

VLR 6/18/09

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

LISTED ON:  
VLR 06/18/2009  
NRHP 08/14/2009

**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**

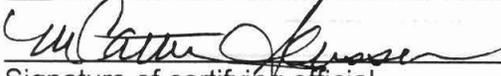
historic name Orlean Historic District  
other names/site number VDHR File No. 030-5159

**2. Location**

street & number Area including parts of John Barton Payne and Leeds Manor roads not for publication N/A  
city or town Orlean vicinity N/A  
state Virginia code VA county Fauquier code 061 zip code 20128

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  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  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

 June 25, 2009  
Signature of certifying official Date  
Virginia Department of Historic Resources  
State or Federal Agency or Tribal government

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting official/Title 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 the Keeper \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>51</u>	<u>25</u>	buildings
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>5</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>53</u>	<u>30</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

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

- |                       |                                 |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Cat: <u>Domestic</u>  | Sub: <u>Single Dwelling</u>     |
| <u>Domestic</u>       | <u>Secondary Structure</u>      |
| <u>Commerce/Trade</u> | <u>General Store</u>            |
| <u>Agriculture</u>    | <u>Agricultural Outbuilding</u> |
| <u>Religion</u>       | <u>Church</u>                   |
| <u>Education</u>      | <u>School</u>                   |
| <u>Funerary</u>       | <u>Cemetery</u>                 |

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

- |                       |                             |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Cat: <u>Domestic</u>  | Sub: <u>Single Dwelling</u> |
| <u>Domestic</u>       | <u>Secondary Structure</u>  |
| <u>Commerce/Trade</u> | <u>General Store</u>        |
| <u>Religion</u>       | <u>Church</u>               |
| <u>Funerary</u>       | <u>Cemetery</u>             |

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

EARLY REPUBLIC: Federal; MID-19<sup>th</sup> CENTURY: Greek Revival; LATE VICTORIAN: Queen Anne; LATE 19<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Bungalow/ Craftsman; Other: Vernacular

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation Stone; Concrete; Brick
- roof Metal; Asphalt
- walls Wood; Weatherboard, Stucco; Stone; Synthetic; Vinyl
- other Wood; Brick; Concrete

**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**

**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.

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

ARCHITECTURE

COMMERCE

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance** circa 1795 - 1959

**Significant Dates** 1817

**Significant Person** (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

**Cultural Affiliation** N/A

**Architect/Builder** Garland Russell (builder); Albert P. Hinckley, Jr. (architect), Floyd E. White (builder)

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

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

(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 # \_\_\_\_\_  
**Orlean Historic District**

**Fauquier County, VA**

**Primary Location of Additional Data**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources: Richmond, Virginia.

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**10. Geographical Data**  
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**Acreage of Property** Approximately 80 acres

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

Zone	Easting	Northing									
1			2		3		4				

See continuation sheet.

**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 Maral S. Kalbian, Architectural Historian; Margaret T. Peters, Historian  
organization Maral S. Kalbian, LLC date January 10, 2009  
street & number P.O. Box 468 telephone 540-955-1231  
city or town Berryville state VA zip code 22611

=====  
**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 See Attached Property Owners List  
street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**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.). A federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 36 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 National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, 1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240.



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## **7. SUMMARY DESCRIPTION:**

Orlean is located in northwestern Fauquier County along Route 688 (Leeds Manor Road), a main north-south connector in the western part of the county. Situated about five miles south of Hume and three miles northeast of the Rappahannock River, it is surrounded by pristine rolling farmland and was originally part of Thomas Lord Fairfax's Leeds Manor. The village developed during the first quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century when a post office was established in 1817. The architectural resources in the district comprise a varied collection of building types and styles that fully document Orlean's history as a crossroads and rural commercial center in this portion of the county.

The district contains approximately two dozen properties that range in date from the late 18<sup>th</sup> century to the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. Two date to prior to the Civil War, with the majority dating to the late-19<sup>th</sup>- and early-20<sup>th</sup> century periods. The types of buildings represented include commercial buildings, churches, a post office, a former school, and multiple residences and their ancillary outbuildings. The majority of buildings date to the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the period of the greatest growth for the community.

Fairly linear in its configuration, the 80-acre Orlean Historic District encompasses the area of the village with the highest concentration of historic buildings, and its boundaries generally follow property lines. More remote and rural properties surrounding the core of the village were not included. The former Orlean School is located at the eastern edge of the village and is now used as a residence. The oldest resources in the district are concentrated near the junction of John Barton Payne and Leeds Manor roads. The southern end of the district contains an enclave of African-American-related dwellings, as well as a church and cemetery.

## **DETAILED DESCRIPTION AND ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS:**

The Orlean Historic District is located in the village of Orlean, in a rural area of northwest Fauquier County, Virginia. The village is centered on a junction of several roads and contains twenty-three properties that front along Leeds Manor and John Barton Payne roads. The majority of resources are dwellings and their associated outbuildings, but the district also includes several commercial buildings, a post office, two churches, and a cemetery. Most buildings are generally sited right along the road, with the exception of the more rural properties located at the edges of the village. The district contains a collection of building types and architectural styles that tell the story of the village's development from the late 18<sup>th</sup> century to modern times.

While several of the buildings in the village reflect popular architectural styles of the 19<sup>th</sup>- and 20<sup>th</sup>-centuries, the vast majority follow vernacular forms, with little if any exterior decoration. This contrast in the appearance of buildings makes Orlean visually interesting.

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Although Orlean has no official limits, the 80-acre district includes the resources that are historically and visually associated with the village. More remote rural areas and ones with concentrations of non-contributing resources were not included within the boundaries. Orlean's layout is not based on a formal grid pattern, but instead is dictated by roads, property lines, and landscape features. A comparison of the current configuration of the village with ones depicted on mid-19<sup>th</sup>-century maps shows that Orlean has remained fairly unchanged since that time.

The earliest building in the district is the Orlean Farm House [030-0086; 030-5159-0004]. Sited on a large residential lot on the southeast corner of the junction of John Barton Payne and Leeds Manor roads, the extremely well landscaped yard contains stone gateposts (inscribed with the date "ca. 1795"), a board-fence, and modern terraced stone walls. Mature boxwoods line the property along Leeds Manor Road. The earliest portion of this stone, log, and frame dwelling was constructed ca. 1795 as a log building by John Winn Smith, who owned most of the land that now makes up Orlean. The original 1 ½-story log section rests on a stone foundation and has an exterior-end stone chimney, shed-roofed dormer addition, and enclosed porch. The two-story, three-bay, side-passage-plan, Federal-style stone addition with an interior-end stone chimney was made in 1812. It contains three-light transoms over the doors, six-over-six-sash wood windows with louvered wooden shutters, a one-bay pedimented portico with chamfered posts and stone steps on the north side, and a four-bay, hip-roofed porch on the south side. The frame two-story section with an exterior-end stone chimney was also constructed around that time connecting the stone unit to the original, rear, log section. Also notable on the property are a frame barn and corncrib located north of the house. Both are believed to have been constructed in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century and are rare surviving building types from that era.

