NPS Form 10-900
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

OMB No. 1024-0018

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NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
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889

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: Ferrum College Historic District

Other names/site number: DHR #033-0286

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: 215 Ferrum Mountain Road

City or town: Ferrum State: Virginia 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Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: X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 X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___national ___statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A ___B X C ___D

9/28/13

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**

Ferrum College Historic District
Name of Property

Franklin County, Virginia
County and State

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:) _____

for Edson H. Beall 10.29.13

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:	X
Public – Local	
Public – State	
Public – Federal	

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s)	
District	X
Site	
Structure	
Object	

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
8	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
8	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use
Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
EDUCATION: school

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
EDUCATION: college

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)
LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Colonial Revival
LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Classical Revival
LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Craftsman

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK, CONCRETE, WOOD

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

Summary Paragraph

The Ferrum College Historic District constitutes the historic core campus of Ferrum College, located in the community of Ferrum in Franklin County, Virginia. The nominated area of approximately five acres is surrounded by later campus buildings and occupies a gently sloping ridge at approximately 1,350 feet above sea level. Surrounding the campus are wooded hills and mountains, outliers of the Blue Ridge Mountains, that define the valley of Story Creek, a branch of the Pigg and Roanoke rivers. The district contains eight contributing buildings of brick, concrete, and frame construction built between 1914 and 1942, primarily in the Colonial Revival style with other secondary stylistic influences. The district has integrity of location, setting, feeling, association, materials, design, and workmanship. The inventory that follows lists the chief modern name of each building followed by its construction date, DHR ID number, other names and designations in parentheses, contributing status, and architectural and historical description. Some buildings adjacent to the nominated area appear to date to the historic period before 1964 but they belong to a later period of the school's development beginning in the mid-1950s that continued past 1963. Much of the dating and other building information comes from Frank Benjamin Hurt's *A History of Ferrum College* (1977).

Narrative Description

Inventory

1. **Stratton House.** Ca. 1915. 033-0286-0001. (President's Residence; Principal's Residence; Maple Crest; Building 50). Contributing Building.

The two-story Colonial Revival and Foursquare-influenced frame house has vinyl siding and an asphalt-shingled hip roof. The house's basic form and its symmetrical window/door/window façade are original though it has lost an original one-story front porch with classical columns and a hipped dormer on the front of the roof. Original weatherboard-siding may survive under the vinyl. Originally the house was similar in appearance to the Classical Revival and Craftsman-influenced Foursquare-form houses common in the region's towns and cities, but in the mid-1950s it was remodeled in the Colonial Revival style. The front entry was given a surround of fluted Doric pilasters capped by a broken pediment with a central urn. At or about the same time two one-story side additions were made: a screened porch on the south side, which communicates with the interior through two French doors with transoms, and an enclosed sunroom on the north side. A two-bay, gable-roofed, attached garage projects to the rear. Other exterior features include replacement 12/12 and 9/9-pattern false muntin windows; true muntins in the sidelights and transom around the front entry; a recessed rear entry with a simple pedimented surround; Doric columns in the screen porch; and a flagstone walkway.

The house's symmetry is reflected on the interior by its center-passage plan. The interior is characterized by plaster-finish walls and ceilings; simple molded door and window trim; molded chair rails; and typically carpeted floors. In the center passage is a stair with slender turned newels and balusters and scrolled tread brackets, detail that appears to date to the 1950s remodeling. The south main room, the living room, features an apparently original two-stage Colonial Revival mantel with a mirrored overmantel. The shelves of the upper and lower stages are supported by colonnettes. Other interior features include a Nutone intercom system, crown moldings in the living room and the dining room (located on the north side of the center passage), pickled wood paneling in the sunroom, and a recently remodeled kitchen.

Historian Frank B. Hurt notes that Ferrum's first president, Benjamin Moore Beckham, moved into this house in 1915, although the house may have been completed in 1914. Other original occupants of the house would have included Nannie Barrow Beckham, Benjamin's wife, the couple's children, and presumably the family maid, Bettie Martin Price. According to historian Vaughan Webb the first floor was originally pressed into service for classroom space and the Beckham family used only the upstairs. Early photographs show domestic outbuildings behind the house (now gone) and a two-story rear wing that incorporated a porch on the lower level and what may have been a sleeping porch above. This apparently original rear wing was replaced by the present two stories of rear rooms added within a few decades of original construction. A 1940 insurance plat shows a garage, now gone, to the southeast of the house. There is a suggestion in Hurt's history that a rose garden may have existed next to the house at an early

date. Hurt notes that the house was remodeled during the term of college President C. Ralph Arthur, which began in 1954. Other information indicates the work was done before 1958. A plaque states that the house was dedicated on March 19, 1990, in memory of Mary B. Stratton of Chesterfield.

2. **Spilman-Daniel House.** Ca. 1914. 033-0286-0002. (White Cottage; Home Economics Building; Building 40). Contributing Building.

The two-story Colonial Revival and Foursquare-influenced frame house has vinyl siding and an asphalt-shingled hip roof. The house's basic form and its symmetrical window/door/window façade are original though it has lost an original one-story full-façade front porch and its original weatherboard siding has been removed or covered. The present one-story front porch covers the entry only and has a pedimented gable roof supported by classical columns. The porch, though not original, may be relatively early. Other exterior features include an original hipped front dormer, replacement 12/12 and 9/9-pattern false muntin windows with false shutters, and extensive one-story rear wings. The principal spaces on the first floor have been remodeled and feature plaster-finish walls and ceilings, Ranch trim, a solid stair railing, and wood floors.

Frank Hurt notes construction of this house in 1914 and/or 1915. According to historian Vaughan Webb, 1914 is the more likely of the two dates. Originally known as the White Cottage, the house provided dorm space for boys and was later used to house the school's domestic science program and faculty apartments. At the time of Hurt's writing in 1977 it was used as a faculty residence. A photograph of the nascent campus taken before 1917 shows the house in existence and another early photograph labeled it "Boy's Dormitory #1." According to a plaque at the front entry, the house was dedicated in 1990 in honor of Louis and Emily Spilman of Waynesboro.

3. **John Wesley Hall.** 1914-15. 033-0286-0003. (Building 215). Contributing Building.

The Colonial Revival two-story brick building is laid in 1:5 American bond on a high poured concrete basement level and has an asphalt-shingled gable roof. The roof has a number of pedimented dormers with shingle-pattern pressed-metal sides and pilasters with molded caps. Windows, which are segmental-arched in the brick sections, have mostly 9/9 replacement sashes with false muntins. A few original 9/9 and 6/6 (basement) sashes survive to the rear. Centered on the front (west) elevation is a brick pediment with a round (oculus) opening with a keyblock surround that contains a non-original window with radial cobweb muntins. A window originally occupied the opening but the present one apparently dates to the modern period. Centered on the first story below is the front entry set into a surround of sidelights and transom and sheltered by a one-story porch with triple classical columns at the front corners and flat pilasters at the building wall. The porch also has a beaded tongue-and-groove ceiling, brick foundation piers, and modern-period concrete front steps with metal railings. The building has north and south gable-end entries under pedimented porches with fluted Doric columns and pilasters and beaded tongue-and-groove sheathing in the pediments. A concrete boiler wing formerly extended to the rear (evidence for it is visible on the exterior brickwork). The wing contained a steam-powered

electric generator that was superseded by a separate boiler house serving the entire campus and, in 1931, by outside electric service.

The interior features a double-loaded corridor plan with a short transverse entry hall. Walls preserve much of their original plaster though ceilings are a mix of refinished plaster or gypsum board, paper tile, and dropped acoustic tile. The corridor floors are carpeted; the attic level has some wood flooring exposed. Five-panel stack-panel doors are typical; those letting onto the corridors typically have transoms that are now blocked. The stairs are situated at the north and south ends of the corridors and have square newels and balusters, the newels with simple caps. Interestingly, the cap at the north entry is bifurcated and somewhat resembles an open bible. Early paint colors are evident at scuff and chip marks in the stair including institutional green, cream, gray, and black under the present white. Other interior features include chair rails and molded baseboards in the corridors, a basket-handle archway connecting the foyer and corridor, and some beaded tongue-and-groove sheathing in the basement.

