

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

SC-2438

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: Fannie Thompson House

Other names/site number: DHR# 007-0663

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: 7 Old Staunton Road

City or town: Greenville State: VA County: Augusta

Not For Publication: N/A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 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

	<u>4-2-18</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
<u>Virginia Department of Historic Resources</u>	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

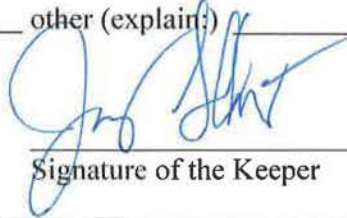
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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
 determined eligible for the National Register
 determined not eligible for the National Register
 removed from the National Register
 other (explain): _____



Signature of the Keeper

5-11-2018

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>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

WORK IN PROGRESS

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

NO STYLE

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: STONE: limestone; WOOD: log, weatherboard;
METAL: steel

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 Fannie Thompson House is located on the northwest corner of the intersection of Old Staunton Road and the Valley Pike (U.S. Route 11), just north of the bridge over South River and outside of the platted village of Greenville, Virginia. The house sits approximately thirty feet off old Staunton Road some ten feet above the roadway. The hillside is stabilized along Old Staunton Road with a four-foot limestone retaining wall, with steps leading up to the house, and along the Valley Pike by a sheer masonry wall that comes within a foot of the rear corner of the house's kitchen. The house is composed of an original, one-room, log dwelling with an attic loft that was moved to this location in 1875 and a ca. 1900, frame, two-story addition. A one-story porch once spanned the southwest façade and is documented in historic photos. The dwelling retains integrity of location as it has not been relocated since 1875, the beginning of the property's period of significance. The property's integrity of setting is somewhat compromised, as much of the African American community with which this house was associated is no longer extant; additionally, modernization of the Valley Pike has changed the setting. The house has been vacant for many years but retains integrity of materials, design, and workmanship, although these have physically deteriorated due to lack of maintenance for a long period. The property has strong integrity of association due to its documented association with the Thompson family in particular, and Greenville's Reconstruction-Era African-American community in general. Finally, the property has integrity of feeling in that the dwelling itself has not been altered or

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updated since the end of the period of significance and the residential lot has not been disturbed; the previously noted changes to the property's setting have eroded the integrity of feeling to some degree.

Narrative Description

Setting

The Fannie Thompson House occupies a small residential lot, measuring about 0.179 acre. A limestone retaining wall extends along the lot's southeastern side and is associated with the adjacent Valley Pike (U.S. Route 11). The lot is generally rocky and sloping in character, with numerous trees, and is rather overgrown as the house has not been occupied since the 1970s. Although once part of a Reconstruction-Era community established by African Americans, the dwelling now is the sole building that remains. In 1980, Virginia Landmarks Commission architectural historian Ann McCleary surveyed the Thompson House and two neighboring dwellings, the Martin and Koagler houses (both of which have since been demolished). She described them as square dwellings that constituted an unusual architectural form in the Augusta County area and that were "most frequently associated with black families."¹

Exterior

The Fannie Thompson House is composed of an original, one-room, log dwelling with an attic loft that was moved to this location in 1875 and a ca. 1900, frame, two-story addition. Currently it reads as a four-bay, two-story, rectangular block with entries at each end of the southwestern façade and two windows spaced symmetrically between them. The second story has two windows, one of which is somewhat offset. Most walls are clad with plain horizontal lap siding long unpainted or perhaps never painted. The log section's southeast wall is exposed on the first story. The wall of the log portion now or originally under the front porch roof is covered with horizontal lap siding with a bead cut into its edge and showing rectangular perforations consistent with having been installed elsewhere with cut nails. The wall under the porch roof appears to have been painted yellow. A one-story, shed-roofed addition on the rear has board-and-batten siding.

The house has a side gable roof covered with standing-seam galvanized steel roofing, installed within the last ten years, along with considerable repair to the portions of the rafters and joists extending into the soffits. The front porch and rear addition roofs are covered with rusted standing-seam metal. The rafters of the rear addition's roof extend to the top layer of logs, giving the roof a steep pitch. The remaining traces of an adjacent addition/woodshed evidence a much lower pitched roof.

The house's broad face is oriented to the southwest toward Old Staunton Road. Ten feet of a shed-roofed porch remains on the façade's southeastern end, covering the entry to the log portion of the house; the door has been removed from the entry and the opening is boarded over

¹ John W. Brake, *The History of Greenville, Va.* (Self-published, printed in Harrisonburg, Va., 1994), 134.

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instead. Remaining framing shows that the porch originally extended the length of the facade, covering the second entry into the balloon-framed addition. The second entry retains a four-panel wood door with plain board casing. On the northeast (rear) elevation, a shed-roofed addition, originally built as a kitchen, spans two-thirds the length of the dwelling. Debris, a fallen chimney, and bits of framing remain from an adjacent kitchen extension/woodshed that once extended to the rear elevation's northwest corner. The east and west gable ends of the house have a window opening on each story, with the top sash fixed and bottom sash unhung.

None of the sash windows are extant in entirety, although fragments found in rubble cleared from within the house indicate the number of panes originally present – six-by-six. Historic photos also demonstrate this configuration. On the southwest facade, one window opening was cut through the logs and is beneath remnants of the original porch's upper sill. The opening retains a fragment of frame and trim remnants that indicate there once was a fixed, six-by-six-pane, upper window sash and a movable but un-hung, six-by-six-pane lower sash. Another window on the southwest facade and two second-story windows of the same description are present. The northwest and southeast gable end walls each have a single, centered window on each story. The main block's northeast (rear) wall is devoid of window openings.

On the rear kitchen addition, the northeast (rear) wall has two irregularly spaced window openings. Door openings are centered on the northwest and southeast sides of the addition. The southeast door opens directly above the sheer masonry retaining wall along the Valley Pike, while the northwest entry has no door presently. Bits of flooring and roof framing on the exterior evidence a stoop or porch was removed when the highway was widened and the retaining wall built. The rear addition's windows, doors, and corners of the weatherboards are trimmed with plain boards.

The foundation of the log portion of the house is stone piers set onto protruding living stone with the space under the sill logs filled with stone and rubble. The frame addition's foundation piers are concrete with no fill between the soil and sills. The ground slopes beneath the log portion of the house, resulting in the western piers being comprised of one or two stones and the eastern piers of stones stacked three feet high. Soil from the adjacent hillside has washed down to cover the sills on the house's northeast (rear) side.

Interior

The original log section originally was a single room on the first floor with an attic loft above it. An enclosed, winder staircase in the southwest corner provided access to the loft. By ca. 1900, the house was expanded with a two-story, single-pile addition on the log house's northwest side; at this time, the log section's upper level was expanded to a full two stories. A frame addition for a kitchen was added to the log section's northeast (rear) wall at an unknown date. A woodshed/kitchen addition once spanned the frame addition's rear wall but it is no longer extant.

The sloping ground beneath the house compelled raising the log section's broad-planked flooring and shortening the doorway, for which the trim planks extend below the current porch deck with

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a section of log between them. The substantial, squared logs are exposed in the interior of the house, with the trimmed-off ends of the original loft flooring joists visible at head height. The exposed ceiling beams are painted, while engineered wood paneling covers the walls of the enclosed winder staircase. The staircase door has a pulley attached at the upper end so that a rope and weight could keep the door shut, preventing interference with use of the front entry door. The stairs themselves are built of circular sawn boards and are unadorned. A small, board door with a thumb latch is on the enclosure's northeast side. This room retains historic, square-cut baseboard trim and the entry has wide plank trim with butt joints; the depth of the door opening indicates the thickness of the log walls.

In the frame addition, the single downstairs and two upstairs rooms are floored with tongue-and-groove milled flooring, laid directly onto the joists; and the ceiling treatment is similar. The framing is of circular-sawn wood with wire nails; the nails securing knob-and-tube wiring beneath the plaster lath bear the numeral "13". The interior walls of the two-story addition were constructed of milled plaster lath covered with one coat of plaster, laid without hair or other binding agent, remnants of which are in place after clearing the interior of rubbish and rubble. The rooms in the frame addition have molded trim on doors and windows; a 1980 survey indicates these rooms had four-panel wood doors, but these are no longer extant. On the frame addition's southeastern wall, removal of plaster lath on both floors has revealed the correctly proportioned limestone, exterior chimney of the original log dwelling. A small closet is immediately to the left of the stone chimney. A brick extension of that chimney, matching the square capstones of the lower chimney, extends to just below the modern roof. On the second floor, a closet was constructed immediately adjacent to the stone/brick chimney. The closet walls are finished with wood salvaged from crates that still bear painted lettering and pictures.

The rear kitchen addition has the structural framing exposed. According to a 1980 survey by Ann McCleary, the kitchen once had plasterboard covering the walls, a built-in wooden cupboard on the northwest wall, and vegetable bins on the southeast wall.

Indoor plumbing never was installed at the Fannie Thompson House. A local history about Greenville states that the rocky ground did not permit installation of conventional plumbing.² At some point during the early 20th century, the dwelling was improved with knob-and-tube electrical wiring. A ca. 1900 photograph in John Brake's *The History of Greenville* does not reveal any trees in front of the Fannie Thompson House porch, but a large, diseased ash tree that obscured the right-hand door to the house was removed in 2017, leaving a stump with 110 annual rings. That count, in combination with the number "13" stamped on the head of the nails securing post and peg electrical wiring beneath the house's plaster lath, lead to the conclusion that the frame addition was built ca. 1910 or shortly thereafter and the house was electrified around the same time.

² Michael S. Shetty Jr., *An Old House in Greenville, Virginia* (Blacksburg: The McDonald and Woodward Publishing Company, 1997), 168.

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The dates on newspapers and miscellaneous historic documents found in the house indicate that it remained occupied until 1974. Nothing in the arrangement of the building suggests that it ever functioned for any purpose other than as a residence.

1870s Relocation

The log section of the Fannie Thompson House is believed to have been originally constructed at another location and moved to its current site during the 1870s. Such reuse of an existing building would have entailed considerable savings of labor and time when compared to building a house from scratch. Furthermore, the two-acre parcel associated with the property at the time likely lacked sufficient timber to build a new dwelling. An 1884 illustrated atlas of Augusta County depicted a group of cabins along the south edge of Valley Pike and north of the South River, and it is possible that the Thompson House once stood south of the road as well.³ Physical evidence suggestive that the log section was reassembled from elsewhere is found within the first floor, where the cut-off joists at head height suggest that a loft once existed but was not included after the dwelling was reassembled. Additionally, the lot's sloping character, combined with placement of the foundation piers directly on living stone, is thought to have necessitated shortening the front entry.

³ Ann McCleary, Green Koagler House [also referred to by McCleary as simply the Koagler House], Greenville, Augusta County, 07-668, June 1980.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ETHNIC HERITAGE: African American

SOCIAL HISTORY

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1875-1968

Significant Dates

Ca. 1910

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 Fannie Thompson House is the sole unmodified dwelling remaining in what was once a thriving and segregated neighborhood that occupied a hillside across the South River from the village of Greenville. Despite the loss of some interior and exterior detailing and materials, the house maintains integrity and is locally significant under Criterion A in the areas of Social History and Ethnic Heritage: African American. It is also locally significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. The period of significance begins in 1875 when the house was moved to its current location in Greenville and ends in 1968 with the traditional 50-year cutoff for properties where significant activities have continued into the more recent past. Regarding the areas of Social History and Ethnic Heritage: African American, originally, the house was one of a cluster of dwellings that were built by newly emancipated African Americans during the Reconstruction Era. That community continued as a viable, segregated neighborhood of working-class African Americans through the Jim Crow era of segregation. The Civil Rights movement and integration of public schools, as well as out-migration of African Americans to places offering better housing and employment opportunities, caused Greenville's African American population to plummet. Sue Porter, who had married into the Thompson family, was the segregated neighborhood's last resident. After her death in 1974, the neighborhood ceased to exist. Material cultural found in the dwelling and retained by the current owner provides important information about the Thompson family's history. Under Criterion C in the area of Architecture, the house is locally significant as a Reconstruction-Era log house lived in and adapted by formerly enslaved African Americans and their descendants. Its evolution from a basic one-room log dwelling into a two-story house with rear additions encapsulates vernacular construction methods of the late 19th century and ingenuity in use of salvage materials, which are character-defining features, and illustrates the growing Thompson family's changing economic circumstances into the mid-20th century.

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

Detailed Historical Overview

Antebellum Era

The village of Greenville, on Lee-Jackson Highway/U.S. Route 11 (also known as the Valley Pike and before that the Great Wagon Road) in southeastern Augusta County, was platted in 1794 and was the first community mapped after the county seat of Staunton. Located along the banks of the South River, by the mid-nineteenth century the prosperous village boasted a number of businesses and industrial complexes including a large mill, a stave factory, a tin shop, and a tannery. Before the Civil War, the bulk of the residential and business development was east of what today is U.S. Route 11. The roadbed of Route 11 today was a back street of Greenville until the middle of the twentieth century. The historic Valley Pike alignment is Main Street in Greenville.

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From its inception, Greenville has been an important commercial center located in the southern end of the county along the north-south Great Wagon Road, later the Valley Pike. Because it was always a transportation center (including being a toll collection point on the turnpike), it was a stopping point for travelers, both famous and not so famous, in the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries. Before the Civil War, it was also an important crossroads for the east-west Howardsville Turnpike. Therefore, Greenville has also always had stables, taverns, and lodging to accommodate those travelers and has had a need for a resident working-class population to support the various business and industrial establishments.

