

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Hilltop

AND/OR COMMON

Hilltop

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Mary Baldwin College Campus

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Staunton

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Virginia

VICINITY OF

6th (H. Caldwell Butler)

CODE

51

COUNTY

in City

CODE

700

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mary Baldwin College

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Staunton

STATE

Virginia 24401

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

City Hall; Office of the Clerk of Circuit Court

STREET & NUMBER

109-113 East Beverley Street

CITY, TOWN

Staunton

STATE

Virginia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (3) (See Continuation Sheet #1)

TITLE

(1) Historic Staunton Foundation Architectural Inventory

DATE

April, 1976

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Historic Staunton Foundation Office

CITY, TOWN

Staunton

STATE

Virginia 24401

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Hilltop is a 2-story, 5-bay structure set atop a raised basement on a sharply sloping lot. This fine neo-classical building, the oldest on the Mary Baldwin College campus, is constructed of brick but now has a stucco covering painted yellow. Hilltop's most prominent feature is the huge 2-story hexastyle portico with massive Tuscan columns which define the symmetrical 5-bay facade. A 3-tier set of steps leads up to an elaborate frontispiece surrounding the entrance. The six-panel door is recessed in a panelled round arched opening with a keystone. Inside this arch is a semicircular fanlight with tracery. The doorway is framed by reeded pilasters with a shell motif in the capitals. The 3-part entablature has a reeded architrave and a very unusual molding in the frieze, consisting of alternating lozenges and pendant-like forms.

All the windows are rectangular with 2/2 panes (probably not original). The hip roof is made of metal and is quite shallow. The roof-line cornice is plain and the frieze contains the same unusual molding as is over the front door.

A large brick wing designed by local architects T. J. Collins & Son was added to the rear of Hilltop in 1904. Great care seems to have been taken to match moldings and exterior trim. Where the new wing connects on the west elevation, there is a small 1-story porch with a Neo-Classical Revival doorway with transom and sidelights.

Interior: The original floor plan of Hilltop consisted of two large rooms on either side of a long central hall. With the addition of the back wing, a wide staircase was placed between the original structure and the wing. Many original features remain, most notably the mantels and the panelled recessed door and window openings. The mantels all have rectangular openings and relatively simple molded mantel shelves.

1st floor: The southwest front room, now a student lounge, still retains much of the original woodwork. The doors and windows are set in panelled recesses and the chair rail is still intact. The mantel frieze has vertical and diagonal reeding and the opening has an architrave surround. The mantel in the northeast room, now a dormitory room, has pilasters with fluted detailing and two long horizontal panels in the frieze.

2nd floor: The mantel in the southeast room has an architrave surround bordered by diagonal reeding. The central frieze panel has a semicircular shell motif resembling a sunburst. The pilasters have an unusual interlocking circle design and are topped by capitals with a shell motif. In the northeast room, the mantel opening also has an architrave surround with a reeded border. The pilasters are plain, but have a molded rope-like trim. Atop the pilasters and along the frieze are five shell-pattern variations.

(to continuation sheet #1)

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

c. 1810-1820

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Hilltop is the oldest building on the Mary Baldwin College campus. Now used as a dormitory, it was once one of Staunton's most elegant residences.

In 1804, the City of Staunton acquired a large parcel of land from Archibald Stuart (1757-1832), a prominent Virginia lawyer, judge and political figure. The lot on which Hilltop was built was part of this "Stuart Addition" and it remained in Stuart's ownership until 1820. In August of that year, a deed conveyed the property from Stuart to Erasmus Stribling; the same day, Stribling conveyed it to Richard Henry Lee. Both deeds refer to a large brick house built by Benjamin H. Brady. Stuart's tax records reveal that Brady rented this particular lot in 1813, but no large change in the annual rent occurs until 1816. From this evidence it appears probable that the house was built some time prior to 1816, but certainly by 1820. This dating is quite in keeping with the simple and formal neoclassical style of the house.

From 1820-29, the house remained in the possession of Richard Henry Lee, Esq. of Loudoun County. During the mid-1820s, a Joseph Easterbrook (also Estabrook) rented the house. According to a prominent local historian, Easterbrook had a school and conducted classes in the house.

In 1829 Lee sold the property to Major Daniel Sheffey (1770-1830), a distinguished lawyer, member of the state legislature from 1800-09, and a member of Congress from 1809-17. Both he and Lee used Hilltop as a rental property.

Judge Lucas P. Thompson purchased Hilltop in 1842 and resided there until his death. Thompson, a native of Nelson County, Virginia, was made judge of the circuit court in Staunton in 1831. For many years he served in this post and also conducted a law school out of his home. One of the school's pupils who distinguished himself after graduating from this institution was the local historian, Joseph A. Waddell. Thompson died in 1866, shortly after he had been appointed to the Virginia State Court of Appeals. In 1872, his widow sold the estate to the Misses Mary Julia Baldwin and Agnes R. McClung, co-principals of adjacent Augusta Female Seminary (now Mary Baldwin College).

A large brick wing was attached to the rear of the house in 1904 and the complex is now used as a dormitory for the college.

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Hilltop, Mary Baldwin College, Staunton, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET #1

ITEM NUMBER 6, 7, 9 PAGE 1

7. DESCRIPTION

Major alterations include modern floor coverings, the removal of some mantels, chair rails and other trim work. However, the interior work that does remain gives a good idea of the simple yet graceful neoclassical detailing that was once throughout the house. Most of the rooms have not been subdivided so that they retain the high ceilings and original proportions.