A plaque on the ground in front of the building states construction of John Wesley Hall commenced in May 1913 when the "first brick" was laid by Dora Beckham Wilson, the daughter of Ferrum's first president, Benjamin Moore Beckham, although most evidence points to substantial construction occurring primarily in 1914. There is a reference to the building and its architect, George R. Ragan of Roanoke, in the April 30, 1914, issue of the trade journal *Manufacturers Record*. Historian Ethel Born states that the building was completed in 1915 and was "built in sections to relieve cramped conditions as enrollment increased." Frank Hurt concurs that the building was constructed in phases with two-thirds of it being built initially. Architectural and documentary evidence indicates that the original section, apparently completed in time for the opening of the school on September 15, 1914, was the northern two thirds, the point of addition marked by a seam in the exterior brickwork and a remnant of outer wall in the first-floor corridor. Hurt writes: "The girl students and women of the faculty were to occupy the second floor and dormer rooms for their living quarters. The instructional program was to be carried out on the first floor by using temporarily two bedrooms thrown together for classrooms. The basement was to [comprise] space for a kitchen, dining room, and rooms for boys." Later the entire building was converted to male dormitory use.

Hurt credits Lynchburg contractor J. P. Pettyjohn Company with construction of the addition completed in 1915 and it may be that Pettyjohn's company built the original section as well. According to President Beckham, this was the only building built during his tenure through 1934 that was constructed on contract (Beckham superintended the construction of other buildings). The added section housed twelve bedrooms, an auditorium, several classrooms, a faculty apartment, and an infirmary. The building also contained a space used as a chapel, possibly the auditorium. A renovation was completed ca. 1950.

4. **Beckham Hall**. 1917. 033-0286-0004. (Administration Building; Building 225). Contributing Building.

The Classical Revival two-story brick building is laid in 1:5 American bond on a high poured concrete basement level that creates a three-story appearance. The dominant architectural feature

is the front entry frontispiece of dual monumental Doric columns *in antis* flanked by brick piers with caps and bases. Between the columns is an entry surmounted by a large multipane transom. Over the transom is a panel of decorative brickwork with a central diamond motif of brick and green tile. This is evoked in the soffit of the entablature by a diamond-shaped panel. These diamond forms represent Craftsman influence, also seen in the design of the flat-roofed building's brick parapet which is peaked on the front and has rectangular projections on the south and north elevations (the parapet is flat across the rear east elevation). The brick upper stories and the poured concrete basement level have tall rectangular windows, typically paired, with modern-period 9/9 sashes. On the south and north ends are one-story entry porches supported by square brick pillars and pilasters on raised bases. At the foot of the south entry steps are blade-like iron boot scrapers set in concrete. The interior features a double-loaded corridor plan with a short transverse entry/stair hall. The corridors have plaster-type wall finishes, acoustic tile ceilings, and carpeted floors. The entry hall stair and the stairs at the ends of the corridors have rectangular newels and balusters. Other interior features include a landing-level office with interior windows over the entry hall, a slate entry hall floor, milk glass pendant light fixtures, and a glass-walled conference room on the second floor.

According to historian Frank Hurt, the need for additional classroom and administrative space that led to the construction of Beckham Hall was discussed at a February 1917 board of trustees meeting. Plans for the building called for eight classrooms, two rest rooms for teachers, "an auditorium with 217 opera chairs," and the ability to open folding doors to adjacent classrooms in order to expand the auditorium to a capacity of 300. The building, which was completed in 1917, was also to contain two laboratories (biology and chemistry), a principal's office, and a store. Historic photographs show the chemistry lab in the building's lowest level had concrete floors, metal columns, and a tongue-and-groove ceiling. Known during its early years as the Administration Building, the building was renamed in honor of first Ferrum president Benjamin Moore Beckham in 1936.

5. **Roberts Hall**. 1921. 033-0286-0005. (Centenary Hall; Building 295). Contributing Building.

The Colonial Revival two-story brick building is laid in 1:5 American bond on a poured concrete basement and has an asphalt-shingled gable roof. The roof has multiple pedimented dormers with vinyl-sheathed sides. A centered one-story porch shelters the main west-elevation entry and flanking window bays. The porch stands on square Doric columns with paneled faces, molded caps, and moldings at railing level. The porch railing has modern-period turned balusters. The originally secondary entry on the east rear side is sheltered by a tall porch supported by tapered square columns and pilasters with paneled faces. A handicap ramp leads to the porch. Other exterior features include a sidelight and transom front entry surround (with original muntins); window openings with concrete sills and lintels and 12/12 false muntin replacement sashes; and a south entry with a decorative iron railing (possibly original). The principal interior space is an entry/stair hall on the east side with modern-era metal stair railings and a ceiling with articulated beams.

According to Frank Hurt, a fundraising effort during the years 1919 to 1921 resulted in the appropriation of $50,000 for the construction of a girls' dormitory known as Centenary Hall, which was completed in 1921. In addition to bedrooms to accommodate 125 girls, the building contained a kitchen, pantry, two dining rooms (for men and women), a guest suite, two parlors, and an infirmary. Historic photographs indicate that the building was placed in use before the front porch was completed. The building's original name reflected the hundredth anniversary of American Methodist Missions. In 1936 it was renamed in honor of Miss M. Lutie Roberts of Ashland, who in the 1920s served as secretary of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Virginia Conference. A plaque inside the west entry states that the Roberts Hall renovation was dedicated in 2007. Hanbury Evans Wright Vlattas was the architectural firm for the renovation and Branch and Associates was the general contractor.

6. **Schoolfield Hall**. 1925. 033-0286-0006. (Schoolfield Memorial Hall; Sale Theatre; Building 200). Contributing Building.

The Colonial Revival two-story building has an asphalt-shingled hip roof and is constructed of 1:6 and 1:7 American bond brick. It stands on a high poured concrete basement level that, in combination with the building's architectural refinement, gives it an imposing air. The principal façade is the south elevation which is distinguished by a forward-projecting center wing with a pediment and an engaged colonnade of monumental Doric columns *in antis*. Between the four columns, which are bracketed at the ends by brick piers with paneled faces, are three entries. The principal center entry has a projecting gable supported by console brackets, an eared surround, and double-leaf doors with glazing with asterisk-pattern muntins. Similar doors are contained in the flanking entries which have simple brick surrounds and blind arches with concrete impost blocks and keyblocks. In the second story are a center arched window with radial muntins in the arch and impost blocks and keyblocks in the surround. Flanking it are 6/6 windows with articulated concrete lintels above and narrow stuccoed panels beneath. The pediment has horizontal and raking cornices with modillions and a tympanum with black asphalt-shingle sheathing and a center oculus window with a keyblock surround and diamond-pattern muntins. The modillion cornice and paneled brick piers are treatments that wrap around to the other facades except for the relatively plain rear projection. The side elevations have tall round-arch windows with brick surrounds with concrete impost blocks and keyblocks. These windows, like those on the front, retain their original muntins. Other exterior features include textured glass panes in windows behind which are bathrooms, a non-original ventilation cupola on the roof, and brick and concrete front steps—as wide as the front pedimented wing in width—that connect to a plaza.

