

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

17

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 categories and subcategories from the instructions.



1. Name of Property

Historic name: William Sayers Homestead
Other names/site number: Sayers House, Old Stone Mansion; DHR ID No. 052-0340
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: 110 Mabel Parkey Drive
City or town: Ewing State: VA County: Lee
Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: N/A

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 12/20/14
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:) _____

Jon Edson H. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

2.17.15
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>8</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>11</u>	<u>1</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use
Historic Functions

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling; Garage
AGRICULTURE: Utility Shed
AGRICULTURE: Workshop
AGRICULTURE: Corncrib
AGRICULTURE: Barn
AGRICULTURE: Silo
AGRICULTURE: Chicken house
AGRICULTURE: Cattle shed
AGRICULTURE: Equipment Shed/Tobacco barn
TRANSPORTATION: Bridge; Road Trace

Current Functions

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling; Garage/Storage
DOMESTIC: Hobby Shop
AGRICULTURE: Utility Shed
AGRICULTURE: Workshop
AGRICULTURE: Corncrib
AGRICULTURE: Barn
AGRICULTURE: Silo
AGRICULTURE: Cattle shed
AGRICULTURE: Equipment Shed
TRANSPORTATION: Bridge; Road Trace

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

COLONIAL: Georgian

LATE VICTORIAN: Other

Materials:

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

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 Sayers Homestead, as it is known, is a historic farmstead dating to the last decade of the eighteenth century, situated along the historic route commonly known as the Wilderness Road. The primary resource on the property is the Sayers House, originally a two-story, single-pile, hall-parlor-plan single dwelling with late Georgian-style features, constructed of coursed limestone, with a side-gable roof and interior end chimneys. Around 1890, the stone house was expanded to the east with a two-story, front-gabled frame wing with a hip-roofed polygonal bay on the front, and a two-story porch was added across the front of the original stone structure. Addition of the wing gave the building a T-shaped footprint. The use of wood framing instead of stone for the wing, as well as its applied Victorian-style gable ornament, help distinguish the house's two distinct building traditions from different eras nearly one hundred years apart. The house interior has been modernized in some aspects and some small appendages have been added, yet the building still appears much like it did in the 1890s. Because the house has been regularly updated over more than two centuries and adapted to modern life, it remains occupied and well maintained as a single family residence. Also on the property, to the rear of the house, is a limestone garage and an assortment of farm buildings dating to the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The farm buildings and agricultural land historically associated with the house still visually convey the homestead's historic context.

Narrative Description

Location and Setting

The Sayers Homestead is located one mile north of the Tennessee state line, eight miles west of Ewing, Virginia, and six miles east of Cumberland Gap, Tennessee. The Sayers House is situated

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at the front of a small farm, set back less than one hundred feet on the north side of U.S. Highway 58 (also called Daniel Boone Trail), which closely bypasses the small towns along the historic route. The modern highway generally parallels another alignment of the old Wilderness Road called Dr. Thomas Walker Road, which is today the business route or main street of the towns of Rose Hill and Ewing in western Lee County. The surrounding farm property is bounded to the north and east by a light-duty road named Dusty Drive, which traverses along the south side of a major limestone quarry. The quarry property begins immediately across Dusty Drive from the Sayers Farm. Also along the northern boundary, paralleling Dusty Drive is the former Louisville and Nashville Railroad bed, which has been converted to a pedestrian trail, part of Cumberland Gap National Historical Park.

A detached garage, built of limestone with a frame front addition, is located 60 feet east of the house and a concrete-block chicken house stands 107 feet north of the house. A slatted frame corncrib with limestone foundation enclosing a cellar is located 135 northwest of the house. Other in-use agricultural buildings on the farm include a large frame barn 230 feet north-northwest of the house, a concrete stave silo 15 feet north of barn, a cattle shed 22 feet north of the barn, and a workshop and equipment shed about 485 feet west of the house. Another historic feature of the property is a vestige of the Wilderness Road, part of which has been used as a farm lane for a century or more. The short length of road bed diverges from the current highway in the Sayers Homestead front yard, heading westerly through the southwest corner of the farm. A small vehicular bridge on the road bed crosses a stream 180 feet west of the house. Further details on these resources are provided below.