Across Leeds Manor Road from Orlean Farm is the Smith-Hinkley House [030-0730; 030-5159-0001]. The main house for a large farm operation, it is located at the intersection of John Barton Payne and Leeds Manor roads. Historically associated with the Smith family, the house has been under Hinkley-family ownership for many years. The earliest section of this visually prominent dwelling is the front Greek Revival-style section that dates to ca. 1830. This two-story, three-bay, side-passage-plan, stuccoed section rests on a stone foundation. It appears to be of frame construction and has a gable-end front that contains a louvered lunette attic window. The windows are paired four-over-four-sash and six-over-six-sash, double-hung wooden ones, and a five-light transom and four-light sidelights are located around the front door. The four-bay, flat-roofed front porch has Tuscan columns as supports and wooden triglyphs in the fascia. The roof is covered in standing-seam metal with interior and exterior-end brick chimneys. During the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, the house was extended to the rear (west) with a two-story, two-bay, gabled addition, and the main entrance was moved to the south side of the house. That entrance is marked by a three-bay porch with chamfered posts. This wing rests on a stone foundation and contains six-over-six, double-hung-sash, wood windows, nine-light basement windows,

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and two exterior-end brick chimneys on the south end. Around 1920, another addition was made to the west end of the house. It is comprised of a 1 ½-story, hip-roofed, stuccoed wing that rests on a split-level foundation and contains a gabled dormer and a three-bay integral south porch with turned spindles. The property contains several contributing 19<sup>th</sup>-century domestic outbuildings, including a meat house and summer kitchen, and multiple early-20<sup>th</sup>-century farm outbuildings.

The third building other than Orlean Farm [030-0086; 030-5159-0004] and the Smith-Hinkley House [030-0730; 030-5159-0001] that is located at the prominent junction at the north end of the village is the Anderson-Rector House and Store [030-0180; 030-5159-0002]. Constructed around 1870, this two-story, three-bay, single-pile, vernacular I-house is of frame and rests on a solid stone foundation. Clad in weatherboard siding with a standing-seam metal, gabled roof, the house features an exterior-end stone chimney with brick stack, gable-end returns, corner boards, six-over-six-sash wood windows, and a one-bay gabled porch with square posts. The interior shows late Greek Revival-style mantels and a Victorian-era turned newel. To the rear is a 1 ½-story frame wing with three-over-three-sash frieze windows and a larger two-story, gable-roofed wing directly adjacent to it, also extending to the rear of the main block. This house, most recently used as a restaurant, is attached to a two-story, gable-end, frame store by a one-story, shed-roofed breezeway that was constructed ca. 1990. The frame store was constructed in the early 1900s and features gable-end returns, stucco siding, six-over-six-sash windows, and a rear porch. The front entrance has been closed and the door and window openings replaced with bay windows.

The majority of the remaining resources in the district are located south of these early houses along both sides of Leeds Manor Road, and include a mixture of dwellings and commercial buildings. The southern end of the district along Leeds Manor Road contains the community's churches and an area that was inhabited by African Americans. The former Orlean School and a mid-20<sup>th</sup>-century house are the only resources in the district located east of the main junction in the village, along John Barton Payne Road.

Sited on a prominent hill near the south end of the village, the Thorpe-Cornwell House [030-5159-0018] was constructed in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century and reflects the Greek Revival style. The two-story, five-bay, frame house rests on a stone foundation and features a standing-seam metal, gabled roof with two, exterior-end, stone chimneys and gable-end returns. The house has six-over-six-sash wood windows, a Greek Revival-style door with sidelights, and a one-bay pedimented front porch supported by Tuscan columns. A two-story, gable-roofed wing extends to the rear and has a wraparound, side and rear, one-story shed-roofed wing.

The house at 6895 Leeds Manor Road [030-0925; 030-5159-0009] was constructed ca. 1870 and is a two-story, two-bay, vernacular, side-passage-plan dwelling with Victorian detailing. Resting on a

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solid, split-level stone foundation, the frame house is clad in German-lap siding and features a standing-seam metal, gabled roof with an exterior-end stone chimney with brick stack, and gable-end returns. The three-bay front porch has square columns, plain pickets, and rests on a stone pier foundation with lattice infill. Other details include six-over-six-sash windows, a new bay window on the first floor, a five-light transom and three-light sidelights around the doors, a bracketed frieze, and a rear two-story ell with a two-story, shed-roofed side addition. A one-bay, frame meat house with weatherboard siding, a pyramidal roof covered in standing-seam metal, exposed rafter ends, and a batten door sits just south of the house.

An abandoned one-bay, 1 ½-story, gable-ended frame building is located in the front yard of the house, very close to the road and was the former post office in the village. Constructed during the late 19<sup>th</sup>-century, the small building rests on a stone pier foundation and has weatherboard siding with cornerboards, an interior brick chimney, a standing-seam metal roof, remnants of six-over-six-sash wood windows, and a decorative vergeboard. The plastered interior walls and part of the service desk of the post office remain. It probably closed when the new post office was constructed in 1956.

The Payne-Pearson House [030-5159-0017], located at 7035 Leeds Manor Road, is a two-story, four-bay vernacular dwelling that was constructed in at least two sections. The original portion is the right two-bay unit that appears to be of log construction and has an exterior-end, stone chimney. It appears to date to ca. 1870 but may be older. Later additions have been made to the front, giving the house two front entrances, as well as to the rear. The property has several outbuildings including a stuccoed, gable-roofed well house with an overhanging front gable with round-arched lattice infill between the supports.

The Orlean district contains two late-19<sup>th</sup>-century dwellings that are of the Queen Anne style. The Hansborough-Jeffries House [030-5159-0008] sits on a level residential lot off the west side of Leeds Manor Road. Set back from the road down a graveled driveway, the property is surrounded by open fields with wood and wire fences, and mature trees and shrubs in the yard. The two-story, two-bay, Queen Anne-style dwelling was constructed ca. 1880 and rests on a solid stone foundation. The stuccoed frame house features a standing-seam metal, gabled roof with a two-story, projecting, four-sided Queen Anne bay dominating one of the front bays. Details on this side-passage-plan dwelling include an interior brick chimney, overhanging eaves, two-over-two-sash wood windows, a six-light transom and four-light sidelights around the door, and gable-end returns. A ten-bay wraparound porch has chamfered posts and plain pickets. A one-story, multi-bay wing extends to the rear and may have originally been a separate kitchen that was then attached to the main house. It is believed that this dwelling was once the home of a Dr. Hansborough who had his office in the small, gable-roofed outbuilding in the front yard. The former office has weatherboard siding, a stone foundation, gable-end returns, and a plain frieze, and dates to ca. 1900.

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The house at 7021 Leeds Manor Road [030-5159-0015] was constructed ca. 1889 and sits above the grade of the road. The yard contains a concrete retaining wall and stairs along the front with a privet hedge. A large barn is located southeast of the house. Historically associated with the Payne family, the two-story, three-bay Queen Anne-style dwelling rests on a solid foundation. The frame house is clad in weatherboard siding and features a standing-seam metal, cross-gabled roof with gable-end returns, a plain frieze, a stone foundation, corner boards, and two-over-two-sash and paired one-over-one-sash wood windows. The front elevation is dominated by the projecting Queen Anne-style, pent-roofed gabled bay with one-over-one-sash windows. The house contains a rear two-story ell that was enlarged sometime in the early to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century and eventually attached to the rear, once free-standing summer kitchen.

