

VLR - 7/21/81
 NPHP - 2/10/83

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

For HCRS 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 Middlebrook Historic District

and/or common N/A

2. Location

street & number Intersection of state routes 252 and 876. n/a not for publication

city, town Middlebrook N/A vicinity of congressional district Sixth (M. Caldwell Butler

state Virginia code 51 county Augusta code 015

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Ownership

street & number N/A

city, town N/A N/A vicinity of N/A state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Augusta County Courthouse

street & number N/A

city, town Staunton state Virginia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
 title Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date Summer 1980 federal state county local

depository for survey records Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, 221 Governor Street

city, town Richmond state Virginia 23219

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date _____ N/A
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Middlebrook is located in the southern portion of the Valley of Virginia, ten miles southwest of Staunton. Situated among low, rolling hills at the headwaters of Back Creek, the village is one of the earliest and best-preserved rural villages in Augusta County. The town prospered during the 19th century as the result of its key location along a major road between Staunton and Lexington. This road, well established by 1800, was a turnpike by 1851 and still continues as one of the major county routes.

The village was platted in the late 18th century on lands owned by Nancy and William Scott. On April 6, 1799, the Scotts sold twenty-seven lots. Like several other early Valley towns, Middlebrook was planned as a series of contiguous lots along the main road, separated every three or four lots by an alley. By the fall of 1805, Scott had platted and sold other back lots behind the street lots on the southwest and northeast sides of town. By 1885, at the time of the Hotchkiss Map and at the height of the village's prosperity, most of the lots had been settled and the town had expanded beyond its original plat to include a black community west of town and an area to the south which included some shops, a church, and the parsonage.

Nineteenth-century buildings still predominate on both sides of the main street, reflecting the character of the closely settled streetscape by the end of that century. Approximately thirty-eight of the present buildings are illustrated on the 1884 Hotchkiss "Plan of Middlebrook." The extant buildings are excellent examples of local vernacular architecture. The traditional cabin form, usually with the hall/parlor plan and log construction that characterized Augusta County, is found in abundance here along the main road as well as on the side roads; it is also described in several early insurance records. Even one of the first brick homes was constructed with this plan. By the mid-century, the popular "I"-house design had been introduced into the village, probably through John Randolph's imposing brick dwelling. This form was soon replicated in the village preference for log and later, by the end of the century, frame construction. As in the county, the "I"-house, sometimes with the local variation of an enclosed central staircase, was so pervasive that it endured through the end of the 19th century; only two asymmetrical Victorian designs were built during these years. The 20th century brought several bungalows, two brick neocolonial designs, and three brick ranch houses, reflecting the villagers' desire for the new "popular" house designs over traditional forms.

In addition to this domestic architecture, several late 19th-century commercial buildings survive, including five stores, a frame school building, two churches, an Odd Fellows Hall, and a shoemaker's (now beauty) shop. Except for the remodeled schoolhouse, all these structures retain the familiar gable-end rectangular block form, while the churches elaborate on this form with projecting front towers and rear chapels. These two churches are excellent examples of 1880s ecclesiastical architecture in the county--first, a brick parish church with elaborate brick decoration, and second, a frame church, built for a black congregation and one of the few in this part of the county which are still in use today.

The tightly knit village plan and vernacular houses and commercial buildings create a strong sense of cohesiveness in the present-day village. The weatherboarded facades, huge exterior stone and brick chimneys, and late 19th-century decorative-sawn porches built directly along the old turnpike create a steady rhythm of forms and designs enclosing the narrow road. In the early 20th century, the church on the hill overlooking the village

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" 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	N/A	Builder/Architect	Unknown
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Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Middlebrook is one of the oldest and best-preserved rural villages in Augusta County. The village boomed throughout the 19th century as the result of its key location along a major north-south route, and later turnpike, between Staunton and Lexington. In the 20th century, the town declined, yielding to the growth and industrial development of neighboring Greenville. Consequently, little new building or even remodeling of old buildings has occurred during this century, preserving an excellent grouping of 19th-century vernacular architecture still arranged in the original town plat. Two rows of closely spaced dwellings and stores lining the main road retain the character and scale of the village during the height of its prosperity in the 1880s. Most of the early 19th-century dwellings were vernacular rectangular log cabins or more pretentious brick "I"-houses, both with Federal woodwork. By the late 19th century, "I"-houses had become the most popular plan, constructed of log or frame. The weatherboarded walls, large exterior chimneys, and decorative front porches sitting directly along the old turnpike create a sense of continuity throughout this small settlement. A variety of archaeological sites complement the architectural record. These document the history of the black settlement at the west end of the village and are capable of providing insight into black community life following emancipation. Other sites represent a record of the commercial and industrial development of Middlebrook during the second half of the 19th century.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The decades after the Revolutionary War brought a flurry of speculative town building in the Valley of Virginia, in response to increased population and flourishing trade networks. During the war, Valley residents had realized the need for an improved road south of Staunton, and in the 1780s, two Indian paths were developed for this use. Middlebrook, platted on the western route in 1799, was one of the first two villages in Augusta County. In his history of Augusta County, Waddell claims this name came from its location "on, or near, the ridge dividing the waters of the Potomac from those of the James."¹ Oral history sources, however, claim the name came from John McCutchan, one of the town's earliest settlers, who is said to have named the community after a New Jersey town where he had been stationed during the Revolutionary War.²

One of the first regions settled in Augusta County, the Middlebrook area was settled by Scotch-Irish immigrants who came in large numbers to the Valley during the middle of the 18th century. Toward the end of the 18th century, the Scotch-Irish were joined by the Germans. The sale records indicate that the town was a blend of both these ethnic groups, with some families of English background, like the Randolphs, who came from eastern Virginia. Several of the earliest county churches were located in this vicinity and reflect the early settlement of this area. These include North Mountain Meeting House (1740),

9. Major Bibliographical References (See Continuation Sheet #10)

Augusta County Deed Books,
 Augusta County Tax Records,
 Edwards, Richard, ed. Statistical Gazetteer of the State of Virginia.... Richmond, 1855.
 Hotchkiss, Jed. Historical Atlas of Augusta County. Chicago: Waterman, Watkins & Co., 1885

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 62 acres
 Quadrangle name Greenville, Va. Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

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

Verbal boundary description and justification The district is bounded on the N by a line ext. NE along the N property line (Np1) of town lot 2-1, then NE along Np1s of 2-2 to 2-7, then S to Np1 of 7, then NE to Wp1 of 55; then N to W side of VA876, then N to Sp1 of 72-44C, then W, N, and S to encompass 72-44C to W side of VA 876, then S to Np1 of 2-12, then NE along said line,

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries (See Continuation Sheet #11)

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff, and James Madison University Archaeological Research Center,
 organization Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission date July 1981
 street & number 221 Governor Street telephone (804) 786-3144
 city or town Richmond state Virginia 23219

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
 title H. Bryan Mitchell, Executive Director date MAY 10 1982
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

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**

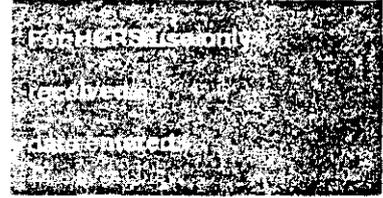
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Inventory—Nomination Form**

Middlebrook Historic District, Augusta County, Virginia

Continuation sheet #1

Item number 7

Page 1



7. DESCRIPTION

was torn down and replaced by two large consolidated school buildings, with the type and setting characteristic of the drive for rural school improvement during those years. Rosen's garage and filling station, built in 1925 on the main road and virtually unaltered today, is one of the oldest and best-preserved garages in this section of the county. Otherwise, there has been little building activity in the village during this century.

Due to declining prosperity, Middlebrook has not spread beyond its late 19th-century plan. Several older houses in the village have been replaced, but the scale, siting, character, and small number of these dwellings do not disturb the character of the 19th-century village.

While the standing architecture clearly reflects much of the historical development of the town, the archaeological components represent aspects of the community no longer extant. The archaeological sites of the Middlebrook Historic District fall into four categories--residential, business, commercial, and industrial sites. The sites represent a historic continuum beginning with the very late 18th century and ending with the present. The residential sites are principally located along the turnpike, but several smaller house sites are located at the back of the lots. Very few of the house sites have modern building intrusions, and preservation status appears to be good. The sites representing the shops and cottage industries are located behind the row of houses facing the turnpike. Interspersed throughout the residential areas are the commercial sites. The majority of the industrial sites are located on the larger tracts, but some are situated at the back of the small lots. The probability of preservation is excellent, since many of the sites are located within lawn areas of the existing houses. Many of the sites have flat or leveled areas defining building locations.

Of notable importance are the archaeological sites associated with the black community that developed on the west side of the town. While most of these units are residential, they represent a significant component within the district which is relatively isolated from the remaining town.

The district boundaries are roughly based on an 1885 village plan showing the extent of the town at the height of its prosperity. Since the town has grown very little since that time, this boundary also approximates the current village limits. The district includes the well-preserved 19th-century residential development along the main road and that which occurs on the roads connecting the village to Greenville to the southeast and Summerdean to the northwest.

Ann McCleary / James Wood

(See Continuation Sheet #2)

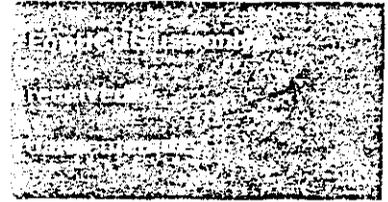
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Continuation sheet #2 (07-236) Item number 7

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7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory

The following is an inventory of the principal historic structures and archaeological sites in Middlebrook listed by their apparent lot numbers. Of the specifically named buildings, the underlined names are those from the 1884 Hotchkiss Map. The district includes 58 structures

INVENTORY KEY: SR = Surface Remains
SSR = Subsurface Remains
PSSR = Probable Subsurface Remains
ELU = Exact Location Unknown
SE = Surface Evidence
* = NONCONTRIBUTING ELEMENTS

Lot 1-3A: John Manley House: Frame; 2 stories; ell plan; gable roof; Eastlake porch;
07-236-1 ca. 1870-1884.

Lot 1-6: Site A: W. K. Clemmer House (Hotchkiss 1884). PSSR.

07-236-2 *Baldwin Rosen House: Brick; 1 story; 4 bays; gable-roof ranch house; 20th century.

Lot 1-7: M. P. Goode House: Log with frame ell additions and weatherboard; 2 stories;
(07-685) 3 bays; gable roof; Eastlake porch; ca. 1820-1840.

07-236-3
Lot 1-8: Site A: Dr. R. A. McChesney House (Hotchkiss 1884). PSSR.

Lot 1-10: David Rusmiser House: Log with frame ell; weatherboard; 2 stories; 2 bays; later
(07-672) hipped roof; 1-story ell; early 20th-century porch; ca. 1820-1850.

Lot 1-11: (a) Allen's Shoe Shop: Frame; 1 story; 2 bays; gabled block; pedimented roof;
rear room addition; ca. 1890-1910.

(07-688) (b) Mrs. Maria Engleman House: Log with weatherboard; 1 story; 2 bays; gable
roof; early 20th-century wooden porch; log kitchen and frame ell extensions;
ca. 1830-1850.

Lot 1-12: Charles Armaroade Store: Frame; 1 story; 2 bays; gable roof; ca. 1870-1900;
(07-685) mid-20th-century frame addition.

Lot 1-9: Armaroade Gas Pumps
Lot 1-12A: William Steele House: Log with weatherboard; 2 stories; 5 bays; gable roof;
ca. 1830-1850; 20th-century ell; frame porch.

Lot 1-13: John Randolph House (Rosen Funeral Home): Brick - Flemish bond; 2 stories; 4 bays;
07-236-4 gable roof; ca. 1820-1840; enclosed porch and ell added mid-20th century.

Lot 1-
14A-15: Site A: "Brown House" (Heizer). PSSR, ELU.

07-236-5 Site B: Tailor Shop (Heizer). PSSR, ELU.

Site C: Dressmaking Shop (Heizer). PSSR, ELU.

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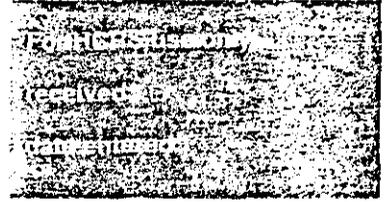
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Middlebrook Historic District, Augusta County, Virginia

Continuation sheet #3

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7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (Continued)

Lot 1-

14A-15: Site D: Harman Rosen Feed Mill. PSSR.

(Cont.)

07-236-5 John Cale House: Frame; 1 story; 4 bays; gable roof with shed dormer; ca. 1919 bungalow.

07-236-6

Lot 1-16: Site A: Oser Beard's Garage: Area heavily disturbed. SR, PSSR.

Lot 1-

17-17A: Site A: Dr. R. A. McChesney's Office between houses on lots 13 and 17A. Office building also used as a store (Heizer). PSSR.

(07-695) John Randolph (Rosen) House: Brick - Flemish bond; 2 stories; 5 bays; gable roof; ca. 1836; 19th-century brick ell; frame Eastlake porch.

Lot 1-18: Site A: Garrison's Shop (Hotchkiss 1884): Recent land filling has probably destroyed archaeological component.

07-236-7

07-236-8 Lot 1-19: Site A: Tanyard (Guy Rosen). SSR.

Site B: Reardon Bar Room (Guy Rosen). ELU.

07-236-9

Rosen's Store: Frame; 1 story; 3 bays; parapet roof; ca. 1916; 20th-century brick facade and porch.

Lot 1-20A: Hogshead Store: Frame; 1 story; 3 bays; pedimented roof; ca. 1860-1880; remodeled with brick facade in mid-20th century.

07-236-10

Lot 1-21: *Rosen's Garage: Brick - stretcher bond; 1 story; 5 bays; parapet and flat roof; ca. 1925.

