

VLR - 12/1/1999  
NRHP - 2/4/2000

(Rev. 10-90)  
NPS Form 10-900  
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

OMB No. 1024-0018

**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 How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

**1. Name of Property**

historic name Westview

other names/site number Elam homestead, Terrell place, DHR File # 19-5169

**2. Location**

street & number 1672 Terrell Road not for publication N/A  
city or town \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity X  
state Virginia code VA county Charlotte code 037 Zip code 24528

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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 \_\_\_\_\_ nationally \_\_\_\_\_ statewide X locally. ( \_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

H. Alexander Wise, Jr. 12/28/99  
Signature of certifying official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Virginia Department of Historic Resources**

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_\_\_ meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria. ( \_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I, hereby certify that this property is:  
 entered in the National Register  
 See continuation sheet.  
 determined eligible for the National Register  
 See continuation sheet.  
 determined not eligible for the National Register  
 removed from the National Register  
 other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Keeper

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

**Number of Resources within Property**

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>  10  </u>	<u>  0  </u>	buildings
<u>  3  </u>	<u>  0  </u>	sites
<u>  0  </u>	<u>  0  </u>	structures
<u>  0  </u>	<u>  0  </u>	objects
<u> 13 </u>	<u>  0 </u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register   0  

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

  N/A

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**6. Function or Use**

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**Historic Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single Dwelling

<u>AGRICULTURE</u>	<u>processing</u>
	<u>agricultural outbuildings</u>
<u>FUNERARY</u>	<u>cemeteries</u>

**Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: single dwelling

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

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**7. Description**

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**Architectural Classification** (Enter categories from instructions)Early Republic/Federal  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_**Materials** (Enter categories from instructions)foundation Brick, Stone  
roof Metal  
walls Brick, Wood/board and batten  
Concrete  
other \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_**Narrative Description** (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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### 8. Statement of Significance

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**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 a grave.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object or structure.

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

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**Areas of Significance** (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**  1832 - 1916 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**  1832 \_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person** (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**  N/A \_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_ unknown \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Location of Additional Data**

- State Historic Preservation Office
  - Other State agency
  - Federal agency
  - Local government
  - University
  - Other
- Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

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**10. Geographical Data**

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**Acreeage of Property** \_\_ 82.31 acres \_\_

**UTM References** (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting	Northing	Zone Easting	Northing
1	_____	2	_____
3	_____	4	_____

See continuation sheet.

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**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Kathy Lee Erlandson Liston

Organization: owner date September, 1999

street & number: 1672 Terrell Road telephone 804-376-3294

city or town Brookneal state VA zip code 24528

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

**Additional items** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Kathy Lee Erlandson Liston

street & number 1672 Terrell Road telephone (804)-376-3294

city or town Brookneal

state VA zip code 24528

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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. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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## 7. Narrative Description:

### Summary Description:

Westview is an exceptional survival of a mid-size plantation complex. The main house exhibits high integrity in that both its plan and interior finishes remain intact. Of perhaps greater significance is the presence of numerous contributing domestic and agricultural outbuildings. These rarely survive in such numbers, and here they give a rare picture of the groupings of elements that were typical of the rural landscape of 19<sup>th</sup>-century Virginia. These range from slave cabins to large barns. The separate slave and family cemeteries (contributing sites) are a very real link between the buildings that survive and the people who used them.

### Setting:

A quarter mile long dirt drive leads from Terrell Road (Rte. 693) to the house and outbuildings, which are situated on a wooded plateau surrounded by rolling hills and eroded gullies. The property, which consists of 82 acres, contains several streams and springheads. The house, which faces north, sits in the middle of a large lawn studded with large oaks, black walnuts and cedars. To the south there are four man-made terraces, now mostly wooded. Daffodils and other flowers, as well as two large English boxwoods indicate that the first terrace was once a garden. One slave cabin, a milk house, smokehouse, schoolhouse and a shed are clustered around the house. The barn, stable, and other outbuildings stretch along a ridge to the south. There are two other slave cabins on the property. A family cemetery is just northwest of the house. A slave cemetery marked with yucca and a few fieldstones lies to the southwest. (A larger slave cemetery associated with Westview is located to the west on an adjacent parcel under different ownership.)