In Augusta County, approximately twenty percent of the population in 1861 consisted of enslaved African American men, women, and children. During the antebellum era, most slave owners held one or two persons in bondage, in contrast to eastern Virginia's elite planter class, who often held dozens of slaves, sometimes hundreds. On Augusta County farms, slave housing typically was a small dwelling, often combined with other buildings, such as summer kitchens. The dispersed nature of slavery in Augusta County meant that most enslaved African-American families were separated on a regular basis, working and living on different farms owned by different slave owners. During this time, white farm families could "hire" an enslaved person temporarily from the slave owner, with a contract drawn up that described the labor to be performed by the enslaved person and the cash fee to be paid to the slave owner. In some cases, a set of clothing was made as payment to the enslaved individual as well.⁴

Consequences of Emancipation

Union victory in the Civil War brought significant changes in the legal status of African Americans. In December 1865, the rapid ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution abolished slavery in the United States. The Fourteenth Amendment, ratified in 1868, defined American citizenship as belonging to persons born or naturalized in the United States (although at the time Native Americans were excluded from this definition). The amendment granted all citizens unspecified "privileges and immunities," the right to "life, liberty, or property," and "equal protection of the laws." Ratified in 1870, the Fifteenth Amendment granted suffrage to African American men, at least in principle, but through the use of poll taxes, literacy tests and other means, Southern states were able to effectively disenfranchise African Americans during the Jim Crow segregation era.⁵

With emancipation came the opportunity for families to reunite, as much as was possible at the time, and to live together under one roof, some for the first time ever. As Edward L. Ayers, author of the recently published *The Thin Light of Freedom: The Civil War and Emancipation in the Heart of America*, explained, "Black Southerners had to navigate the shifting and treacherous landscape. The freedpeople struggled to make a living, gather their families, and find security in

⁴ Nancy Sorrells, Slavery and Freedom in Augusta County, Augusta County Historical Society presentation.

⁵ The Jim Crow era is generally considered to have begun with the 1896 Supreme Court decisions, *Plessy v. Ferguson*, that endorsed the "separate but equal doctrine" which quickly was incorporated in local, state, and federal laws across the county..

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an unpredictable world.”⁶ Charged with the difficult task of orchestrating the return of civil society was the Freedmen’s Bureau. The headquarters for that federal agency was based in Staunton, the seat of Augusta County. The head of Staunton’s Freedmen’s Bureau noted in January 1866 “the air is full of outrages on the Freedmen by the White, and will be until just laws are made and executed.”⁷ Freed African Americans went to the Freedmen’s Bureau to register their marriages and births of their children, resulting for the first time in their lives legal documentation of these events. The Freedmen’s Bureau Record of Marriages in Augusta County, documents the legal recognition of forty-two marriages between African-Americans before 1866 for which the registrants gave their address as Greenville. That same document reflects that there were thirty-one children of those marriages age seventeen or older at the time of registration. Three of the forty-two men listed in that record were blacksmiths; the remainder were farm laborers.⁸

A small number of freedmen purchased their own farms during Reconstruction, or a group of freedmen pooled their resources to purchase land. Thus, across Augusta County, small clusters of simple African-American houses started appearing. Ann McCleary, in her cultural and architectural study of Augusta County, describes these new communities:

As the 19th century progressed, one-room houses became increasingly associated with people at the lower end of the economic scale. More prosperous farmers often enlarged their earlier one-room houses, integrating them into the popular I-house design or using them as ells for a new house. For the less wealthy, one-room houses continued to provide adequate housing into the 20th century. Many of these late 19th-century dwellings served as tenant houses or for other workers....In these situations, these dwellings often housed black families...They often built one-room houses after they were freed. In many of the small towns and villages, black communities evolved on the outskirts in the late 19th century. The Hotchkiss maps often describe their houses as ‘cabins.’ A few of these ‘cabins’ which survive at Greenville began as one-room houses in the late 19th century.”⁹

For a variety of reasons, including hostility from whites, availability of affordable land, and soon, local ordinances that forbade African Americans from occupying existing housing, freed African Americans typically established their new communities on the outskirts of an existing village. Thus, the Fannie Thompson house’s neighborhood arose west of the Valley Pike and along the north bank of the South River, away from Greenville’s established town limits. The August 29, 1883, issue of the *Greenville Banner* included an observation, tinged perhaps with dismay, about the new African-American community: “—On the hill, above the tan yard, a

⁶ Edward L. Ayers, *The Thin Light of Freedom: The Civil War and Emancipation in the Heart of America*, New York: W.W. Norton Co, 2017), 371.

⁷ Laten Ervin Bechtel, “*That’s Just the Way It Was*”: *A Chronological and Documentary History of African-American Schools in Staunton and Augusta County, Staunton, Va.* (Lot’s Wife Publishing, 2010), 53 and 79.

⁸ Marriages in Augusta County 1868, Freedmen’s Bureau Record, Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Augusta County, Virginia, Staunton, Va. Prior to the Civil War, marriages of enslaved persons were not recognized under the law.

⁹ Ann McCleary, “Study Unit: Historic Resources in Augusta County, Virginia: Eighteenth Century to Present,” (Regional Architectural Historian, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, October 1983).

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colored [sic] man has begun the erection of a house!”¹⁰ From just after the Civil War until the 1960s, this area was known as Jack’s Hill, by pejorative names, and simply as the “colored” section of Greenville.¹¹

Emancipation also provided African-Americans the right to worship freely without supervision or intrusion by white overseers. As a result, African American churches usually were the first community buildings erected in these new neighborhoods built by freed people. McCleary described the ubiquity of churches in freed people’s communities:

Churches usually formed the focus of rural black communities in Augusta County. Scattered across the county, these churches reveal the presence of current black communities, now considerably shrunken as blacks have moved to the cities. Occasionally, the church is all that remains at the sites of these 19th-century communities after their residents have died or moved away and most of the houses have been razed. The Hotchkiss atlas of 1884 documents the location of most of these communities and illustrates the size and arrangement of buildings, usually a cluster of houses or cabins around the church. Some were located on the outskirts of small country towns such as Greenville or Middlebrook; others along the railroad tracks, particularly west of Staunton; while the rest were dispersed throughout the countryside.¹²

In Greenville, the African-American community was large enough to support two churches: Mt. Ead Baptist, a short distance north of the Fannie Thompson House, founded in 1872 and demolished in 1992; and Wyman Chapel, African Methodist Episcopal (AME), located at the extreme south end of the village, founded in 1874 and demolished in 1987.¹³ The South River became a favorite spot for religious services for both African American congregations. A photograph in John Brake’s *The History of Greenville* shows such a religious event occurring in the river just below what would have been the cluster of dwellings that included the Fannie Thompson house. The photograph corroborates the short announcement in the May 23, 1883, issue of the Greenville newspaper: “The colored [sic] Methodists will have a ‘dip’ Sunday.”¹⁴

Another critical change for freed African Americans was the ability to practice their own funerary practices and to establish burial grounds. Mt. Ead Baptist Church’s cemetery stretched south and fronted on the Staunton Road, a few hundred feet west of Fannie Thompson’s front porch. The cemetery still exists today, although it has become overgrown with vegetation. Such a fate has been common for Reconstruction-Era cemeteries, which predated requirements for establishment of a perpetual maintenance fund and which were gradually abandoned as local African American communities moved elsewhere and their associated churches were closed.

¹⁰ *The Greenville Banner*, August 29, 1883.

¹¹ *The Greenville Banner*, May 6, 1885, p.1.

¹² McCleary, “Study Unit.”

¹³ Brake, 134.

¹⁴ *The Greenville Banner*, May 23, 1883, as seen at *The Greenville Banner* 1878-1885, <https://virginiachronicle.com>; Brake, 14.

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Emancipation, and Virginia's 1870 state constitution, drafted under the watchful eye of federal judge John C. Underwood, for the first time in the Commonwealth's history guaranteed all Virginians a right to public education by creating Virginia's first ever statewide public education system. Although all children were guaranteed access to public schools, the schools were required to be segregated by race, with separate schools built for white, African American, and Virginia Indian students. While the segregated system was premised on offering equal educational opportunities for all children, from 1870 through the late 1960s, schools exclusively for white children received the lion's share of taxpayer dollars set aside for education.

Laten Ervin Bechtel, author of *"That's Just the Way It Was": A Chronological and Documentary History of African-American Schools in Staunton and Augusta County*, wrote that the educational opportunities offered to area blacks from the late nineteenth century to the mid-twentieth century were inferior, but added,

Nevertheless, African American were determined to learn regardless of what whites thought, with or without an official mandate. Many regarded education as a long denied right and to them it symbolized a badge of freedom. Perhaps most significantly, African Americans understood that an education would enable them to attain social status and political positions. In short, African Americans viewed education as a path to their own uplift within the larger society.¹⁵

Greenville's African American population had a public school operating as early as 1871, although a dedicated building for it was not constructed until 1882. It is likely that one or both of the aforementioned churches hosted public schools, as this arrangement occurred often in Virginia communities until permanent schools were built; alternately, a local school district might rent space in a commercial building. Bechtel went on to write, "In spite of the oppressive atmosphere, African Americans continued to work within the system for personal improvement as well as social change." The November 28, 1883, issue of the *Greenville Banner* reported that the two-room, frame school on Lexington Road, past the Wyman Chapel, had a teacher, an assistant, and forty students.¹⁶ Information about the school's design, materials, and configuration is not known at this time. Enrollment at the school expanded in 1933 to include students from nearby Mint Spring and Middlebrook. With the opening of the consolidated Augusta County Training School (grades 1-8) in 1938, the Greenville School closed.¹⁷ The Training School also was the county's first high school for African American students.¹⁸

Finally, emancipation meant that African Americans could enter their own contracts for paid service, although the social, political, and legal framework of the time still placed African Americans in a starkly disadvantaged position when negotiating with white employers. Nevertheless, many African American entrepreneurs chose to work for themselves, typically selling services such as domestic work, child care, and day labor, and skilled or semi-skilled

¹⁵ Bechtel, *That's Just the Way It Was*, 383.

¹⁶ *The Greenville Banner*, Nov. 28, 1883.

¹⁷ Bechtel, *That's Just the Way It Was*, 216, 383-383.

¹⁸ Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff, "Public Schools in Augusta County, Virginia, 1870-1940" Multiple Property Documentation form, 1984.

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trades such as carpentry, masonry, blacksmithing, cooking, and sewing. Fannie Thompson is known to have worked as a laundress, while a neighbor down the street had his own blacksmith shop and, in the next generation, a chauffeur worked from his own garage. There are several mentions in the local newspaper, *The Greenville Banner*, of “the Colored [sic] contractor Simms” engaged in building a mile of the railroad bed near the depot, and mention of a “colored” barber renting a space on Main Street.¹⁹

Greenville’s Growth During the Late 19th Century

During the 1870s, plans were announced for construction of the Valley Railroad – a new north-south railroad that later became part of the sprawling Baltimore & Ohio (B&O) network. When completed, the railroad paralleled the Valley Pike through the Shenandoah Valley. Many of the old remount station towns on the turnpike, such as Mt. Sidney and Greenville, as well as other communities such as Weyers Cave, off the turnpike, benefited from railroad service. Merchants could lessen their transportation costs bringing goods in, and farmers, millers, and manufacturers benefited from faster, less expensive shipping of their own products. Stock pens and warehouses were built near the depot so that livestock could be driven along the roads and straight to the rail depot. Products also were shipped to and from the depot by wagons. The railroad opened the Baltimore market for the region’s production, and, because the northwest lines crossed in Staunton, it opened up markets to Richmond. Handling of goods, supplying wood for the engines (the 1910 census listed Fannie Thompson’s son-in-law as a wood teamster), and maintaining the railroad all provided sources of employment for both races in the laboring class.

In Greenville, the tracks were laid and a depot was built just west of the Valley Pike. Within a few years, the village had doubled in size with most of the new growth happening to the west and on the south side of the river. Fine Victorian-era houses as well as hotels, doctors’ offices and a new Baptist Church for the white community were built in the village addition. An advertisement for a commissioner’s sale of property in the village characterized Greenville as “An important Depot on the Valley Railroad and a live business-place.”²⁰ During the last quarter of the nineteenth century, the village reached its zenith. Ann McCleary in her cultural resources study of Augusta County described Greenville thusly:

By the time of the Hotchkiss Atlas²¹ (1884) and Peyton’s History (1882), Greenville had a population of about 250 people and was “prosperous and thriving” (Peyton, p. 267). Peyton further describes the “churches, shops, flouring mill, resident physicians, several stores, etc.” and makes mention of the Shenandoah Valley railroad and the “sprightly weekly paper” called the ‘Greenville Banner.’” The map of Greenville in the Hotchkiss Atlas shows the development along the older main road as well as the “back road.” In addition, a sizeable black community had developed on the north edge of the town near Mt. Ed. [sic] Baptist Church, along the

¹⁹ *The Greenville Banner*, June 6, 1882, p.1; Dec. 22, 1882, p.1; August 4, 1882, p.1.

²⁰ *The Greenville Banner*, April 16, 1884, p.1.

²¹ Jed. Hotchkiss, *Illustrated Historical Atlas of Augusta County Virginia 1884*, (Waterman Watkins & Co., Chicago, 1885, reproduced by Mid Valley Press, Verona, Va., 1991), 72.

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stretch labeled “cabins,” as well as south of town near the Col. Methodist Church” (Hotchkiss).

...After 1885, the town grew further to the west between the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and the old Back Road [now Route 11]. Most of the houses in this community date to the late 19th or early 20th century.’’²²

The Fannie Thompson house and its associated neighborhood took part in Greenville’s renewed prosperity during the Reconstruction Era. Despite segregation, arrival of the B&O railroad brought economic opportunities to the local African-American community, with ready access to work on the railroad as well as the many businesses and industries located along the river and on the western outskirts of town. The Jack’s Hill neighborhood grew to include 21 houses, Mt. Ead Baptist Church, and several African American-owned businesses, including a blacksmith shop, that lined the road known as the Staunton Road and extended north along the west side of the Valley Pike as well.²³ A photograph from about 1910 in John W. Brake’s *The History of Greenville*, taken in winter from across the South River, clearly shows the Fannie Thompson House on the extreme right, its full-length porch utilitarian rather than decorative. The caption to the photograph identifies the owner of the house to the left as Clint Ross, a bricklayer and Fannie Thompson’s son-in-law; the next as belonging to Jack Harris; the next belonging to Cush Smith and Lucy Ross Waller Smith; and the far left house as belonging to Abraham “Abe” Martin and Minnie Johnson Martin.²⁴ An earlier note in the book identifies Abe Martin as a blacksmith born in 1869, who died in 1928.²⁵

That Greenville grew rapidly in the decades during the late 19th century is evident from the pages of *The Greenville Banner*, a four-page weekly newspaper published in the 1880s. As was typical of the era, all events were reported through the lens of segregation and the assumption of strict separation of whites and African Americans. Thus, the newspaper reported on the number of segregated schools built for white and African American students in Augusta County (February 2, 1884), the number of persons of both races reported infirm in a measles outbreak in Greenville (June 4, 1883), voter registrations, also by race, in the village (October 24, 1884), and births, deaths, and marriages, by race, in Augusta County in 1882 (January 10, 1883).²⁶ *The Banner* also regularly reported the schedule of worship and events at both African American and white churches.