Jeffries Store [030-5159-0011] is the oldest surviving commercial building in the historic district, at one time housing the community's post office. Sited directly off the east side of Leed's Manor Road in the center of the district, the two-story, L-shaped, former commercial building was constructed ca. 1885 and was used as a store until the late 1920s. The six-bay building appears to have been built in at least two sections and features Folk Victorian-style detailing. Resting on a split-level stone foundation, the exterior walls are clad in weatherboard siding and the cross-gabled roof with interior chimney is covered in standing-seam metal. The three-bay, gable-end portion with gable-end returns and a pointed-arched attic vent, features oversized six-over-six-sash windows and a double-leaf door and probably housed the store. The three-bay, side-gabled section contains six-over-six-sash wood windows, a single-leaf door, new eight-over-eight-sash windows on the second floor, a plain frieze, and gable-end returns. The six-bay front porch with chamfered posts, sawn brackets, and plain pickets is supported by a stone pier foundation, and runs the entire width of the front. The visually prominent building has been restored and is currently used as a residence.

The Orlean Historic District contains two churches, both of which are located toward the south end of the village. The oldest is the Orlean Methodist Church [030-0411; 030-5159-0016], a one-story, one-bay, gable-end vernacular church that was constructed between 1881 and 1883. The frame building is clad in stucco and features a standing-seam metal, gabled roof with gable-end returns and a lunette attic window in the front gable. The double-leaf, six-paneled front entry has a twelve-light transom and double stairs leading up to the stoop. The three-bay side elevations contain large six-over-six-sash windows. The south side of the church has basement windows and a gabled basement entry. The church was originally weatherboarded, with the stucco applied in the late 1920s. In the early 1990s, the church was raised and a full basement installed that included classrooms, a social hall, kitchen, and bathroom. A small family cemetery is located north of the church and is surrounded by a wrought-iron fence. A plaque on the gate reads "Smith Mfg. Co. Makers Waynesboro, VA". The cemetery, measuring roughly 45 feet square, contains approximately twenty stones, the majority of which are for

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the Payne family. Some of the other family names include Athey, Bannester, Ewers, Fleming, Hansborough, Holland, and Smith—all appearing to have Payne-family connections. The earliest marked tombstone is for Edward A Payne, who died at the Battle of Chancellorsville on November 27, 1863.

Providence Baptist Church [030-0364; 030-5159-0023] is a part of the African-American neighborhood in the south part of the village of Orlean. The original church was constructed in 1883 and replaced with this one in 1930 (near the original site). A one-room African-American school once stood in the lot between the church and the cemetery to its south. Although no official archaeological investigations have been made to the site, the potential for archaeological remains of the school is great. According to a cornerstone, the one-story, three-bay, Gothic Revival-style church was constructed (rebuilt) in 1930. Resting on a solid, stone foundation, the frame, gable-end church is clad in stucco and features an asphalt-shingled, gabled roof with an interior-end brick chimney and a central-interior, brick chimney. The church also features four side bays; pointed-arched, stained-glass, double-hung wood windows; small basement windows; side wings off the rear; and a rectangular, hip-roofed projecting entrance bay that contains a double-leaf entrance door topped by a pointed-arched transom with tracery, a round stained-glass window in the belfry, and a cross on the roof peak. The adjoining cemetery contains fewer than fifty marked burials, most of which have gravestones. It is an open field with a few mature oaks and cedars. Several family plots are included. A low stone wall along the northwest corner of the cemetery is believed to have been built by Ernest Robinson, a well-known stonemason in the area, who is buried in the cemetery.<sup>1</sup> The oldest marked tombstone has a date of 1940, although it appears to have been installed within the last decade. Constructed of granite and the largest in the cemetery, it is located in the northwest corner, just off the road. Four fieldstone markers were also noted in the northeast corner of the cemetery. Family names in the cemetery include Burrell, Brooks, Champ, Johnson, Robinson, Rower, Smith, Tate, and Washington.

The architectural evidence suggests that very little growth occurred in Orlean during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The store that is now part of the Anderson-Rector House and Store [030-0180; 030-5159-0002] was constructed in the early 1900s. The Orlean School [030-5159-0006], located at the northeastern edge of the district, was constructed ca. 1919. The two-story, three-bay, hip-roofed building was converted into a residence after it closed in 1944. Although many alterations have been made to the exterior of the building, it still features a standing-seam metal roof with overhanging eaves, exposed rafter ends, and original capped corner boards. As a school, the building had two classrooms on the first floor and an auditorium and stage on the second floor.

The Jeffries-Settler-Goff House [030-5159-0014], located on a level residential lot on the west side of Leeds Manor Road, was apparently burned in 1924 and rebuilt, according to the current owner Mrs. Goff. The vernacular house rests on a split-level stone foundation that appears to date to the late 19<sup>th</sup>

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century. Covered in stucco, the two-story house has a low-pitched hipped roof covered in asphalt shingles with two interior brick chimneys. The windows and front door are modern but the plain frieze, and five-bay front porch with Tuscan columns date to the 1920s.

The Russell House [030-5159-0013] was built in 1927 and sits on a fairly level residential lot on the east side of Leeds Manor Road, above the grade of the street. The front yard contains a fine stone retaining wall with concrete steps. Outbuildings include a garage and several frame sheds. This well-preserved, 1 ½-story, three-bay, house is of the Craftsman Bungalow style and rests on a solid stone foundation. Clad in weatherboard siding, the frame house features a standing-seam metal, gabled roof with an oversized gabled front dormer, rear shed-roofed dormer, exterior-end stone chimney, and central brick flue. Other Craftsman-style details include overhanging eaves with triangular brackets; wooden shingles in the gable ends; exposed rafter ends; wooden casement windows in the front dormer; two-over-two-sash wood windows; a five-light transom and five-light sidelights around the multi-light front door; one-over-one-sash wood windows on the front elevation; three-light basement windows; an enclosed integral rear porch; and a three-bay, integral front porch with battered wooden columns on stone piers and solid stone balustrade. A one-story, flat-roofed wing on a stone foundation with an exterior-end stone chimney extends to the north side of the house.

John Russell and Mary Jeffries Russell, who owned this home, operated Russell's Store across the street [030-5159-0012]. According to *Orlean: a Glimpse into our Past* by Diane Cultrera, 1998, the house was constructed by John Russell's father, Garland, who was a local contractor and who also built the store. The one-story, seven-bay, vernacular Craftsman-style store was constructed in 1928 and contains a three-bay storefront portion that is fronted by a large, gabled porte-cochere with square brick posts. The building rests on a formed concrete foundation and is clad in German-lap siding and features an asphalt-shingled hipped roof with a central-interior, brick chimney with a corbelled cap. The storefront is comprised of a double-leaf door with a three-light transom flanked by plate-glass windows. The four-bay side wing has two doors, six-over-six-sash windows, and a modern rear porch. A gabled wing extends off the rear of the storefront portion. The store is still used commercially. An outbuilding in the front yard of the property just to the north [030-5159-0010] was built around 1930 and was used as a shoe repair store.