The front entries open into a small lobby with modern-period finishes that connects to a transverse hallway in which are displayed the paintings of the Anne Bell Collection. The paintings portray various aspects of mountain people and culture and are described as "reinterpretations of Ferrum College Lantern Slides." The principal interior space is the auditorium which features a proscenium defined by paneled Doric columns, a wooden stage, sound-proofed walls, and rows of metal auditorium seats. On the east side of the building and in close proximity to it are two features. One is the original Schoolfield Memorial Hall Chapel Bell, which is supported by a cinder block pedestal and which was rededicated in 2008 according to a

plaque. The black-painted bell retains its curving supports and wheel mounts and has components stamped with "No. 30" and "No. 32" (a foundry inscription was not observed). The second feature is the Class of 2004 Clock, an old-style round clock on a decorative post.

The growth of enrollment during Ferrum's first decade of existence outstripped the seating capacity of campus and community facilities for worship. Consequently, in 1921-22 planning was underway for the construction of an "institutional church" or campus chapel. Danville industrialist R. A. Schoolfield and his wife donated to the effort. The building was constructed for $50,000 and dedicated in the spring of 1925. Historic photographs show early phases of construction during the summer months, perhaps in 1924. As originally constructed the building featured a belfry on the front gable ridge which matched the building in style with arched louvered openings, asphalt-shingle sheathing, and a pyramidal roof with a spike finial. The sanctuary, which was designed to hold more than 500 people, featured an Estey pipe organ donated by Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Ivey of Lynchburg. On its lower level the building housed a recreation hall, a basketball court, a stage, and a "moving picture projection room."

7. **Britt Hall**. 1941-42. 033-0286-0007. (Building 205). Contributing Building.

The Colonial Revival two-story building has an asphalt-shingled hip roof and stretcher bond brickwork. The first-story front (west) facade has large round-arch multipane windows with radial muntins in the arch and keyblocks (probably concrete) above. Similar arched windows extend across the rear whereas other windows are square-headed and have 12/8, 8/8, 9/6, and 6/6 sashes (at least one narrow secondary window has 4/4 sashes). The front is distinguished by a slightly projecting frontispiece capped by a stucco pediment with raking dentil moldings and a large louvered vent. As designed the building was to have a half-round window in the pediment, however the vent was substituted originally or at an early date. The focal point of the frontispiece is an entry in a classical surround consisting of Doric-like pilasters with molded caps, a dentilated entablature, and a round-arch doorway with double-leaf wood and glass panel doors, a transom with radial muntins, a keyblock in the arch, and triangular panels in the spandrels. The corners of the frontispiece are quoined, a treatment also used for the building's four principal corners. Other exterior features include classical entry surrounds at the front ends of the building which feature wood and glass panel doors, heavy molded cornices, and elliptical and fluted motifs in the lintels; and decorative panels in brick under the arched windows. Little of the original decorative finishes survive on the first-floor interior other than paneling around the front entry. Walls have plaster-type finishes, floors are wood or carpeted, ceilings are dropped, and trim (doors, windows, chair rails in some rooms) have a modern Ranch character.

The plaque by Britt Hall's front entry states, erroneously, that the building was erected in 1930. It also states the building was erected in honor of Lula Vanderslice Britt by the Woman's Missionary Society of the Virginia Conference. The building was in fact built in 1941-42 to a design by Richmond architect J. Binford Walford. The architect's presentation drawing describes the building as a "library and dormitory building" and bears two dates, 1940 and January 1941. The building housed the school library on the first floor and faculty lodgings on the second floor. Historic photographs show the library interior spanned by wood-cased beams supported by square wood-cased columns.

8. **Richeson Hall**. 1939-40. 033-0286-0008. (Ida R. Richeson Infirmary; Building 235). Contributing Building.

The one-story building of simple classically-inspired design has a stretcher bond brick veneer over frame and an asphalt-shingled hip roof. The entry at the center of the five-bay front (west) façade is set into an elliptically-arched recess. Windows have 6/6 sashes and the back door has an entry porch. The interior retains a number of original features such as five-panel stack-panel doors, many with crystal knobs; a men's room with a black and white tile floor; and a T-shaped interior corridor that widens at its intersection and the two ends of the cap of the T (the short stem of the T connects to the front entry). Other interior features include original ceiling heights, modern wood floors, and traces of institutional green paint at wear marks near the front entry.

The infirmary was built in 1939-40 by the Woman's Missionary Society (or Council) for a cost of $5,200. According to Frank Hurt the building was completed in time to open for the 1940-41 school year. The infirmary's resident physician was Dr. James M. Green and its capacity was fourteen patients accommodated in male and female wards. Dr. Green provided medical services to Ferrum townsfolk and surrounding residents as well the student body. Eventually, as his practice grew, he opened a private office in town at which point the infirmary was staffed by a nurse. From its opening in 1940 until the opening of the Franklin Memorial Hospital in Rocky Mount in 1952, Ferrum's infirmary with its "fully equipped operating room" was apparently the only health care facility in the county where major operations could be performed.

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.)

[x] 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.

[x] 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

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
EDUCATION
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance
1913-1942

Significant Dates
1913
1914

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Ragan, George R. (architect)
J. P. Pettyjohn Company (builder)
Walford, John Binford (architect)

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 Ferrum College Historic District, located in the community of Ferrum in Franklin County, Virginia, represents the historic core of what was originally the Ferrum Training School, a Methodist-affiliated high school established in 1913. The school grew out of a desire by Virginia Methodists to provide educational opportunities to underprivileged young people in the state's Blue Ridge region. The eight buildings that constitute the historic core campus date from 1914 to 1942 and are primarily of Colonial Revival and Classical Revival architectural character. They include two Foursquare-form houses, one of which has served as the president's residence since 1915, and a 1940 infirmary that served for a time as the county's best-equipped health center. In 1926 Ferrum's trustees voted to recast the institution as a junior college and by the eve of World War II approximately half of the enrolled students were college level. By the 1950s the junior college transformation was complete. In 1976 Ferrum achieved accreditation as a four-year college. The Ferrum College Historic District is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A: education and Criterion C: architecture at the local level of significance. At the local level of significance, the district represents the premier historic educational institution in the county, there being no other institutions of higher learning in Franklin County during the first half of the twentieth century. Architecturally the district constitutes a stylistically harmonious grouping of educational buildings that embody the distinctive characteristics of classically-influenced early-twentieth-century design. Two of the district's eight buildings and presumably others of similar character and quality were designed by Virginia architects. The district has integrity of location, setting, feeling, association, materials, design, and workmanship. The period of significance extends from Ferrum's founding in 1913 until 1942, the last date of major construction activity in the historic core campus area and a date that caps the period of the institution's initial growth.

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

Ferrum College grew out of a desire by the Danville District of the Virginia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, to provide high school education to young people in the district's mountainous western portion. The district embraces four Virginia counties—Franklin, Henry, Patrick, and Pittsylvania—with its headquarters in the city of Danville. The state conference, specifically its Woman's Missionary Council, also wished to provide educational outreach in the Virginia mountains, and beginning in 1909 various like-minded individuals began to work actively towards that goal.[1]

Among the idea's early backers was Dr. Benjamin Moore Beckham (b. 1868), the Presiding Elder of the Danville District. In 1909, the year Beckham became Presiding Elder, he was notified by Mrs. Lee Britt of Suffolk, who was active in home missionary efforts, that a sum of

$1,200 had been raised to "establish a school for mountain girls and boys in a place remote, yet accessible, where the need seemed the greatest." Others who played seminal roles in the institution's development included Mrs. E. H. Wall, who is credited with originating the idea of a school to serve the region's mountain children, and Rev. George T. Kesler, a Ferrum-area minister and educator. The Woman's Missionary Council spearheaded a fundraising drive with the goal of raising $50,000 for the project. Several locations were considered for the school before Ferrum was selected in 1912-13, owing in part to the existence of a Norfolk and Western Railway depot in the community. The eighty-acre George Goode Farm was purchased as the school site.[2]