### House:

The survival of Westview is a perfect example of *preservation* by neglect. The last of the Elams, the family that built the house, was John Elam who died in 1916. His wife's niece, Kathryn Nowlin Terrell, eventually inherited the farm. This niece lived in Alabama, and she and her family used Westview only as a summer home, while continuing to operate it as a farm. For forty years it was rarely occupied, though taken care of by a black couple (former slaves or children of slaves) called "Uncle Peter" and "Aunt Sally" who lived in a log cabin behind the main house. From 1958 to 1961, Mrs. Terrell and her husband briefly occupied the house year round. At that time the house underwent a limited refurbishment and a bathroom was installed on the screened porch. After her husband's death, Mrs. Terrell returned to Alabama and the house was again vacant except for occasional visits. This continued until about 1975 when a tenant took up residence as a caretaker. Five years later he was replaced with a second tenant who remained until the present owners purchased the house in May 1998. With the exception of the roof being replaced about twenty-five years ago, virtually nothing had been done to the house since the 1950s. Renovations that began in the summer of 1998 have included the installation of a dual HVAC system, complete re-wiring, the installation of 1 ½ bathrooms and a new kitchen, all with new plumbing. The remaining work is mostly cosmetic and includes patching plaster and painting. Every effort has been made to ensure minimal disturbance to the original fabric wherever possible. All work has been done in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

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Exterior:

Westview consists of a center-hall, single-pile, two-story brick main block of the late Federal style with two later frame additions. The brick portion is 48' x 20', three bays wide, with exterior brick end chimneys. The front wall is in Flemish bond while the side and rear walls are in 3-course common bond. The walls are 12 inches thick. The house is earth fast with a very narrow crawl space. A molded concrete water table was added in 1961. It has a low-pitched, gable roof that has been covered with standing seam metal since at least the late 19th century (there is evidence that it was originally hand cut cedar shingles). The cornice is molded. Originally the north and south elevations were identical, with the south side being the main entrance; this was reversed when an addition was made to the south elevation ca. 1840. The windows have 9-over-9 sash on the first floor and 6-over-9 on the second, all with large lights and thin muntins. The window architraves are molded with heavy lintel-type window heads ending in bull's-eye corner blocks. There are louvered shutters. All of the woodwork is original, as is some of the glass. The double doors have raised panels and were originally secured on the inside with an iron bar. The architrave echoes the windows with a heavy lintel and bull's-eye corner blocks. The original door on the south side is identical with one exception: there is no architrave on what was originally the exterior wall; that wall is now plastered. The brick on the north front bears the ghost of a porch. Undated photographs of the house belonging to Susan Yauger (a Terrell descendant) show this porch as a fanciful "high Victorian" confection. It had a scroll-sawn balustrade and square posts with openwork brackets supporting a full entablature. The low pitched roof was hidden behind a Chinese lattice railing topped with scalloped cresting which seems to have been, of all things, a country carpenter's version of the roof ornament of the Doge's Palace in Venice. This porch was removed in the last quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. There is also a primitive mid-19th century watercolor of the house that shows only a small two-stepped stoop. This may be a view of the south side before the additions were made, or of the north side before the addition of its fanciful porch. There is a door on the east gable end, south of the chimney, which once led from the old dining room to an outside kitchen (no longer in existence).

The term "old" dining room denotes the original dining room in the brick portion; the "new" dining room in the middle addition has been used as such since at least the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. It is unknown if this was its original purpose. To date no documentary evidence for the buildings dates of the two additions has come to light. A reasonable hypothesis would be ca. 1850 for the first (middle) addition and 1870s for the second.

The first addition is a board-and-batten story-and-a-half structure with simple Greek Revival detailing. It is of heavy post-and-beam construction, sits on a fieldstone foundation and has a low gable roof covered with standing-seam metal. There is a stone chimney on the south end wall with 4-lite casement windows flanking its stack in the gable. The present owners added a 10-foot shed dormer with casement windows to the south slope of the roof. This was the only way to provide sufficient headroom for the creation of a second-floor bathroom. The west and east elevations each have a door finished with three narrow vertical panels under a 3-light transom and a window with 6-over-6 sash with thin muntins, and simple louvered shutters. The west side has a small 20<sup>th</sup>-century window to the right of the door, while the east side has a small 20<sup>th</sup>-century window over the door, above the transom. The exteriors of both additions had been covered with asbestos shingles in the 1940s. These were removed to reveal the original vertical pine boards and evidence that the battens had been removed. The battens have been restored using

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2"-3" pine strips and cut nails. A surviving intact portion of the rear wall (now in the interior of the end addition) also served as a guide. Near ground level, several of the boards were rotted away.