Site Inventory

- 1) Sayers House, ca. 1796. Modified late 19th century. Contributing building
- 2) Garage, early 20th century. Extensively modified late 20th century. Non-contributing building
- 3) Chicken house, c. 1960. Contributing building
- 4) Corn Crib with cellar, pre-1900. Contributing building
- 5) Barn, pre-1900. Contributing building
- 6) Cattle shed, c. 1960. Contributing building
- 7) Silo, pre-1950. Contributing Structure
- 8) Equipment shed/tobacco barn, c. 1960. Contributing building
- 9) Utility shed. c. 1960. Contributing building
- 10) Workshop. c. 1960. Contributing building
- 11) Vehicular Bridge. c. 1900. Contributing structure
- 12) Old Wilderness Road Trace. Pre-1840. Contributing site

House Description

The Sayers House is a two-story, T-shaped single dwelling built in two major sections. The original, southwest section is a rectangular building built of stone c. 1796. Its walls, more than two feet thick, are constructed of coursed, rough-cut limestone. Large stones alternate with smaller stones within each masonry course. The single-pile building with late Georgian-style features has a side-gable roof and interior end chimneys. The original stone block had a hall-

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parlor-plan interior as indicated by the placement of the principal entrance and windows on the facade. Above the doorway is a lighted transom. An additional exterior door is located in the northeast end wall, which now provides access to the two-story frame wing added onto the east end of the stone section around 1890. Addition of the wing, oriented perpendicular to the stone structure, gave the building an overall T-shaped footprint. The front-gabled, weatherboarded wing has a two-story, hip-roofed, six-window polygonal bay on the front and decorative lattice work in the front gable end. About the same time, a two-story porch was also added across the front of the original stone block. The shed-roofed front porch has a limestone foundation, chamfered posts, and a turned balustrade on the second floor, but none on the first floor.

The c. 1890 frame wing, set on a coursed limestone foundation, includes a front projection with front bay window, as well as a rear kitchen wing. A two-story shed-roofed frame extension with porch has been added onto the rear of the house at the junction of the stone and frame wings. The two other minor additions to the house are a small gable-roofed stone appendage built around 1925, sheltering the cellar bulkhead at the southwest end of the house; and a one-story shed added to the northeast (rear) corner of the frame wing around 1955. Each of the frame appendages is clad in vinyl siding except for the 1890 wing, from which vinyl siding has recently been removed to expose the original weatherboards.

The house possesses a total of four limestone chimneys. The two exterior end chimneys on the stone original block and two in the frame wing, one interior and one exterior end. All are similarly constructed, but the wing's chimneys are more massive. Most windows throughout the house are two-over-two double-hung wood sash, which were likely part of the c. 1890 period improvements. A fairly new, black, standing-seam metal snap-system roof has replaced composition shingles on the main roof of the house as well as its various additions.

House Interior

Within the ca. 1796 stone dwelling were originally two rooms on each floor. The most formal room was the first-floor west (or southwest) room, which was slightly larger than the adjacent room. The frame partition between the first-floor rooms was removed in the mid 1960s. The second-floor partition, which divided the floor into two nearly equal sized rooms, was taken out more recently. The original staircase, the lower part of which was rebuilt during the mid-1960s house renovation, is located in the southwest front corner of the west room.

Extant early architectural fabric in the stone section includes the four fireplaces, a six-panel cupboard in the northwest corner, the paneling on the first-floor southwest wall with punch-and-gouge frieze and molded cornice, the trim around the staircase, and much of the trim on the second floor. The second-floor woodwork, including chair rails, mantels, baseboards, molded window architraves, and beaded, vertically mounted wall boards, is well intact, although the southwest fireplace mantel appears to be a late-nineteenth-century replacement. Each of the segmental-arched fireplaces measures about four-and-one-half feet wide. The floor joists throughout are massive hand-hewn timbers measuring approximately five by eight inches in

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cross section. The roof framing is also original, consisting of hand-hewn, pegged rafter pairs and wide board sheathing.