The institution was named the Ferrum Training School and Beckham was appointed its first president. The Beckham family moved into the Goode House, formerly located to the south of the nominated area, on June 1, 1914. The following year the family moved into the newly completed President's Residence (now known as the Stratton House). The pressing need for classroom and dormitory space was satisfied by the construction of John Wesley Hall, named for the founder of Methodism. The original north and center sections of the building appear to have been completed in time for the 1914-15 school year; the southern third was added by the beginning of the 1915-16 school year. The school officially opened on September 15, 1914, with ninety students, of whom thirty-seven boarded at the institution and the rest were day students. In 1916, according to one source, the school had 108 students. Ferrum Training School existed in a context of small public and private schools serving local county populations. The trend over time, accelerating after the renewal of public education in the Commonwealth beginning in 1869, was towards increased public schooling. At the time Ferrum was getting its start, public schooling in Franklin County had advanced to the point that a high school was constructed in the county seat of Rocky Mount, the first Rocky Mount High School, which accommodated grades one through eleven in an eight-room brick building. A new Rocky Mount High School was completed in 1924 and the earlier building made into a graded school. In 1925-26 the county had one high school, two additional schools with high school curriculums, and four junior high schools.[3]

Ferrum's operating costs and expanding physical plant required President Beckham to raise funds on a continual basis. He is said to have visited one hundred churches to make funding appeals during his first year as president. During this early period the school accepted all worthy applicants regardless of their ability to pay. According to Virginia Methodist historian William Sweet, "Each student was expected to pay as much as he or she was able while the remainder of the cost of their schooling was earned by work on the school farm or dairy." Regardless of their financial circumstances each student was expected to work on average two hours a day for the upkeep of the school and the adjacent farm that provided food for meals. "The girls did all the work of the kitchen and dining room," writes Ferrum College historian Frank B. Hurt, "in addition to caring for their own rooms, and cleaning their dormitory and classrooms. The boys worked on the farm, cared for the farm animals—horses, mules, cows, pigs, and chickens—looked after the heating, lighting and pumping plants, cut and sawed wood, cleared the undergrowth on the farm, and helped to clean the school buildings."[4]

Ferrum's original curriculum included courses in English, Latin, Music, Vocal Music, Home Economics, and Athletics. Early additions included mathematics, Bible study, and history. The school boasted two literary societies in its initial year of operation, and students were expected to join the societies to hone their public speaking skills. The faculty and staff were primarily female; the only males were apparently Principal Beckham and Farm Manager O. Moore Blackwell. In the late 1930s extracurricular activities included a science club, the Dynamics (Dramatics) Club, the Cosmopolitan Literary Society, and a glee club. In the 1950s, after the school had become a junior college, course offerings included English, modern languages, mathematics, ethics, Bible study, preaching, dairy science, and livestock and poultry production. Steady growth in enrollment led to the construction of additional buildings: Beckham Hall (1917), Roberts Hall (1921), and Schoolfield Hall (1925).[5]

During the early years of Ferrum's operations, the school's promoters developed a plan to extend its programs through a branch or mission school system. Methodist churches around the state contributed funds for the construction of schoolhouses in Floyd, Franklin, Madison, and Patrick counties. At their peak in the 1920s these schools served an approximate annual enrollment of four hundred students and functioned as feeder schools for Ferrum. The 1920s also marked a turning point in Ferrum's mission. In 1926, due in large part to the expansion of public high school education in the region, Ferrum's board of trustees voted to change the school to a junior college and phase out its high school program. Implementation of the change was complicated by the economic situation of the late 1920s and 1930s, a period of uncertainty for the institution. Despite the desire to transition to a collegiate focus, as late as ca. 1940 approximately half of the school's 258 students were high school pupils and ninety percent of students still worked on the school grounds and farm to pay for their education. Nevertheless, in 1940 a name change to Ferrum Training School-Ferrum Junior College was approved.[6]

Ferrum suffered reduced enrollments and rising costs during World War II and problems persisted after the war, threatening the institution's survival well into the 1950s. Enrollment remained low: in 1954 it numbered only 118 students. Prospects improved with the appointment of Dr. C. Ralph Arthur as the college's seventh president in 1954. According to historians John and Emily Salmon, during a term that extended to 1970 Arthur "led successful campaigns to enlarge the school's endowment, negotiated loans for new construction, saw to completion the building of virtually an entire new campus, initiated a program of intercollegiate athletics, and more than tripled the student enrollment." Arthur saw through the long-term goal of reorganization when in 1960 Ferrum Junior College was accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. His legacy continued after his term with Ferrum's accreditation as a four-year college in 1976.[7]

In 1955 the board of trustees launched an ambitious plan to raise $1 million for the improvement of the pre-war campus and construction of new dorms, married student housing, academic buildings, and athletic facilities. The Richmond architectural firm of Robinson and Walford prepared many or all of the plans for the buildings constructed during this period. The physical expansion was tracked by increased enrollment which jumped over thirty percent with the 1955-56 school year. The same year saw the discontinuance of the high school program. Another statistic reflects the institution's changed mission: in 1958 ninety-five percent of the student

body came from communities further than fifty miles from Ferrum. In the 1963-64 school year the on-campus enrollment of 769 students was the highest the institution had seen in its fifty-year history.[8]

Architectural Discussion

Like most historic college campuses, Ferrum grew in an accretive manner following its establishment in 1913, adding buildings as need warranted and funds allowed, but unlike some colleges Ferrum maintained stylistic uniformity during its initial period of development. Ferrum's uniformity is largely due to the fact that the historic core campus developed at a time when classically-inspired idioms like the Colonial Revival and Classical Revival styles were normative for institutional architecture, especially in Virginia with its strong tradition of architectural classicism. The design and construction of the first building, John Wesley Hall, in the mid-1910s occurred twenty years after the Chicago World Columbian Exposition of 1893 established classicism as the preferred mode for American institutional and civic architecture, a trend that continued strong until the post-World War II turn to modernism, which occurred after the construction of the last core campus building, Britt Hall, in 1941-42. So, too, the construction of John Wesley Hall in the Colonial Revival style set a precedent for later buildings, the majority of which were constructed during the school's first dozen years.

For its first building the school tapped Roanoke architect George R. Ragan. The April 30, 1914, issue of the trade journal *Manufacturers Record* identified Ragan as the designer of a dormitory at the "Ferrum Industrial School for Girls." Though the school name is non-standard, the date of the notice and the dormitory function indicate the building in question was John Wesley Hall. According to historian Vaughan Webb, Ragan was described in 1914 board minutes as Ferrum's official architect. Ragan was a prolific designer of school buildings throughout the region during the first three decades of the twentieth century. He employed the Colonial Revival style for a number of these projects including the 1911-12 Salem High School and the Graham High School (cornerstone laid in 1914). At approximately the same time John Wesley Hall was built the school constructed two frame residences of conventional Foursquare design to the south of it. The three buildings established a west-facing row that was continued by the construction of Beckham and Roberts halls.[9]

Subsequent buildings—Beckham Hall (1917), Roberts Hall (1921), and Schoolfield Hall (1925)—more or less follow the Colonial Revival style established by John Wesley Hall. Beckham Hall may be more accurately described as a blend of Classical Revival and Craftsman stylistic influence though in its brick construction and predominately classical detail it is not out of keeping with surrounding Colonial Revival buildings. Of these Schoolfield Hall, originally the campus chapel, was the most ornate, befitting its function. Schoolfield is also distinguished by its offset siting, in line with the approach to the school from the south, which along with its elevation on a tall basement story gave it greater prominence. It is unknown whether the chapel was intended as the axial focal point of a mall-like space lined on both sides by buildings, an arrangement like the Lawn at the University of Virginia. Such a mall-like space was created by the construction of buildings to the west of the original buildings during the second half of the

twentieth century, though the buildings are sited so that they are partly in front of Schoolfield and its prominence in the campus layout diminished.