Brief pieces under the “Local” heading of *The Banner* also referenced the location of African American-owned residences and occurrences, often with a dose of paternalism or a hint of mockery that was typical of a place and time still uneasy with emancipation. For example, the paper reported, “The small house of ‘Aunt’ Lucy Diggs, on the road beyond the Co. Bridge and

²² McCleary, “Study Unit.”

²³ Hotchkiss, *Illustrated Historical Atlas of Augusta County*. The Old Staunton Road now dead-ends because of the construction of Interstate 81 during the late 20th century.

²⁴ Ann McCleary, Fanny Thompson House, Greenville, Augusta County, 07-663. Survey form.

²⁵ Augusta County Deed book 153, page 487.

²⁶ *The Greenville Banner*, various dates.

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near the RR was in the embrace of the fire fiend....the loss falls heavily on this old colored woman;” and regarding a dispute, “A Colored Staunton shoemaker has been living with a woman who ‘took up’ with someone else ...came to get his things and met him on the hill across the river and a fight ensued.”²⁷ Greenville also may have been a “sundown town,” as described by local long-time residents. While African Americans were tolerated as a necessary part of village life, after dark, they crossed into the village proper only at considerable personal risk.²⁸

This was the community to which Fannie Thompson came to live during the 1870s. Her house, the subject of this nomination, was among those built here after the Civil War. Fannie Thompson and her descendants were not the first African-Americans to own the house, but they were the ones who were there for most of the building’s history and they had the most impact on the property, improving it by adding a frame second story and addition and maintaining it through the Jim Crow era and into the time of integration.

Criterion A: Social History and Ethnic Heritage: African American

The local significance of the Fannie Thompson House is due in part to its survival as the sole unmodified dwelling remaining in what was once a thriving and segregated section of Greenville known as “Jack’s Hill.” The house and the nearby church cemetery are all that is left from this historic community. The other houses, the church, and the blacksmith shop, several of which were documented in McCleary’s 1980 survey,²⁹ have burned, been demolished, or become so incorporated into another structure as to be unrecognizable. The Mt. Ead church was replaced by a BB&T bank branch. The associated cemetery remains but is badly overgrown, including that portion which fronts on what is now called “Old” Staunton Road, just down from the Fannie Thompson house.

Occupants of the Fannie Thompson House

Although the house has been identified with the Thompson family because that is who actually lived in it for most of its history, its first resident was not a Thompson. The chain of title for the property is rather tricky, probably because this section of Greenville was poor land long considered unimportant for either residential or business development. Therefore, it evolved as a place to erect dwellings lived in by those members of the community who were less-well-to-do working class citizens of the county (both formerly enslaved and the lower class white laboring class). The division of lots was haphazard and it appears that no real survey was done of this section of the village until 1903, when it came to be referred to as “McDonald’s Addition to Greenville.” That survey depicted the area north of the Fannie Thompson house, the lots fronting on Old Staunton Road having been individually divided prior to 1903.³⁰

²⁷ *The Greenville Banner*, Oct. 10, 1884, and Nov. 23, 1883.

²⁸ Interview with Peggy and Bobby Bocoock of Greenville, Nov. 10, 2017.

²⁹ McCleary survey, DHR ID 007-0663.

³⁰ Brake, 126. On this page in his book, Brake includes a copy of a survey done by J.S. Callison, May 4, 1903 and referred to as “McDonald’s Addition to Greenville.”

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The murky record associated with this part of Greenville is borne out by two articles in *The Banner*. On January 16, 1884, the newspaper reported,

A couple of weeks ago it was rumored that a lot of land adjoining Greenville would be held & confiscated to satisfy the demands of a judgment lien given on the property before it was sold to the present owners... A number of Colored [sic] persons on the hill across the river bought lots off it, and how they will come up we cannot say at present."³¹

The rumor went to a lawsuit that lasted a year, *The Banner* reporting on January 28, 1885,

To be sold – at the December term of the County Court a decree was given for the sale of a number of lots in Greenville, principally owned by Colored [sic] people and situated on the hill across the river from the main part of town. It is property formerly owned by Andrew McClure, Dec'd, and the title was not good when the present occupants bought. The decree gives the holders of the land sixty days from December Court to pay for it, after which it will be sold for the claim of some \$700."³²

The result of that Decree of Sale has not been discovered. However, despite a tenuous claim to ownership, the African-American community did not move.

The deed records of the Clerk of the Augusta County, Virginia, Circuit Court, and the Land Tax Books indicate that the owners/occupants of the Fannie Thompson property from 1875 forward were African American, and that there was a house on the property from at least 1876 forward. Isaac Newton, a wealthy white businessman in Greenville, purchased a lot in 1862 and then sold two acres of that tract to Joseph Anderson, an African American person, in 1875.³³ The county land books in 1875 and immediately before listed no improvements on the tract; the land book for 1876 reflects improvements valued at \$200 standing in Anderson's name. (A comparison of similar values, including a similar-sized log house in another county village, leads to the conclusion that this value of \$200 fairly represents the valuation of a log house and was probably the house currently on the property.)

Joseph Anderson, 73, and his wife Nellie (or Ellen) Britton Anderson, who was 71, are found in the increasingly consolidated black community of Greenville in the 1880 census. He was a laborer. Before the Civil War, they were enslaved, living together as husband and wife, and both were Augusta County natives.³⁴ Also living in their household in the 1880 census was another African-American laborer, Less Woodson, who was 22.³⁵ Living in the same household were 59-

³¹ *The Greenville Banner*, January 16, 1884.

³² *The Greenville Banner*, Jan. 28, 1885.

³³ Augusta County Deed book 78, page 382; Deed book 89, page 458.

³⁴ Augusta County Cohabitation records created by the Freedmen's Bureau.

³⁵ Less Woodson is probably Lester Woodson, who married Alice Thompson, the daughter of Patrick and Charlotte Thompson on July 24, 1893. That would make him the husband of Shed Thompson's sister and Fannie Thompson's sister-in-law. Augusta County marriage records, research done by Laten Bechtel.

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year-old widow Elvira Hill, a niece, 11-year-old Mary Anderson, and three nephews, 7-year-old Charles Anderson, 5 year-old Henry Anderson, and 4-year-old Eldridge Anderson. Extended families and unrelated persons living together under the same roof was common during Reconstruction, as newly emancipated people pooled resources to survive and long-separated relatives finally reunited.

Joseph Anderson died in 1889 at the age of 80.³⁶ Before his death, however, he and his wife sold 19 poles of their two-acre tract to Nathaniel “Nat” Johnson, another African American, in 1883.³⁷ Nat and Ellen Johnson are listed in the census as living in the Riverheads District in 1880. He was a 38-year-old farmer and she was 33.³⁸ Nathaniel and Ellen Johnson sold the same tract to Fannie Thompson in 1906.³⁹ By that time, the Johnsons were noted as being “of Richmond,” a move much more easily undertaken after establishment of the B&O railroad, which had provided unprecedented mobility to African-Americans. The next year, Fannie Thompson purchased an additional small strip of land 22 feet wide and 90 feet long, from her neighbors to the north, Henry and Mollie Waddy, also African Americans.⁴⁰

Despite that Fannie Thompson did not purchase the house from the Johnsons until 1906, the Thompsons had apparently been living in the house for a number of years.⁴¹ Fannie Thompson was a laundress born into slavery about 1846 (died April 6, 1932). As was typical of people born into slavery, she was not taught to read or write.⁴² Her father was Sam Harper and her mother was probably Viney Harper. In the first census after the Civil War, Fannie Thompson was recorded as living in an African-American household of 11 people, but this is not believed to have been at the house in Jack’s Hill. The head of that household was 60-year-old Patrick Thompson. His wife, Charlotte Thompson was 50. It is considered likely that these are Fannie Thompson’s in-laws. Listed in order below Patrick and Charlotte Thompson were Dianna Thompson, age 18, Alice Thompson, 7, Patrick Thompson, 16, Shadrick (nicknamed “Shed”) Thompson, 25, Fannie Thompson, 23, Mary Elizabeth Thompson, 5, Margaret Thompson, 4, Rose Ella Thompson, 1, and Harper Viney, 60.⁴³ Shed, also a freedman, was Fannie’s husband. Mary, Margaret, and Rose were probably Shed and Fannie’s children, and Viney Harper is thought to be Fannie’s mother.⁴⁴ Of note is that in an 1884 issue of *The Greenville Banner*, it was written, “An old and respected colored [sic] man, Patrick Thompson, died Sunday night in the Pines.”⁴⁵ The Pines is about two miles east of Greenville.

Fannie and Shed Thompson had not yet moved to Greenville proper in 1880 when the census lists them as them living in the countryside of Augusta County. With them were five daughters

³⁶ Virginia, Deaths and Burials Index, 1853-1917, 2056974.

³⁷ Deed book 150, page 11.

³⁸ U.S. Census 1870.

³⁹ Deed book 150, page 12.

⁴⁰ Deed Book 153, page 487.

⁴¹ Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Augusta County, Virginia, deed book 150, page 12.

⁴² 1910 U.S. Census, Fannie Thompson is listed as a laundress who cannot read or write.

⁴³ U.S. Census, 1870.

⁴⁴ Brake, 14.

⁴⁵ *The Greenville Banner*, January 23, 1884.

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and two sons: 15-year-old Mary E., 13-year-old Margaret A., 11-year-old Rosella, 9-year-old Frank W., 7-year-old James E., 4-year-old Lovie B., and 4-month-old Hattie. The Thompsons were living between two white families, the Wisemans, the head of the household of which was a carpenter, and the Gibsons, three brothers who farmed. Because Shed Thompson is listed as a farm laborer, he may have been working at the Gibson farm and the Thompsons may have occupied a tenant house on the property. The 1884 Hotchkiss map of the Riverheads District shows two African-American families, the Thompsons and Jenkins, in close proximity to the farms of the three Gibson brothers. The location was about three miles north of Greenville.⁴⁶ None of the children were listed as attending school in the last year,⁴⁷ but this may have owed to the fact that a schoolhouse for African American children was not built in Greenville until 1882 or that the distance was simply too far for them to travel.

Between 1880 and 1900, Fannie Thompson's husband, Shed, who was a member of Mt. Ead, died. By 1900, Fannie Thompson and her children had moved to the Jack's Hill neighborhood north of Greenville to reside in the house that is the subject of this nomination.⁴⁸ It can be supposed that Shed Thompson's death precipitated the move closer to town to access employment opportunities. The census in 1900 noted that Fannie had 13 children, four of whom were still living, and she was listed as renting their house. Their next-door neighbors were the Martins, who occupied an almost-identical house (as described by Ann McCleary in 1980, but which no longer exists). In the 1900 census, Fannie Thompson was recorded as the head of household number 247, age 51, employed as a washerwoman, and living with her son, Frank Thompson, a 25-year-old day laborer, and her daughter, Willie Thompson, age 10. That year there were eight adjoining black households listed in the neighborhood along Old Staunton Road and the adults included three day laborers, two blacksmiths, three farm laborers, and two washerwomen.⁴⁹

The 1910 census has several significant changes in the Thompson household. First, the house was listed as being owned, rather than rented. This is consistent with the aforementioned 1906 record that the house had been sold to Fannie Thompson by the Johnsons. Living at the Fannie Thompson House were Fannie Thompson's 21-year-old daughter, Willie, and her husband, Clinton Joseph Ross, a 24-year-old lumber teamster. Clinton Ross was born on May 5, 1884, the son of freedman John W., a farm laborer, and his wife, a freedwoman, Hannah F. Ross. Clinton was the oldest child. His siblings were Charles, Blanch, Floyd, and Lillie. The Ross family lived very near if not actually in the village of Greenville in 1900.⁵⁰ Meanwhile, the 1910 census recorded Fannie Thompson as their 60-year-old mother-in-law, and her son, Frank Thompson, as a 38-year-old farm laborer. Both Clinton and Willie Ross could read and write, an important indicator of the family's improving socioeconomic status since the early 1880s. At the time, the Thompson House was mortgaged. The 1910 census recorded their neighbor George Harrison,

⁴⁶ *Illustrated Historical Atlas of Augusta County, Va.*, 1885.

⁴⁷ U.S. Census, 1880.

⁴⁸ Shed Thompson is listed in a *The Greenville Banner* article as being a member of Mt. Ead. Fannie Thompson is listed in the U.S. Census of 1900 as being a widow.

⁴⁹ 1900 U. S. Census.

⁵⁰ 1900 U. S. Census.

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two houses to the west, as a blacksmith in his own shop, and other neighbors were listed with occupations such as laundress and farm laborer.⁵¹

Clinton and Willie Thompson Ross had one son, Edward Claude Ross, born in 1908 in Pennsylvania, where his parents had moved in order for Clinton to find work as a brick mason. Such out-migration was common among African Americans seeking better-paying or more reliable employment opportunities. His World War I draft card showed that he and Willie Ross lived in Philadelphia, where he was employed by Chester Construction Company.⁵² Countywide census records bear out this pattern of African Americans moving north in search of work. In 1920, Augusta County had 216 African American farm operators recorded. By 1930, however, this number had decreased by more than half with only 99 farms in the county still operated by African Americans. This reduction of farmers, coupled with the number of people who had left farm-related jobs to go to Northern cities in search of better opportunities, contributed to a 14 percent decline in the county's African American population, from 4,188 persons in 1920 to 3,609 in 1930. During the same period, the white population increased by approximately ten percent.⁵³

Although the Rosses remained married, by the 1920 census, Willie Ross had moved back to Greenville to live with her mother while Clinton was a lodger at a boarding house in Philadelphia. Their son, Claude, attended school in Greenville (although he was not listed in this census).⁵⁴ Based on the physical evidence of their house, notably electrification and construction of the frame addition, the Thompson/Ross family's fortunes appear to have risen modestly but steadily from the 1910s through the late 1920s. By the time of the 1930 census, however, Clinton Ross lived in Ohio with the now 22-year-old Claude on a farm, where they worked as masons. Clinton Ross still was listed as being married while his son was single.⁵⁵ Meanwhile, Willie Ross lived in Greenville with her mother, Fannie Thompson, and her brother James. One potential reason for the family's dispersal is the onset of the Great Depression, precipitated by the 1929 stock market crash. As the economic shock took hold, tens of thousands of jobs vanished overnight, forcing many families to break up as breadwinners sought work away from their spouses and children, who then lived with extended family members, such as aging parents and unmarried siblings, to save resources.