The end addition is a one-story, 14 ½' x 18', board-and-batten structure. It sits on a stone foundation that was augmented on the south side with cinder blocks. It has a gable roof covered with standing seam metal. The pine siding is greatly inferior to that on the middle addition, and had to be replaced entirely on the south elevation. The one room, used as a kitchen in this century and possibly earlier, was remodeled in the 1950s. By 1998 the kitchen was in an advanced state of disrepair and its interior was beyond repair. This did allow, however, for a complete examination of its construction. This addition, though not nearly so well built as its predecessor, is of post-and-beam construction with pegged mortise-and-tenon joints. Sills had been reused and the quality of the other lumber was average to poor with small saplings sometimes used in the framing. Beams were simple hand cut poles, similar to those found in tobacco barns. There is a window with 6-over-6 sash on the west side. As stated above, due to rot and past infestation by powder post beetle, the entire south wall had to be replaced leaving only the corner framing in place. There was a small sash window in this wall that has been replaced with two double 6-light casement windows, one above the other. As part of the rehabilitation the roof structure was left open to the newly outfitted kitchen room below. On the east side a 1940s era screened porch on a concrete slab ran the entire length of the two additions. The only bathroom (built in 1957) was at the north end of this porch, i.e. outside the house. The porch and bathroom, which were in poor repair, were both removed. The slab which is securing the foundations of both additions on that side was left *in situ*. A small sunroom, powder room and pantry were built on the south end of the slab, on the east side of the kitchen. Though of board-and-batten construction, the row of modern casement windows and a small set back distinguish this addition from the historic structure.

Interior:

The house appears to have undergone three refurbishings prior to the major restoration started in 1998. The first, ca. 1941, was the addition of the screened porch (now gone) added to the east side. The second, ca. 1947, was the installation of electricity (utilizing exterior wire molding on top of the chair rails). The third, in the late 1950s, included the addition of the first bathroom to the screened porch and some cosmetic work done on the interior. The end addition, the kitchen, was renovated at that time. During the 1950s renovation of the kitchen plaster was replaced with wallboard over horizontal, tongue and groove pine siding over fiberglass insulation, and white enameled metal cabinets were added.

There are several attributes that are common throughout the brick portion and the middle addition:

- The floors, which are quartersawn heart pine, are all original with the exception of the parlor floor which, while still of heart pine, appears to be a mid-20th century replacement. Floorboards average 4 ¾ inches in width.
- All woodwork is original. It is simply, but beautifully formed from heart pine and includes six molded and paneled mantels, chair rails, baseboards, architraves, splayed window openings (brick portion) and picture rails in the old dining room and front hall. Woodwork in the middle addition is simpler and there are no chair rails. Doors in the brick portion are 6-paneled, while those in the middle addition have three vertical panels. At some point, probably in the mid-19th century, the original woodwork was covered with brown varnish. It may have been false grained. Past tenants stripped the woodwork to bare wood in a few areas.

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- All hardware in the brick portion is original with the following exceptions: the hinges on the parlor door, the hinges of the double doors between the first floor front and back halls, one of the hinges on the front door, the hinges on the exterior door of the old dining room, and the lock on the interior door of the same room. That lock is a mid-19th iron and brass rim lock while the original locks are early iron box locks with brass fittings. Locks in the middle addition are later 19th- and early 20<sup>th</sup>-century replacement iron rim locks and 20th century deadbolts, but all hinges are original. All hinges are iron.
- All plaster in the brick portion is original. Plaster in the middle addition was replaced with wallboard in the 1950s.
- With the exception of the upstairs room in the middle addition, all fireboxes have been rebuilt with firebrick. The hearths in the parlor and new dining room were replaced in the 1950s with concrete, while the other four are brick.
- Both front and back staircases have paneled spandrels with small closets under them.

The brick portion of Westview has a center hall on each floor flanked by single rooms. All four rooms have single windows centered in their north and south walls, and fireplaces facing the doors. The windows are 9 over 9 on the first floor, and, 6 over 9 on the second with splayed reveals. Entering the present front (north) door, one passes under the front stair and the parlor is on the right with the old dining room on the left just beyond the stair. Double doors at the end of the hall open into the back hall in the middle addition. Ceilings on this level are 10 feet high. The front staircase is steep, eleven steps with 8-inch risers. At the top of the initial run is a transverse landing that falls under the central second-floor window. The second run ascends to the left in three steps with 6 ½ inch risers. There is a center hall with a bedroom on either side. Facing the head of the staircase is a doorway with two steps leading down to the upstairs hall of the middle addition. This doorway was a window prior to the construction of the addition. Ceilings on this level are 9 ½ feet.

