestic structures and their siting on the land near a water source. They represent use of local building materials (logs, wood, and stone) and construction methods in rural Loudoun County during the 19th-century.¹ Creek Hollow Farm is part of the larger story of the George family in the Lovettsville area – their prominence in the community and large agricultural landholdings. Several descendants of John George still live in the town and surrounding area. The two-door entrance of the I-house represents an architectural style of the historic German Settlement. The cookhouse is significant for its original stone fireplace, combination of mortise-and-tenon and frame construction, and possible use as living and working space for the people enslaved by the George family.

¹ The Solomon/Samuel W. George house represents pre-Civil War construction and post-War modifications, while two extant George family dwellings nearby are examples of "an unusually fine" post-War dwelling built in 1869 (#053-0399) and ca. 1900 farmhouse of frame construction (#053-5778).

Please list all sources of information used to research the history of the property, such as deeds, census and tax records, and/or published articles and books. (It is not necessary to attach lengthy articles or family genealogies to this form.)

- Deed and will books, land and personal property tax records, and chancery records – Loudoun County Circuit Court Historic Records Division
- Land tax records – Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, VA
- Marriage, death, and Federal census records on Ancestry.com
- VDHR Architectural Survey Form (053-6284)
- *Genealogical Abstracts from "The Mirror" 1900-1919* by Patricia Duncan. Heritage Books, 2008
- *Lovettsville: The German Settlement* by Yette Rockefeller Weatherly. The Lovettsville Bicentennial Committee, 1976
- *Where Did They Stand? The May 1861 Vote on Secession in Loudoun County, Virginia and Post-War Claims against the Government* by Taylor M. Chamberlin. Waterford Foundation, Inc. 2003.
- George family file and Samuel W. George Sr.'s Southern Claim. Lovettsville Historical Society and Museum.
- Prior owners' oral histories and photographs
- Phone interview with Tom Bullock of Bullseye Restoration

5. Property Ownership (Check as many categories as apply):

Private: X Public\Local _____ Public\State _____ Public\Federal _____

Current Legal Owner(s) of the Property (If the property has more than one owner, please list each below or on an additional sheet.)

name/title: Paul G. and Natalie Metzler

organization: _____

street & number: 38570 Cassia Lane

city or town: Lovettsville state: VA zip code: 20180

e-mail: njhmetsler@gmail.com telephone: 571-442-1947

Legal Owner's Signature: Natalie Metzler

Date: 2/3/23

• • Signature required for processing all applications. • •

In the event of corporate ownership you must provide the name and title of the appropriate contact person.

Contact person: _____

Daytime Telephone: _____

Applicant Information (Individual completing form if other than legal owner of property)