Whether George Ragan was the architect for buildings in addition to John Wesley Hall is unknown. The only other architect active in the core campus area during the historic period for which there is record is Richmond architect John Binford Walford (1891-1956) whose design for Britt Hall bears two dates, 1940 and January 1941. Walford worked for part of his early career with noted Virginia public school architect Charles M. Robinson and he assumed control of the latter's practice upon Robinson's death in 1932. Virtually all of Binford's known work for the period 1934 to 1955 was school related, most of it collegiate. His firm designed a number of Ferrum College buildings located outside the nominated area from the mid-1950s on.[10]

Ferrum's setting and grounds evolved during the historic period. The area to the east of the core campus was occupied (in 1940) by a barn, a cattle barn with silo, and a hay barn. The cattle barn appears to have functioned more as a dairy barn and it had at one time a separate milk house. In 1915 plans were obtained from the British Columbia Department of Agriculture for the construction of a building with an insulated concrete lower level for the winter storage of fruits and vegetables and an upper level used as a cannery. This building and the barns are long gone. Historic photographs and other sources chronicle improvements to the school grounds which in early views were bare in appearance. Rows of trees were planted in the mall-like space in front of the buildings by the late 1920s. An early project was the laying of a cinder walk from the campus to the center of the nearby village of Ferrum so that students and faculty didn't have to walk in the (unpaved) road. A 1950s brochure shows poured concrete landscape features such as a round planter in front of Beckham Hall and archways at the ends of walkways that extended westward from the front entries of Beckham, Roberts, and Wesley halls. These features are now gone although some of the trees planted in the 1920s remain, as do later shade tree plantings. An important landscape feature visible a short distance to the west is Adams Lake, which was constructed in 1966-67 though it was projected as early as the mid-1950s.[11]

Endnotes

1. Hurt, *History of Ferrum College*, 13. Hurt, who was personally familiar with the campus from its inception in the 1910s, also chronicles more general efforts toward the establishment of a mountain school under the aegis of the Methodist Church extending back into the nineteenth century (pages 8-12, 27). The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, later joined with other Methodist groups to form the United Methodist Church. The Woman's Missionary Council was formed in 1910 through the merger of the Woman's Home Missionary Society and the Women's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South (United Methodist Church website; Sweet, *Virginia Methodism*, 385). The preparation of this nomination was a collaborative effort between the author, Dan Pezzoni, and staff of the Blue Ridge Institute and Museum at Ferrum College, specifically its Director, Roddy Moore, and Assistant Director, Vaughan Webb, who contributed information on the institution's history and made historical photographs and other archival materials available. Assistance was also provided by Kimberly P. Blair, Vice President for Institutional Advancement at Ferrum, and Brenda C. Martin, Executive Assistant to the Vice President for Institutional Advancement. Staff members of the Virginia

Department of Historic Resources who provided assistance included Quatro Hubbard, Lena McDonald, Michael Pulice, and Jolene L. U. Smith.

2. Hurt, *History of Ferrum College*, 13-25; Born, *Because They Had the Vision*, 2.

3. Hurt, *History of Ferrum College*, 27, 33; Sweet, *Virginia Methodism*, 348; Salmon and Salmon, *Franklin County*, 202-206, 383, 386-388; Ramsey and Law, "Franklin County Public Schools," 55-56.

4. Hurt, *History of Ferrum College*, 32-33, 46; Sweet, *Virginia Methodism*, 348.

5. Hurt, *History of Ferrum College*, 35; Sweet, *Virginia Methodism*, 349; *Ferrum College Bulletin*, Spring 1988, p. 3.

6. Hurt, *History of Ferrum College*, 57-59, 65-66, 69, 79-81, 83; Born, *Because They Had the Vision*, 12.

7. Hurt, *History of Ferrum College*, 89, 117; Salmon and Salmon, *Franklin County*, 457; *Roanoke Times & World News*, October 25, 1981.

8. Hurt, *History of Ferrum College*, 109, 114, 119, 135.

9. Vaughan Webb personal communication; Wells and Dalton, *Virginia Architects*, 368; Graham High School website; Middleton, *Salem, A Virginia Chronicle*, 268; Salem Educational Foundation and Alumni Association website.

10. Wells and Dalton, *Virginia Architects*, 458-459.

11. Hurt, *History of Ferrum College*, 47, 50, 141-142; "Trustees Ferrum Training School;" "New Horizons for Ferrum and You;" "The Ferrum Story."

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

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Born, Ethel W. *Because They Had the Vision . . . Ferrum College and Methodist Women The First 100 Years.* 2012.

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"The Ferrum Story." Brochure, ca. 1957.

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Hurt, Frank Benjamin. *A History of Ferrum College.* Roanoke, Va.: 1977.

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Salmon, John S., and Emily J. Salmon. *Franklin County, Virginia, 1786-1986: A Bicentennial History.* Rocky Mount, Va.: Franklin County Bicentennial Commission, 1993.

Sweet, William Warren. *Virginia Methodism, A History.* Richmond: Whittet and Shepperson, 1955.

"Trustees Ferrum Training School." Plan (1940) by James T. Catlin & Son Co., Inc., on file in the Ferrum College archives.

United Methodist Church website (http://www.umc.org/site/).

Wells, John E., and Robert E. Dalton. *The Virginia Architects, 1835-1955: A Biographical Dictionary.* Richmond, Va.: New South Architectural Press, 1997.

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:

_X_ State Historic Preservation Office
____ Other State agency
____ Federal agency
____ Local government
____ University
____ Other
Name of repository: _Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia_____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _DHR ID# 033-0286_

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property _approximately 5 acres__

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: Longitude:
2. Latitude: Longitude:
3. Latitude: Longitude:
4. Latitude: Longitude:

Or
UTM References
Datum (indicated on USGS map):

[x] NAD 1927 or [ ] NAD 1983

1. Zone: 17	Easting: 587200	Northing: 4086930
2. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
3. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
4. Zone:	Easting :	Northing:

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

The boundaries are indicated on the accompanying approximately 1:100-scale boundary/sketchmap.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries were selected to encompass the eight contributing historic resources and setting that constitute the historic core campus area.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: J. Daniel Pezzoni
organization: Landmark Preservation Associates
street & number: 6 Houston St.
city or town: Lexington state: VA zip code: 24450
e-mail: gilespezzoni@rockbridge.net
telephone: (540) 464-5315
date: May 23, 2013

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

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

Photo Log

The following information (other than the description of view) is common to all photographs:
Name of Property: Ferrum College Historic District
City or Vicinity: Ferrum vic.
County: Franklin State: VA
Photographer: J. Daniel Pezzoni
Date Photographed: April 2013

Location of the original files: DHR Archives

Left to right: Roberts Hall and Beckham Hall. View looking southeast. Photo 1 of 7.

Left to right: Beckham Hall, Britt Hall, and John Wesley Hall. View looking east. Photo 2 of 7.

Left to right: Richeson Hall and Britt Hall. View looking southeast. Photo 3 of 7.