Several generations of Rosses were recorded as students at the African American school in Greenville. During the 1909-1910 school year, thirty-three children attended, including Herman Ross and Lillie Ross (who was Clinton Ross's sister). Herman might be a younger brother who had not yet been born in the 1900 census. Ten years later, in the 1919-1920 school year, among the twenty-five students enrolled was Claude Ross, Clinton and Willie's son.⁵⁶ Still today, just outside the front door on the east side, one piece of siding has "ABCs" scratched into the wood.

⁵¹ 1910 U. S. Census.

⁵² Clinton Ross WWI draft card.

⁵³ Bechtel, *That's Just the Way It Was*, 216.

⁵⁴ 1920 U.S. Census.

⁵⁵ 1930 U.S. Census.

⁵⁶ Bechtel and King, 382-383.

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Forty books were recovered by current owner David McCaskey from rubble in the house. Four among them, *Webster's Elementary School Dictionary*, *Elementary Community Civics* (Virginia edition, 1922-1923), *New-World Speller Grades Two to Seven* with a preface to primary teachers, 1915, and Maury's *Geography With Additional Virginia Pages*, date to the period that the Rosses attended school. Also among the books are three textbooks bearing the names of mother and son, Willie Ross and E. Claude Ross. A number of religious books confirm household members' involvement in the church community. One of them, *A New Testament Primer*, in much better condition than most, is inscribed "Edward Claude Ross, born Aug 10, 1908," and may have been a gift received shortly after his birth. There were also a number of children's books including *Little Snow White*, *Anderson's Fairy Tales*, *Golden Summer Days (Mother Goose Nursery Rhymes)*, and *Uncle Tom's Cabin, Illustrated Edition*, juvenile novels including *The Sky Pilot*, *Boy Scouts on Old Superior or the Tale of the Pictured Rocks*; adult novels, *Three Years in Arkansaws*, *Tried for Her Life*, *Her Husband's Secret*; and nonfiction, *Vicar of Wakefield*, *Garfield*, *Latin Exercise Book* (inscribed J. Paris Palmer, Greenville, Va., Session 98-99, Roanoke College), *Wreck of the Titanic*, and *Sparkling Gems, Race Knowledge Worth Reading*.

The 1920 census listed eight African American households along Old Staunton Road. Fannie Thompson, now aged 73, was again listed as the head of household, still with only her son, James, and her daughter Willie Ross living with her. Both women were laundresses. The Harrison family house, now listed as three households to the west, was headed by 70-year-old Jackson Harrison, not working. Andrew Harrison, age 34, was recorded as a chauffeur employed at his own garage. Other occupations at that time within the black community included laborer, railroad worker; laborer, woods; and farm laborer.⁵⁷

The 1930 census shows a group of three black households in the community along Old Staunton Road. Fannie Thompson, head of household, was by then 85 years old and no longer working. Still living with her were her 51-year-old son James and her 38-year-old daughter Willie Ross. The household also had a lodger, an 11-year-old boy named Allen McCutchin, who was a student at the Greenville school in 1930.⁵⁸ Flanking the Thompson household in the census were two other African American families. The entry before the Thompsons is for the Harrison household. Braddy Harrison, a 47-year-old laborer doing "odd jobs," was recorded as the head of the household, along with his 45-year-old brother, Andy, a laborer, and their 70-year-old uncle, George, who still worked as a blacksmith (earlier census records described him as owning his own blacksmith shop). On the other side of the Thompsons was Charley Randolph, a 75-year-old widower apparently living by himself.⁵⁹

The matriarch of the house, Fannie Thompson, died on April 6, 1932, of bronchial pneumonia. She was "about 86." Rosa Green, who was probably her granddaughter, reported her death.⁶⁰ Although born enslaved and without the benefit of a formal education, after the Civil War Fannie

⁵⁷ 1920 U. S. Census.

⁵⁸ Bechtel and King, 383.

⁵⁹ All information in this paragraph other than the school reference is from the 1930 U.S. census.

⁶⁰ Fannie Thompson death certificate April 6, 1932.

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and her husband Shed Thompson earned enough money first to rent their own house and eventually to purchase it. Over the years, her income as a laundress allowed her to add on to the house and to welcome an extended family, including a young boy. She was also able to purchase an additional small sliver of land adjacent to her house's small lot. Fannie Thompson's daughter, Willie Ross, died just weeks after her mother on June 2, 1932, of asthma. She was 41 years old and listed as being married. Again reporting the death was Rosa Green, probably her niece.⁶¹ Clinton Ross apparently remained in Ohio, where he had been working as a bricklayer, for the rest of his life. His World War II draft card from Geauga, Ohio, indicates that he had remarried. He died in Cleveland on August 12, 1965, at the age of 81, and was buried in Painesville, Ohio.⁶²

The 1940 census for the Riverheads Magisterial district shows a well-established African-American community adjacent to the Fannie Thompson House. In that year the census taker began at the northwest section of Greenville, noting "Here begins Greenville, Va." He then listed eight consecutive African-American families: Robinson (six persons), McComey (one person), Martin (four persons), Harris (one person), Thompson (two persons), Harris (two persons), Hawp (two persons), and Lewis (eight persons).⁶³ The Thompson household at that time consisted of 63-year-old James Thompson and 55-year-old Susie Haliburton. The census taker listed Haliburton as Thompson's sister, but she is thought to have been his first cousin. Fannie Harper Thompson and Susie's mother, Martha Harper Haliburton, are believed to have been sisters, although Fannie's death certificate in 1932 listed her father as Sam Harper and her mother as "unknown," while Martha's death certificate in 1913 showed her father was William Harper and her mother was "unknown."⁶⁴

Susan Jane Haliburton (or Halliburton) was born in 1886 to John and Martha (Harper) Haliburton, freed African Americans who lived in southern Augusta County. She spent some of her early adult years in Baltimore, where she was listed in the 1920 census as a servant working for the white Waters family.⁶⁵ In 1926, she returned to Augusta County to be a nanny for the family of Philip C. Brooks, his wife Sue, and their small son, Philip. Brooks was a teacher at Fishburne Military School and his wife worked as the secretary there.⁶⁶ Susan Haliburton still worked for the Brooks family when she met the Boccock family, who lived in Greenville, and she began taking care of the Boccock children as well. The Boccocks lived just west of Greenville's black community on a tract of land where Interstate 81 is now located; they owned a small restaurant in the village.

Where Susan Haliburton was living in 1930 is unclear, but by 1940, she resided with the Thompsons in Greenville. On February 19, 1941, when she was 55 years old, she married Moffett Porter, a 68-year-old widower, son of Sidney Porterfield and Jordan Porter, and a farmer

⁶¹ Willie Ross death certificate, June 2, 1932.

⁶² Clinton Ross, documentation at Ancestry.com.

⁶³ 1940 U.S. Census.

⁶⁴ Death certificates of Martha Harper (1913) and Fannie Thompson (1932).

⁶⁵ U.S. Census, 1920, Baltimore.

⁶⁶ U.S. Census, 1930 and Susan Porter obituary, *Staunton News Leader* Nov. 20, 1974.

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who sometimes did a little preaching on the side.⁶⁷ Moffett Porter's first wife, Ella Carter, appears to have been Fannie Thompson's daughter, known variously in historic records as Rosa, Ella, and Rosella. Ella Porter died in 1938. Her death certificate lists her mother as Fannie Thompson and her father as Henry Carter, states that she was born in Staunton, and lists her age as 59. If Ella's mother was the same Fannie Thompson that is described herein, then Moffett Porter would have been Fannie Thompson's son-in-law.⁶⁸ When Susan Haliburton and Moffett Porter married in 1941, they went to live a few miles away just northeast of Greenville along the Norfolk and Western Railroad at the depot stop known as Avis. He was a farmer and she continued to care for the Bocoock children from their home.

The Bocoock children adored "Aunt Sue" and "Uncle Moffett" and remembered visiting the Porters in their home along the railroad track, where they had a garden and one milk cow. Aunt Sue would also spend days at the Bocoock house taking care of the children. Although the census records indicate that Sue Porter's formal schooling amounted to two years, the Bocoocks remembered a woman who was steeped in traditional herbs and home remedies. She knew the right remedies to stop a stomachache, an earache, and other minor ailments. Even after he was an adult and went hunting, Bobby Bocoock would always remember to gather particular herbs and take them to Aunt Sue so she could boil them and make her purifying tonics. "She was the sweetest person I ever knew," remembered Bobby Bocoock. Bocoock and his wife Peggy also remembered that Aunt Sue could make wine out of anything, including blackberries, potatoes, tomatoes, dandelion, and locust. However, she never drank except to take a spoonful regularly for "medicinal purposes." When the younger Bocoocks had children of their own, Aunt Sue embraced them as well and would often sit with them under a tree and tell ghost stories. Aunt Sue's home remedies extended to incantations and spells in order to remove warts or predict the future. She thought that one should always rub the first snow in your eyes to promote eye health. If a finger was burned, then blowing on it and repeating a little incantation would help.⁶⁹ Her interest in divination is documented by a letter addressed to her dated June 4, 1935, found in the Fannie Thompson House, confirming shipment of "one pack of Revelation fortune telling cards" from the United States Playing Card Company of Cincinnati, USA.

Sue Porter only lived in the house at Avis for seven years until her husband's death on July 22, 1948.⁷⁰ Thereafter she moved back in with her cousin, James Thompson. From there she could easily walk to the Bocoock house just up the road to the west. From that point until his death in 1953, "Uncle Jim" also became an important part of the Bocoock family. "Uncle Jim was as fine a fellow as you would want to meet," said Bobby Bocoock. He noted that Thompson made his living doing odd jobs for families such as building fences.

For the five years that they lived together after Sue Porter's husband died, the cousins apparently split the house with James Thompson living in the northwest half of the house and Sue Porter

⁶⁷ Marriage certificate of Susan Haliburton and Moffett Porter, Feb. 19, 1941; Virginia Marriage Records, 1936-2014. The preaching reference is found in Brake's book.

⁶⁸ Ella Porter death certificate, Nov. 15, 1938.

⁶⁹ Interview with Peggy and Bobby Bocoock of Greenville, Nov. 10, 2017.

⁷⁰ Tombstone in the Mt. Ead cemetery.

Fannie Thompson House
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living in the southeast half.⁷¹ James E. Thompson died in November 1953. His funeral expenses were paid by his cousin, Sue Porter. The November 23, 1953, receipt for that payment was found by the current owner among papers that remained in the house. After her cousin died in 1953, Sue Porter continued to live in the house until just a few weeks before her death in 1974, at the age of 99. Across her long life, she offered childcare to the families of both Lewis and Bobby Bocoock and their children and they, in turn, watched after her. Until she was 96 or 97 years old, the tiny woman would walk the mile or so from her house up the hill to the Bobby Bocoock house so that she could watch her favorite soap opera. One favorite story that the Bocoocks told about “Aunt Sue” was that she had never seen a doctor until she was 72 years old. When Sue H. Porter passed away on November 19, 1974, a service was conducted in the chapel of Jones Funeral Home in Staunton by the Rev. Carl Edwards, the minister of Good Shepherd Episcopal Church in Folly Mills where she was a member. Porter and her mother Martha Harper are buried in Thornrose Cemetery in Staunton.⁷²

Sue Porter had no children and never actually owned the house that she lived in. James Thompson also had no children so when both were gone, the house was left vacant by Fannie Thompson’s descendants. After Susan Porter’s death, people vandalized the house in search of “a valuable ring” that she was rumored to have inherited from an employer, but left many personal belongings, books, and papers untouched. By the time the current owner purchased the property, the house had been vacant since 1974. Documents retrieved from the house provide details of life in the Fannie Thompson house during the early to mid-20th century. These include:

- Receipt number 17211 for a dog license, dated January 30, 1935, bearing the name of James Thompson.
- Augusta County tax receipts for 26 ¼ poles of land adjacent to the Waddy property, in the name of Fannie Thompson and dated from 1938-1945, several bear the notation “paid by James Thompson.”
- A 1946 Augusta County tax receipt for 3 poles of land standing in the name of James Thompson. (In 1932 immediately after Fannie Thompson’s death, James Thompson purchased a vaguely described adjoining parcel from Henry and Mary Waddy.)
- A June 4, 1935, acknowledgment of an order of “one pack of Revelation fortune telling cards” addressed to Miss Susan Haliburton, Greenville, Virginia.
- An envelope addressed to Mrs. Susan Porter at Route 1, Box 24, Stuarts Draft, Virginia, dated February 21, 194_ (this would have been while she and Moffett Porter lived in Avis, which would have probably had a Stuarts Draft address.)
- Augusta County tax receipts for 26¼ poles of land in the name of Fannie Thompson, dated 1957 and 1959 and marked as paid by Susan Porter.
- Augusta County tax receipt for 3 poles of land in the name of James Thompson dated 1957 and marked as paid by Susan Porter.
- A Virginia Electric Power Company bill dated July 1966 in the name of Sue Porter.
- A notice from the Social Security Administration dated June 1, 1968, addressed to Susan Jane Porter, General Delivery, Greenville, VA 24440.

⁷¹ Ann McCleary’s 1980 survey, 07-663; interview with Lewis Bocoock.

⁷² Porter obituary and Thornrose Cemetery records.

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- An envelope dated February 10, 1973, addressed to Mrs. Susan Haliburton Porter, Greenville, Virginia.
- An apparently unused copy of the 1974 Hagers-Town Town and Country Almanack.

The parcel of 3 Poles that James Thompson purchased from the Waddy family after his mother's death still stands as a separate adjoining tax map parcel.⁷³ The present owner purchased both parcels from Fannie Thompson's descendants.⁷⁴

Greenville's African-American population declined as farming mechanized and World Wars I and II took young men into military service and war industry jobs led both men and women to leave for better employment opportunities. These demographic changes left an insufficient number of congregants to support the churches, which closed by the late 20th century. It is telling that Brake's 1994 *The History of Greenville* recites the church and school histories and lists various grave markers but has no more recent history of the African American presence other than the anecdotal recollections of elderly white residents. If not for Susan Haliburton Porter, the Fannie Thompson House likely would have fared no better than its neighbors.

Criterion C: Architecture

The log portion of the Fannie Thompson House is significant as an example of the Jack's Hill neighborhood dwellings that were built prior to 1900. The house is also significant due to its frame addition and electrification, likely accomplished when Fannie Thompson's son, James Thompson, reached adulthood and enjoyed a few years of steady employment and when Fannie's Thompson's daughter, son-in-law, and grandson moved into the house with them. The house never had indoor plumbing; instead, water was carried from a spring located across the river behind what was, in the twentieth century, a small grocery.⁷⁵ That spring as well as rain barrels constituted the household's water supply. (A stack of hoops from successive barrels lies beneath one corner of the kitchen roof). The house was always served by a privy because its site on a rock ledge would not support a septic system and made well or cistern digging impractical.

The dwelling's form and materials are directly associated with construction methods and materials commonly used during the Reconstruction Era by African American freedpeople embarking on independent lives. The original log dwelling is believed to have been reconstructed from an earlier building at a different location. Use of salvaged materials such as these represented considerable savings of labor, resources, and funds. The modifications made to the dwelling, notably in the installation of its plank flooring and adjustment to the height of the entry door, capture vernacular construction methods of the era and are character-defining features of

⁷³ Augusta County Deed Book 262, page 21.

⁷⁴ Augusta County Deeds, Instrument number 010008870, dated August 26, 2001, David I. McCaskey purchased adjoining parcels identified as Augusta County Tax Map Numbers 82A-1-61 and 82A-1-6 from Mabel L. Ratliff, *et.als.*

⁷⁵ Interview with Peggy and Bobby Bocoock, November 3, 2017. The Bocoocks indicated that Sue Porter, who lived in the house alone from 1953 to 1974, when she entered a nursing home, always got her water from that spring.

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the architectural design. More than 140 years later, the edifice remains as a testament to the ingenuity and skill of its builders.

The dwelling's expansion from a one-room log dwelling by construction of a two-story frame dwelling, a façade-spanning porch, and rear one-story frame addition demonstrate continued reliance on vernacular construction methods and salvaged materials, which are character-defining aspects of the house's architectural significance. The beaded weatherboard siding on the log section's façade bears rectangular perforations consistent with having been installed elsewhere with cut nails. Wood from shipping crates was used to line the closets in the ca. 1910 frame addition. Other extant trim materials, such as the architrave casing on the windows and the molded baseboards in the frame addition, were likely mass-produced and indicate that the Thompsons partook of the consumer society of the early 20th century. The house's electrification with knob-and-tube wiring, at the time the standard for residential wiring, is similarly indicative of improving circumstances. Overall, the dwelling's unaltered condition, coupled with the retention of historic records and material culture associated with the Thompsons, provide important insights into the lives of an African American family living in rural Virginia during the late 19th through mid-20th century.

Locally, the survival of a residence such as the Fannie Thompson House is rare. Extant African American-related resources in the Shenandoah Valley region of Virginia are more likely to exist in urban areas such as Staunton, Waynesboro, and Harrisonburg. The Fannie Thompson House today is one of the only documented rural residential buildings in the region constructed by African Americans and inhabited by African Americans from Reconstruction through the Civil Rights era. Numerous towns and small communities line the Route 11/Valley Pike corridor. Like Greenville, they had segregated neighborhoods where African Americans forged a part of this region's history that has yet to be fully studied. The Fannie Thompson House is a rare example of a dwelling built by African Americans during the Reconstruction Era and remains a significant representation of their lives in rural Augusta County spanning the Reconstruction, Jim Crow, and Civil Rights eras in Virginia.

Throughout the American South, whether they remain unknown, are unrecognizable, or are no longer extant, dwellings built and lived in by African Americans during the Reconstruction Era are a rare find. This supposition is borne out by a check of National Register listings for Reconstruction Era African American communities. For example, the Hog Hammock Historic District, Sapelo Island, McIntosh County, Georgia, is a 427-acre African American community located on a barrier island approximately 100 miles south of Savannah near the port city of Darien. Containing about 50 historic resources dating from 1871 to the post-WWII period, it is still an active community today. Other listings, such as the Pittsburgh Historic District, Atlanta, Georgia, and the Sand Hills Historic District, Augusta, Georgia, feature modest, working-class dwellings, usually shotgun houses, along with more substantial houses, but these are more recently built resources located in urban settings, quite unlike the small-town venue of the earlier and unaltered Fannie Thompson House.

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The Washington DC Historic Alley Buildings Survey discusses the cheaply constructed, frame buildings that housed a population of 81% African American, largely unskilled workers in 1871. Like the Fannie Thompson House, these dwellings lacked indoor plumbing, central heat, or drinking water supply. Concern over the resulting unsanitary and unhealthful conditions led to efforts to improve conditions that amounted to switching to brick buildings during the 1880s, Congressional intervention setting construction standards during the 1890s, a Board of Condemnation for Unsanitary Dwellings in 1906, and the Alley Dwelling Authority in 1934. These steps, the lessening of the need for a “walking city” occasioned by the advent of streetcars, and the development of business uses resulted in the removal of the substandard housing by 1944, with the gentrification of the remaining alley structures taking hold by the early 1950s. Instead of preserving the African American community living here, this progression effectively removed the African American working class from the vicinity.⁷⁶

Properties featured on the National Park Service’s African American History Month website also are predominately in urban settings and tend to be associated with middle- and upper-class persons who were prosperous enough to afford more substantial accommodations than the Fannie Thompson House. A search of the NPS website for Reconstruction-Era houses included an article about the Sukeek’s Cabin site at the Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum, which is a 560-acre archeological preserve and working farm on the Patuxent River in Calvert County, Maryland. Sukeek’s Cabin Site is a 19th- to 20th-century African American domestic site located within the park. In 1966, archeologists worked with Sukeek family members to learn the family’s story and how it relates to American life during the 19th and 20th centuries. The research at this location appears to cover some of the same period in a rural setting as the Fannie Thompson House, but the properties are not entirely comparable as Sukeek’s is an archaeological site.

⁷⁶ Kim Prothro Williams, “The DC Historic Alley Buildings Survey,” Washington DC: National Park Service, 2014, at <https://www.nps.gov/shpo/downloads/DC-AlleySurvey2014.pdf>.

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Name of Property

Augusta County, VA
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9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Augusta County Deed Books, various dates.

Ayers, Edward L. *The Thin Light of Freedom: The Civil War and Emancipation in the Heart of America* New York: W.W. Norton Co, 2017.

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Sorrells, Nancy. "Slavery and Freedom in Augusta County." Augusta County Historical Society presentation. June 20, 2015, Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation (Civil War Conference), November 15, 2015, Augusta County Historical Society.

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United States Census Records 1880-1940.

Virginia, Deaths and Burials Index, 1853-1917.

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff. "Public Schools in Augusta County, Virginia, 1870-1940." Multiple Property Documentation form, 1984.

Williams, Kim Protho. "The DC Historic Alley Buildings Survey." Washington DC: National Park Service, 2014. At <https://www.nps.gov/shpo/downloads/DC-AlleySurvey2014.pdf>.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): DHR No. 007-0663

10. Geographical Data

Acree of Property 0.179 acre

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: 38.005740 Longitude: -79.155160

2. Latitude: Longitude:

Fannie Thompson House
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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:

4. Zone: Easting : Northing:

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

The historic boundary is drawn to coincide with the lot lines that have been associated with the Fannie Thompson House since the lot first was recorded in 1906. This lot has been recorded by Augusta County at tax parcel no.082A-1-61 and is described as follows in Augusta County Deed Book 150, page 12:

Beginning at Waller Allen's corner in the center of the County Road, thence with John Almarode's line N 32 ½ ° E 4 poles to a corner on his line, thence N 37 ° N 5.28 poles to a solid rock marked for corner, thence S 54 ½ ° 3.12 poles to corner of Washington Thompson's line in center of County Road, thence with Thompson and Allen's lines S 26 ° E 5.36 poles to the beginning, containing about 19 poles.

The true and correct historic boundaries are shown on the attached Tax Parcel Map.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The historic boundaries are drawn to encompass the entirety of the land historically associated with the Fannie Thompson House, the property's historic setting, and all known historic resources.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: David I. McCaskey
organization: n/a
street & number: 243 Taylor Street
city or town: Staunton state: VA zip code: 24401
e-mail: dimcc@cfw.com
telephone: (540) 480-3638

Fannie Thompson House
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Augusta County, VA
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date: February 2018

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

Name of Property: Fannie Thompson House
City or Vicinity: Greenville
County: Augusta State: VA 24440
Photographer: Ann McCleary/David McCaskey
Date Photographed: 1983-2017

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

0001 of 18. Southwest façade and southeast elevation, camera facing northwest

0002 of 18. Southwest façade and northwest elevation, camera facing east

0003 of 18. Southwest façade, looking toward remaining section of front porch, camera facing southeast

0004 of 18. Southeast elevation showing log construction, camera facing northeast

0005 of 18. Northwest gable end, camera facing south

0006 of 18. Northeast (rear) elevation and kitchen addition, camera facing southeast

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- 0007 of 18. Detail of log section's foundation, camera facing north/northeast
- 0008 of 18. Detail of horizontal lap siding with a bead cut into its edge, southwest façade, beneath front porch roof, camera facing northwest
- 0009 of 18. First floor of log section, camera facing south
- 0010 of 18. Entry to enclosed winder stairs, camera facing southeast
- 0011 of 18. Detail of winder staircase, camera facing southeast.
- 0012 of 18. Cupboard beneath the stairs, camera facing southwest
- 0013 of 18. First floor, frame addition, camera facing north
- 0014 of 18. Detail of stair treads at upper landing, camera facing northeast.
- 0015 of 18. Second floor, frame addition southeast room, showing top sill of original log section
- 0016 of 18. Second floor, frame addition looking from southeast room to northwest room, camera facing southeast
- 0017 of 18. Second floor, frame addition, southeast room, camera facing east
0018. Second floor, frame addition, detail of reused crate wood within closet, camera facing southwest

List of Historic Figures

- Figure 1. 1884 Hotchkiss *Illustrated Atlas of Augusta County*.
- Figure 2. Ca. 1900 photo in John W. Brake's *The History of Greenville*
- Figure 3. First-floor plan as recorded in 1980 survey by Ann McCleary
- Figure 4. 1980 survey photo by Ann McCleary
- Figure 5. 1980 interior photo by Ann McCleary
- Figure 6. 1980 detail view of mantel by Ann McCleary

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.



LOCATION MAP

Fannie Thompson House

Augusta County, VA

DHR No. 007-0663

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Latitude: 38.005740

Longitude: -79.155160



Feet



1:2,257 / 1"=188 Feet

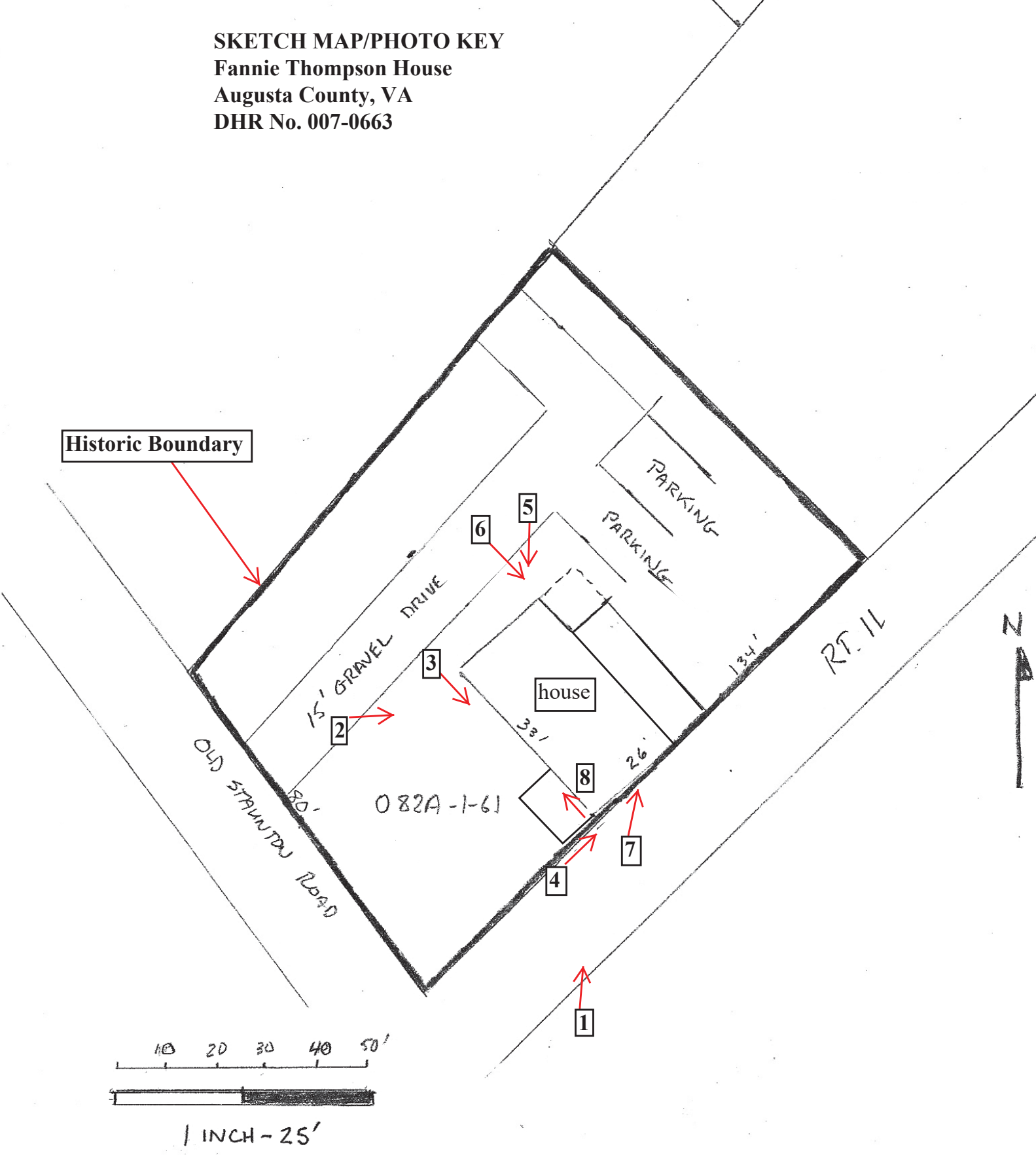
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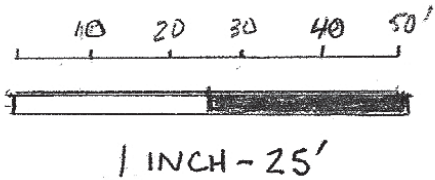
DISCLAIMER: Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years from a variety of sources and the representation depicted is a cumulative view of field observations over time and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general information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