The house at 7087 Leeds Manor Road [030-5159-0021] is located near the southern end of the district, in an area of the village that was traditionally inhabited by African Americans. Sited just north of the Providence Baptist Church, the property is fronted by a fine stone retaining wall and stone gateposts. The two-story, two-bay, vernacular frame dwelling appears to have been constructed ca. 1920 and is the only surviving historic dwelling in this enclave. It features a standing-seam metal, gabled roof with an interior-end, brick chimney with corbelled cap, six-over-six-sash wood windows, and a two-bay porch with turned posts and a solid balustrade made from concrete blocks. A two-story ell extends

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to the rear and has an interior brick chimney, and side and rear one-story, shed-roofed wings. In the side yard is a frame garage, with the front wall resting on a raised stone foundation that partially rests on the stone retaining wall that runs along the front of the property. The gable-end building has a v-crimp metal roof, Masonite siding, exposed rafter ends, and an open bay on the east side.

Only a few resources in the district date to the 1940s and 50s. The house at 6767 John Barton Payne Road [030-5159-0005] is a 1 ½-story, three-bay, stuccoed dwelling that follows the Cape Cod form of the Colonial Revival style, typical of period domestic architecture of the area. Constructed ca. 1950, the house rests on a solid concrete foundation and has an asphalt-shingled, gabled roof with an exterior-end brick chimney, two gabled front dormers with six-over-six-sash windows, and a pedimented front door surround.

Constructed in 1956, the Orlean post office building [030-5159-0003], is located at the north end of the village. The small, one-story, two-bay post office is constructed of concrete block and features a gabled standing-seam metal roof, an exterior-end concrete flue, six-over-six-sash wood windows, batten shutters, overhanging eaves, and a one-bay, shed-roofed, integral porch with square posts. One of the smallest active post offices in Fauquier County, the building was designed by Albert P. Hinckley Jr. and constructed by Floyd E. White. The post office boxes were added ca. 1980.<sup>2</sup>

The grouping of these historic buildings in an otherwise rural area sets Orlean off from its surrounding and identifies it as a commercial center even today. Framed by gently rolling farmland and thickly wooded mountains to the west, the early-19<sup>th</sup>-century rural village of Orlean has a high degree of architectural integrity representing more than 150 years of the community's growth and development. The linear village stretches along a moderately busy two-lane road (Leed's Manor Road), with the center located to the north.

Although a systematic archaeological survey has not been conducted within the boundaries of the district, there are areas that may potentially contain archaeological sites. These include known locations of where buildings once stood. In order to prevent the destruction of these potential sites, evaluation should occur prior to grading or ground-disturbing activities within those areas.

**ENDNOTES:**

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<sup>1</sup> Diane Cultrera. Orlean: A Glimpse into our Past. Diane Cultrera, 1998, Chapter 6.

<sup>2</sup> Diane Cultrera. Orlean: A Glimpse into our Past. Diane Cultrera, 1998, Chapter 7.

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**ORLEAN HISTORIC DISTRICT INVENTORY**

**NOTES ON FORMAT, ORGANIZATION, AND JUSTIFICATION OF INVENTORY:**

In the following inventory, which is listed numerically by street address, all resources, both primary and secondary, have been considered either contributing or non-contributing based upon the areas of significance as listed under Criterion C with ARCHITECTURE and Criterion A with COMMERCE and based upon the period of significance as circa 1795-1959. All non-contributing resources have, therefore, been so noted for being either constructed after 1959 or as having no integrity left to represent the period and areas of significance. The resources are keyed to the accompanying sketch map in regular order.

**Cliff Mills Road**

**11043 Cliff Mills Road                      030-5159-0006**

*Name:* **Orlean School; Parr House**

***Primary Resource Information:* Single Dwelling, Stories: 2, Style: Vernacular, 1919**

<i>Individual Resource Status:</i> School	Contributing
<i>Individual Resource Status:</i> Garage	Contributing
<i>Individual Resource Status:</i> Cottage	Contributing
<i>Individual Resource Status:</i> Shed	<b>Noncontributing</b>

**John Barton Payne Road**

**6767 John Barton Payne Road                      030-5159-0005**

***Primary Resource Information:* Single Dwelling, Stories: 1.5, Style: Cape Cod, ca. 1950**

<i>Individual Resource Status:</i> Single Dwelling	Contributing
<i>Individual Resource Status:</i> Garage	Contributing
<i>Individual Resource Status:</i> Shed	Contributing
<i>Individual Resource Status:</i> Garage	<b>Noncontributing</b>
<i>Individual Resource Status:</i> Shed	<b>Noncontributing</b>

**6794 John Barton Payne Road                      030-0180      Other DHR Id#: 030-5159-0002**

*Name:* **Anderson-Rector House and Store**

***Primary Resource Information:* Single Dwelling/Mixed Use, Stories: 2, Style: Vernacular I-house, ca. 1870**

<i>Individual Resource Status:</i> Sing. Dwell./Mix. Use	Contributing
<i>Individual Resource Status:</i> Meat House	Contributing
<i>Individual Resource Status:</i> Shed	<b>Noncontributing</b>

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*Individual Resource Status:* Shed

**Noncontributing**

**Leeds Manor Road**

**6781 Leeds Manor Road**

**030-0086**

*Other DHR Id#:* **030-5159-0004**

*Name:* **Orlean Farm; Orlean House**

**Primary Resource Information: Single Dwelling, Stories: 2, Style: Federal, ca. 1795; 1812, 1850**

*Individual Resource Status:* Single Dwelling

Contributing

*Individual Resource Status:* Barn

Contributing

*Individual Resource Status:* Corn Crib

Contributing

*Individual Resource Status:* Guest House

**Noncontributing**

*Individual Resource Status:* Stable

**Noncontributing**

*Individual Resource Status:* Pool

**Noncontributing (Structure)**

*Individual Resource Status:* Pool House

**Noncontributing**

*Individual Resource Status:* Tennis Court

**Noncontributing (Structure)**

**6855 Leeds Manor Road**

**030-0730**

*Other DHR Id#:* **030-5159-0001**

*Name:* **Smith-Hinkley House; Old Smith House**

**Primary Resource Information: Single Dwelling, Stories: 2, Style: Greek Revival, ca. 1830, ca. 1860, ca. 1920**

*Individual Resource Status:* Single Dwelling

Contributing

*Individual Resource Status:* Barn

Contributing

*Individual Resource Status:* Workshop

Contributing

*Individual Resource Status:* Summer Kitchen

Contributing

*Individual Resource Status:* Meat House

Contributing

*Individual Resource Status:* Corn Crib

Contributing

*Individual Resource Status:* Machine Shed

**Noncontributing**

*Individual Resource Status:* Silo

**Noncontributing (Structure)**

*Individual Resource Status:* Silo

**Noncontributing (Structure)**

*Individual Resource Status:* Well House

**Noncontributing**

**6864 Leeds Manor Road**

**030-5159-0003**

*Name:* **Orlean Post Office**

**Primary Resource Information: Post Office, Stories: 1, Style: Vernacular, ca. 1956**

*Individual Resource Status:* Post Office

Contributing

**6884 Leeds Manor Road**

**030-5159-0007**

**Primary Resource Information: Single Dwelling, Stories: 1.5, Style: Vernacular, ca. 1900 with**

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**later additions**

*Individual Resource Status:* Single Dwelling      Contributing  
*Individual Resource Status:* Shed      **Noncontributing**