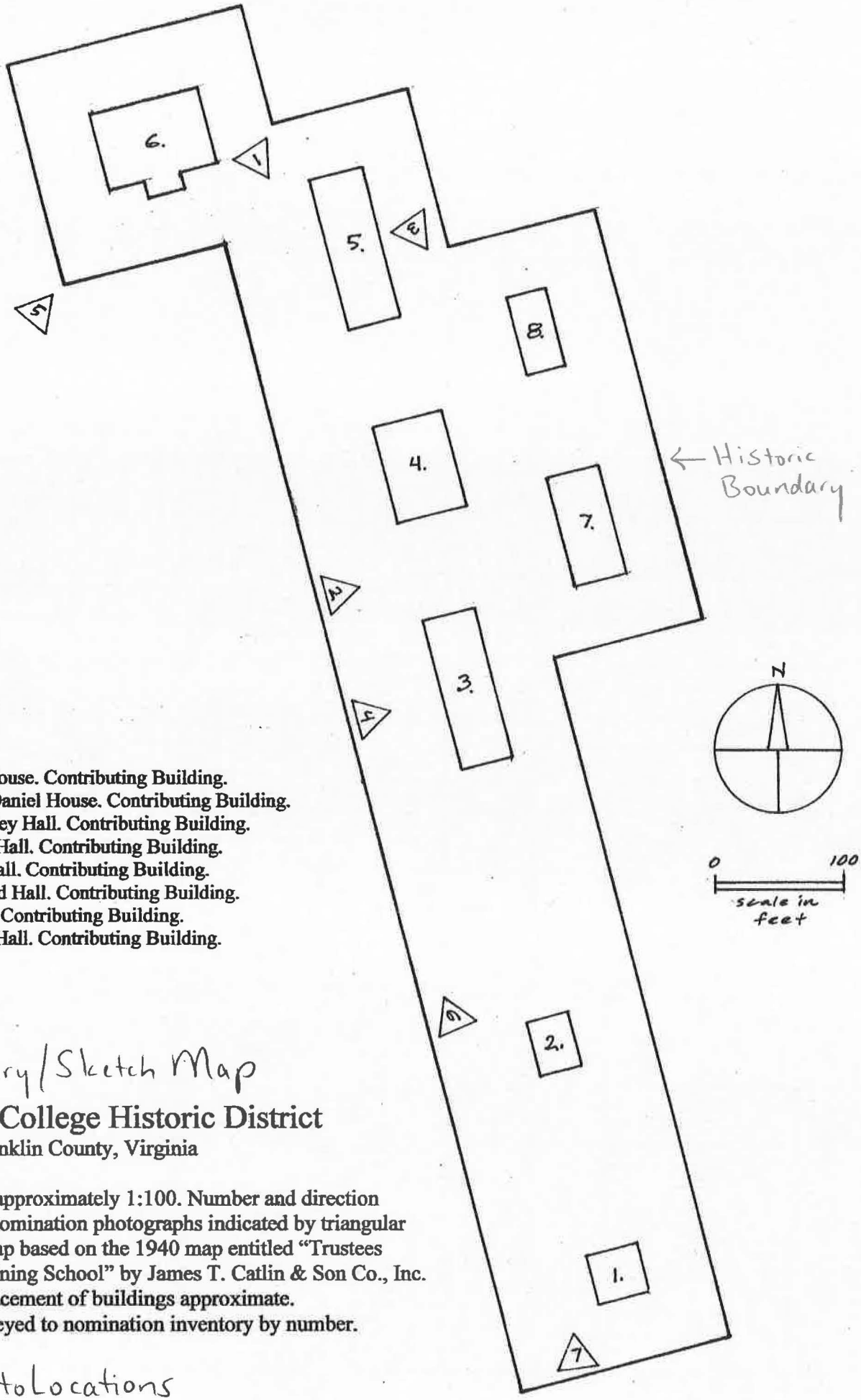
John Wesley Hall. View looking east. Photo 4 of 7.

Schoolfield Hall. View looking northeast. Photo 5 of 7.

Spilman-Daniel House. View looking southeast. Photo 6 of 7.

Stratton House with walkway leading to other campus buildings. View looking north. Photo 7 of 7.

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.



Inventory

1. Stratton House. Contributing Building.
2. Spilman-Daniel House. Contributing Building.
3. John Wesley Hall. Contributing Building.
4. Beckham Hall. Contributing Building.
5. Roberts Hall. Contributing Building.
6. Schoolfield Hall. Contributing Building.
7. Britt Hall. Contributing Building.
8. Richeson Hall. Contributing Building.

Boundary/Sketch Map

Ferrum College Historic District

Ferrum, Franklin County, Virginia

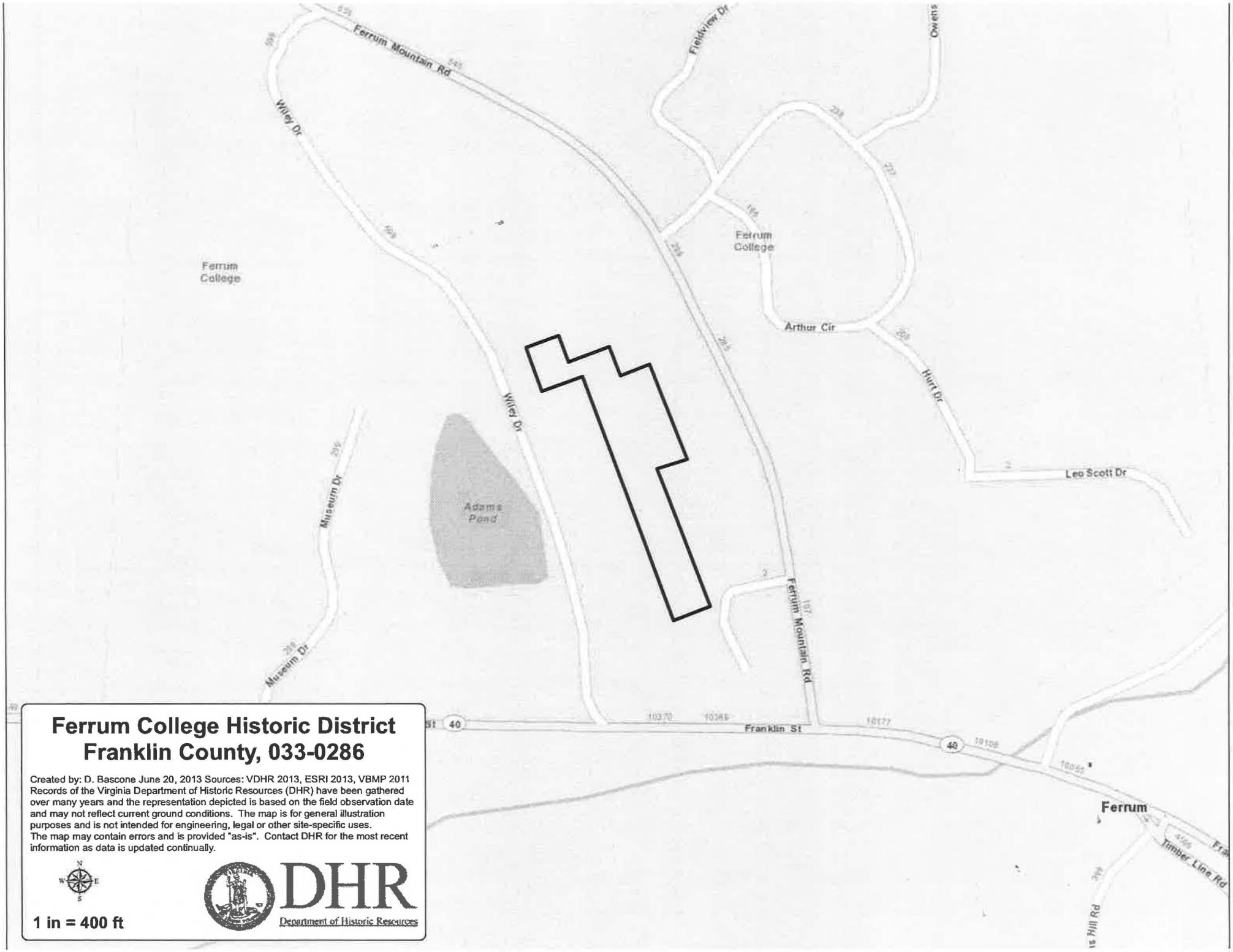
Map scale: approximately 1:100. Number and direction of view of nomination photographs indicated by triangular markers. Map based on the 1940 map entitled "Trustees Ferrum Training School" by James T. Catlin & Son Co., Inc. Size and placement of buildings approximate. Buildings keyed to nomination inventory by number.