name/title: Lori Hinterleiter Kimball

organization: _____

street & number: 83 Harpers Mill Way

city or town: Lovettsville state: VA zip code: 20180

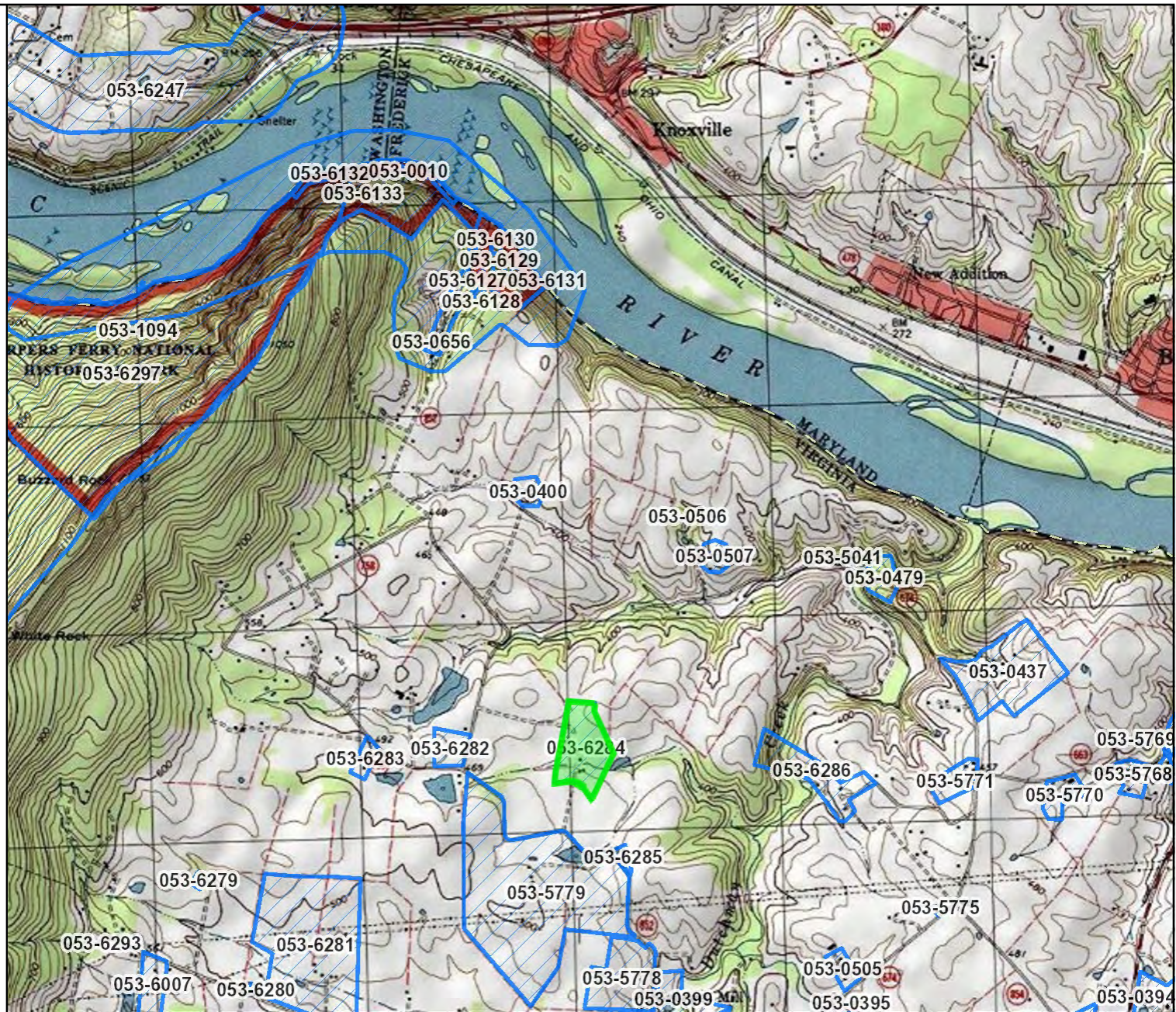
e-mail: Lorikimball99@gmail.com telephone: 703-282-9590

Date: 02/04/2023

PLEASE DO NOT ATTACH CONTINUATION SHEETS TO THIS FORM. THANK YOU!

**Legend**

- Architecture Resources
- Architecture Labels
- Individual Historic District Properties
- County Boundaries