**6888 Leeds Manor Road      030-5159-0008**

*Name:* **Hansborough-Jeffries House**

***Primary Resource Information:* Single Dwelling, Stories: 2, Style: Queen Anne, ca. 1880**

*Individual Resource Status:* Single Dwelling      Contributing  
*Individual Resource Status:* Office      Contributing  
*Individual Resource Status:* Shed      Contributing  
*Individual Resource Status:* Stable      Contributing

**6895 Leeds Manor Road      030-0925      Other DHR Id#: 030-5159-0009**

***Primary Resource Information:* Single Dwelling, Stories: 2, Style: Folk Victorian, ca. 1870**

*Individual Resource Status:* Single Dwelling      Contributing  
*Individual Resource Status:* Post Office      Contributing  
*Individual Resource Status:* Meat House      Contributing

**6898 Leeds Manor Road      030-5159-0010**

***Primary Resource Information:* Single Dwelling, Stories 1, Style: Minimal Traditional, 1970s**

*Individual Resource Status:* Single Dwelling      **Noncontributing**  
*Individual Resource Status:* Commercial Building      Contributing

**6899 Leeds Manor Road      030-5159-0011**

*Name:* **Jeffries Store**

***Primary Resource Information:* Mixed Use/Commercial, Stories: 2, Style: Folk Victorian, ca. 1885**

*Individual Resource Status:* Mixed Use/Com. Bldg.      Contributing  
*Individual Resource Status:* Shed      Contributing

**6902 Leeds Manor Road      030-5159-0012**

*Name:* **Russell's Store**

***Primary Resource Information:* Commercial Building, Stories: 1, Style: Vernacular Craftsman, 1928**

*Individual Resource Status:* Commercial Building      Contributing  
*Individual Resource Status:* Shed      **Noncontributing**

**7003 Leeds Manor Road      030-5159-0013**

*Name:* **Russell House**

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**Primary Resource Information: Single Dwelling, Stories: 1.5, Style: Craftsman Bungalow, 1927**

*Individual Resource Status:* Single Dwelling      Contributing  
*Individual Resource Status:* Garage              Contributing  
*Individual Resource Status:* Chicken House      Contributing  
*Individual Resource Status:* Shed                  **Noncontributing**

**7010 Leeds Manor Road              030-5159-0014**

*Name:* Jeffries-Settler-Goff House

**Primary Resource Information: Single Dwelling, Stories: 2, Style: Vernacular, ca. 1924**

*Individual Resource Status:* Single Dwelling      Contributing  
*Individual Resource Status:* Meat House              Contributing  
*Individual Resource Status:* Pool                      **Noncontributing (Structure)**  
*Individual Resource Status:* Shed                      **Noncontributing**  
*Individual Resource Status:* Garage                  **Noncontributing**

**7012 Leeds Manor Road              030-5159-0015**

**Primary Resource Information: Single Dwelling, Stories: 2, Style: Queen Anne, ca. 1890**

*Individual Resource Status:* Single Dwelling      Contributing  
*Individual Resource Status:* Barn                      Contributing

**7029 Leeds Manor Road              030-0411              Other DHR Id#: 030-5159-0016**

*Name:* Orlean Methodist Church

**Primary Resource Information: Church, Stories: 1, Style: Vernacular, 1881-1883**

*Individual Resource Status:* Church                  Contributing  
*Individual Resource Status:* Cemetery              Contributing (Site)

**7035 Leeds Manor Road              030-5159-0017**

*Name:* Payne-Pearson House

**Primary Resource Information: Single Dwelling, Stories: 2, Style: Vernacular, ca. 1870 with later additions**

*Individual Resource Status:* Single Dwelling      Contributing  
*Individual Resource Status:* Shed                      Contributing  
*Individual Resource Status:* Well House              Contributing  
*Individual Resource Status:* Machine Shed          **Noncontributing**

**7055 Leeds Manor Road              030-5159-0018**

*Name:* Thorpe-Cornwell House

**Primary Resource Information: Single Dwelling, Stories: 2, Style: Greek Revival, ca. 1860**

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*Individual Resource Status:* Single Dwelling      Contributing  
*Individual Resource Status:* Machine Shed      Contributing  
*Individual Resource Status:* Shed      Contributing  
*Individual Resource Status:* Workshop      Contributing  
*Individual Resource Status:* Shed      **Noncontributing**  
*Individual Resource Status:* Shed      **Noncontributing**

**7065 Leeds Manor Road      030-5159-0019**

**Primary Resource Information: Single Dwelling, Stories 1, Style: Minimal Traditional, ca. 1997**

*Individual Resource Status:* Single Dwelling      **Noncontributing**  
*Individual Resource Status:* Garage      **Noncontributing**

**7081 Leeds Manor Road      030-5159-0020**

**Primary Resource Information: Single Dwelling, Stories: 1, Style: Minimal Traditional, 1960s (outbuildings ca. 1940)**

*Individual Resource Status:* Single Dwelling      **Noncontributing**  
*Individual Resource Status:* Pump House      Contributing  
*Individual Resource Status:* Garage      Contributing

**7087 Leeds Manor Road      030-5159-0021**

Name: **Grimsley House**

**Primary Resource Information: Single Dwelling, Stories: 2, Style: Vernacular, ca. 1920**

*Individual Resource Status:* Single Dwelling      Contributing  
*Individual Resource Status:* Garage      Contributing  
*Individual Resource Status:* Shed      Contributing

**7093 Leeds Manor Road      030-5159-0022**

**Primary Resource Information: Trailer, Stories: 1, Style: Vernacular, ca. 1970s**

*Individual Resource Status:* Trailer      **Noncontributing**  
*Individual Resource Status:* Shed      **Noncontributing**

**7111 Leeds Manor Road      030-0364      Other DHR Id#: 030-5159-0023**

Name: **Providence Baptist Church**

**Primary Resource Information: Church, Stories: 1, Style: Vernacular Gothic Revival, 1930**

*Individual Resource Status:* Church      Contributing  
*Individual Resource Status:* Cemetery      Contributing (Site)  
*Individual Resource Status:* Shed      **Noncontributing**

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### **8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