◁ Photo Locations

Ferrum College Historic District
Franklin County, 033-0286

Created by: D. Bascone June 20, 2013 Sources: VDHR 2013, ESRI 2013, VBMP 2011
Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years and the representation depicted is based on the field observation date and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general illustration purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses.
The map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". Contact DHR for the most recent information as data is updated continually.

DHR



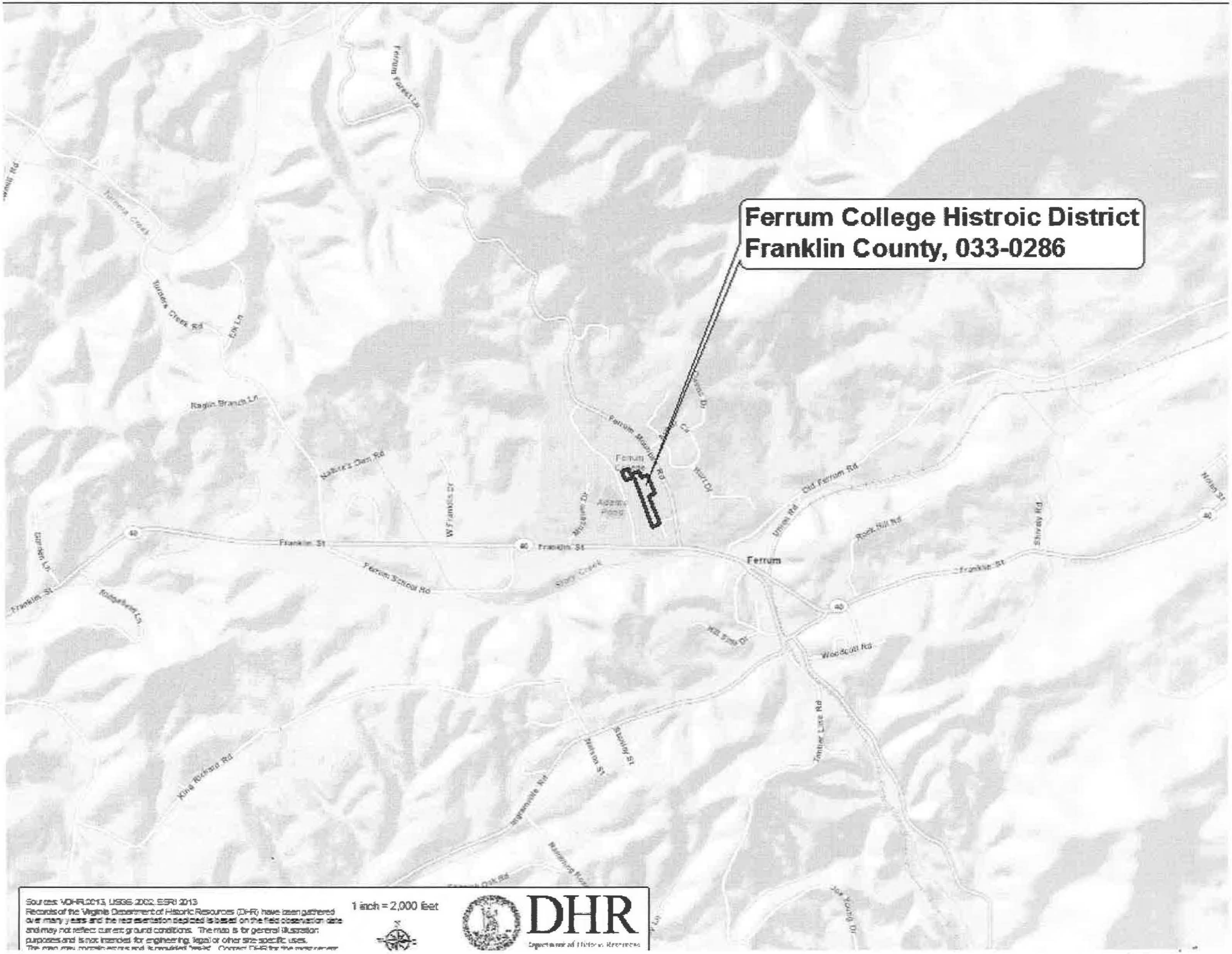
Ferrum College Historic District
Franklin County, 033-0286

Created by: D. Bascone June 20, 2013 Sources: VDHR 2013, ESRI 2013, VBMP 2011
Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years and the representation depicted is based on the field observation date and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general illustration purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses.
The map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". Contact DHR for the most recent information as data is updated continually.

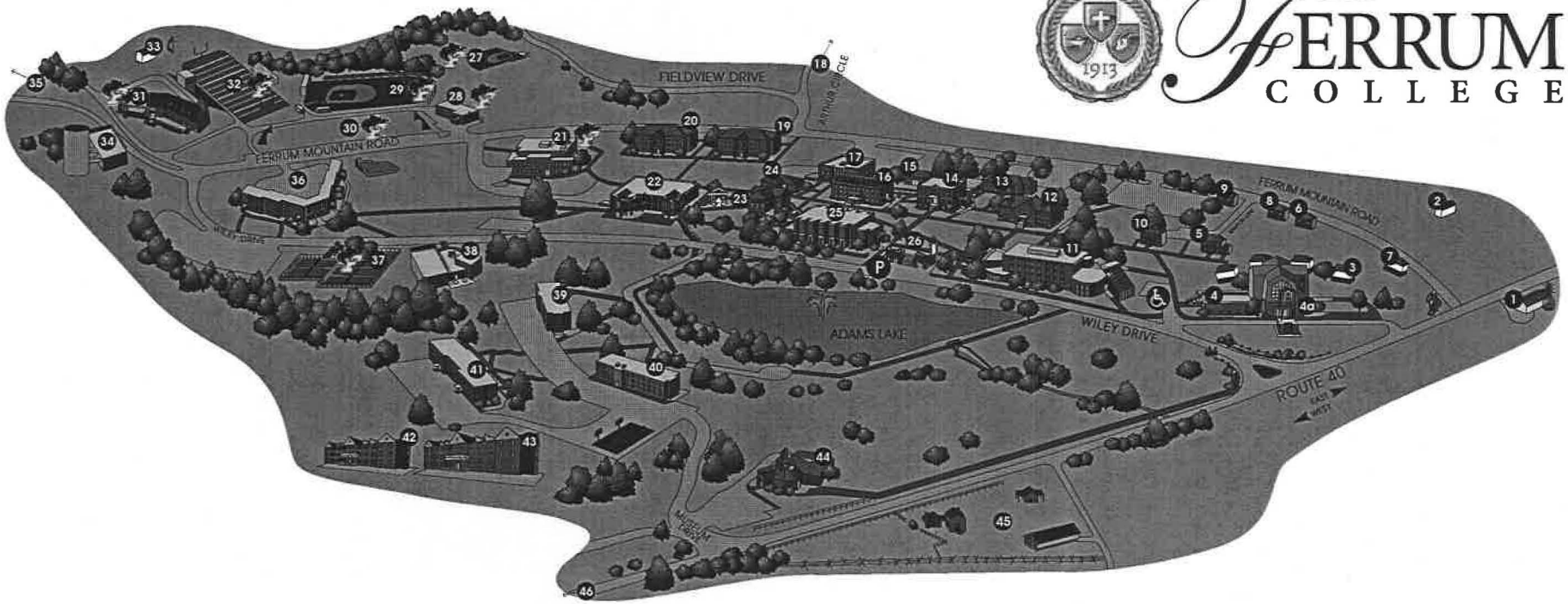
N W E S

1 in = 400 ft

DHR
Department of Historic Resources


Ferrum College Histroic District
Franklin County, 033-0286
Ferrum
Franklin St
Ferrum School Rd
Old Ferrum Rd
Rock Hill Rd
Woodcutt Rd
Tanner Lane Rd
King Richard Rd
Ingramville Rd
Ferrum Mountain Rd
Adams Pond
Ferrum Forest Ln
Turners Creek Rd
Raglin Branch Ln
Nalbire's Own Rd
W Franklin Dr
Story Creek
Union Rd
Shively Rd
Hill Side Dr
Sources: VDHR 2013, USGS 2002, ESRI 2013
Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years and the representation depicted is based on the field observation date and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general illustration purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses.
1 inch = 2,000 feet
DHR
Department of Historic Resources