**Title:****Date: 2/21/2023**

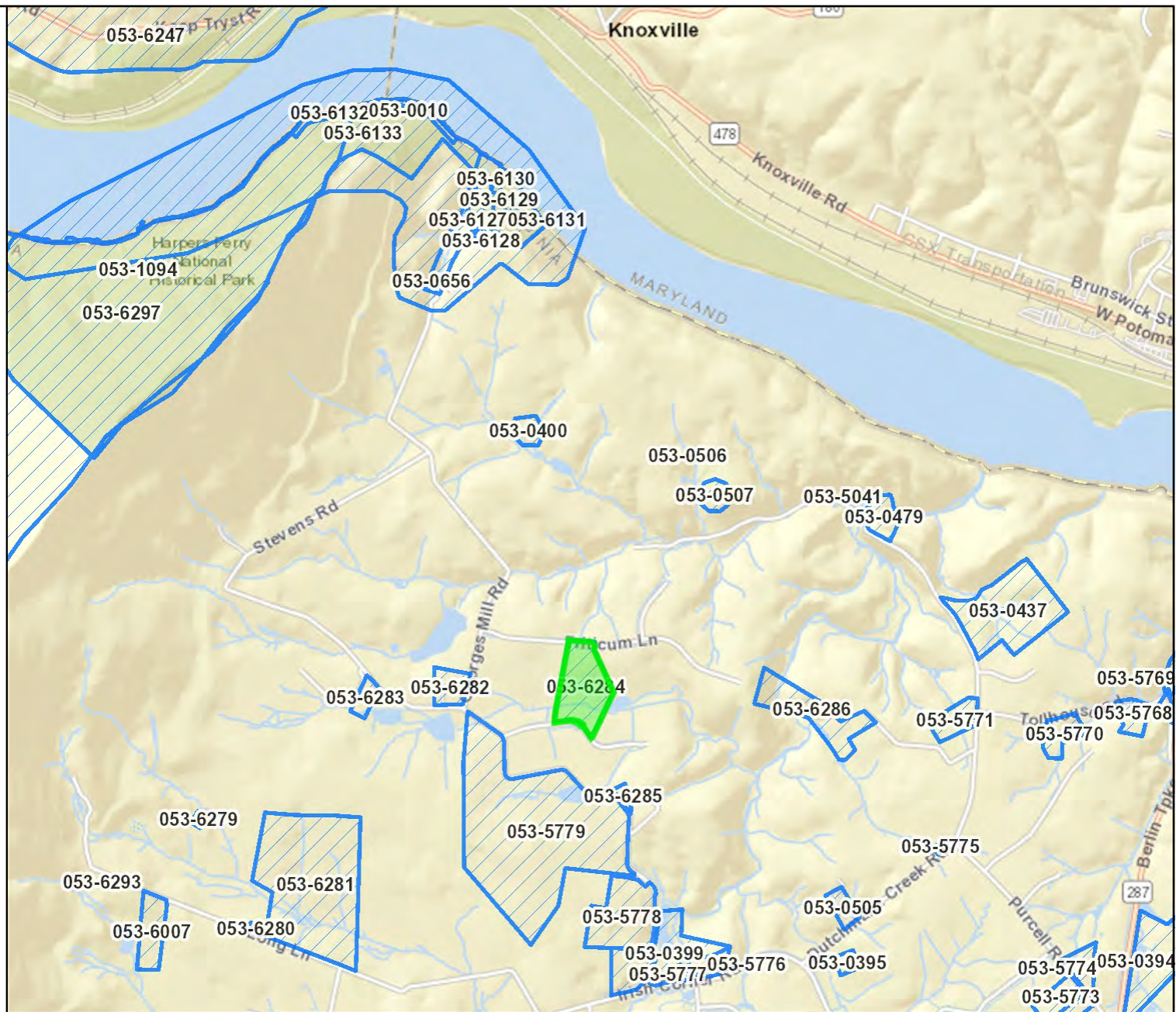
DISCLAIMER: Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years from a variety of sources and the representation depicted is a cumulative view of field observations over time and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general information 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 60 120 180 240
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Feet