Located along County Road 688 on land that was originally part of Thomas Lord Fairfax's massive holdings known as Leeds Manor in the northwestern portion of Fauquier County, Virginia, the linear village of Orlean stands at the intersection of Leeds Manor Road, the primary north-south route in the western part of the county (between Hume and the Rappahannock River), with roads leading northeast to Marshall (Salem) and south and southeast to Waterloo and Warrenton. It is significant as an unusually well preserved complex of buildings – residential, commercial, educational, and religious - the earliest of which is a residence dating to the late 18<sup>th</sup> century [030-0086; 030-5159-0004]. The village retains at least three stores that date from the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, a rare occurrence and a testament to the commercial significance of the town. Providence Baptist Church [030-0364; 030-5159-0023] associated with Orlean's African-American community, stands at the southern boundary of the district, along with the late-19<sup>th</sup>-century Orlean Methodist Church [030-0411; 030-5159-0016]. The Orlean Public School building for white students, built ca. 1919, [030-5159-0006] occupies a site in the village where a school had stood since at least 1876, a measure of the importance of education to residents of the surrounding area. A public school for colored students that stood adjacent to Providence Baptist Church no longer survives in the village. Surprisingly, Orlean does not occupy property that was part of the extensive Marshall holdings in the area. Rather, it is located on property surrounded by the Marshall family land that was granted to John Winn Smith by Denny Fairfax in the closing decade of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Orlean is also significant as the site of the earliest post office (1817) in the county, thanks largely to the efforts of John Winn Smith's son, John Puller Smith. The village takes its name from the property [030-0086] belonging to the Smiths and contrary to earlier speculation was not named for the famous battle of New Orleans (1815), which would have post-dated the naming of the estate. Orlean retains an unusually high level of integrity with a low proportion of non-contributing buildings, most of which are outbuildings. Its prominent presence on two of Fauquier County's historic maps (1876 and 1914) attests to its important position in the collection of the county's surviving towns and villages. The locally significant district is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C for its well-preserved architectural fabric and the retention of its historic linear plan, and under Criterion A for its important role as a commercial center in the region. Orlean also provided educational, religious, and social services for its residents, both within the village and in the surrounding countryside. The period of significance is ca. 1795, the date of its earliest surviving resource, to 1959, when it was still a vibrant commercial center.

### **HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:**

The origin of the village of Orlean dates to the building of a plantation home of the same name for John Winn Smith in the closing years of the 18<sup>th</sup> century and subsequently occupied by his son, John Puller Smith (1782-1838). John Puller Smith is the individual most closely associated with the village

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of Orlean, having been instrumental in the decision to establish a commercial center on a parcel he owned adjacent to his residence. It was largely due to his efforts that "Orlean" was selected as the first post office in the county in 1817.<sup>1</sup> The source of the name has been in some dispute over the years, but a descendant of a late-19<sup>th</sup>-century owner of the Orlean Farm, [030-0086; 030-5159-0004] T. Triplett Russell, writing about the property suggests that the name was associated with the house from its earliest years and, therefore, could not have been derived from the famous battle of New Orleans where Andrew Jackson distinguished himself in 1815. Mr. Triplett contended that the earliest portion of this house, the log portion, was constructed ca. 1795 by John Winn Smith who received a grant for approximately 588 acres from Dennys [sic] Martin Fairfax and who had come to the area from Fredericksburg.<sup>2</sup> According to court records, John Winn Smith's son, John Puller Smith, also leased some additional acreage on both sides of present day Leeds Manor Road.<sup>3</sup> According to the WPA report prepared in 1936, the Orlean House was "the social center in the village during the many past years" as described by an elderly resident in 1936. The WPA surveyor described the village as "on the road from Hume to Warrenton," isolated, perhaps but definitely on a transportation route that would have been used by many of those who lived in the distinctive "Leed's Manor" area of the County. The current name of the road (County Road 688) leading through the village is "Leeds Manor Road," confirming its long association with the vast Marshall properties and the so-called "Free State" area in the western portion of Fauquier County.

John Puller Smith (1782-1838) is described by Mr. Russell as a "merchant" and appears in census records for 1810 and 1820 in Fauquier County. He was a magistrate for Fauquier County (1821) and later a member of the Virginia House of Delegates. The 1820 census indicates that his property was extensive, with at least 26 slaves. That his household members were engaged in activities other than agriculture is confirmed by two people recorded as being employed in "commerce," and one in "manufacturing."<sup>4</sup> Architectural evidence suggests that John Puller Smith enlarged his father's 18<sup>th</sup>-century dwelling in 1812 with a substantial stone addition, perhaps to accommodate his growing family.<sup>5</sup> He had married ca. 1809 and before her death, his first wife had borne three children. His second wife, whom he married ca. 1815, bore him ten children, five of whom were living in 1820, probably accounting for the six children recorded in the 1820 census as living at home with him in that year.<sup>6</sup> According to Mr. Russell, John P. Smith intended to establish a commercial village at Orlean some time prior to his death in 1838. That a post office was in place and that two members of his household were already described as engaged in commerce in 1820, suggest that would not have been unlikely. In 1833 Smith had leased one acre in Orlean to William Wood Payne "for the purpose of building a store and dwelling house for himself." Payne did not succeed in his commercial endeavor and a year later "one Lott of Land at Orlean containing one acre with an excellent store and dwelling house..." was offered for sale.<sup>7</sup> An 1845 Plat that was prepared as John Puller Smith's estate was being settled shows a store, tavern, and a doctor's office. There is no evidence that this store or the tavern survives, but it does substantiate that Orlean had a long history as a commercial center for the

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area and suggests that the commercial structures built in the succeeding years in the tiny village continued that role for the community.<sup>8</sup>

An early dwelling that occupies a prominent site in the village is the Smith-Hinkley House [030-0730; 030-5159-0001] at 6855 Leeds Manor Road. Built ca. 1830 undoubtedly to house members of the large Smith clan, this family house was later recorded as the property of Maria Catherine Smith, a daughter of John Puller Smith, who was awarded this parcel in the 1845 division of the estate of John Puller Smith's son. Records do not confirm that Maria Catherine Smith lived in this house, although she is charged in the Land Books for taxes. At some point, probably ca. 1850, during her ownership, the house was enlarged. The land books for 1858 indicate that she was living by that year in Missouri and two years later the property was charged to Armistead Payne, although the occupant was A. J. Parr. Parr is recorded as a "merchant" in Orlean in 1860, holding real estate valued at \$8,437. The land tax books reflect that his house was valued at \$1,000, suggesting that Mr. Parr was an important presence in the village.