07-236-11

Lot 1-22: Miss M. W. D. Hogshead House: Log with weatherboard; 2 stories; 5 bays; gable roof; 1820-1850; Eastlake porch; ell additions.

(07-679)

Lot 1-24: James McCorkle's Store: Stuccoed concrete block; 1 story; 3 bays; parapet roof; ca. 1879; original pent-roof porch and brackets; side additions.

(07-680)

Lot 1-25: John S. McCorkle House: Frame; 2 stories; 3 bays; gable roof; ca. 1889; neo-colonial porch; 1-story ell.

07-236-12

Lot 1-26: Site A: Dr. Dunlop's Office (Hotchkiss, 1884). Located on this lot or adjoining Lot 28. PSSR, ELU.

(07-696)

Dr. J. C. Dunlop House: Log with weatherboard; 2 stories; 3 bays; gable roof; ca. 1870-1890; frame ell; turn-of-the-century frame porch.

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7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (Continued)

- Lot 1-
27 & 29: Site A: J. C. White's Blacksmith Shop (Hotchkiss, 1884). PSSR.
- Site B: Miss M. Firth's House (Hotchkiss, 1884). PSSR, ELU.
- 07-236-13 Site C: Swortzel/Engleman Store (Lunsford). PSSR, ELU.
- Mabel Lunsford House: Brick; 2 stories; 3 bays; hipped roof; ca. 1938.
-
- Lot 1-28: Stephen Law House: Log with asbestos shingle; 2 stories; 5 bays; later shed roof; ca. 1820-1860; 20th-century porch.
- 07-236-14
-
- Lot 1-30: Jacob Arehart Tavern: Log with weatherboard; 2 stories; 6 bays; gable roof; ca. 1820-1860; new cinder block porch.
- (07-673)
-
- Lot 1-31: Site A: Dr. Frank George's Office and Residence (Hotchkiss, 1884). PSSR, ELU.
- 07-236-15 * Paul Hoshour House: Brick; 1½ stories; 3 bays; front gable and shed dormer; ca. 1940-1941.
-
- Lot 1-32: Site A: Helm's Cabinet Shop (Heizer). PSSR, ELU.
- (07-675) J. M. H. Randolph House: Log with asbestos shingle; 2 stories; 3 bays; gable roof; ca. 1810-1860; ell addition; frame porch.
-
- Lot 1-33: St. John's Church Parsonage: Log with German siding; 2 stories; 3 bays; gable roof; ca. 1840-1870; Eastlake porch; ell addition.
- (07-678)
-
- Lot 1-34: Site A: Blacksmith Shop (Hotchkiss, 1884). PSSR.
- (07-671) D. East Beard House: Log with aluminum siding; 2 stories; 3 bays; gable roof; ca. 1850-1880; enclosed front porch; ell addition.
-
- Lot 1-35: Site A: Morgan's Shop (Heizer). PSSR.
- 07-236-16 Site B: Morgan House (Heizer). Possible site of G. B. Rusmiser's Store. (See Lot 37). PSSR.
-
- Lot 1-36: Site A: Holy Trinity Parsonage (Hotchkiss, 1884). PSSR.
- (07-687) Holy Trinity Lutheran Church: Brick - 7-course American bond; 1 story; 3 bays; projecting front tower with frame belfry; rear chapel; pedimented roof; ca. 1884.
-
- Lot 1-37: Site A: G. B. Rusmiser's House (Hotchkiss, 1884). PSSR.
- Site B: G. B. Rusmiser's Store (Hotchkiss, 1884). PSSR.
- (07-808) Site C: Patience's House (Heizer). Located on back of lot facing alley; moved from front of lot. PSSR.

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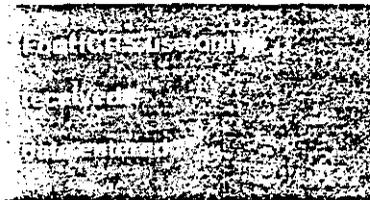
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Middlebrook Historic District, Augusta County, Virginia

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7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (Continued)

- (07-808)
Lot 1-37: G. B. Rusmisl House: Frame; 2 stories; 3 bays; gable roof; ca. 1860-1880; (Cont.) frame ell; wooden side porch.
-
- 07-236-17
Lot 1-38: Site A: Mrs. William Talley House (Hotchkiss, 1884). Archaeological component destroyed during construction of Odd Fellows Hall.
Odd Fellows Hall: Frame; 2 stories; 3 bays; pediment roof with shingled gable; ca. 1904; frame porch.
-
- (07-447)
Lot 1-39: Site A: J. B. Fauver Shops (Hotchkiss, 1884; Heizer). Site includes two large buildings and a small shed used as a powerhouse. PSSR, SR.
(a) John Fauver House: Frame; 2 stories; 3 bays; gable roof; ca. 1860-1880; wooden porch; ell addition.
(b) John Fauver Shop: Frame; 2 stories; 3 bays; pediment roof; shingled gable; pent-roof porch; ca. 1890-1910.
-
- (07-676)
Lot 1-40A: R. H. Helms House (Jones House): Log with weatherboard; 2 stories; 3 bays; gable roof; ca. 1830-1915; frame ell addition; 20th-century wooden porch.
-
- 07-236-18
Lot 1-41A: Vincent Spitler House: Frame with weatherboard; 2 stories; 3 bays; gable roof; ca. 1870-1884; single-bay pent roof; kitchen shed addition.
-
- 07-236-19
Lot 1-42: R. H. Helms House (Arehart House): Log with asbestos shingle; 2 stories; 3 bays; gable roof; ca. 1850-1870; 20th-century porch; frame ell.
-
- (07-238)
Lot 1-43: Hess House: Brick - Flemish bond; 2 stories; 7 bays; gable roof; houndstooth cornice; segmental and transom-lighted doorways; ca. 1825-1835/1835-1840; porch removed; kitchen ell.
-
- 07-236-20
Lot 1-44: Garage and Animal Pen: 20th century.
-
- 07-236-21
Lot 1-45: H. T. Rosen House: Frame with asbestos shingles; 2 stories; 3 bays; gable roof; ca. 1870-1884; ell addition; 20th-century porch.
-
- ~~22~~ Lot 1-46: RH Helms Orchard
-
- 07-236-23
Lot 1-47: Site A: Bosserman Chair Factory (Heizer). PSSR, ELU.
George Bosserman House: Frame with asbestos shingles; 2 stories; 3 bays; gable roof; ca. 1880-1900; frame porch; 1-story ell.
-
- (07-674)
Lot 1-49: William Shelton House: Log with weatherboard; 2 stories; 3 bays; gable roof; ca. 1850-1870; enclosed porch; new log ell addition.
-
- 07-236-24
Lot 1-56
or 56A: Site A: J. M. Argenbright's House (Hotchkiss, 1884). Alteration of Highway 876 has probably destroyed the archaeological component.

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Inventory—Nomination Form**

Middlebrook Historic District, Augusta County, Virginia

Continuation sheet

#6

Item number

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Page 6

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (Continued)

Lot 1-57: Site A: S. N. Dunlap's Shop located on corner of lot (Hotchkiss, 1884). PSSR.

07-236-25

Sam N. Giles House: Log with aluminum siding; 1 story; 3 bays; gable roof; ca. 1830-1860; frame front porch; ell addition.

Lot 1-58: Site A: G. T. Potter House (Hotchkiss, 1884). PSSR, SE.

07-236-26

Site B: G. T. Potter Cooper Shop (Hotchkiss, 1884). PSSR, ELU.

(07-692) Middlebrook Cemetery. Mid-19th-century stones.

Lot 1-59: Site A: Union Meeting House (DB 43:178). PSSR, ELU.

07-236-27

Lot 1-59A: Site A: Mary Blackburn House (Heizer; Hotchkiss, 1884). PSSR, SR, SE.

Lot 1-60: Middlebrook Schoolhouse No. 6: Frame with asbestos shingles; 1 story; 4 bays; front gable; gable roof; ca. 1870-1880.

07-236-28

Lot 1-61: Site A: Unknown structure (Hotchkiss, 1884). ELU, PSSR.

07-236-29

Charlie Carter House: Log with aluminum siding; 2 stories; 2 bays; cabin with 2-story, gable-end addition; ca. 1890-1910; 20th-century porch.

Lot 2-1: Mt. Edward Colored Baptist Church: Frame; 1 story; 1 bay; projecting front tower with entrance; pedimented roof; ca. 1886.

(07-690)

Lot 2-2: Peter Johnson House: Log with aluminum siding; 2 stories; 2 bays; gable roof; ca. 1860-1880; later 2-story ell and frame front porch.

07-236-30

Lot 2-3: Site A: Susan Black House (Hotchkiss, 1884). Located at junction of turnpike and lane. SR, PSSR.

07-236-31

Lot 2-4: Charles Black House: Frame with weatherboard; 2 stories; 3 bays; gable roof; interior stove flues; ca. 1880-1890; ell; 3-bay front porch.

07-236-32

Lot 2-6: Site A: One of the George R. Wiseman Houses. SR, PSSR, SE.

Site B: Tinner's Shop (Heizer). PSSR.

(07-825) Frank Argenbright House: Log with aluminum siding; 2 stories; 3 bays; gable roof; ca. 1840-1860; later ell additions; replaced 1-bay front portico.

Lot 2-7: Site A: Possible house site (Hotchkiss, 1884). PSSR, ELU.

07-236-33

Clark Rosen House: Frame; bungalow; 1 story; 3 bays; original porch; built 1930s.

Lot 2-12: Site A: James Pryor House (may be John S. McCorkle's House, identified by Hotchkiss, 1884). SR, PSSR, SE.

07-236-34

35 Lot 2-9A *Linda Nulick Hse

(See Continuation Sheet #7)

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National Register of Historic Places
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Middlebrook Historic District, Augusta County, Virginia

Continuation sheet #7

Item number 7

Page 7

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (Continued)

Lot 2-14: Site A: G. T. Potter Cooper Shop (Hotchkiss, 1884). PSSR, ELU.

07-236-36 * Houston Perry House: frame with brick addition; 1 story; 4 bays; gable roof; 1930s.

Lot ~~2-17~~ Site A: A. M. Smith's Blacksmith Shop (Hotchkiss, 1884). PSSR, ELU.

1-48
07-236-37 Tom Law's Garage: Frame; 1 story; 2 bays; shed roof; ca. 1945.

Lot 2-18: A. M. Smith House: Frame with aluminum siding; 2 stories; 3 bays; gable roof; ca. 1860-1880; frame porch; 2-story ell.

07-236-38

Lot 2-20: Site A: Probable site of William Steele House (Hotchkiss, 1884). PSSR, ELU.

07-236-39 John Evans House: Frame; 2 stories; 3 bays; gable roof; ca. 1890-1910; rear ell rebuilt; original frame porch.

Lot 2-24: Site A: Grace Church (German Reformed) (Hotchkiss, 1884). Modern school construction has probably destroyed archaeological component.

07-236-40 Site B: M. F. Fix' wagon and blacksmith shop (Hotchkiss, 1884). Area heavily disturbed by house and road construction.

(07-236-40)
(a) Middlebrook Elementary School: Brick; 2 stories; 6 bays; hipped roof; ca. 1916; original neocolonial portico.

(b) Middlebrook High School: Brick; 2 stories; hipped roof; ca. 1923; original frame porch.

(c) Middlebrook School Agriculture Building: Frame; 1 story; 5 bays; ca. 1940-1941.

Lot 2-25: Site A: J. W. Mish's Factory (Hotchkiss, 1884). PSSR, ELU.

07-236-41 Site B: S. E. Tucker House (Hotchkiss, 1884). PSSR, ELU.

Mary Pryor Evans House: Brick - stretcher bond; 1 story; 3 bays; hipped roof with shed dormer; early 20th-century bungalow.

Lot 2-28: *Firehouse: Concrete block; 1 story; 5 bays; ca. 1957; mid-20th-century baseball diamond with wood and metal bleachers.

07-236-42

Lot 2-29: Grace Church Parsonage: Concrete block; 2 stories; 3 bays; asymmetrical form; original porch; ca. 1880-1890. Three frame outbuildings are located southeast of the main house.

07-236-43

(See Continuation Sheet #8)

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**National Register of Historic Places
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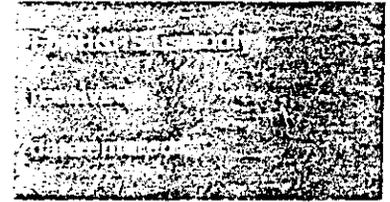
Middlebrook Historic District, Augusta County, Virginia

Continuation sheet

#8

Item number 7,8

Page 8,1



7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (Continued)

07.236-44

Lot 72-22: Site A: Reuben Diggs House (Hotchkiss, 1884). SE, PSSR.

Site B: D. A. Johnson House (Hotchkiss, 1884). SE, PSSR.

Site C: M. Doubt House (Hotchkiss, 1884). ELU, PSSR.

07.236-45

Site D: Nestor Johnson House (Hotchkiss, 1884). ELU, PSSR.

Site E: Burial identified from Heizer's "Notes on the History of Middlebrook."
ELU.

(07-699)

J. W. Mish House: Log with asbestos siding; 2 stories; 3 bays; gable roof; built early 19th century; enclosed 20th-century porch. Frame barn, granary, and chicken houses are clustered around the main house.

Lot 72-44C:

(07-698)

W. W. Cale House: Log with weatherboard; 2 stories; 3 bays; gable roof; ca. 1800-1850; 20th-century frame porch.

Lot 74-55: Site A: Middlebrook School House No. 6 (Hotchkiss, 1884). Located in southeast corner of tract. ELU, PSSR.

07.236-46

Site B: Methodist Evangelical Church (Hotchkiss, 1884). Located in southeast corner of tract. ELU, PSSR.

~~47 Lot 72AE * Wm. B. Tennermann Hse~~

(See Continuation Sheet #12)

8. SIGNIFICANCE

Bethel Presbyterian Church (1779), St. John's German Reformed Church (1780), and Mount Tabor Lutheran Church (1785). During the evangelical movements of the United Brethren (or German Methodists) beginning in 1795, camp meetings were held on a regular basis at Henry Menger's house near Middlebrook, one of only four locations in the county.³

Historical records reveal that considerable town building activities occurred soon after William and Nancy Scott began selling lots in April of 1799. The Mutual Assurance Society records describe several large dwellings and "storehouses" in 1803 and 1805, valued between \$800 and \$1,250, including one "storehouse" with an attached "lodging room."⁴ A tanyard and an "English" schoolhouse had been added by 1805, and the town boasted sixty-six inhabitants and thirteen occupied and improved lots five years later.⁵ In 1819 the Scotts deeded land to the trustees of Union Meeting House for a church to be used by all denominations.⁶ Martin's Gazetteer provides the best index of the village's growth in these first few decades, describing the town in 1836 as "thriving," with 150 residents and containing "30 dwellings, some of them handsome brick buildings, one house of public worship free for all denominations, one common school, one tavern, three miscellaneous stores, one tanyard, two tailors, one cabinetmaker, one cooper, one house carpenter, one wheelwright, and two boot and shoe factories."⁷

(See Continuation Sheet #9)

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Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

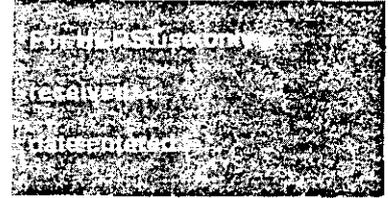
**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Middlebrook Historic District, Augusta County, Virginia

Continuation sheet #9

Item number 8

Page 2



8. SIGNIFICANCE

Local demands for internal improvements in the county, especially in transportation, led to the construction of several turnpikes, which brought increased prosperity to the village in the mid-19th century. In 1848 the Howardsville and Rockfish turnpike from Nelson County was extended to Greenville, and soon afterwards to Middlebrook. The Middlebrook and Brownsburg Company was established in 1851 to improve the Middlebrook road from Staunton to Lexington.⁸ These improvements accelerated the growth of the town, and by 1855 Middlebrook had doubled in size, containing sixty dwellings.⁹ The expanding commercial economy after the Civil War brought increased prosperity and industrial development to the village. Contemporary sources from the 1880s describe Middlebrook as one of the most "enterprising and prosperous villages in the county." The population statistics from 1882 list 274 inhabitants, indicating that this was the largest village in the county,¹⁰ surpassing neighboring Greenville on the eastern Staunton-Lexington road. John S. McCorkle's very successful mercantile business, established in 1879, drew many people to the village, and Jedediah Hotchkiss claimed that this was one of the most "thrifty, enterprising, pleasant and attractive establishments in the county."¹¹ The Hotchkiss plan indicates that the main street lots had all been developed by 1885, and settlement had spread to the back lots as well.

During the second half of the 19th century, a substantial black community developed at the west end of the town. Hotchkiss's map identifies ten black residential units, one school, and a church. Several other black residential units were also identified on the north side of the town. Today only two houses and a church remain standing, but surface evidence identifies the location of many of the missing units. The significance of these archaeological sites rests not only in their potential to provide insight into black material culture during the 19th century, but also in the information they could provide relating to the social transitions of black society following emancipation. Both of these topics have had little coverage in state or national historical and archaeological investigations. The full significance of the archaeological sites remains to be determined, since no subsurface tests have been conducted. Surface survey, however, identified many of these sites as having at least partial preservation as evidenced by the presence of complete foundations, leveled areas, foundation rubble, vegetation differences, and surface scatters.

Although the present village is largely residential in nature, many of the commercial, religious, and educational improvements of the 19th century and early 20th century still survive. During the 1880s, several of the existing stores were established as well as three churches, including two German congregations--German Reformed and Lutheran. The Lutheran and black Baptist remain, although only the Baptist church continues to be used. Two early 20th-century consolidated schoolhouses survive on a hill overlooking the village. Most of the industrial sites and some of the commercial sites, besides the stores, now survive only in the archaeological record. These sites include stores, professional offices, blacksmith shops, cooper shops, a tin shop, cabinetmakers' shops, later 19th-century furniture "factories," a shoe factory, a tannery, and other smaller cottage-type industries. The significance of these components is based, in part, on the fact that the community was not a water-powered industrial town such as Port Republic. Rather, it appears that most mechanical operations were done by hand and later by steam engines. Little photographic or descriptive information survives about the construction and style of the industrial structures, increasing the importance of the archaeological record.

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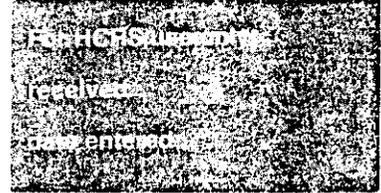
**National Register of Historic Places
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Middlebrook Historic District, Augusta County, Virginia

Continuation sheet #10

Item number 8,9

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8. SIGNIFICANCE

By the turn of the 20th century, as the Valley Turnpike became a more important Valley artery than the Middlebrook Turnpike, Greenville emerged as the major commercial center between Staunton and Lexington. Middlebrook began to decline, and little new building or development occurred. Greenville's rise to prominence over Middlebrook was further aided by its location directly east of the booming chalk and iron mills and along two railroads constructed in the 1880s. Although the 1887 Railroad Map states that Middlebrook was on the main route of the Baltimore and Ohio (274), local residents and historical sources from this period indicate that this track actually ran through Greenville.¹² The Middlebrook road has continued as a major county road in this century, serving more the immediate countryside rather than larger trade networks. This trend throughout the 20th century has been augmented by the construction of the interstate highway through the Greenville area rather than Middlebrook.

Ann McCleary / James Wood

¹Joseph A. Waddell, Annals of Augusta County, Virginia, 1726-1871 (Staunton, Va.: C. R. Caldwell, 1902), p. 535.

²Interview with Mrs. Jimmy Sproul, Middlebrook, Virginia, December 1980.

³Klaus Wust, The Virginia Germans (Charlottesville: UVA Press, 1969), p. 134.

⁴Mutual Assurance Society Records (R11,V83,N4920; R2,V24,N2055; R9,V92,N2209; R4,V34,N122; R3,V32,N15; R11,V83,N4919). Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Archives.

⁵Jedediah Hotchkiss, Historical Atlas of Augusta County (Chicago: Waterman, Watkins, and Co., 1885), p. 17. Augusta County Tax Records, 1810.

⁶Augusta County Deed Books 30, 33, and 43.

⁷Joseph Martin, A New and Comprehensive Gazetteer of Virginia and the District of Columbia (Charlottesville, Va., 1836).

⁸Waddell, pp. 442-3.

⁹Richard Edmunds, ed., Statistical Gazetteer of the State of Virginia.... (Richmond, 1855).

¹⁰J. Peyton, History of Augusta County Virginia (Staunton, Va.: Yost and Son, 1882), p. 209.

¹¹Hotchkiss, p. 46.

¹²Rand-McNally County and Railroad Map, 1887.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Interviews. December 1980, Middlebrook, Va. Mrs. Vernon Arehart, Mr. G. B. Rosen, Mrs. Mabel Lunsford, Mrs. Jimmy Sproul, Miss Lelia Ellinger, and Mrs. Bobbie Arehart.

Martin, Joseph. A New and Comprehensive Gazetteer of Virginia and the District of Columbia. Charlottesville, Va., 1836.

Mitchell, Robert D. Commercialism and Frontier: Perspectives on the Early Shenandoah Valley. Charlottesville, Va.: University Press of Virginia, 1977.

Peyton, John. History of Augusta County. Staunton, Va.: Yost and Son, 1882.

Rand-McNally County and Railroad Map. 1887.

(See Continuation Sheet #11)

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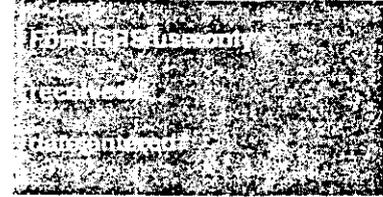
**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Middlebrook Historic District, Augusta County, Virginia

Continuation sheet #11

Item number 9, 10

Page 2, 1



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Richmond, Va. Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Archives. Mutual Assurance Society Records; Heizer, Beulah. "Notes on the History of Middlebrook." MS, n.d.; Middlebrook Survey Reports, Augusta County:
- 07-238 Tavern
 - 07-671 D. E. Beard House
 - 07-672 D. Rusmisl House
 - 07-673 Jacob Arehart Tavern
 - 07-674 William Shelton House
 - 07-675 Randolph-Buchanan House
 - 07-676 Helms-Jones House
 - 07-677 Helms-Smith House
 - 07-678 Hyde-Clemmer House
 - 07-679 Hogshead-Rusmisl House
 - 07-680 John S. McCorkle's Store
 - 07-683 M. P. Goode House
 - 07-685 Steele-Armaroade House and Store
 - 07-686 Middlebrook Schoolhouse
 - 07-687 Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
 - 07-688 Engleman-Clemmer House and Shop
 - 07-689 Rosen-Lewis House
 - 07-690 Mt. Airy Baptist Church
 - 07-692 Middlebrook Cemetery
 - 07-695 Randolph-Rosen House
 - 07-696 Dunlap-Sweet House
 - 07-697 Fauver-Rosen House and Store
 - 07-698 W. W. Cale House
 - 07-699 J. W. Mish's Tenant House
- Waddell, Joseph A. Annals of Augusta County, Virginia, 1726-1871. Staunton, Va.: C. R. Caldwell, 1902.
- Wust, Klaus. The Virginia Germans. Charlottesville, Va.: University of Virginia Press, 1969.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA (Verbal Boundary Description)

then S to Npl of 2-14, then E to Wpl of 2-15, then S to Npl of 62, then E to Epl of 49, then S to S side of VA252, then E to Epl of 2-18, bounded on the E by Epl of 2-18; bounded on the S by Spl of 2-18, SW to Wpl of 2-19, then SE, SW, NW to encompass pt. of 2-20, then SW along Npl of 2-23 to Wpl of same, then SE to Spl of 2-29, then SW to VA 670, then W, then N to Spl of 2-26, then W to Wpl of 2, then NW to Spl of 2-1, then SW to Wpl of same at VA252, then WNW across N pt. of 72-22 & 72-21 to point S of Wpl of 2-1; bounded on the W by a line from latter point to Wpl of 2-1.

Boundary Justification: The boundaries have been drawn to include the settings of those properties significant to the integrity of the historic district and to preserve the rural setting of the western entry to the district. The center part of the northern boundary conforms to the original plat boundaries. The boundary conforms to the original plat boundaries. The boundary has been extended to the north to include the W.W. Cale House (Lot 72-44c), which provides an appropriate historic entry to the northern section of town.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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Middlebrook Historic District, Augusta County, Virginia

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received
date entered

Continuation sheet #12

Item number 7

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7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

The following structures were determined to be noncontributing elements because they did not conform to the rest of the district in style, scale, or materials:

Lot 1-6	Baldwin Rosen House
Lot 1-21	Rosen's Garage
Lot 1-31	Paul Hoshour House
Lot 2-14	Perry House
Lot 2-28	Fire House

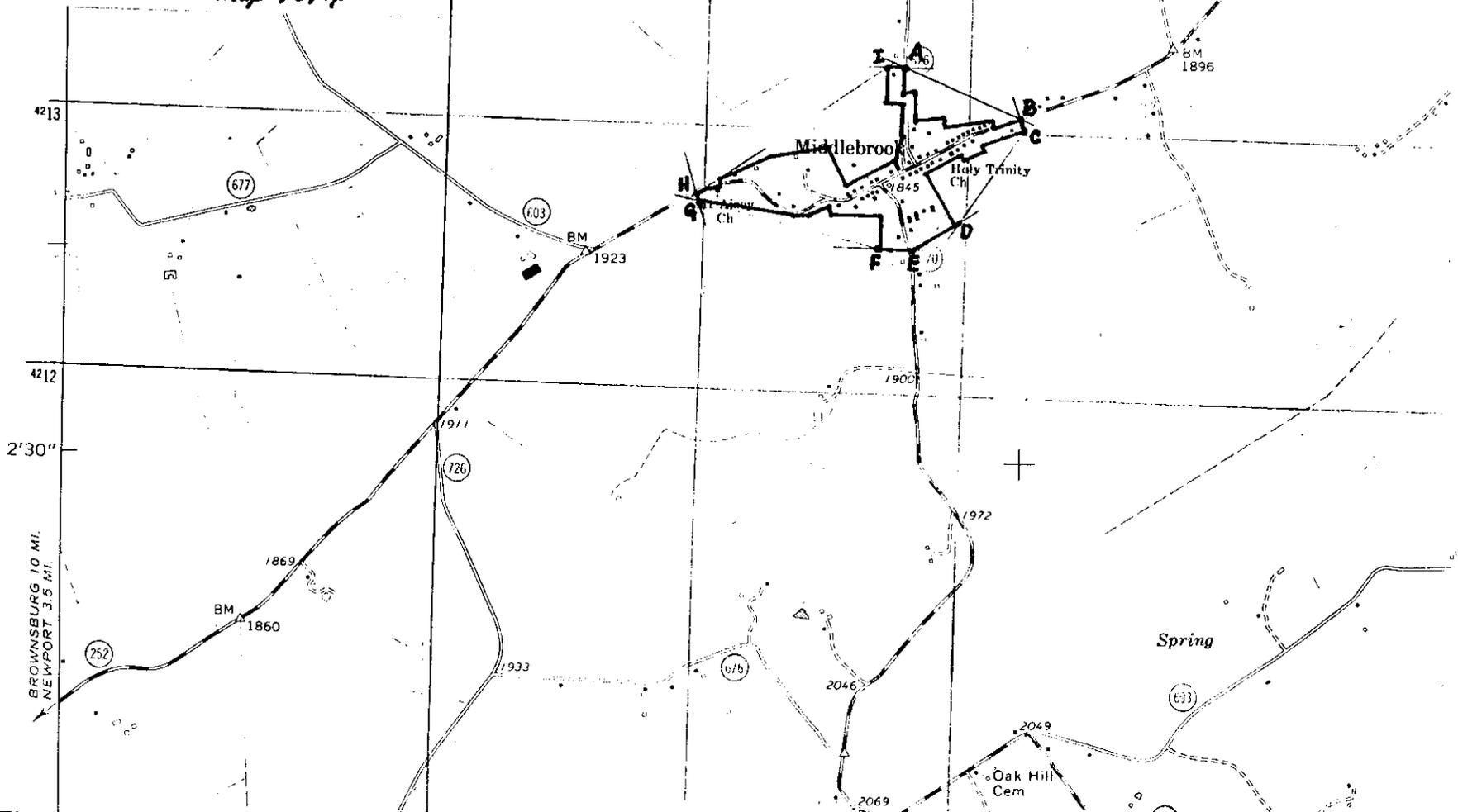
4215

Cockran Spring

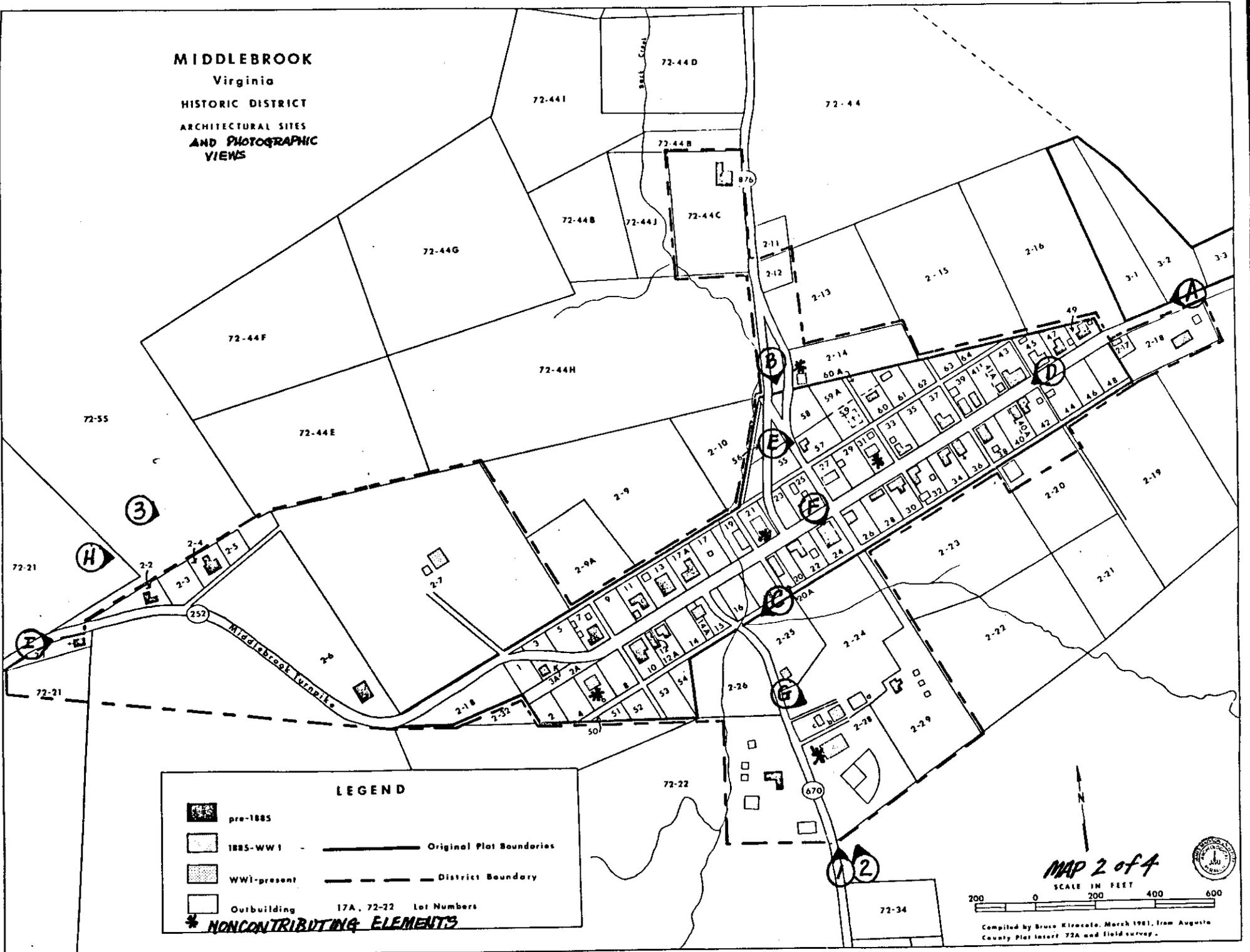
USGS 7.5' quadrangle (scale:1:24,000)
Greenville, Va. 1964 (PR1972)

MIDDLEBROOK HISTORIC DISTRICT, Augusta Co., Va.
UTM References:

- A-17/656760/4213240
 - B-17/657200/4213060
 - C-17/657210/4213010
 - D-17/656980/4212660
 - E-17/656800/4212550
 - F-17/656670/4212550
 - G-17/655970/4212700
 - H-17/655960/4212740
 - I-17/656680/4213240
- Map 1 of 4*