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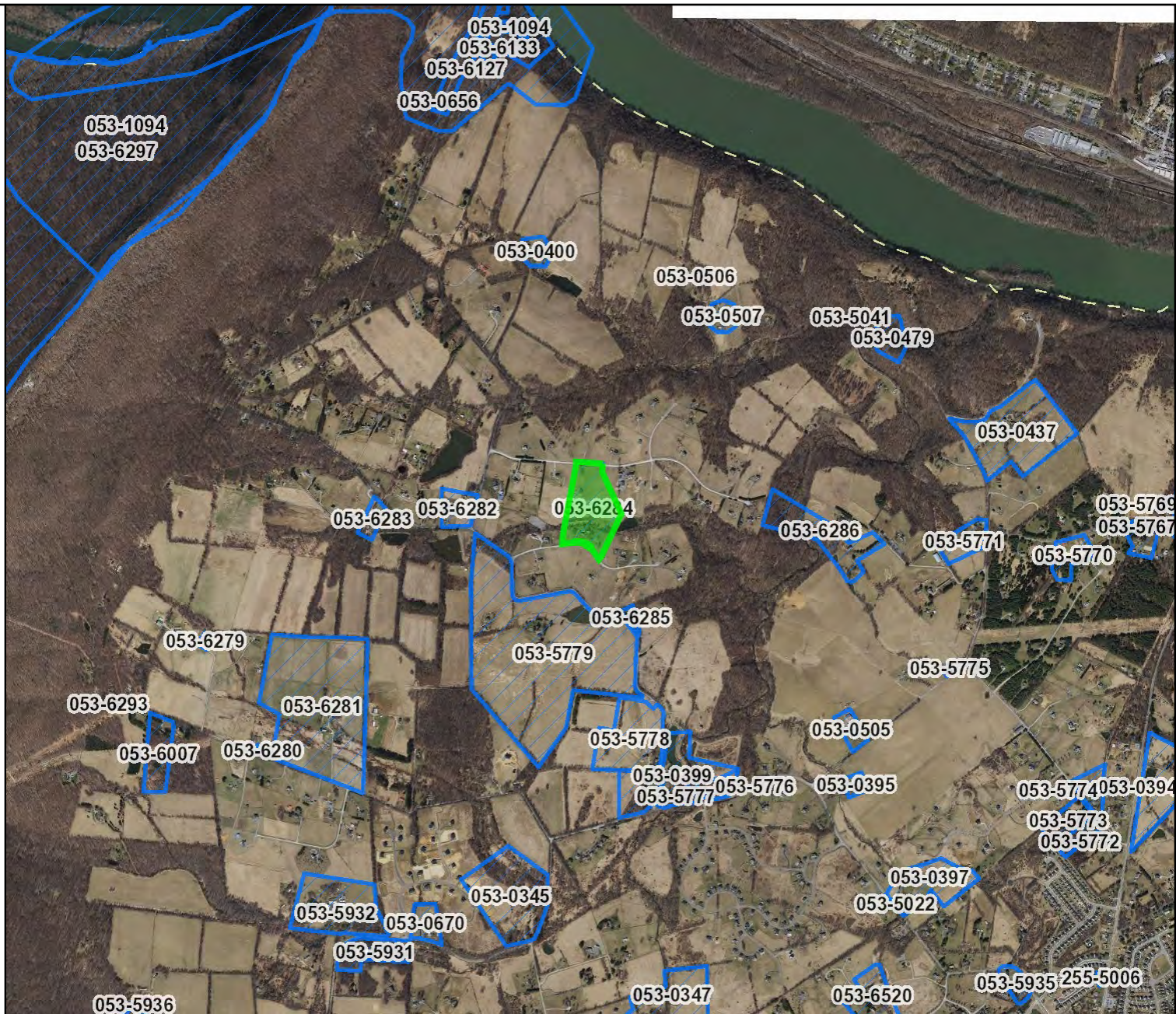
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Feet