The other family that dominated the early history of Orlean was the Paynes. The first postmaster in 1817 was John Payne. One of John Puller Smith's daughters married Dr. Amos Payne; Dr. Payne, likely the only physician in the community, and his wife deeded property to the trustees of Orlean Methodist congregation on which the Orlean Methodist Church was built ca. 1881-1883. [030-0411; 030-5159-0016]. The house most closely associated with the Payne family that survives today is the Payne-Pearson House [030-5159-0017] at 7055 Leeds Manor Road that dates from sometime before 1870. One of Dr. Payne's sons was Judge John Barton Payne, born in Orlean in 1855, who had a distinguished legal career and went on to become a superior court judge in Illinois. He later served in President Woodrow Wilson's cabinet and as president of the American Red Cross. Payne never forgot his roots on Orlean, returning to the area in 1918 to erect a monument to the Payne family in the nearby Smith cemetery, located outside of the historic district.<sup>9</sup>

The only other dwelling that survives in Orlean from before the Civil War is the Thorpe-Cornwell House (ca. 1860) at 7055 Leeds Manor Road [030-5159-0018]. Both family surnames appear in the census records for Fauquier in the Southwest Revenue district, with the many members of the Cornwell family recorded as residing in the immediate Orlean vicinity. The census for 1860 for Orlean indicates that most members of both the Cornwell and the Thorp families were farmers. By 1860, the census takers recognized Orlean as one of the primary post office areas in the western part of the county, and the name "Orlean" appears prominently on all census records for this area although it clearly was never large enough to be incorporated. The presence of both postal facilities and several commercial markets would have made this community a particularly visible location as well as a destination for farming households in the vicinity.<sup>10</sup>

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There was no military activity in the immediate vicinity of Orlean during the Civil War, although Orlean appears on most military maps of the area. There is little question that troops marched along the "Manor Road," that had been incorporated as the Leeds Manor Turnpike in 1848.<sup>11</sup> A historical highway marker at the southern entrance to Orlean on the Leeds Manor Road reads: "Here Lee and Longstreet, on their way to join Jackson, then at Bristoe Station, camped on August 26, 1862."<sup>12</sup>

Although the history of Orlean prior to the Civil War is an intricate and interesting one, it was not until after the hostilities that the bulk of the surviving structures survive to confirm the place of the tiny village in the history of the county. The house at 6794 John Barton Payne Road [030-0180; 030-5139-0002] was constructed ca. 1870 by Thomas and William Anderson. Census records indicate that the Andersons in the area were farmers. The property might have been the site of Orlean's first school as well, possibly within the house. The 1876 map of the area shows that E. T. Anderson was a property owner on John Barton Payne Road in Orlean and that a school was located just to the north of, or on his land. According to Mrs. Ann Gordon in file notes at the Department of Historic Resources the dwelling house might have been used as a school in its early years. She also suggests that Anderson may have operated a store on the property, but that cannot be confirmed. In any case, the property was acquired from the Andersons by Thomas Rector who in the first decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century built a store on the property that was attached to the house in the 1990s. Rector's Store continues to serve the retail needs of the community.

Another store [030-5159-0011] at 6899 Leeds Manor Road was constructed in 1885 by John Holmes who in the 1880 Federal Census is described as a "carpenter."<sup>13</sup> The 1900 census continues to refer to him as a "carpenter," although some local historians have suggested that he ran a store in the building as well. The store came to be known as the Jeffries Store and was the first permanent location for the Orlean post office. The Jeffries family lived in the house at 7010 Leeds Manor Road [030-5159-0014] that, according to local residents, burned and was rebuilt in 1924. It was known according to one long-time resident quoting his grandfather as "the hangout in town – supposedly the "bigger and better store in Orlean at the time."<sup>14</sup>

In 1928, a third surviving store was built in Orlean known as the "Russell Store" [030-5159-0012] at 6902 Leeds Manor Road. Constructed by local contractor Garland Russell, this building was used as Russell's father-in-law's store and is still in commercial use today. Edward Russell and his wife Emma lived in Orlean and he is recorded in the census as "a Merchant" in a "General Store" in the 1930 census. Garland is listed on the census sheet right after Edward and Mary Jeffries Russell; both are listed as owning real property valued at \$1000. Garland Russell's House [030-5159-0013], at 7003 Leeds Manor Road, was built in 1927, and is located across the street. It appears that T. S. Moore must have lived next to the Russells and is recorded as the "Postmaster."<sup>15</sup>

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Several other residences in the center of Orlean date from the last decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The Hansborough-Jeffries House [030-5159-0008] at 6888 Leeds Manor Road dates from ca. 1880. Local historians indicate that a Dr. Hansborough had his medical office in one of the small buildings on the property, although this cannot be substantiated with the census records.<sup>16</sup>

The post office has an intriguing history in Orlean. Although postal services were first established in Orlean in 1817, there is no confirmed post office location until the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. During the 19<sup>th</sup> century, it was common practice for the post office to operate out of one of the several stores located in the village. Since it has been documented that William Puller Smith was operating some sort of mercantile operation in the 1820s, it can be assumed that the post office was located in one of his buildings. Local histories indicate that in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the post office was located in the Jeffries Store [030-5159-0014], owned by the Russell family. According to Ms. Cultrera, Mr. Thee Moore began his services as postmaster in 1914, first in the Jeffries Store, and later in the small, now abandoned, building located in the front yard of 6895 Leeds Manor Road [030-0925; 030-5159-0009]. The current post office [030-5159-0003] was constructed in 1956.

Evidence suggests that Orlean was long a center for education in the area. The 1876 H. D. Garden map of Fauquier County records public school buildings at both the north and south ends of the village. Neither of these buildings survives. The Orlean School [030-5159-0006] that stands today was constructed in 1919 to replace earlier school buildings that might have stood in the same area to serve the white students of the vicinity. The 1919 building continued to house the school until it was closed in 1944. The two-room schoolhouse also served as a community center for the area, a function that was common in small towns. It now has been converted into a residence. The school at the southern end of Orlean served the African-American community and was directly associated with the Providence Baptist Church [030-0364; 030-5159-0023], standing on the property that belonged to the church. According to the anniversary history of Providence Baptist Church, the congregation was organized in 1876. A rare photograph of the school for Negro children in the collections of the Fauquier County Afro-American Historical Association is unlikely to be the original school represented on the H. D. Garden Map; however, it is a one- or two-room school frame building that served the African-American students until 1964 and probably was built in the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Records at the Afro-American Historical Association include a list of students at the "Orlean Colored School," including children of the Brooks, Baltimore, Champ, and Grigsby families. In 1912, the principal of the Orlean Colored School was W. H. Brooks. The presence of school facilities for African-American children in Orlean dating from as early as 1876 is a testament to the commitment to education by African-American families in the community. Sadly the school building that stood on the property of the Providence Baptist Church does not survive.<sup>17</sup>

One historic house in the African-American neighborhood of Orlean is the Grimsley House [030-5159-

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0021] built ca.1920 and located at 7085 Leeds Manor Road. According to contemporary tax records, the Grimsley family owned several parcels of land in this section of Orlean which likely is the source of the name for this house. Census records from 1920 and 1930 record Mary E. and Carolyn Grimsley living in the vicinity, and it is likely their family that has been associated with property in Orlean.

African Americans have lived in the Orlean community since the 19<sup>th</sup> century. A measure of their significant presence is the longevity and substantial character of the Providence Baptist Church. Organized in 1876, the congregation built its first sanctuary in 1881. The records of the church show that 50 donors gave money for the church on a regular basis in 1888. History of African Americans in the 19<sup>th</sup> century almost always substantiates the central role of the church in the African-American community. Often schools, usually funded entirely from the families themselves, were associated with the church and its congregation, the primary institution in African-American life. The vibrancy of the congregation is attested by the move in the 1920s to build a new sanctuary. A deed was recorded in 1926 from Mason Grigsby, a trustee for Providence Baptist Church, to Trustees of the Orlean Baptist Church for eight acres.<sup>18</sup> The deed reserved one acre for the County School Board, presumably for the school building that already stood on the property (now gone). The church history reports that the plans for the church were presented and the cornerstone laid for the present sanctuary in 1929, the same year that the congregation joined the Northern Virginia Baptist Association. Thornton Johnson, who succeeded long-time pastor Asbury Pinkett in 1930, served the Providence Church congregation from the opening of its new building until 1950.<sup>19</sup> Historically most of the congregants of the church lived in the vicinity of Orlean, and most were engaged in farming and agriculture. Grigsby, Robinson, Burrell, Champ, Hinkley, and Baltimore were among the families who were active in the congregation and whose names also appear on the school rolls as well. The cemetery on the church property was the final resting place for many of the African-American families in the area including Ernest Robinson, local stone mason and contractor who purportedly built the stone wall that borders the cemetery, and Henry Burrell, who has a large monument in his name.