MIDDLEBROOK
 Virginia
 HISTORIC DISTRICT
 ARCHITECTURAL SITES
 AND PHOTOGRAPHIC
 VIEWS



LEGEND

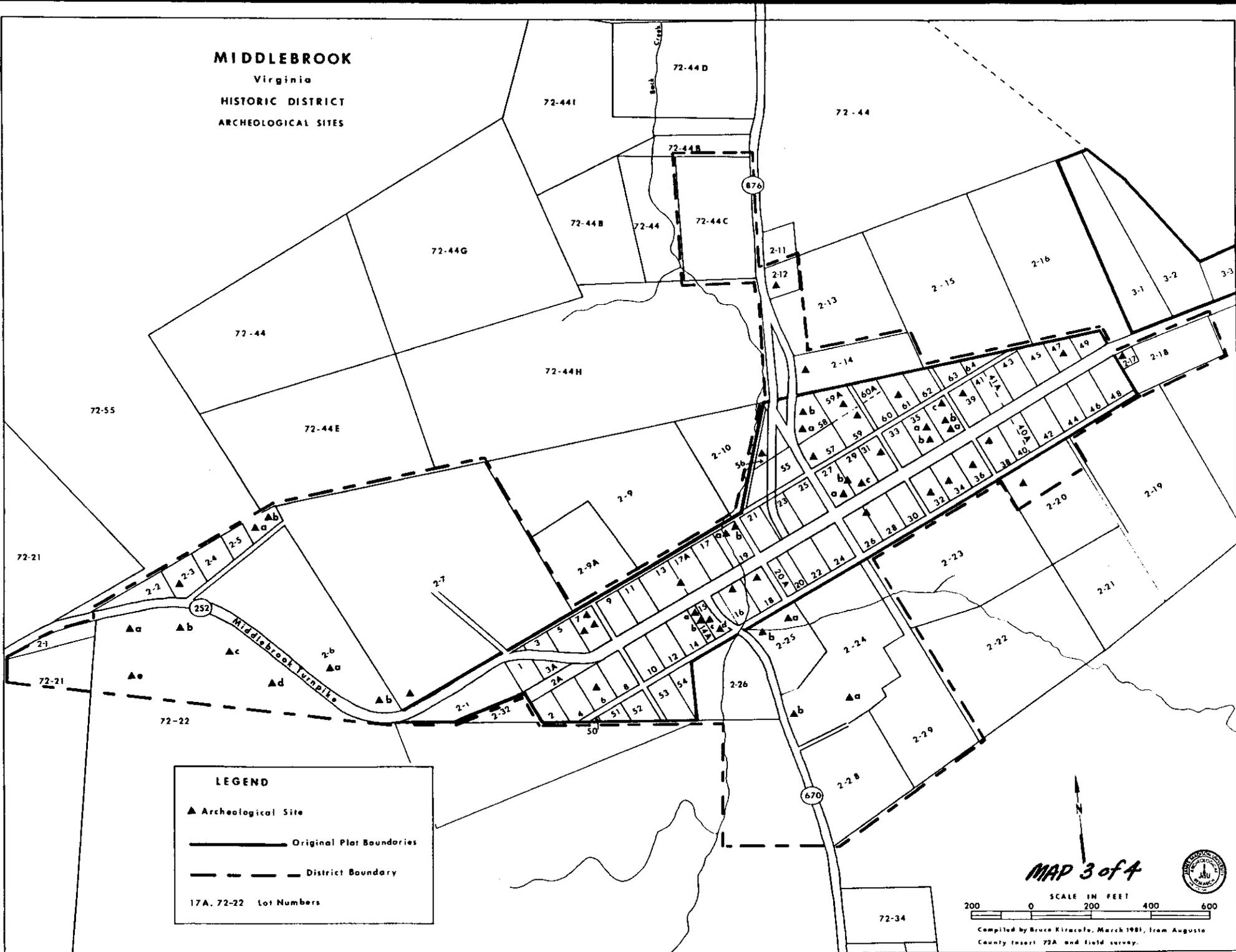
	pre-1885		Original Plot Boundaries
	1885-WW I		District Boundary
	WWI-present		17A, 72-22 Lot Numbers
	Outbuilding		NONCONTRIBUTING ELEMENTS

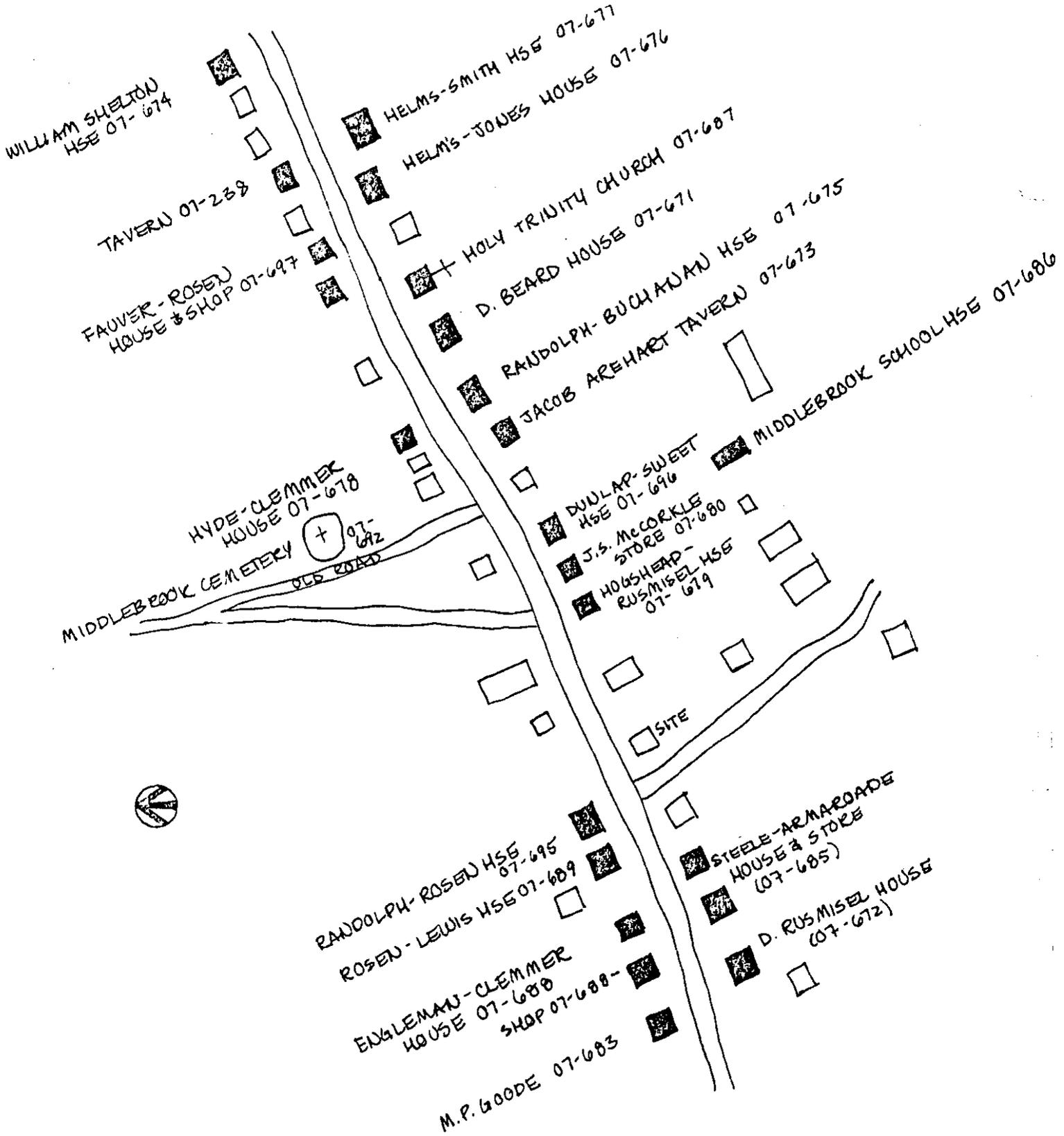
MAP 2 of 4

SCALE IN FEET
 0 200 400 600

Compiled by Bruce Kincaid, March 1981, from Augusta County Plat insert 72A and field survey.

MIDDLEBROOK
Virginia
HISTORIC DISTRICT
ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES





PLAN OF MIDDLEBROOK VILLAGE
DETAIL FROM QUAD MAP
GREENVILLE 7-5

Plan of Middlebrook Village
Detail from Greenville 7.5
AUGUSTA CO., VA.
Map 4 of 4
NOT TO SCALE