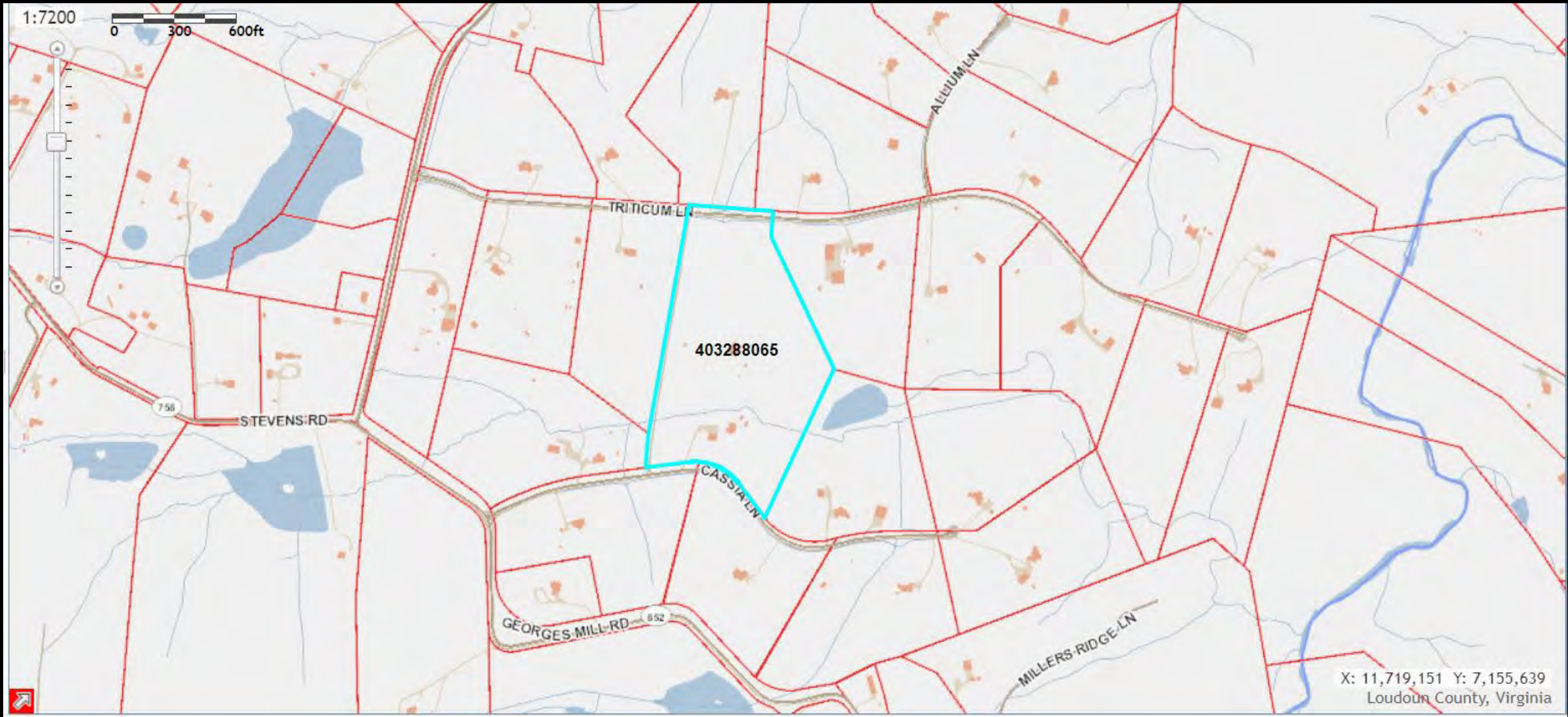
0 600 1200 1800 2400

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Sketch Map of Creek Hollow Farm / 38570 Cassia Lane, Lovettsville 20180





























































2023 PIF Photo Log
Creek Hollow Farm (053-6284)

Name of Property: Creek Hollow Farm
City or Vicinity: near Lovettsville
County: Loudoun
State: Virginia

Photo 1 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0001
View: Primary dwelling, façade (south elevation), camera facing north
Photographer: Lori Kimball
Date photographed: March 2019



Photo 2 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0002
View: Primary dwelling, façade (south elevation), camera facing north, first story exposed during re-siding project in early 2000s, double entry doors visible
Photographer: Alan and Pattie Svedlow
Date photographed: early 2000s