SKETCH MAP/PHOTO KEY
Fannie Thompson House
Augusta County, VA
DHR No. 007-0663



Historic Boundary



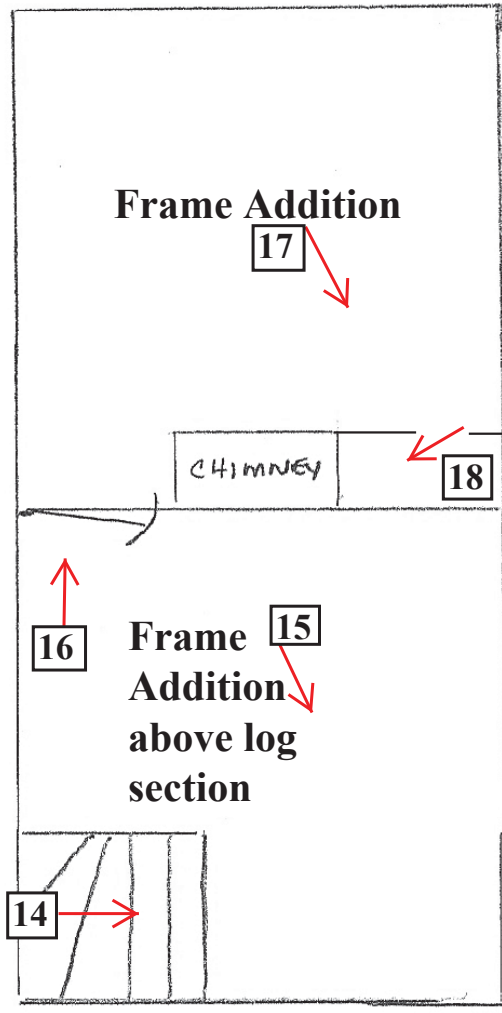
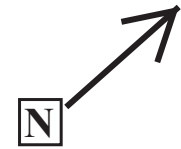

Photo Locations

SOURCE: AUGUSTA COUNTY, VA
GIS TAX MAP

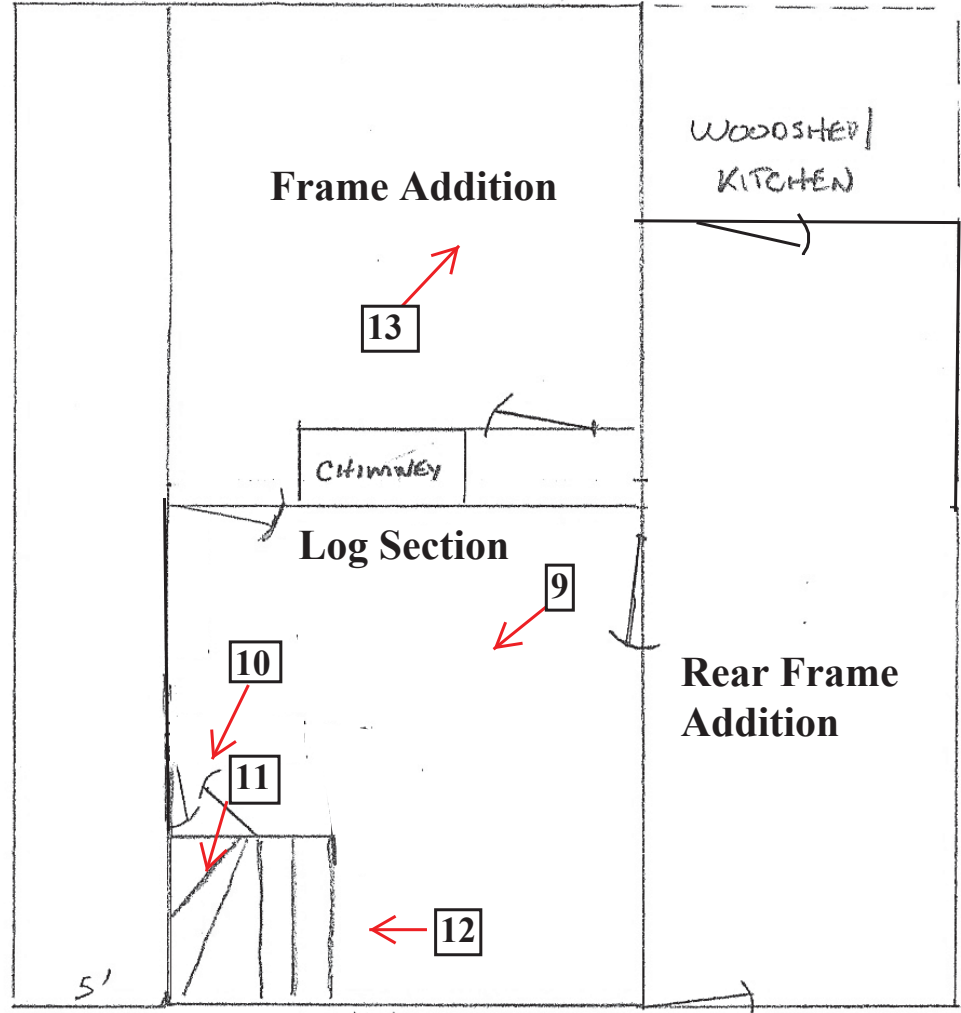
FLOOR PLAN
Fannie Thompson House
Augusta County, VA
DHR No. 007-0063

FANNIE THOMPSON HOUSE FLOOR PLAN

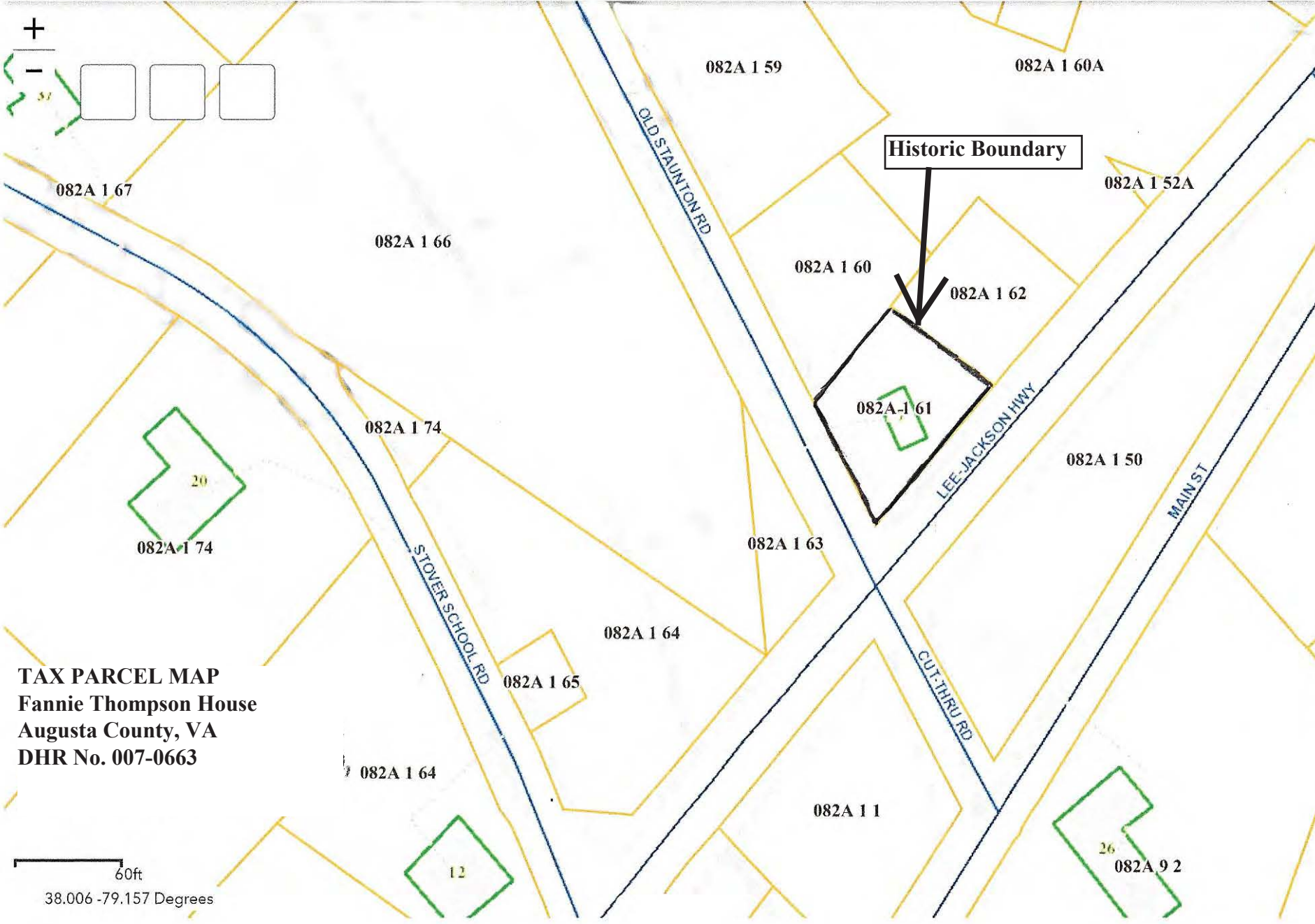
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SECOND FLOOR



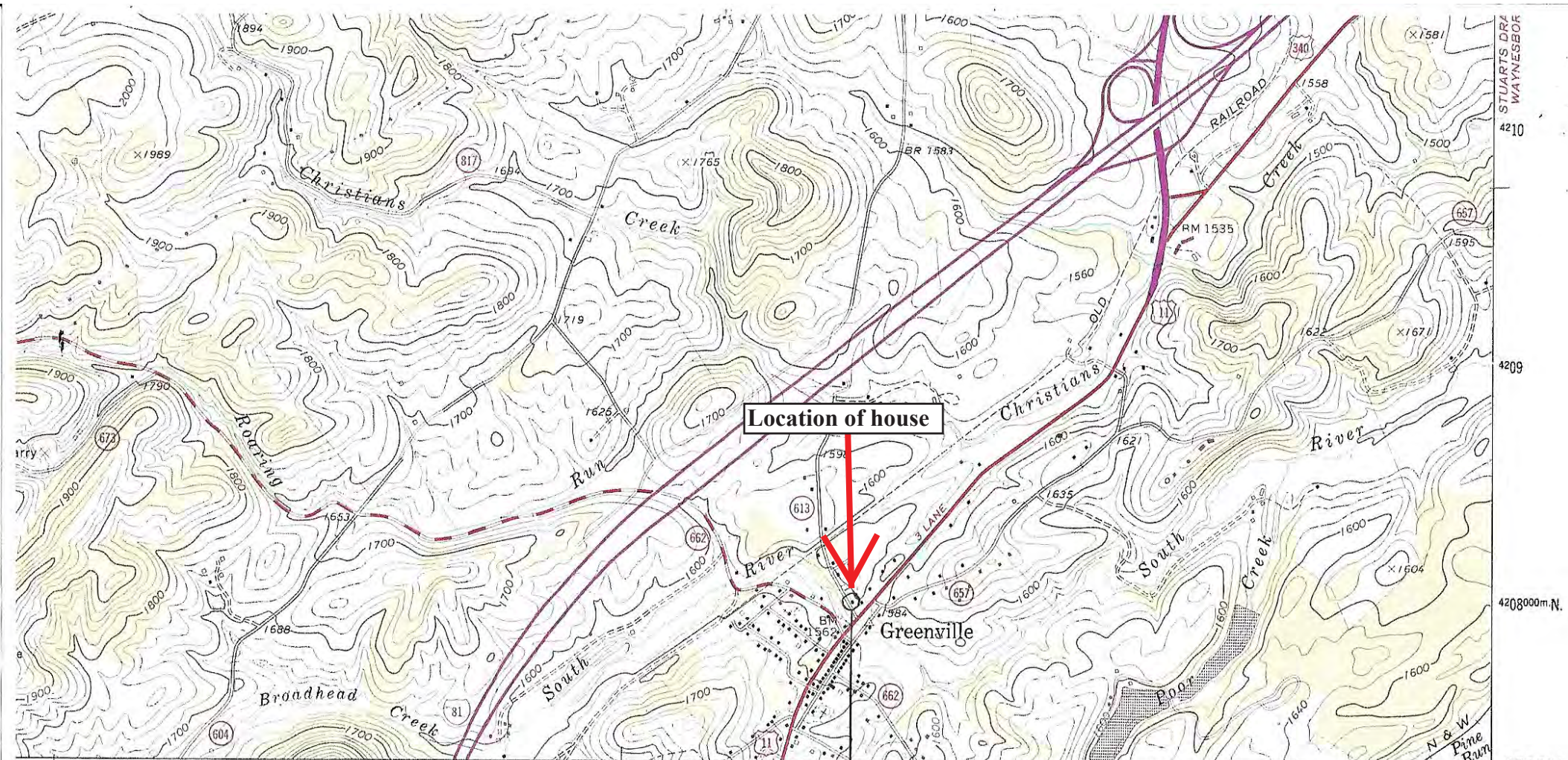
FIRST FLOOR



Historic Boundary

TAX PARCEL MAP
Fannie Thompson House
Augusta County, VA
DHR No. 007-0663

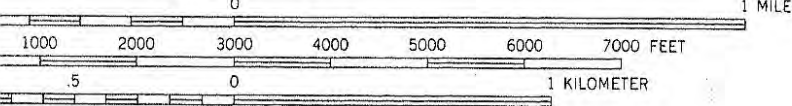
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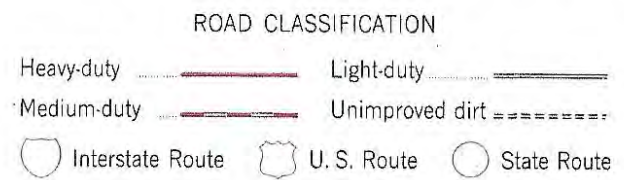
Location of house