Most of the c. 1890 addition's interior finishes remain intact, including the front staircase with turned newel post and balustrade, doors, hardware, window and doorway trim, floors, fireplaces and Late Victorian mantels. Curiously, there were no doorways allowing passage between the stone and frame wings, which would tend to support the tradition that the dwelling was used as a boarding house for a period of time, beginning c. 1890. The east stone wall is left exposed in the adjoining wing rather than covered with board or plaster, which is unusual, but former owner/occupant Hubert Parkey reported that it has always been as it is now.

Secondary Resource Descriptions

Garage

The garage is the only surviving pre-1950 domestic outbuilding of those that once stood near the house. The one-story, front-gabled garage was built about thirty feet east of the house, facing Highway 58, probably in the early twentieth century. It is constructed of coursed limestone and roofed with corrugated sheet metal. In the west elevation stone wall is a six-over-six wooden sash window. A frame extension clad in aluminum siding, with concrete foundation and roll-up garage door, has been added to the front of the building.

Corn Crib

The closest agricultural building to the house is a corncrib. Common to corn cribs throughout the region are the center drive-through and exterior wooden slats with spaces between that allow ventilation, rather than solid cladding. The gable roof is covered with V-crimp sheet metal. Probably constructed in the early twentieth century, the light-frame building is constructed on an embanked stone foundation incorporating a root cellar under the southwest end, which is entered through a portal in the end wall.

Chicken House

Now used by the property owners as a hobby shop, the one-story concrete-block building built c. 1960 to serve as a chicken house stands about 107 feet behind the main house. It faces south toward the house and has a front-gable roof, weatherboarded gable ends, and a V-crimp metal roof.

Utility Building

Situated about 75 feet west of the main house is a one-story concrete block farm building constructed c. 1960. It has a side-gable roof and a window in front, facing the house. The building was originally used to store fertilizers and related equipment and is now used for storage of other farm items.

Barn

The large front-gabled barn was built facing south toward the house. Though it appears to have added sheds along each side elevation, it may have been built in its current configuration, with a

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central front portal flanked by drive-through bays. The construction date is unknown, but clearly it was standing by the turn of the twentieth century. A 1908 photograph shows it with a wooden shingle roof [Gray, *The Families of the Old Stone Mansion*, 2006:170]. The heavy-timber-frame building has a coursed limestone foundation and is clad with flush-mounted vertical boards. On the front gable, along the roofline is a wide gap between the board cladding and the roof, intended to increase ventilation of the barn interior. The roof is covered with V-crimp sheet metal. Within the barn, two internal rows of heavy mill-sawn posts support the upper framing.

Silo

Built sometime before 1950, the fairly typical, round concrete-stave silo is situated to the north, off the northwest corner of the barn. It has a pre-fabricated metal dome roof.

Cattle Shed

Built sometime around 1960, the cattle shed situated immediately north of the barn consists of an elongated round-pole-supported structure with a gable roof comprised of wooden rafters and V-crimp sheet metal.

Equipment Shed/Tobacco Barn

Located nearly 500 feet west of the house is an open shed used to shelter farm equipment such as tractors. Built around 1960, the long, linear building has seven bays defined by round log pole structural supports and a gable roof covered with V-crimp sheet metal. The north, south, and west elevations are enclosed with the same sheet metal, whereas the east elevation is unenclosed, left open to the elements.

Workshop

The one-story concrete-block workshop, built c. 1960, is situated at the immediate south end of the equipment shed/tobacco barn. It has a low-pitch front-gable roof and a wide, drive-in central bay enclosed with folding doors.

Bridge and Wilderness Road Trace

An old bridge located at the southwest corner of the property carries the old public road, now a farm lane, over the small stream labeled Bee Branch on USGS topographic maps. The bridge structure consists of a poured concrete slab with curbs of poured concrete, supported by limestone abutments. It was likely built or improved c. 1900 when the main road was called the Bristol-Lexington Highway. In his will recorded in 1923, owner Josephus N. Gibson referred to this stretch of the former Wilderness Road only as "the old road bed."