In plan the first addition has a lateral stairhall with a room beyond it on each floor. There are exterior doors at the east and west ends of the first floor hall and a doorway to the south, below the staircase, leads to the new dining room. The stair has initial winders and then a straight run to the top. The new dining room has a single 6-over-6 window in each side wall. They feature plain surrounds and single horizontal panels below the sills. The south wall has a fireplace with a simple mantel and a doorway to the right leading to the kitchen. Ceilings on this level are 8'9". All of the woodwork in this room is in the Greek Revival style. Above the dining room is a garret room reached from the upper level of the rear hall. In the recent renovation, a portion of this room was partitioned off to create a small hall and a full bathroom. As stated above, a shed dormer with casement windows was built in the west roof to create comfortable headroom in the bathroom and the original room beyond. This dormer replaced two ca 1950 floor-level eyebrow windows. The east wall was built out 18 inches to enclose heating ducts, plumbing and electric wiring. These necessary alterations have been done in a sensitive manner and have not negatively impacted the visual integrity of the room. On the south wall is the fireplace of stone with a brick hearth. It is the only 100 percent original fireplace in the house, all the others have been relined, refaced or rehearthed. On either side of the fireplace

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is a single casement window with original frame and replacement window frame.

Contributing structures:

1. Log shed covered with boards
2. Log schoolhouse
3. Log smokehouse
4. Frame milk house
5. Log slave cabin
6. Log and frame stable/hay barn
7. Log Tobacco barn
8. Log Curing barn
9. Slave Cabin (partially collapsed) log with stone and brick chimney
10. Henry house (old cabin enveloped in later house, now ruinous)

Contributing sites:

1. Ice pit
2. Slave cemetery
3. Family cemetery

There are 10 historic outbuildings on the property. Several are in varying states of disrepair. With the exception of the milk house, all are of log and exhibit different styles of notching. While called the "milk house" by the Terrell family, it is doubtful that was its original use. It is 1½ story, clapboard with pegged mortise-and-tenon framing. It is elevated on small stone piers and the floor is 18-inch wide planks. The interior was once plastered. Most interesting are the double beaded chair rail, window surround, and baseboard. There is no evidence of a fireplace or chimney. It is probable that this building was moved to its present location, possibly in the 1930s. A building that is known to have been moved is the schoolhouse. According to local history the schoolhouse, built for black children after the Civil War, once stood where the railroad borders the Westview property. It was moved in the late 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup> century to preserve it from being demolished during construction of the railroad. An untitled map of Charlotte County dated 1889 shows a "colored schoolhouse" on the line of the "projected Brighthop Railway" just southwest of the main house (collection of Charlotte County Public Library). As the Nowlin/Terrell family produced many teachers, this is a plausible history. If true, it would make this the oldest surviving black schoolhouse in Charlotte County (G. T. Gilliam, pers. comm.)

In addition to the outbuildings, there are three contributing sites. The remains of an ice pit/house are clearly visible on the east side of the house. Persons familiar with the house remember a brick walkway that once led from the exterior door of old dining room to the area of the ice pit and the outside kitchen. Remains of the walk and kitchen are no longer visible. The other two contributing sites are the slave and family cemeteries. The slave cemetery southwest of the main house is in a thinly wooded area marked by grave depressions, fieldstones and the presence of yucca plants. The family cemetery north of the house and contains a variety of cut headstones and flat slab stones.

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These mark the graves of the following:

John Elam, 1769—June 11, 1847  
Martha J. Elam, 1796—Nov. 29, 1873  
Ann C. Davis, 1793—Nov., 1836  
Ann Elizabeth Elam, Nov. 13, 1828—Sept 20, 1858  
Isabella D. Williams, Sept. 9, 1830—June 12, 1901  
F(rancis) S. Williams, March 4, 1823—July 13, 1882  
Susan J. Elam, Dec. 22, 1832—Sept. 14, 1890  
John W(estly) Elam, Aug. 24, 1841—March 19, 1916  
Elizabeth Terrell Henry, Jan, 7, 1913—July 27, 1966  
James M(arshall) Henry, 1905—1970  
Kathryn Ann Henry, April 25, 1939—May 28, 1955

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**8. Statement of Significance**

Summary Statement: Westview is one of the few surviving brick dwellings of the transitional Late Federal/Early Greek Revival period in Charlotte County. A classic case of "preservation by neglect," the house has undergone minimal change since its construction in 1832 and retains almost all of its original fabric. While a modest plantation house compared to other Charlotte County mansions such as Ingleside and Ridgeway, Westview exhibits a simple yet elegant style with handsome detail. Its rural setting has remained virtually unchanged. The associated buildings and sites (slave cabins, tobacco barns, other dependencies, and cemeteries) provide a rare glimpse of life on a 19th century working plantation. It is eligible for listing on the National Register under Criteria C as an outstanding and rare surviving example of a middle-class early 19<sup>th</sup>-century plantation house and farm complex. Aside from its architectural importance, Westview is also unusual in that through most of its working life it was a plantation run by women. From the time of her husband John Elam's death in 1847, until her own death in 1873, the plantation was owned and run by Martha J. Elam, with the help of her daughters and sisters. Her son, John Wesley, was only six when his father died. The 1850 Census for Charlotte County lists Martha Elam, 50, as head of household, and Ann E. Elam, Susan J. Elam, Rody [Rhoda] Davis, Ann Davis, and John W. Elam as residents.