Greenville

(VESUVIUS)
5159 1 NW
SCALE 1:24000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL



QUADRANGLE LOCATION
TOPOGRAPHIC MAP
Fannie Thompson House
Augusta County, VA
DHR No. 007-0663

GREENVILLE, VA.
SW/4 STAUNTON 15' QUADRANGLE
N3800—W7907.5/7.5

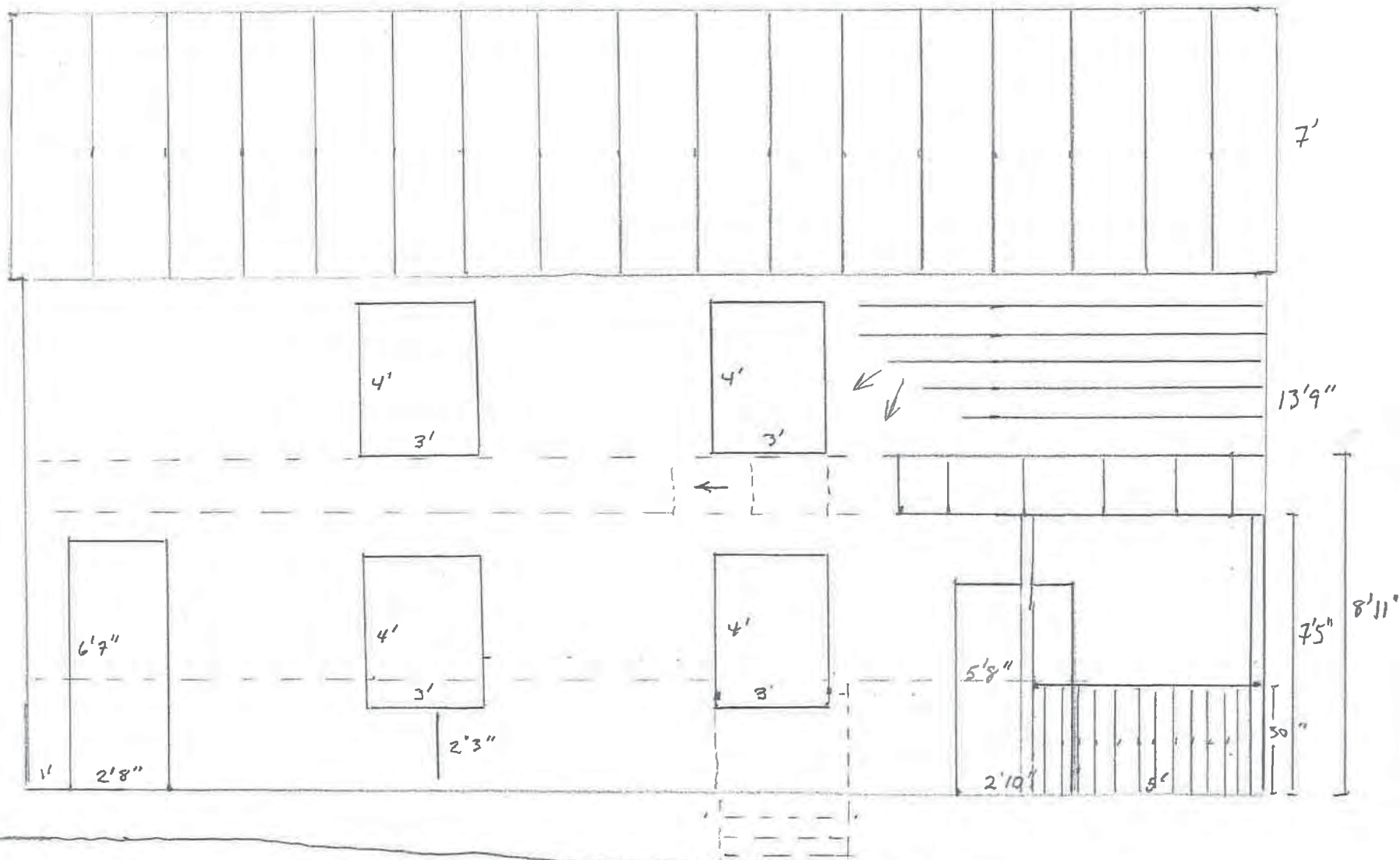
1964
PHOTOREVISED 1972
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COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
DIVISION OF MINERAL RESOURCES, CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA
FOR A LIST OF TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

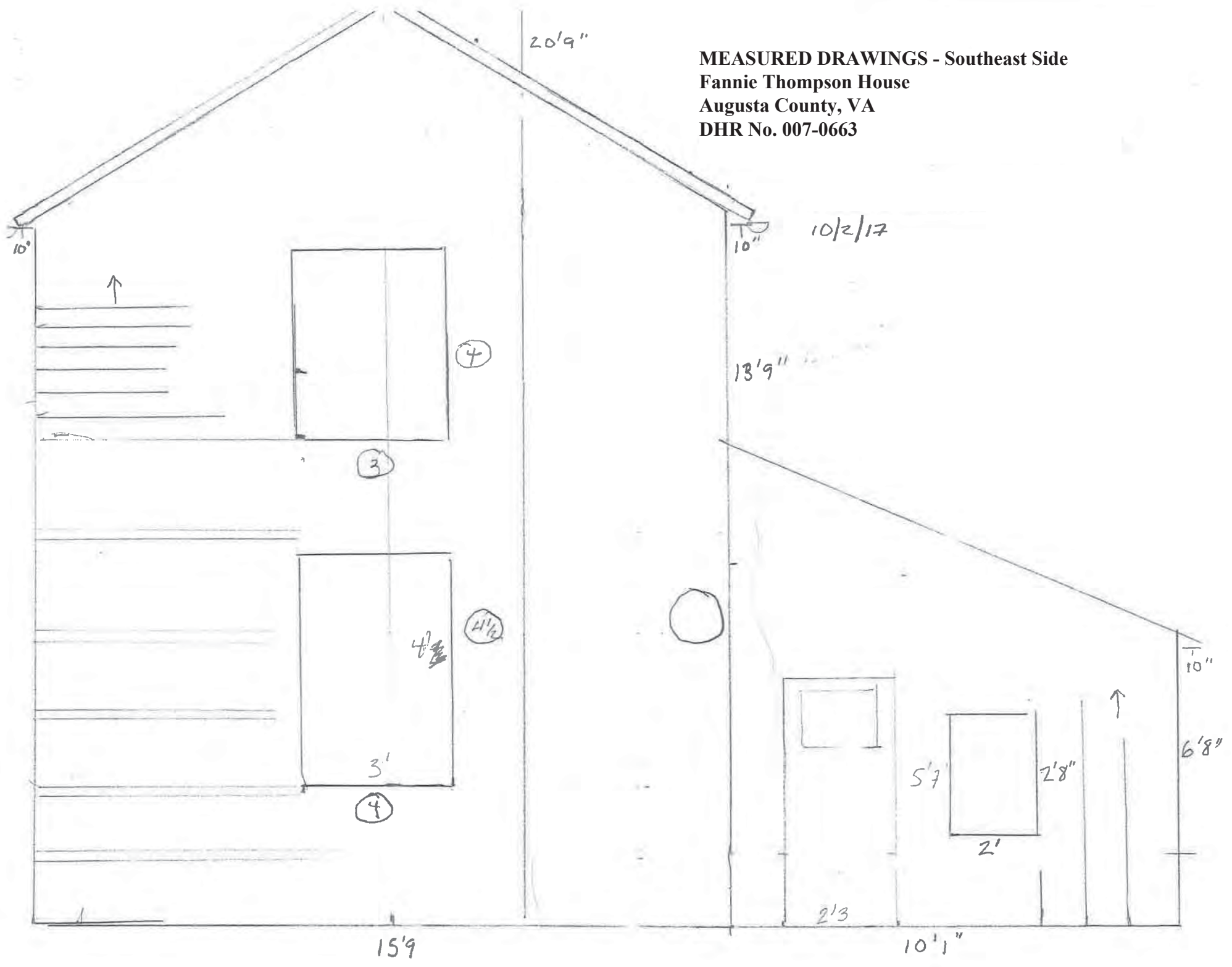
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4210
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4208000m.N
38°00'
663
664000m.E
79°07'30"

MEASURED DRAWINGS - Southwest Facade
Fannie Thompson House
Augusta County, VA
DHR No. 007-0663

10/2/17

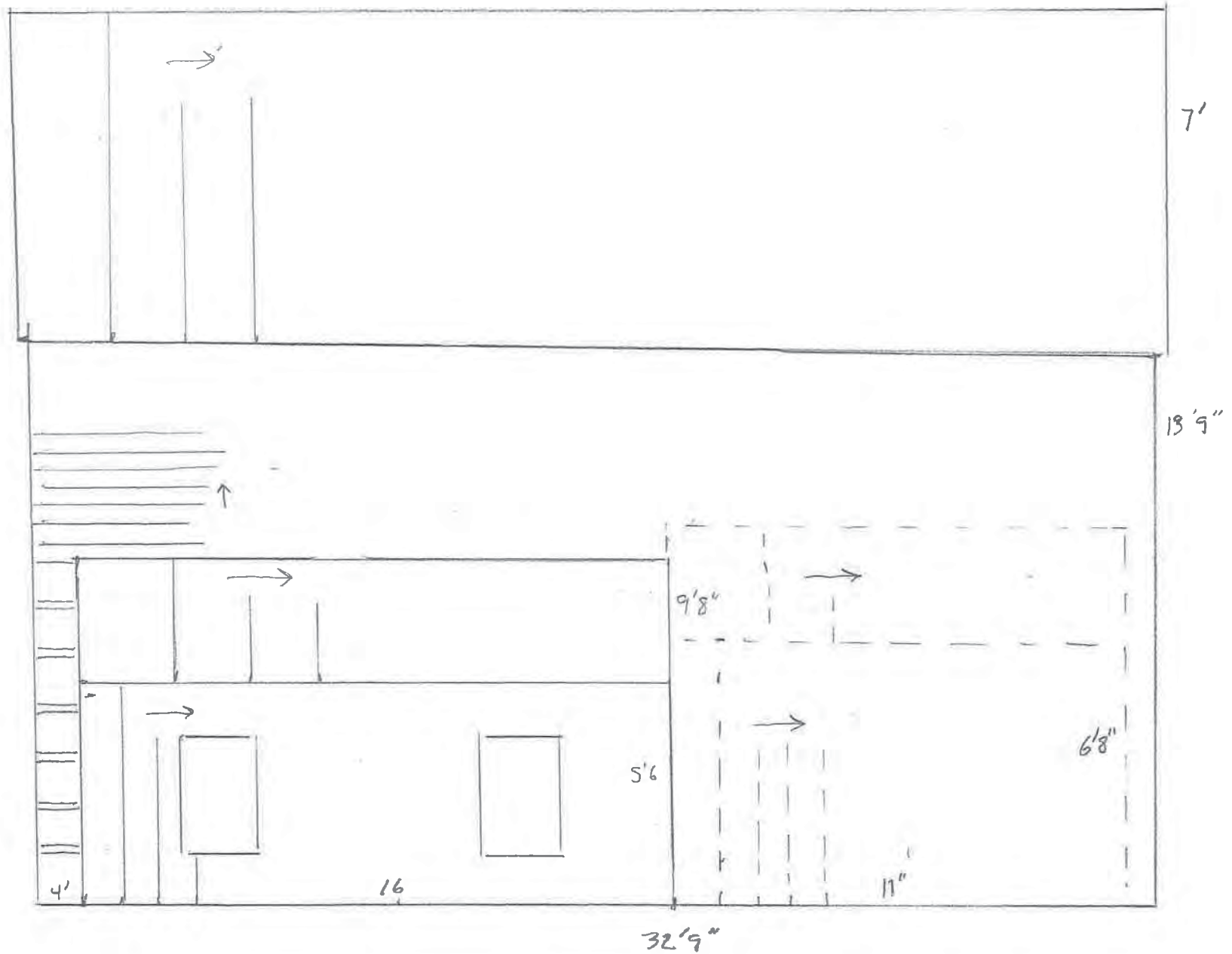


MEASURED DRAWINGS - Southeast Side
Fannie Thompson House
Augusta County, VA
DHR No. 007-0663