Photo 3 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0003

View: Primary dwelling, façade (south elevation), camera facing north, second story exposed during re-siding project, log construction

Photographer: Alan and Pattie Svedlow

Date photographed: early 2000s



Photo 4 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0004

View: Primary dwelling, façade (south elevation), camera facing north, second story exposed during re-siding project, log construction

Photographer: Alan and Pattie Svedlow

Date photographed: early 2000s



Photo 5 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0005

View: Entrance Hall door with ornamental trim

Photographer: Natalie Metzler

Date photographed: January 2023



Photo 6 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0006

View: east parlor door with ornamental trim

Photographer: Lori Kimball

Date Photographed: March 2019



Photo 7 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0007
View: east parlor fireplace
Photographer: Natalie Metzler
Date photographed: January 2023



Photo 8 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0008
View: exposed hand-hewn log exposed in the kitchen
Photographer: Lori Kimball
Date photographed: March 2019



Photo 9 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0009

View: exposed hand-wrought nails on kitchen staircase to second floor

Photographer: Lori Kimball

Date photographed: January 2023



Photo 10 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0010

View: fireplace mantel in master bedroom on 2nd floor

Photographer: Lori Kimball

Date photographed: March 2019



Photo 11 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0011
View: fireplace mantel in 2nd floor bedroom
Photographer: Lori Kimball
Date photographed: March 2019



Photo 12 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0011
View: beam with exposed bark in attic
Photographer: Lori Kimball
Date photographed: March 2019



Photo 13 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0013

View: intersection of the kitchen and l-house, photographed in the attic, use of square nails

Photographer: Greg Metzler

Date photographed: January 2023



Photo 14 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0014

View: wood carving found on a board in the attic

Photographer: Lori Kimball

Date photographed: January 2023



Photo 15 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0015

View: west elevation of house, camera facing east

Photographer: Lori Kimball

Date photographed: March 2019



Photo 16 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0016

View: west and north elevations of house with springhouse and cookhouse in background (before restoration of outbuildings), camera facing east

Photographer: Lori Kimball

Date photographed: March 2019



Photo 17 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0017

View: east elevation of dwelling, camera facing west

Photographer: Natalie Metzler

Date photographed: January 2023



Photo 18 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0018

View: cookhouse façade before restoration, camera facing east

Photographer: Lori Kimball

Date photographed: March 2019



Photo 19 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0019
View: cookhouse façade after roof replacement, camera facing east
Photographer: Natalie Metzler
Date photographed: March 2022



Photo 20 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0020
View: cookhouse chimney before restoration
Photographer: Lori Kimball
Date photographed: March 2019



Photo 21 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0021

View: fireplace in cookhouse before restoration

Photographer: Lori Kimball

Date photographed: March 2019



Photo 22 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0022

View: cookhouse fireplace after restoration

Photographer: Natalie Metzler

Date photographed: January 2023



Photo 23 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0023

View: unfinished wide plank floorboards in cookhouse before restoration

Photographer: Lori Kimball

Date photographed: March 2019



Photo 24 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0024

View: nails used in the cookhouse

Photographer: Greg Metzler

Date photographed: September 2022



Photo 25 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0025

View: mortise and tenon construction around the cookhouse fireplace

Photographer: Greg Metzler

Date photographed: January 2023



Photo 26 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0026

View: spring house before restoration, camera facing north

Photographer: Lori Kimball

Date photographed: March 2019



Photo 27 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0027

View: springhouse after roof replacement and restoration, camera facing north

Photographer: Natalie Metzler

Date photographed: January 2023



Photo 28 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0028

View: stone foundation remains of ca. late 19th-century or early 20th-century barn, camera facing north

Photographer: Lori Kimball

Date photographed: March 2019



Photo 29 of 29: VA_LoudounCounty_CreekHollowFarm_0029
View: aerial view of Creek Hollow Farm, camera facing north
Photographer: from Loudoun County's WebLogis website
Date photographed: 2019