Significance: The land on which Westview stands was part of a 240 acre parcel purchased by John Elam of Mecklenburg County on October 9, 1829, from George Kent, trustee for Thomas Oliver and John Oliver, and Robert Morton, trustee for Samuel A. Fugua. This was a forced sale to settle debts the Olivers owed to several people<sup>1</sup>. At the time of purchase there were no improvements on the property<sup>2</sup>.

By March 1, 1830, John Elam, although still residing in Mecklenburg County, had seven adult slaves and a horse listed on the Westview property<sup>3</sup>. It is probable that the slaves were engaged in clearing the land, making bricks, cutting timber, etc. Family tradition claims that the brick house was built by an itinerant builder who would, once the design of the house was decided upon, calculate how much material (bricks, wood, etc.) was needed, then, move onto another project leaving the property owner to obtain them. After a year or so, the builder would return to the site and build the house using slave labor. Although at this time there is no proof that is what occurred, there are several houses in Southside Virginia that are amazingly similar, leading one to speculate that they may well have been built by the same person<sup>4</sup>.

According to tax records, in June of 1831 John Elam was residing in Charlotte County although his property still showed no improvements<sup>5</sup>. On March 5, 1832, John Elam was listed as a church trustee on a deed for Mt. Carmel, a Methodist Episcopal Church<sup>6</sup>. An improvement on Elam's land was first recorded on the land tax records in May 1833, which show "new building added;" it was valued at \$1000<sup>7</sup>. By this time Elam had also increased his land holdings to 413 acres (he continued to add to his property until his death). Residing in the new house with Mr. Elam were his second wife, Martha J. (Davis) Elam, and daughters Ann Elizabeth, Isabella Davis and Susan Jane. His son, John Wesley Elam, was born in 1841. All of these individuals, as well as Martha's sister Ann Davis and Isabella's husband, F.S. Williams, are buried in the family cemetery (see list in section 7).

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To date, no documentary evidence has been found for the building dates of the two frame additions to the house. There is no mention in the tax records (the records available at the Charlotte County clerk's office are incomplete). From architectural evidence and information on the family situations at various times the approximate dates stated in the previous section have been deduced.

John Elam died in 1847 leaving his wife a life interest in the house and the bulk of his estate. At her death it was to pass to his son, John Wesley<sup>8</sup>. During the Civil War John Wesley Elam served in the Charlotte Greys, Co. I, 56<sup>th</sup> Infantry<sup>9</sup>.

Martha J. Elam died testate in 1874 and the property passed to John Wesley<sup>10</sup>. Immediately after his mother's death John Wesley began adding to his property<sup>11</sup>. He died in 1916 leaving the property to his wife, Elizabeth Nowlin, and after her death to her niece, Kathryn Nowlin Terrell<sup>12</sup>. In his will he also requested that 1/4 acre of the "old Elam homestead" be permanently set aside as a burial ground. Following John Wesley's death, his widow went to live with relatives in Lynchburg. She is not buried in the family plot<sup>13</sup>. For the next 56 years the house was occupied only intermittently by the family and eventually by tenants for the last 23 years.

Kathryn Nowlin Terrell, widow of William Ervin Terrell, died on June 21, 1975. Her will, dated August 2, 1963, left almost a thousand acres to her daughters, Kathryn Terrell Hare and Elizabeth Terrell Henry<sup>14</sup>. Elizabeth Henry died in 1966 and her son, James Marshall Henry III, inherited her portion. ( Henry is descended on his father's side from patriot Patrick Henry's youngest son. Patrick Henry's last home, Red Hill, once bordered the Elam property.) Marshall Henry and his aunt, Kathryn Terrell Hare, executed a deed of partition in December 1984 to equitably divide the property<sup>15</sup>; Mrs. Hare's half included the house. By a deed of gift executed the same day she gave the house and 242 acres to her daughter, Susan H. Yauger, with the stipulation that Marshall Henry and up to 20 of his lineal descendants might be buried in the family plot<sup>16</sup>. Susan H. Yauger sold the house and 242 acres to Clayton C. Bryant, Sr. and Sharon B. Shrock, timber and land speculators, on February 10, 1998<sup>17</sup>. They sold the timber to Stone Container Corporation on February 24, 1998<sup>18</sup>. Bryant and Schrock then sold the house and land to Big River Land Company, Inc. on March 12, 1998<sup>19</sup>. The current owners purchased the house and 82.31 acres on May 27, 1998<sup>20</sup>.