FERRUM COLLEGE



- Welcome Center/Campus Safety & College Police
  10021 Franklin Street
- *Future Alumni House*
- Art Department/Pottery Studio
  138 Stratton Lane
- Vaughn Chapel
  40 Wiley Drive
- Tri-Area Health Center/Pharmacy
  40 Wiley Drive (lower level)
- 15 Stratton House
  50 Stratton Lane
- Beech House
  45 Ferrum Mountain Road
- Maple House
  67 Ferrum Mountain Road
- Oak House
  89 Ferrum Mountain Road
- Pine House – Human Resources
  109 Ferrum Mountain Road
- 10 Admissions – Spilman Daniel House
  40 Stratton Lane
- Garber Hall/Greenhouse/Handicapped Parking
  80 Wiley Drive
- John Wesley Hall – Administration
  215 Ferrum Mountain Road
- Britt Hall
  205 Ferrum Mountain Road
- Beckham Hall
  225 Ferrum Mountain Road
- Richeson Hall
  235 Ferrum Mountain Road
- Roberts Hall – Residence Hall/ Faculty Offices
  295 Ferrum Mountain Road
- Grousbeck Music Center
  285 Ferrum Mountain Road
- Hillcrest Apartments
- Arthur Hall – Residence Hall
  315 Ferrum Mountain Road
- Moore Hall – Residence Hall
  325 Ferrum Mountain Road
- Swartz Gymnasium/Arthur Vining Davis Classroom Annex – Basketball Court/ Swimming Pool
  435 Ferrum Mountain Road
- Franklin Hall – Student Center/Dining Hall
  445 Ferrum Mountain Road
  Skeens Conference Center
  Blue Ridge Mountain Room
  Giesen Gallery/Virginia Room
  Papa John's/Subway/Panther's Den
  SUBWAY
- Schoolfield Hall – Sale Theatre
  200 Wiley Drive
- Bookstore/News Café – serving Starbucks
  305 Ferrum Mountain Road
- Stanley Library/Academic Resource Center
  150 Wiley Drive
- Hart International Plaza/Visitor Parking
- Softball Field
- Norton Fieldhouse
  460 Ferrum Mountain Road
- W.W. Naff, Jr. Baseball Complex
  584 Ferrum Mountain Road
- Penn-Roediger Field
- Hank Norton Center
  590 Ferrum Mountain Road
- Adams Stadium and Football Field
  580 Ferrum Mountain Road
- Christian Ministries
  622 Ferrum Mountain Road
- English Biomass Research Complex
  497 Wiley Drive
- Physical Plant
  505 Wiley Drive
- Bassett Hall – Residence Hall
  575 Ferrum Mountain Road
- Burrows Tennis Courts/Skeens Pavilion
- Fitness Center
  333 Wiley Drive
- Susannah Wesley Hall – Residence Hall
  210 Museum Drive
- Riddick Hall – Residence Hall
  110 Museum Drive
- Chapman Hall – Residence Hall
  165 Museum Drive
- Dyer Hall – Residence Hall
  129 Museum Drive
- Clark Hall – Residence Hall
  125 Museum Drive
- Blue Ridge Institute & Museum
  20 Museum Drive
- Farm Museum
  10441 Franklin Street
- Titmus Agricultural Center
  370 Ferrum School Road

Ferrum College
HUDSON HALL

ADMISSIONS

UNITED STATED DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Ferrum College Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: VIRGINIA, Franklin

DATE RECEIVED: 10/18/13 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16th DAY: DATE OF 45th DAY: 12/03/13

REFERENCE NUMBER: 13000889

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 10.29.13 DATE

ABSRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITEREA_____

REVIEWER_____ DISCIPLINE_____

TELEPHONE_____ DATE_____

DOCUMENTATION see attsched comments Y/N

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

RCAD 9/3/13
MCW

Franklin County

A Natural Setting for Opportunity

August 26, 2013

Mr. Marc C. Wagner, Director
Resource Information Division
Department of Historic Resources
2801 Kensington Avenue
Richmond, Virginia 23221

Dear Mr. Wagner:

On behalf of the County of Franklin, I write today in support of the application for recommendation to the National Register of Historic Places and for inclusion in the Virginia Landmarks Register for the Ferrum College Historic District.

Ferrum College and Franklin County have a longstanding relationship of cooperation and partnerships to continue to expand the reach of Ferrum College into the daily fabric of the County's Tourism and Economic Development efforts. Joint projects for festival planning, visitor center gateway designation and transportation support for community based interactions are but a few of the many ongoing joint projects that Ferrum College and the County are vigorously engaged in.

During this year, Ferrum College will celebrate its 100th anniversary and it is clearly fitting that their application for the Historic District designations be approved. The County enthusiastically supports the efforts of our partner and trusts that the requested designation will be granted.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Richard E. Huff, II

Richard E. Huff, II
County Administrator

Cc: Dr. Jennifer Braaten, President
Mrs. Kim Blair, VP for Institutional Advancement

RICHARD E. HUFF, II
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
1255 FRANKLIN STREET, SUITE 112
ROCKY MOUNT, VIRGINIA 24151
(540) 483-3030
www.franklincountyva.org

RECEIVED 2280
OCT 18 2013
NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Historic Resources

2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23221

Douglas W. Domenech
Secretary of Natural Resources

Kathleen S. Kilpatrick
Director

Tel: (804) 367-2323
Fax: (804) 367-2391
TDD: (804) 367-2386
www.dhr.virginia.gov

September 26, 2013

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: Ferrum College Historic District, Franklin County, Virginia

Dear Mr. Loether:

I am submitting the Ferrum College Historic District, Franklin County, Virginia, nomination for your review. At their meeting on September 19, 2013, the Virginia State Review Board recommended that I forward the nomination to the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places for consideration. I have reviewed the material and I concur with the Board's recommendation. **In addition, I am requesting expedited review that is allowed in Code of Federal Regulations 36 Section 60.13 *Publication in the Federal Register and other NPS notification.*** The need to place Ferrum College Historic District on the National Register before November 1, 2013, is a high priority. The College would like to celebrate its centennial anniversary in November 2013.

Ferrum College is considered by the citizens of Franklin County to be one of its most important educational and cultural institutions, and if listed on the National Register it will be only the 20th such listing in the County. We are hoping that the National Register level recognition will encourage more survey and register activity in this rural county in southwestern Virginia. This publicly accessible institution's designation will help bring awareness of historic preservation programs available from state and national level agencies.

CFR 36 Section 60.13 states: "A 15-day commenting period from date of publication will be provided. When necessary to assist in the preservation of historic properties this 15-day period may be shortened or waived." I am asking the Keeper to waive the 15-day comment period and review the nomination as soon as possible. The critical date for listing is by November 1, 2013.

I know that this action will encourage the celebration of history and preservation of more resources in southwestern Virginia. In addition to support from the college administration, the Department has received a letter of support from the Franklin County Board of Supervisors also expressing support for designation. A copy of the letter is enclosed.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I do appreciate your review of this request. Please let me know if there are any questions about the nomination and accompanying material. My direct phone line is 804-482-6082.

Sincerely,

Julie V. Langan
FOR
Kathleen S. Kilpatrick
Virginia State Historic Preservation Officer
Director, Virginia Department of Historic Resources

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