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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

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

Ca. 1796 – Ca. 1960

Significant Dates

Ca. 1796

Ca. 1890

Ca. 1960

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 William Sayers Homestead is locally significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. Sited along the Wilderness Road in western Lee County, Virginia, the homestead was established in the late eighteenth century by William Sayers, a native of Wythe County, Virginia, who began surveying Lee County a few years before the county was formed in 1792. The historic house and associated resources were collectively evaluated by Virginia Department of Historic Resources in November 1994 and recommended eligible for the National Register under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. The historic integrity of the house and farmstead has not diminished since the 1994 recommendation was made, while the condition of the resources has improved dramatically under the current ownership. The period of significance begins ca. 1796 with construction of the house for Lee County surveyor William Sayers, and ends ca. 1960, when a number of extant secondary domestic and agricultural buildings were constructed. No new buildings or structures have been added to the property since then. The farm continued in use throughout the period of significance.

Acknowledgements

Ms. Lynn Woodruff Gray, genealogist and author of *The Families of the Old Stone Mansion* (2006) generously provided a copy of her book, which contains copious information about the families who occupied the Sayers Homeplace for two centuries. Ms. Gray also brought the property back to the attention of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources in 2014, after twenty years had passed since the Phase II architectural survey of the property.

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

Criterion C: Architecture

The original stone house on the property appears to have been completed circa 1796 for William Sayers (born 1764 in Botetourt County, Virginia). Tradition holds that the house was constructed by a builder named William Proffitt (Proffitt), a resident of neighboring Claiborne County, Tennessee, though the source of this attribution is unknown. Genealogical records show a William Proffitt (1775-1833), who was born in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia and died in Campbell County, Tennessee. He married twice and had 10 children. Birth records show that in 1818, a child, Elisha, was born in Claiborne County, Tennessee, to William Proffitt and Rhoda Rutha Stover Holloway Proffitt (b. 1787) [Lynn W. Gray, personal communication, July, 2014]. Proffitt would have been a very young man in 1796, but his origins in the Shenandoah Valley, an area rich with historic stone masonry, suggest he may have been familiar with stone house construction. Two-story stone houses represent the most imposing and permanent dwellings of the Great Valley of Virginia and its proximities built during the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

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The Sayers House's stone masonry construction is a major factor in its significance. Both the masonry and the Georgian-style interior woodwork are generally consistent with house design and construction techniques in the historically remote region during the last decade of the eighteenth century through the first quarter of the nineteenth century. While some of the house's architectural fabric, such as the punch-and-gouge woodwork over the first-floor west wall fireplace, is commonly associated with later house designs from the 1810 -1830 period, it is possible that the woodwork and some other finishes in the Sayers House are not original to the first period of construction. The ca. 1796 construction date assigned to the house should be regarded as an estimate based on combined historical data and physical architectural clues. In any case, stone houses like the Sayers House were always relatively rare in southwestern Virginia. Today they are exceptionally rare, with perhaps less than a dozen examples remaining extant. Although the house has undergone several alterations during its lifespan of more than two centuries, it retains sufficient integrity to convey its historical and architectural significance.

The homestead's extant agricultural buildings reflect the prosperity of farming families who have owned and occupied the property, and the development of agriculture in the region in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Lending additional historical significance to the property is the remnant of the old Wilderness Road, a reminder of the once-close relationship between the Sayers Farm and the exceptionally significant historic migration route.

Historical Background

Sayers Homestead/Farm

A December 8, 1794, deed book entry shows that David Sayers of Wythe County, Virginia, purchased two adjoining parcels totaling 735 acres from the heirs of William Parks of Amherst County. One of these was a 324-acre tract that went to son William; the other went to William's brother Robert. David did not relocate to Lee County. In April 1799, the deed for transfer of 324-acre property to William for \$500 was finally recorded [Pendleton et. al.: 1994]. Tradition holds that David purchased the land at William's request, because William was employed as a surveyor of Lee County at the time of the 1794 purchase and had identified the parcel as the one on which he chose to settle permanently with his new bride, Sarah Sayers Smith. The two were married on September 23, 1796 [Gray: 3, 7]. It appears that William began developing his new homestead and building the stone house soon after his father secured the land, about 1795.

William Sayers was an active Presbyterian who had five children to survive to adulthood. A March 1809 court order appointed him "overseer of the road." The county deed book shows that in 1856 he donated four acres for a Methodist-Episcopal Church and Cemetery. He lived to be 104 years old. In the 1850 U.S. Census, the first to list professions, farming was given as (then 86 years old) Sayer's main occupation. He died in the "old stone house" in September 1867 and is buried on a hill overlooking the valley, opposite the old stone house. His last will and testament was signed in 1856 and probated in 1870 [Gray: 7-10, 15].