Westview was historically a tobacco plantation. During World War II food crops were grown to support the war effort, and the Terrells raised Black Angus cattle. Tobacco continued to be grown until the 1980s. Since that time many fields grew into woodlands.

Section 8 Page 9

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**Endnotes**

1. Charlotte County Deed Book 19:97
2. Charlotte County Land (Tax) Book 1827-1832, Upper Roanoke District
3. Charlotte County Property [Tax] Book 1826-1830
4. G.T. Gilliam, APVA, personal communication
5. Land Book 1827-1832
6. Deed Book 20:73
7. Land Book 1833-1838)
8. Charlotte County Wills 9:85
9. Timothy S. Ailsworth et al, *Charlotte County...Rich Indeed*, The Charlotte County Board of Supervisors, 1979
10. Wills 15:504
11. Deed Books 34, 35, 36
12. Wills 3/420
13. Susan Yauger, granddaughter of Katherine Nowlin Terrell, personal communication
14. Wills 26:473
15. Deeds 229:11
16. Deeds 229:18
17. Deeds 295:472
18. Deed 296:005
19. Deeds 296:540
20. Big River Land Company, Inc. to Kathy Lee Erlandson Liston, Deeds 297:468

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## 9. Bibliography

- Ailsworth, Timothy S. et al, "Charlotte County . . . Rich Indeed," The Charlotte County Board of Supervisors, 1973.
- Blumenson, John J.-G., "Identifying American Architecture," W. W. Norton & Company, New York, 1989.
- Charlotte County Deed Book 19:97
- Charlotte County Deed Book 20:73
- Charlotte County Deed Books 34, 35, 36
- Charlotte County Deed Book 229:11
- Charlotte County Deed Book 229:18
- Charlotte County Deed Book 295:472
- Charlotte County Deed Book 296:5
- Charlotte County Deed Book 296:540
- Charlotte County Deed Book 297:468
- Charlotte County Property [Tax] Book, Upper Roanoke District 1826-1830
- Charlotte County Land [Tax] Book, Upper Roanoke District 1827-1832
- Charlotte County Land [Tax] Book, Upper Roanoke District 1833-1838
- Charlotte County Wills 9:85
- Charlotte County Wills 3:420
- Charlotte County Wills 26:473
- U. S. Census 1850, Charlotte County

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**Geographical Data**

**UTM References**

	<b>Easting</b>	<b>Northing</b>
1	690290	4100160
2	690340	4100040
3	690210	4099950
4	690180	4099460
5	689580	4099440
6	689570	4099950
7	689980	4100130

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundaries for the Westview nominated parcel correspond to the present boundaries of the property and include all known contributing resources associated with the historic core area of the farm and associated acreage.

**Boundary Justification**

The boundaries for the Westview nominated property correspond the present boundaries of the property designated in Charlotte County Deed Book 297, page 468; Plat book 10, page 173; and Charlotte County Tax Parcels numbered 045-A-8-C and 045-A-8-F.