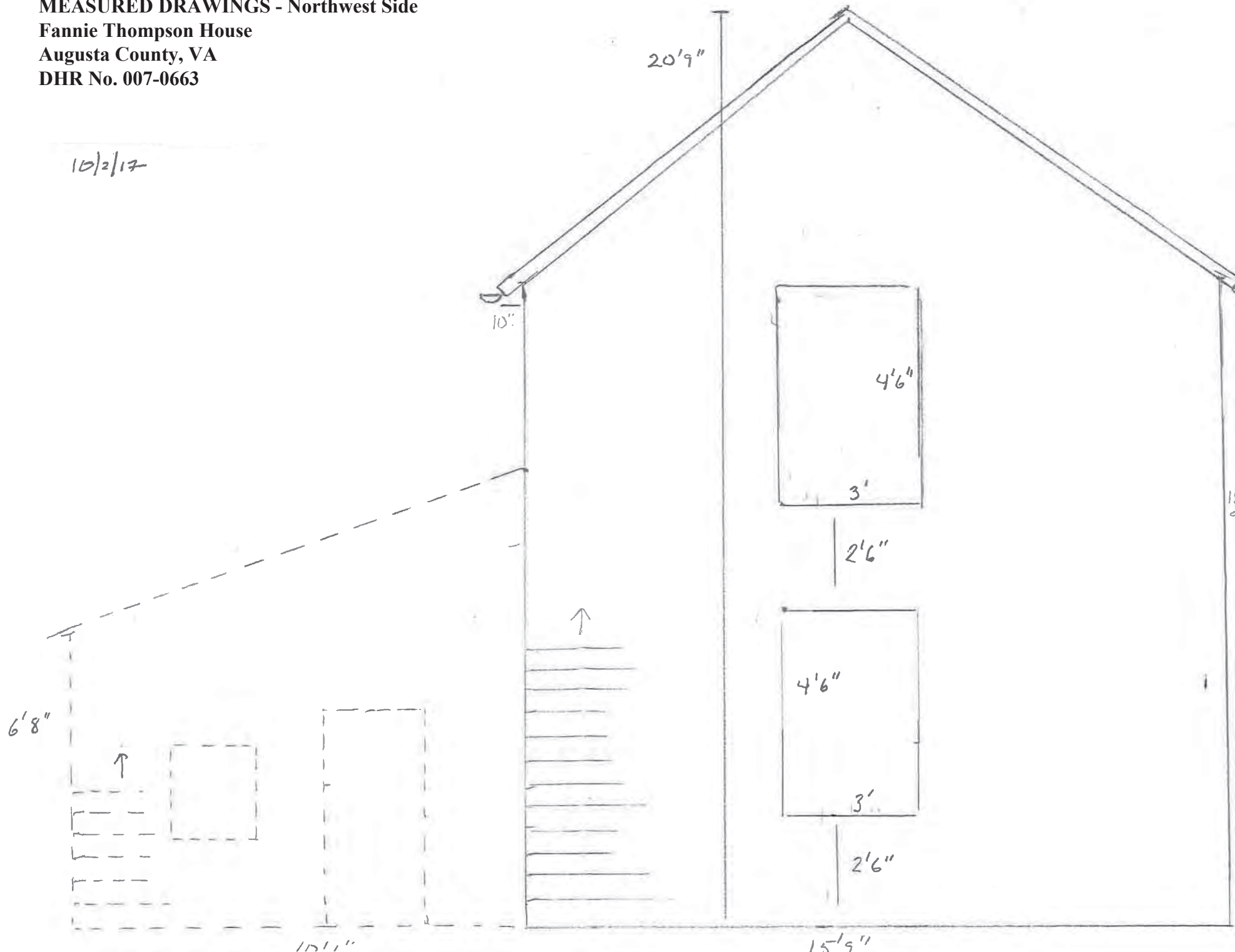
MEASURED DRAWINGS - Northeast (rear) Elevation
Fannie Thompson House
Augusta County, VA
DHR No. 007-0663

10/2/17

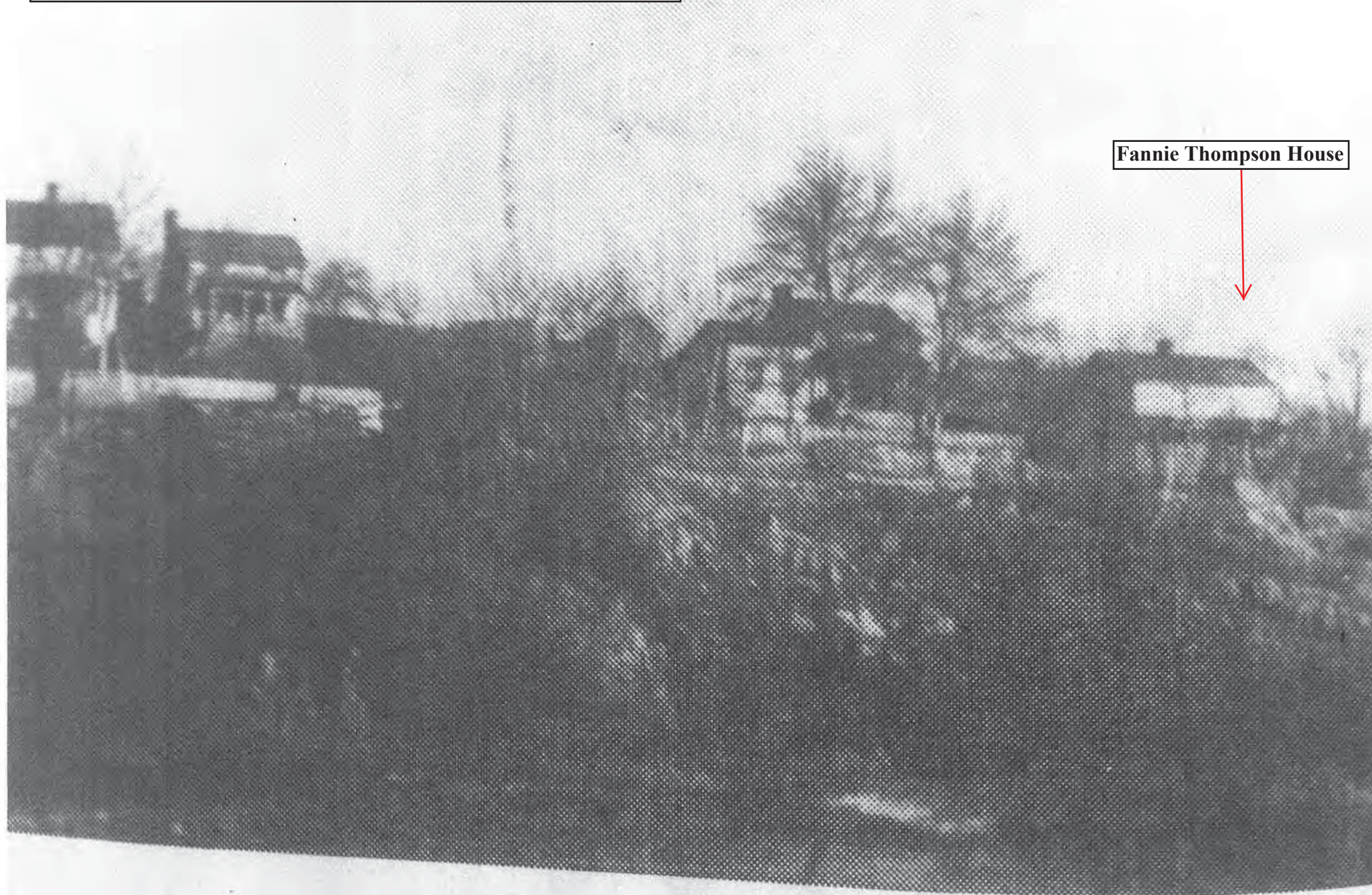


MEASURED DRAWINGS - Northwest Side
Fannie Thompson House
Augusta County, VA
DHR No. 007-0663

10/2/17

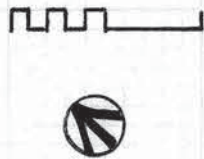
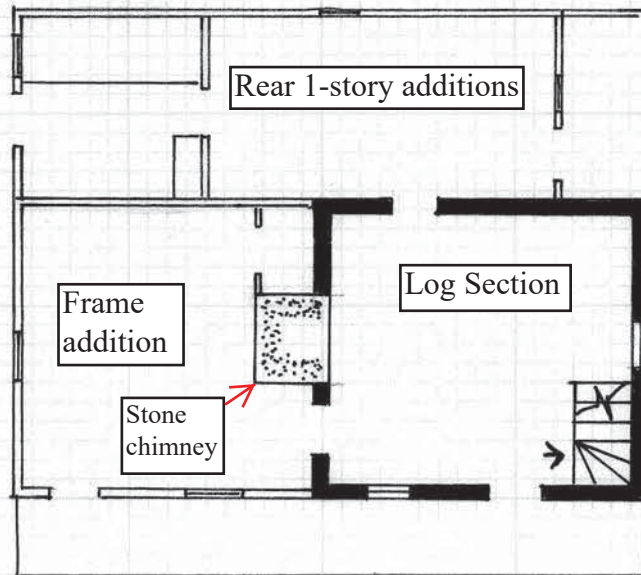


**Figure 2. Ca. 1910 photo in John W. Brake's *The History of Greenville*
Fannie Thompson House
Augusta County, VA
DHR No. 007-0663**



Fannie Thompson House

**Figure 3. FIRST-FLOOR PLAN AS RECORDED
IN 1980 SURVEY**
Fannie Thompson House
Augusta County, VA
DHR No. 007-0663



Fannie Thompson House, Augusta County, 07-663
Floor plan drawn by Ann McCleary,
Architectural Historian, VHLC, June 1980

**Figure 4. 1980 Survey Photo by Ann McCleary
Fannie Thompson House
Augusta County, VA
DHR No. 007-0663**

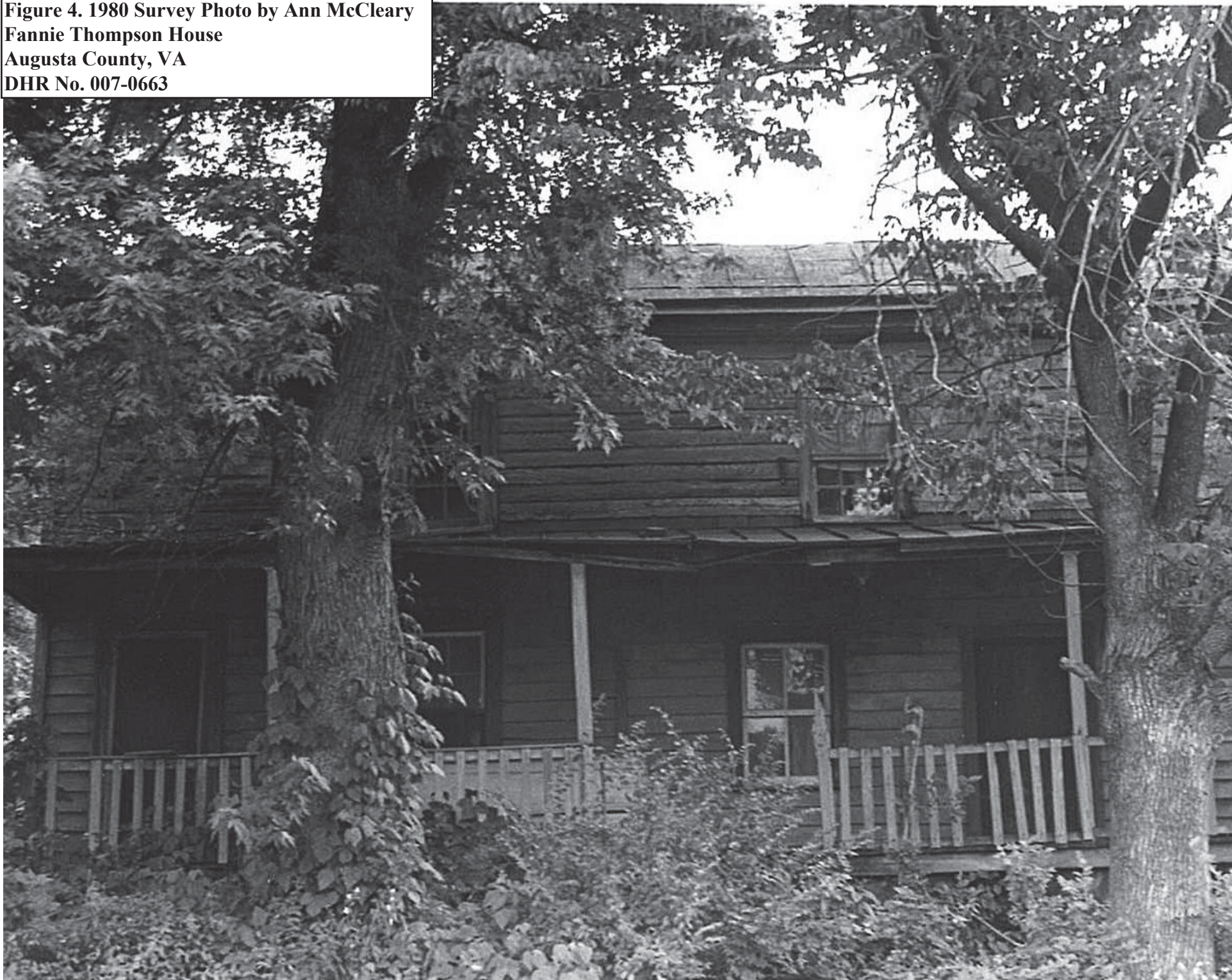


Figure 5. 1980 Interior Photo by Ann McCleary
- first floor, southeast room
Fannie Thompson House
Augusta County, VA
DHR No. 007-0663





**Figure 6. 1980 detail view of mantel by
Ann McCleary
Fannie Thompson House
Augusta County, VA
DHR No. 007-0663**











NO
TRESPASSING

























ESS
TOWNS

THE HESS & CLARK
POULTRY
U.S.A.

THE HESS & CLARK
POULTRY

THE HESS & CLARK
POULTRY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 4/4/2018 Date of Pending List: 4/26/2018 Date of 16th Day: 5/11/2018 Date of 45th Day: 5/21/2018 Date of Weekly List:

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

Accept Return Reject 5/11/2018 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

Recommendation/ Criteria:

Reviewer Jim Gabbert Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2275 Date _____

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Historic Resources

2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23221



Matt Strickler
Secretary of Natural Resources

Julie V. Langan
Director

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April 2, 2018

Mr. Paul Loether
Chief, National Register of Historic Places and National Historic Landmarks Programs
National Park Service 2280
National Register of Historic Places
Mail Stop 7228
1849 C St., NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

Re: Fannie Thompson House, Augusta County, Virginia

Dear Mr. Loether:

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the **Original Mount Vernon High School** 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

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