William Sayers's daughter Nancy (1803-188?), who married Samuel McPherson around 1823, occupied the Sayers House toward the end of William's long life. The deed of transfer was

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recorded in March 1863. The farm was later sold to the Gibson family, in 1876. Josephus N. Gibson (b.1858) acquired the property around 1880. It was likely Gibson who added the two-story frame wing around 1890, coinciding with completion of the branch line of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, which traveled along the northern edge of the farm (the rail bed has been converted to a pedestrian trail). Gibson may have constructed the wing to accommodate travelers or boarders, which could explain the segregation of the two perpendicular wings of the house, with no second-floor internal conduit between them. J.N. Gibson's daughter, Esther Parkey, inherited the farm in 1923 and it remains under Parkey family ownership today [Gray: 15-16, 35; Pendleton et. al.: 1994].

Lee County

Lee County, Virginia, was founded in 1792. In 1814, Scott County was created from parts of Lee and Russell counties, and finally Wise County was created in 1856, furthering diminishing the areas of Lee and Russell counties. Lee County's economy is now largely dependent on tobacco cultivation and coal mining, both of which have declined in recent decades, leading to large-scale losses in employment, resident income, and local tax revenues. In 2010, the county's residents numbered only 25,587.

The Wilderness Road and Exploration of Present-day Lee County

In 1750, an expedition led by Dr. Thomas Walker, an investor in the Loyal Land Company, set out from Virginia through the Cumberland Gap and into present-day eastern Kentucky with the aim of exploring lands for future settlement. The Loyal Land Company had promoted settlement of lands in southwest Virginia, but not yet in Kentucky. The rough terrain hampered the expedition, but Walker's detailed report proved to be valuable in encouraging and guiding later expeditions, as well as the subsequent founding of the first settlements in Kentucky. Beginning in 1769, Virginia explorer Joseph Martin, for whom the City of Martinsville is named, made several forays into the Lee County area as an agent for Dr. Thomas Walker. Martin's first expedition to Powell's Valley (now Lee County) in early 1769 reportedly earned him a twenty-one thousand-acre grant from Walker and the Loyal Land Company. Martin led the construction of the first frontier fort at present-day Rose Hill, Virginia (thirteen miles east of the Sayers House), which became known as Martin's Station. During the same time period, Owen Station was established at present-day Ewing, and Gibson Station, which still holds its name, was established in close proximity to the future site of the Sayers House.

In 1774, a North Carolinian, Richard Henderson, organized a land speculation group called the *Transylvania Company* with the hope of establishing a colony on the west side of the Appalachian Mountains. They retained the services of experienced explorer Daniel Boone to blaze a trail leading through the Powell Valley and the Cumberland Gap into Kentucky. The following year Boone set forth from Fort Chiswell in western Virginia, identifying the optimal route west. The Wilderness Road, as it became known, was difficult traveling, even on foot or horseback. Nevertheless, it would become the principal westerly route used by settlers for more than fifty years. After crossing the Cumberland Gap, the Wilderness Road forked to the south, toward what would become the cities of Knoxville and Nashville, Tennessee, and to the north toward northeast Kentucky and the Falls of the Ohio River at Louisville. In 1796, the same year

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the Sayers House is believed to have been constructed, major improvements to the road were completed, greatly facilitating wagon and carriage travel.

As many as 300,000 settlers traveled along the Wilderness Road between 1775 and 1820. By 1840, use of the Wilderness Road had declined considerably as new, alternative passages to the west were established. During the Civil War, however, the Union and Confederate armies heavily traveled the road through the Cumberland Gap, which changed hands four times throughout the war. Throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, the road provided an important route for timber, farm produce, and other commodities sold in distant eastern markets, as well as for supplies heading west to sustain newer settlements.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

Gray, Lynn Woodruff. *The Families of the Old Stone Mansion*, privately published, 2006.

_____. Personal communication with the author, 2014.

Parkey, Robert. Personal communication with the author, 2014.

Pendleton, Philip et al. Sayers Homestead Phase II Architectural Survey Form, October, 1994. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond.

_____. Phase II Cultural Resource Investigations, U.S. Highway 58, Site 44LE211 and Properties, 52-305, 52-340, 52-720, Lee County, Virginia. Louis Berger & Associates, 1994. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond.

Minutes of Architectural Evaluation Committee, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, November 1, 1994.

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park webpage, accessed 9/24/2014:
<http://www.nps.gov/cuga/historyculture/early-american-frontier.htm>

Wilderness Road State Park webpage, accessed 9/24/2014:
http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/wilderness-road.shtml#other_info

History.com, Wilderness Road webpage:
<http://www.history.com/topics/wilderness-road>

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 # _____

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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 No. 052-0340

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 7.0

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: 36.611470 | Longitude: -83.564190 |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

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: |

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4. Zone: Easting : Northing:

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

The Sayers Homestead National Register boundary consists only of the 7.0-acre curtilage surrounding the Sayers House, comprising the southwest corner of the 35-acre Lee County tax parcel 79-A-10. The nomination parcel is bounded by U.S. Highway 58 to the south and tax parcel 79-A-10C to the west. The boundary is shown on the accompanying maps, entitled "Location Map" and "Sketch Map."

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated seven-acre parcel encompasses the historic Sayers House, all of the farmstead buildings historically associated with the house, and a short vestige of the former Wilderness Road. The nominated site with farm buildings surrounded by farmland still visually conveys the homestead's historic context and setting.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Michael J. Pulice, Architectural Historian
organization: Virginia Department of Historic Resources
street & number: 962 Kime Lane
city or town: Salem state: VA zip code: 24153
e-mail: michael.pulice@dhr.virginia.gov
telephone: 540-387-5443
date: October, 2014

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.)

Photo Log

Name of Property: Sayers Homestead
City or Vicinity: Ewing, Virginia
County: Lee
Photographer: Michael J. Pulice
Date Photographed: February 2014

Legend

Location Map

William Sayers Homestead

Lee County, Virginia

DHR No. 052-0340

Location Coordinates:

Latitude: 36.611470

Longitude: -83.564190



Feet

0 600 1200 1800 2400

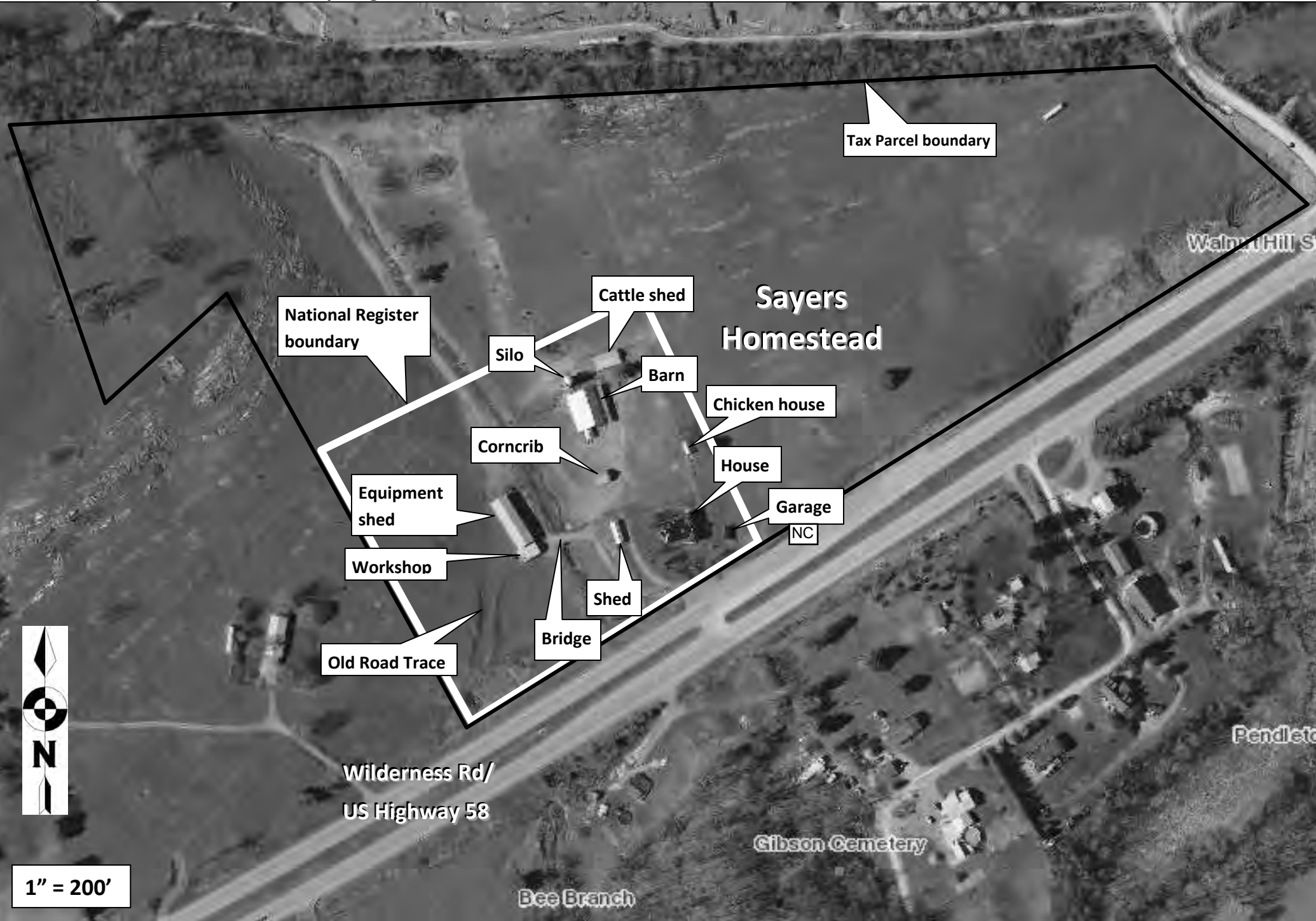
1:36,112 / 1"=3,009 Feet

Title: Sayers Homestead, Lee County, Virginia

Date: 10/24/2014

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.



National Register boundary

Tax Parcel boundary

Sayers Homestead

Cattle shed

Silo

Barn

Chicken house

Corncrib

House

Garage
NC

Equipment shed

Workshop

Shed

Bridge

Old Road Trace

Wilderness Rd/
US Highway 58

Gibson Cemetery

Pendleton

Bee Branch

1" = 200'