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### **Geographical Data**

### **UTM References**

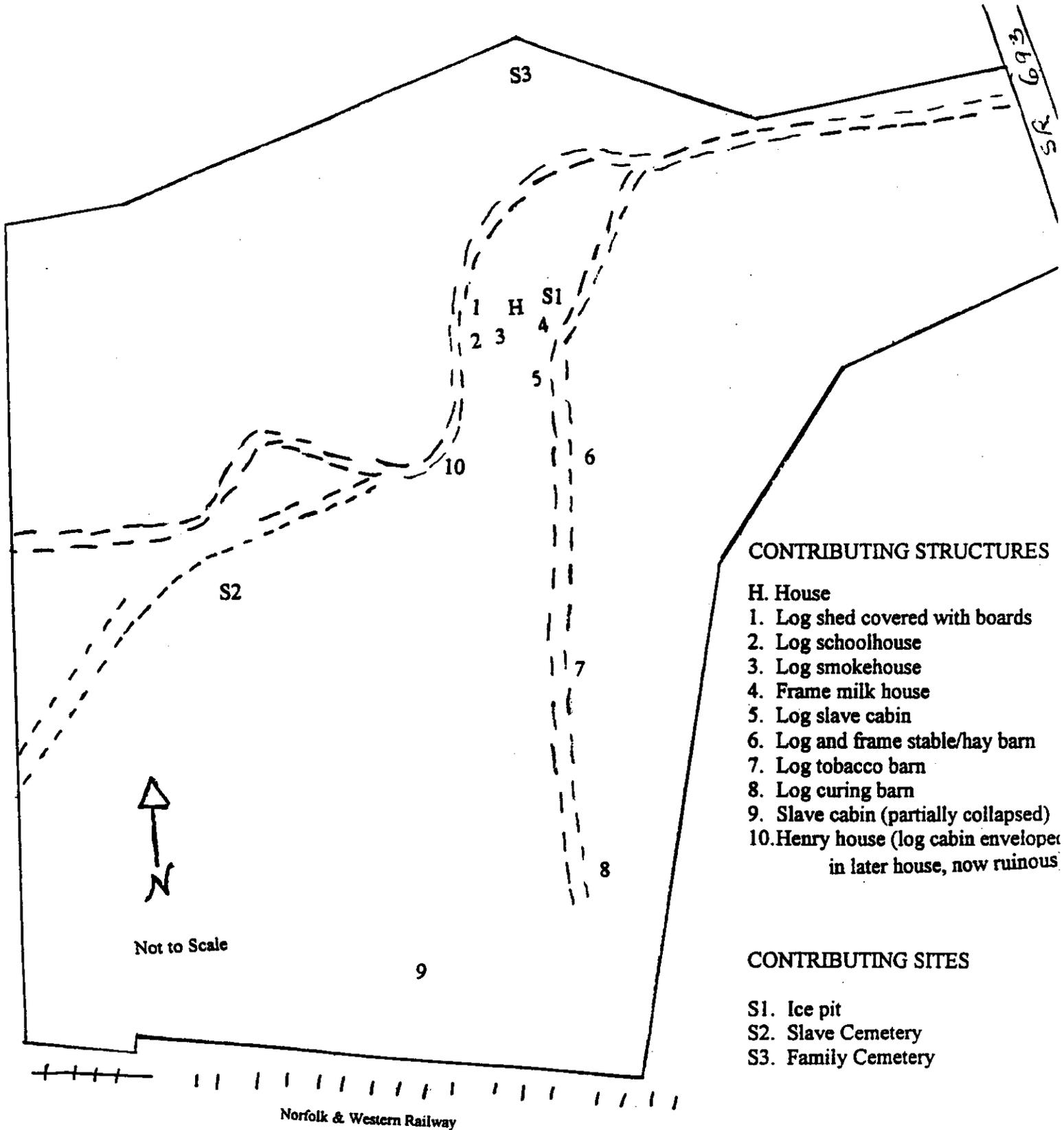
### **Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundaries for the Westview nominated property correspond to the present boundaries of the property, designated in Halifax County Deed Book 296, page 540, and Halifax County tax parcel 31-A-8.

### **Boundary Justification**

The boundaries for the Westview nominated parcel correspond to the present boundaries of the property and include all known contributing resources associated with the historic core area of the farm and associated acreage.

Section Sketch Map Page 12



**CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES**

H. House

- 1. Log shed covered with boards
- 2. Log schoolhouse
- 3. Log smokehouse
- 4. Frame milk house
- 5. Log slave cabin
- 6. Log and frame stable/hay barn
- 7. Log tobacco barn
- 8. Log curing barn
- 9. Slave cabin (partially collapsed)
- 10. Henry house (log cabin envelope in later house, now ruinous)

**CONTRIBUTING SITES**

- S1. Ice pit
- S2. Slave Cemetery
- S3. Family Cemetery

Not to Scale

Norfolk & Western Railway

From plat of survey of Lot 3, Roanoke District, Charlotte County, Va., p.3, 10:171