WF

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Waddell, Joseph A., compiler. History of Mary Baldwin Seminary. Staunton: Augusta Printing Corporation, 1905.

Watters, Mary. The History of Mary Baldwin College. Staunton: The McClure Company, Inc., 1942.

Wayland, John W. Historic Homes of Northern Virginia. Staunton: The McClure Company, Inc., 1937.

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

(2) Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory
1957 Federal
Library of Congress
Washington, D. C.

(3) Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey
1968, 1971, 1972 State
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
221 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

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Hilltop, Staunton, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET #2

ITEM NUMBER 10

PAGE 1

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description/Legal Description - City Engineer's Map #342,
1958. Mary Baldwin College.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Augusta County Deed and Tax Records. Augusta County Courthouse, Staunton.

Staunton Tax and Deed Records. City Hall-Office of the Clerk of Circuit Court, Staunton.

(to continuation sheet #1)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	17	668980	4224200	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property consists of the building and the land on which it sits.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

William T. Frazier, Executive Director

ORGANIZATION

Historic Staunton Foundation, Inc.

DATE

November 10, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 2534

TELEPHONE

(703) 885-7676

CITY OR TOWN

Staunton

STATE

Virginia 24401

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

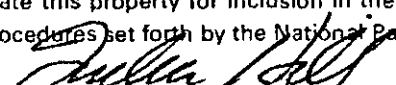
NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



TITLE Tucker Hill, Executive Director
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE DEC 19 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

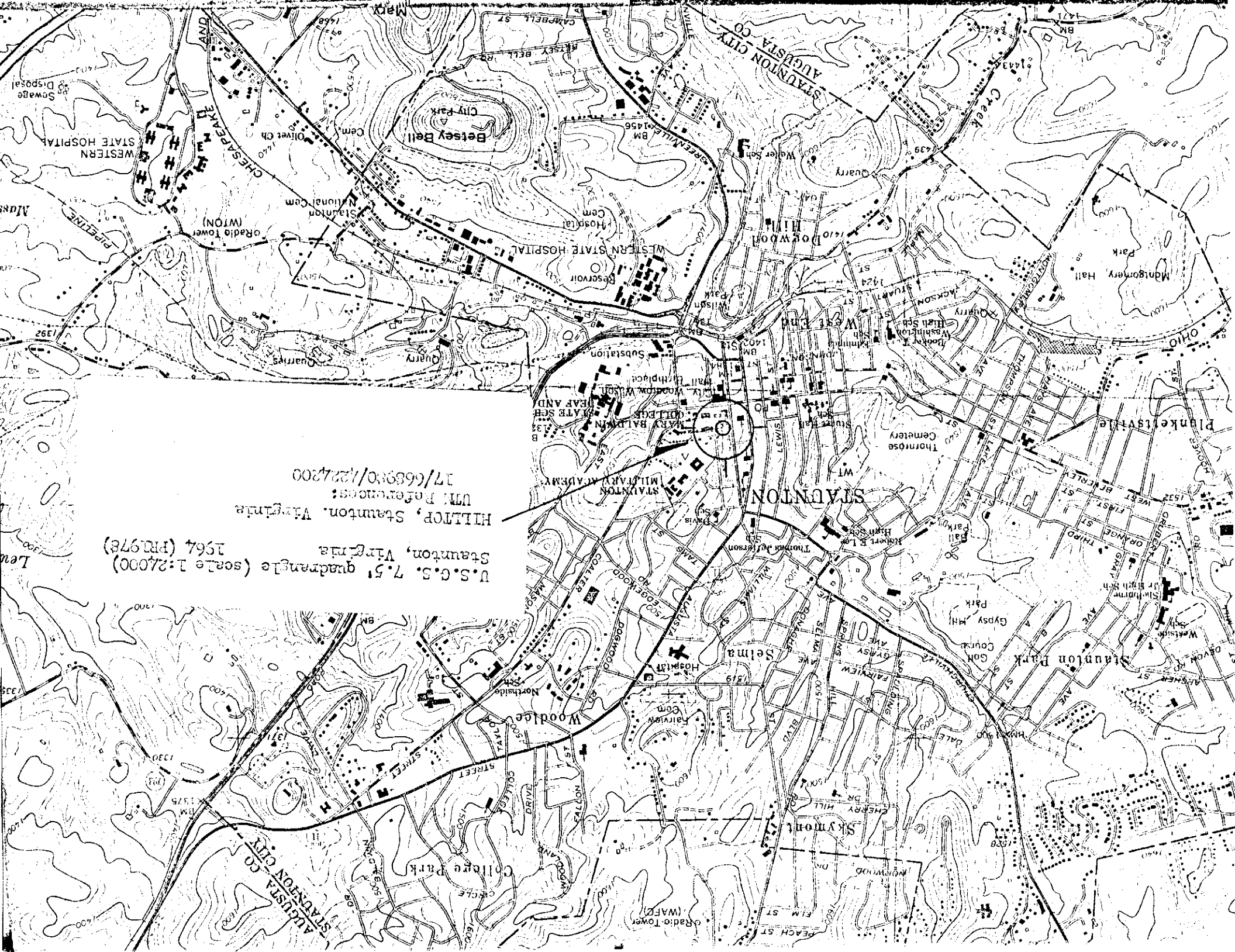
DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



U.S.G.S. 7.5' quadrangle (scale 1:24,000)
Staunton, Virginia 1964 (PM 978)
UTM References:
HILMP, Staunton, Virginia
17/668930/1221200