All resources are contributing except Garage

William Sayers Homestead
Name of Property

Lee County, Virginia
County and State

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

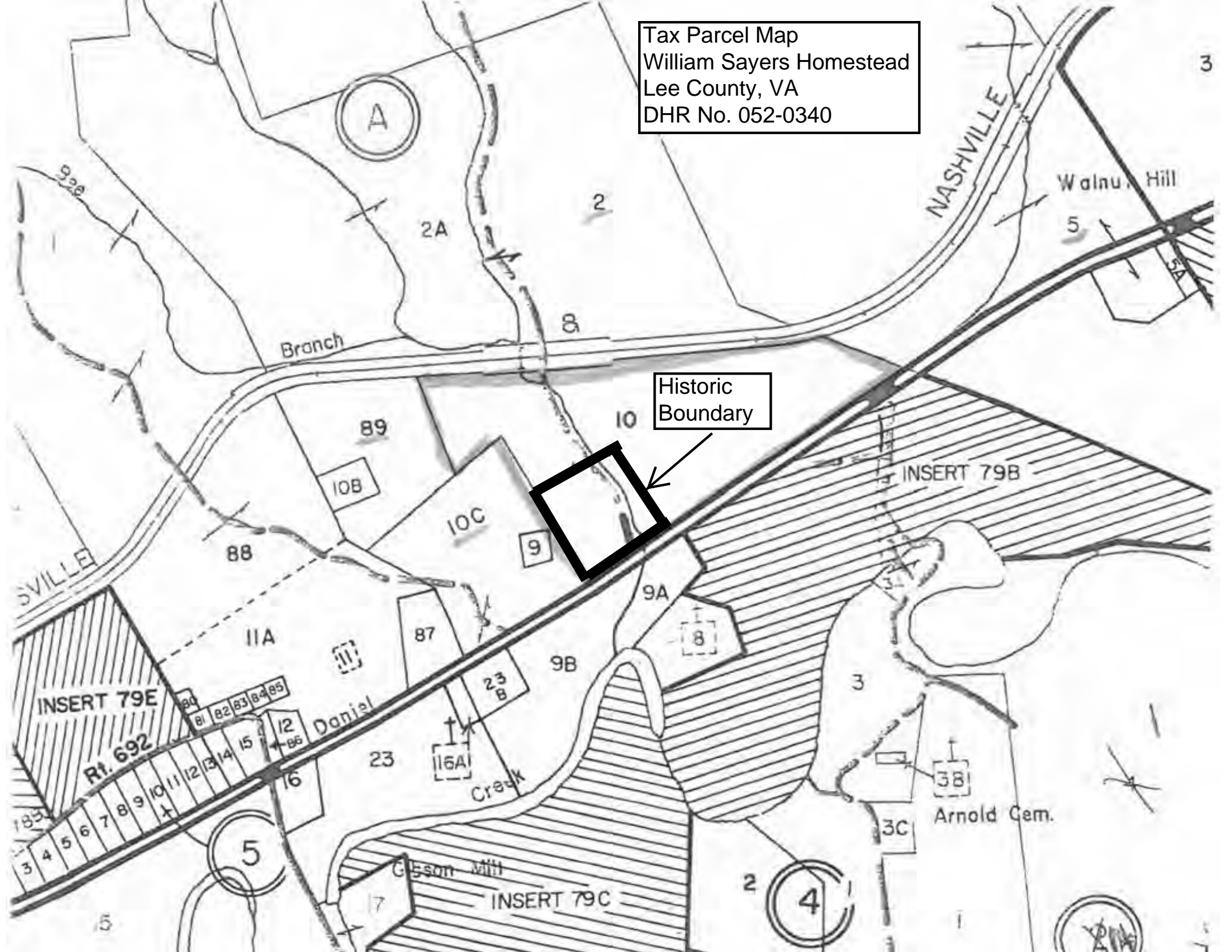
- 0001. Sayers House, front, looking northeast
- 0002. Sayers House, front, looking northwest
- 0003. Sayers House front porch, second story, looking west
- 0004. Sayers House, rear, looking east-southeast
- 0005. Sayers House, stone section, first-floor west room, west wall fireplace
- 0006. Sayers House, stone section, first-floor east room, east wall fireplace
- 0007. Sayers House, stone section, second-floor west room, west wall fireplace
- 0008. Sayers House, east (frame) wing, second-floor passage, looking south
- 0009. Sayers Farmyard, looking north-northeast from Sayers House
- 0010. Sayers Farmyard, looking north from old road trace

PHOTO KEY. [Number and direction of *exterior photos only* indicated by numbered arrows.]



Tax Parcel Map
William Sayers Homestead
Lee County, VA
DHR No. 052-0340

Historic
Boundary























UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Sayers, William, Homestead
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: VIRGINIA, Lee

DATE RECEIVED: 1/02/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/21/15
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/05/15 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/17/15
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15000017

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 2-17-15 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places**

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Historic Resources

2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23221

Molly Joseph Ward
Secretary of Natural Resources



Julie V. Langan
Director

Tel: (804) 367-2323
Fax: (804) 367-2391
www.dhr.virginia.gov

December 19, 2014

Mr. Paul Loether
Chief, National Register of Historic Places and National Historic Landmarks Programs
National Park Service 2280
National Register of Historic Places
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, N.W.
Washington D.C. 20005

RE: William Sayers Homestead, Lee County, Virginia

Dear Mr. Loether:

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the **William Sayers Homestead** to the National Register of Historic Places. Submitted for your review, the nomination has been considered, and approved, by the State Review Board and the Virginia SHPO has recommended it for listing. Any letters of comment or objection have been copied at the end of the nomination material, along with any FPO notification letters.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. My direct phone line is 804-482-6439.

Sincerely,

Lena Sweeten McDonald
National/State Register Historian

Enclosures

Administrative Services
10 Courthouse Ave.
Petersburg, VA 23803
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Fax: (804) 862-6196

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Richmond, VA 23221
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14415 Old Courthouse Way
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Newport News, VA 23608
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