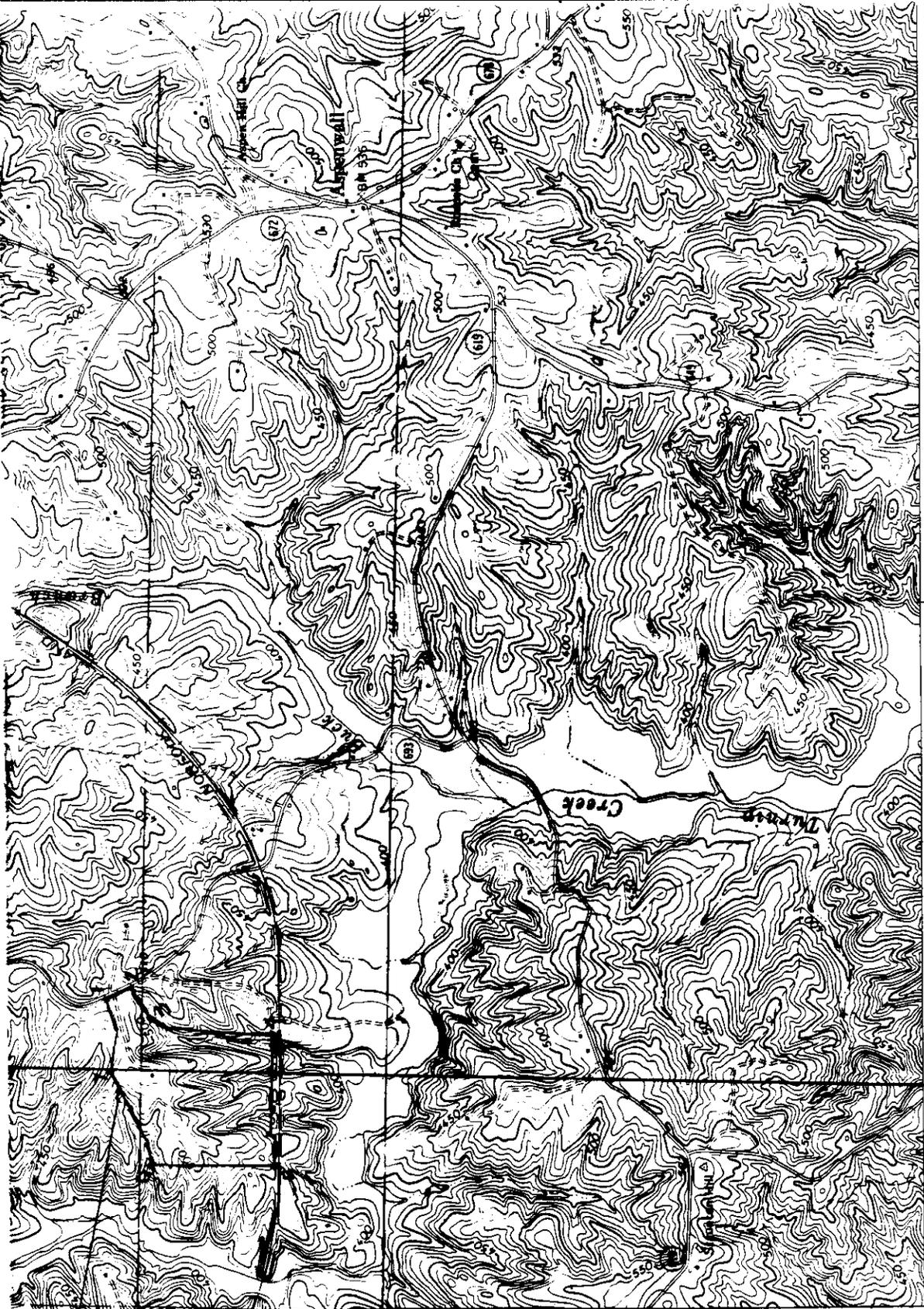
Section Photo List Page 13

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All photographs are of  
Westview  
Charlotte County, Virginia  
Photographer: Kathy Lee Erlandson Liston  
Date taken: June, 1999  
VDHR File # 19-5169 Negative # 17723  
All negatives stored with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources

- 1 of 8: View of main(north) façade
- 2 of 8: View of front hall
- 3 of 8: View from front to back hall
- 4 of 8: View of mantel and door in old dining room
- 5 of 8: Log barn with frame shed additions
- 6 of 8: Log slave cabin
- 7 of 8: View of rear additions (west side)
- 8 of 8: View of rear additions (east side)

Westview  
 Charlotte Co., VA  
 1. E 690290 N 4100160  
 2. E 690340 N 4100040 100  
 3. E 690210 N 4099950  
 4. E 690180 N 4099460  
 5. E 689580 N 4099440  
 6. E 689570 N 4099950  
 7. E 689980 N 4100030



37° 00'  
 78° 52' 30"

(NATURAL)  
 EASTING

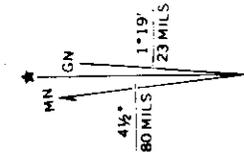
Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1967. Field checked 1968

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
 10,000-foot grid based on Virginia coordinate system, south zone  
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 17, shown in blue

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



UTM GRID AND 1968 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



CONTOUR DATUM

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH  
 FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY