

VLR- 2/16/82 NRHP 7/8/82

United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

For HCRS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received  
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Waverley Hill

and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number 3001 North Augusta Street N/A not for publication

city, town Staunton N/A vicinity of congressional district 6th (M. Caldwell Butler)

state Virginia coda 51 county (in city)  code 790

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<u>N/A</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Dr. and Mrs. McKelden Smith

street & number Waverley Hill, 3001 North Augusta Street

city, town Staunton N/A vicinity of  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

title None previously recorded (N/A) has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date N/A  federal N/A state  county  local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town N/A state N/A

# 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input 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

### Summary Description

Waverley Hill is an excellently preserved example of an elaborate Georgian Revival country house in a combination English and colonial Virginia idiom. Erected in 1929, the house is a brick, five-part structure consisting of a five-bay, 2½-story, hipped-roof center section connected to one-story, hipped-roof terminal wings by low, one-story hyphens. Both proportions and detailing, inside and out, are highly sophisticated. The house is scenically sited on the top of a hill at the north end of Staunton with the grounds treated as an informally landscaped park. Approach to the house is through curved brick gateposts and up a winding driveway.

### Architectural Analysis

The main part of the structure rests on a molded brick water table and is framed by brick quoins. The hipped roof of slate, with its three pedimented dormers and pineapple finials, is skirted by a modillion cornice. The double-leaf entrance with stone steps features a wooden frontispiece modeled after William Butkland's Hammond-Harwood House in Annapolis, Maryland. The windows of the first floor with 12/12 sash have raised-panel blinds, painted white, with star motifs. The green shutters of the second floor are louvred. The brick used in the house was salvaged from a ruined early 19th-century house in Augusta County. The bricks are laid in Flemish bond; the jack arches are not gauged.

The wings of the south (entrance) front are decorated with blind arches framing large freestanding eagles on stone pedestals. The connectors are three bays each.

The north front is similar to the south except that the pedimented frontispiece of the entrance is of molded brick. The west wing contains a "flower room" with French doors leading to the garden. The main block of the west wing contains a Palladian motif. Though cleverly disguised from the south, the east wing is a porch open on the east and north and maintains the symmetry with a matching Palladian motif, with center arch supported on brick columns with molded brick capitals.

The interior of the house follows a typical Georgian-type, center-hall plan. The hall contains a single-run stair, broken by a landing, with paneled spandrel and foliated brackets. The original scenic wallpaper covers the walls above a molded chair rail. To the east is a living room running from front to back. A floor-to-ceiling paneled effect is achieved by the application of wide wood strips with molded edges to plaster walls. At the ceiling is a dentil cornice. The mantel is an Adam-type design featuring plaster figures and foliated designs, which was purchased by the architect for the clients in a New York antique shop. It is said to be English. As is typical throughout, the surround and hearth are marble. The ceiling is divided into three large panels, the center of which contains a large plaster medallion.

The paneled dining room on the opposite side of the hall is octagonal. Two of its "corners" contain arched cupboards with butterfly shelves and shell tops. The third contains a fireplace and the fourth a door to the pantry. The arch motif is applied consistently, and each arch is framed by fluted pilasters.

(See 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1929

**Builder/Architect** William Lawrence Bottomley

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

#### Statement of Significance

This elegant expression of the Georgian Revival style is the work of William Lawrence Bottomley, a prominent New York architect who maintained an extensive clientele in Virginia for his stately, richly detailed Georgian mansions. Drawing from Palladian, English, and colonial Virginia precedents, Bottomley fashioned imaginative and functional dwellings for affluent Virginians during the 1920s and 30s and set a standard of excellence in domestic architecture that is yet revered in the Commonwealth. The house was commissioned in 1929 by Mr. and Mrs. Herbert McKelden Smith, prominent Stauntonians. In reference to Bottomley's work at Waverley Hill, architectural historian William B. O'Neal stated: "The freshness of his approach and the surprise of some of his design...keep the building from any stigma of the copyist."<sup>1</sup>

#### Historical Background

In 1929 Mr. and Mrs. Herbert McKelden Smith sold their downtown Staunton house and commissioned New York architect William Lawrence Bottomley to design a Neo-Georgian house on property they owned on the outskirts of town. Mr. Smith (1876-1960) was a successful business man and farmer, a mayor of Staunton, and for a time a member of the Virginia legislature. Mrs. Smith ( ?-1975), a well-known civic leader, was a charter member of the Woodrow Wilson Birthplace Foundation and resident of that organization from 1956-1973, president of the Garden Club of Virginia, and the first woman on the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia.

The resulting five-part composition, which takes its name from a Shenandoah Valley house of Smith family association which burned, is the finest example of its style anywhere in the region and is one of the area's most significant domestic landmarks.

William Lawrence Bottomley (1883-1951) was born in New York City and received his architectural training at Columbia University, from which he was graduated in 1906. He won the McKim Prix de Rome and spent the next two years studying at the American Academy in Rome and at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris. Upon his return to New York, he worked with the prominent firm of Heins and LaFarge and later opened his own office with Edward Shepherd Hewitt. By the time he designed Waverley Hill, he had formed the firm of Bottomley, (William Sidney) Wagoner, and (Cornelius J.) White.

Bottomley had worked in Virginia since 1915, and the Smiths must have come to know and appreciate his work from friends in Richmond, where Bottomley designed his largest and finest Virginia houses. Though Bottomley had thirty-eight realized projects in Virginia, including many renovations, alterations, and additions, few were executed outside of the Richmond and Middleburg areas. This house is one of only two or three built elsewhere.

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

- Hood, Davyd Foard. "William Lawrence Bottomley." Masters thesis, University of Virginia Graduate School of Architecture, 1975.
- O'Neal, William B. Architecture in Virginia. Richmond, The Virginia Museum, 1968.
- Letters of William Lawrence Bottomley to Mrs. Herbert McKelden Smith and Arthur Shurtcleff. ~~Unpublished. In possession of Dr. and Mrs. H. McKelden Smith, Jr., Staunton, Virginia.~~

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 25.65 acres

Quadrangle name Staunton, VA

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UMT References

A	<u>1</u> <u>7</u>	<u>6</u> <u>7</u> <u>1</u> <u>6</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>2</u> <u>2</u> <u>6</u> <u>2</u> <u>4</u> <u>0</u>	B	<u>1</u> <u>7</u>	<u>6</u> <u>7</u> <u>1</u> <u>5</u> <u>4</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>2</u> <u>2</u> <u>6</u> <u>0</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<u>1</u> <u>7</u>	<u>6</u> <u>7</u> <u>1</u> <u>2</u> <u>3</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>2</u> <u>2</u> <u>6</u> <u>1</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u>	D	<u>1</u> <u>7</u>	<u>6</u> <u>7</u> <u>1</u> <u>1</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>2</u> <u>2</u> <u>6</u> <u>1</u> <u>6</u> <u>0</u>
E	<u>1</u> <u>7</u>	<u>6</u> <u>7</u> <u>1</u> <u>0</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>2</u> <u>2</u> <u>6</u> <u>3</u> <u>5</u> <u>0</u>	F	<u>1</u> <u>7</u>	<u>6</u> <u>7</u> <u>1</u> <u>1</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>2</u> <u>2</u> <u>6</u> <u>3</u> <u>9</u> <u>0</u>
G	<u>1</u> <u>7</u>	<u>6</u> <u>7</u> <u>1</u> <u>3</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>2</u> <u>2</u> <u>6</u> <u>3</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u>	H			

**Verbal boundary description and justification** Beginning at a point at NW corner of intersection of US 11 Bypass and Oak Ridge Drive; thence extending about 550' NW along N side of said drive; thence curving about 50' SW along said side; thence about 150' NW, along NE property line of adjacent tract, to 1,500' contour; thence curving SW, W, then NW, following said contour and

(See Continuation Sheet #2)

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	N/A	code
state	N/A	code	county	N/A	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

(1) Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff  
 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission  
 221 Governor St., Richmond, VA 23219 (804) 786-314

name/title (2) William T. Frazier, Executive Director

organization	Historic Staunton Foundation	date
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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *H. Bryan Mitchell*  
 H. Bryan Mitchell, Executive Director  
 title Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

date FEB 16 1982

For HCERS use only
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register
date
Keeper of the National Register
Attest:
date
Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

WAVERLEY HILL, STAUNTON, VA

Continuation sheet #1

Item number 7, 8

Page 1

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received

date entered

7. Architectural Analysis (continued)

Beyond the simple "flower room" with its plain walls, French doors, and slate floor is the paneled library. Mirroring the Palladian motif which opens to the garden is a bookcase wall with arched center section. A fireplace is flanked by additional bookshelves. The ceiling of the library is vaulted.

The library, flower room, dining room, living room, hall, and porch are arranged en filade, creating a vista the entire length of the house, a distance of approximately two hundred feet. Each of the interior doors is double-leaf and, like the exterior doors, has a glazed fanlight.

The upper floor has a central hall with four bedrooms, one of which has a fireplace with a vernacular Federal-type mantel. The third floor contains three additional bedrooms.

The grounds are landscaped in an unpretentious manner with shrubs and flowering trees. On the north side is a wide mall flanked by large American box. Off the porch is a smaller garden of English and American box, with a magnificent view of the Shenandoah Valley and the Blue Ridge Mountains beyond.

WTF

8. Historical Significance (continued)

Though Bottomley referred to Waverley Hill as a "very beautiful small house," his letters to Mrs. Smith, with whom he consulted on nearly every detail, show great enthusiasm for the project. In fact, some of his letters were signed "Yours enthusiastically." Early in 1930, apparently just after a visit to the completed house, he wrote to Mrs. Smith, "To say that I was thrilled by the house puts it mildly. I never got such a wallop before from any job."

The grounds of the house were designed by prominent landscape architect Arthur Shurtcleff of Boston, Massachusetts.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith lived in the house until their deaths in 1960 and 1975, respectively, when the house was inherited by their son and daughter-in-law, Dr. and Mrs. H. McKelden Smith, Jr., who own and occupy it today.

WTF

<sup>1</sup> William B. O'Neal, Architecture in Virginia (Richmond: The Virginia Museum, 1968), p. 167.

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

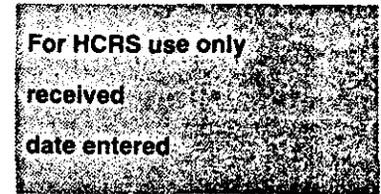
**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

WAVERLEY HILL, STAUNTON, VA

Continuation sheet #2

Item number 10

Page 1



10. Verbal Boundary Description (continued)

a section of S side of Waverley Hill drive, all for about 860'; thence about 510' NW to S side of Augusta Street at W side of intersection of said drive with said street; thence about 270' E along S side of Augusta Street, then curving slightly S and paralleling said side for about 800' to stream, then following S side of stream about 900' SE; thence about 550' SSW to point of origin. City of Staunton Assessor's Map 310; Will Book 24, p.333, 4/29/75.

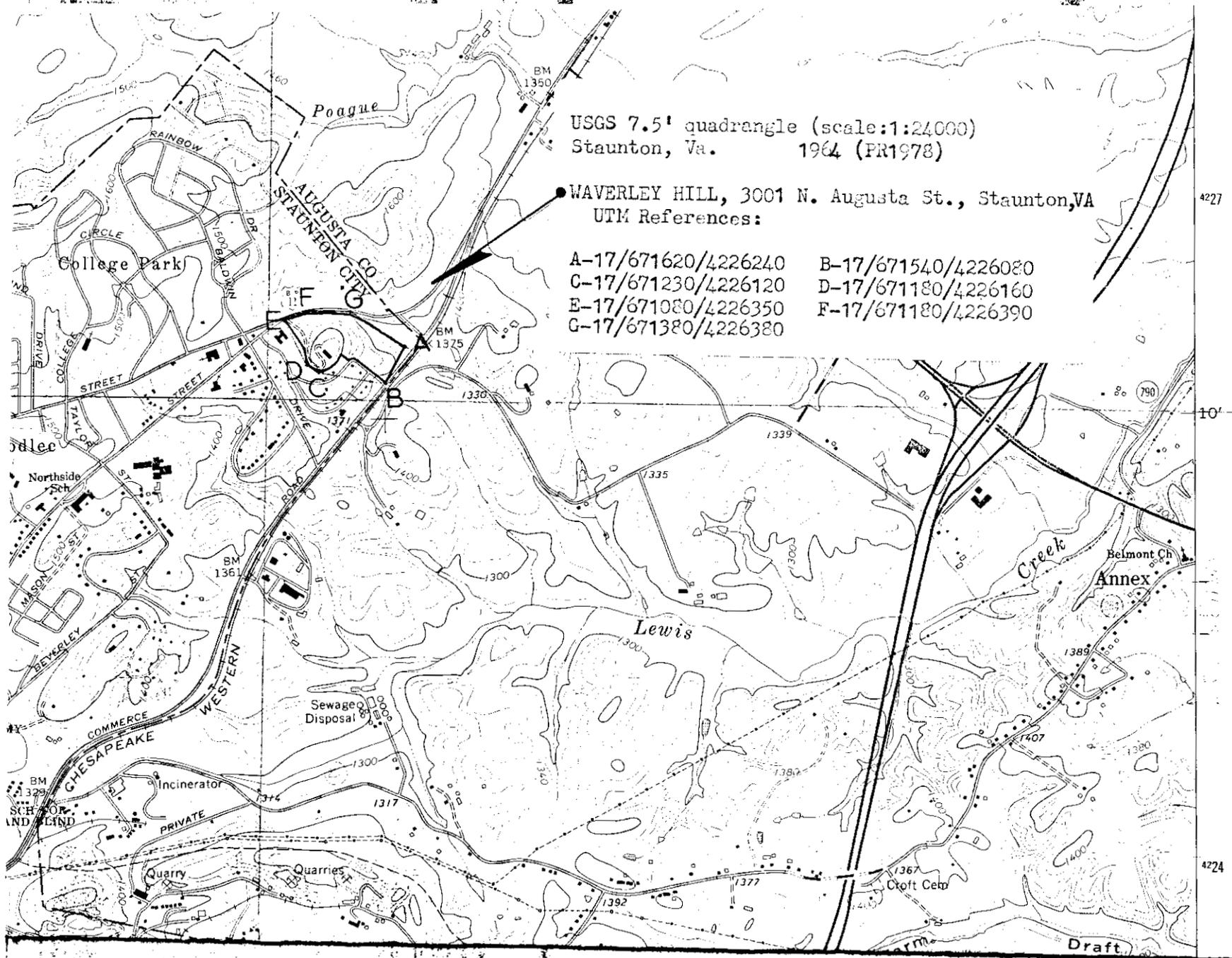
Boundary Justification

Including the large acreage of the Waverley Hill property can be justified for the following aesthetic reasons. The whole property is bounded on two sides by major thoroughfares--Route 11 Bypass and Route 11 Business; to the south is a new housing development. The residence itself is sited on the crown of a small hill and is immediately surrounded by the landscaped garden. Where the garden ends, the wooded and brushy areas slope down to the base of the hill. The entrance at the bottom of the hill is flanked by two brick pillars and the long drive curves up through the natural, wooded area. There is almost a sense of discovery when the formal elegance of the house itself comes into view. The included acreage serves as a greensward that enhances the hilltop setting of Waverley Hill.

USGS 7.5' quadrangle (scale:1:24,000)  
Staunton, Va. 1964 (PR1978)

● WAVERLEY HILL, 3001 N. Augusta St., Staunton, VA  
UTM References:

- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| A-17/671620/4226240 | B-17/671540/4226080 |
| C-17/671230/4226120 | D-17/671180/4226160 |
| E-17/671080/4226350 | F-17/671180/4226390 |
| G-17/671380/4226380 |                     |



4227

10'

4224