The other church in the district is the Orlean Methodist Church [030-0411; 030-5159-0016] located at 7029 Leeds Manor Road. Constructed between 1881 and 1883, the sanctuary stands on property that was deeded to the congregation by Dr. Amos Payne and his wife Elizabeth. The deed states: "For and in consideration of the love we bear for the cause of Christ...and for further consideration of \$5.00 we have given and sold for use of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, a certain parcel of land situated at Orlean, Virginia...to be used as a place of worship." According to the church's history, the sanctuary was built by local carpenters and volunteers. The exterior of the church was originally clad in wood weatherboard siding, but was stuccoed in 1928.<sup>20</sup>

Although never incorporated and with a fluctuating presence in official records such as census returns, Orlean has retained its identity as an important presence in the western part of Fauquier County for

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nearly 200 years. Its location along one of the primary north-south routes that linked the historic Marshall region with the county seat at Warrenton, joined with the extraordinary longevity of its active function as a commercial center would alone account for its importance in the annals of Fauquier. Its significance is underscored by the survival of relatively unaltered physical remnants of educational and religious institutions that served both the black and white communities in the area. Orlean did not derive its significance as a political entity; however, for those who lived in this rich farming area, it served as an essential base for social and commercial life for well over 150 years and preserves some of the significant buildings that housed those services. Beyond this, its direct relationship to one of Fauquier's distinguished residences – Orlean Farm – attests to Orlean's significant presence in this historic county.

**ENDNOTES:**

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<sup>1</sup> Letter dated 1956 from Victor Gondos, Jr. for the Chief Archivist, Industrial Records Branch, of the General Services Administration (Nation Archives and Records Service) stating that "According to records of the Post Office Department... a post office was established as Orlean, Fauquier County, on May 27, 1817." A copy of the letter is in the files for the Orlean Historic District [030-5159] of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Va.

<sup>2</sup> The information about the origins of "Orlean" and the Smith family comes from writings by T. Triplett Russell, which are included in the survey of Orlean Farm by Cynthia MacLeod in December 1979 for the Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission. DHR File # 030-0086. Mr. Russell's writing along with information gathered by Francis C. Foster in September, 1936 for the WPA Survey of Virginia are well documented and appear to be authoritative. See also Diane Cultrera, *Orlean: A Glimpse into our Past*, prepared for Orlean Day in October, 1998. Ms. Cultrera's published manuscript is an exhaustive and well- documented history of Orlean, although its pages are unnumbered. References to her work will be by chapter number to facilitate verification.

<sup>3</sup> Cultrera, *Orlean: A Glimpse into Our Past...* Chapter Two, "Orlean's Origins."

<sup>4</sup> 1820 Federal Census for Fauquier County, page 49.

<sup>5</sup> Kimberly Prothro Williams, editor. *Pride of Place: Rural Residences of Fauquier County, Virginia*. [Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2003].

<sup>6</sup> Triplett Russell. "The John Puller Smith Tract in Leeds Manor, "undated typescript in Orlean Farm" file, Department of Historic Resources, (1979).

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, 2.

<sup>8</sup> Fauquier County Chancery Suit # 41. Plat attached to the papers for the suit.

<sup>9</sup> Cultrera, *Orlean: A Glimpse into Our Past...*, 18 "Judge John Barton Payne;" "Doctors."

<sup>10</sup> 1860 Federal Census for Fauquier County, "Southwest Revenue District," 100-115.

<sup>11</sup> Cultrera, *Orlean: A Glimpse into Our Past...*, 14 "Roads, Rails & Phone."

<sup>12</sup> *A Guidebook to Virginia's Historical Markers*, Scott David Arnold, Compiler. Third Edition. [Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2007] 58.

<sup>13</sup> Federal Census for Fauquier County, Marshall District, (1880, 1900) p. 27.

<sup>14</sup> Cultrera, *Orlean: A Glimpse into Our Past...*, 4, "Stores."

<sup>15</sup> Federal Census for Fauquier County, 1930 (Marshall District, 27).

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<sup>16</sup> Cultrera, Orlean: A Glimpse into our Past, 19 "Doctors."

<sup>17</sup> Afro-American Historical Association, The Plains, Va. Files for Providence Baptist Church and public education in the Orlean area. Records examined by MTP on November 19, 2008.

<sup>18</sup> Fauquier County Deed Book 129/204 (1926).

<sup>19</sup> "1876-1976 Anniversary Book," Providence Baptist Church, Orlean Virginia in the collections of the Fauquier Afro-American Historical Association, The Plains, Va.

<sup>20</sup> "History of Orlean United Methodist Church," unpublished manuscript in File 030-0411, Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Va.

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## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

### UTM REFERENCES: (NAD 83)

A: 242644; 4293023

B: 242725; 4293692

C: 242773; 4293503

D: 242640; 4293407

E: 242704; 4293068

F: 242782; 4293072

G: 242785; 4292396

H: 242708; 4292281

I: 242571; 4293094

J: 242235; 4293179

K: 242237; 4293230

L: 242285; 4293488

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The boundary of the district is shown on the accompanying scaled map entitled "Orlean Historic District," which was prepared by the Fauquier County Geographic Information Systems Office.

### BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

The Orlean Historic District boundaries were drawn to include the largest concentration of historic buildings that tell the story of the growth and development of the village. Noncontributing resources, whenever possible, particularly when on the edge of the boundary, were excluded. The district boundaries coincide with property lines and natural landscape features whenever possible.

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**PHOTOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTATION:**

Unless otherwise noted, all photographs are of:

Property: **Orlean Historic District**

VDHR File Number: **030-5159**

Location: **Fauquier County, Virginia**

Date of photograph: **January 2008**

Photographer: **Maral S. Kalbian**

Negatives filed at: **Virginia Department of Historic Resources in Richmond, Virginia**

Photo 1 of 12

View: Smith-Hinkley House [030-0730; 030-5159-0001]; southeast view

Negative Number: 23757 [12]

Photo 2 of 12

View: Orlean Farm [030-0086; 030-5159-0004]; north view

Negative Number: 23870 [23]

Photo 3 of 12

View: Streetscape of junction of John Barton Payne and Leeds Manor roads, looking north

Negative Number: 23757 [13]

Photo 4 of 12

View: Hansborough-Jeffries House [030-5159-0008]; east view

Negative Number: 23871 [27]

Photo 5 of 12

View: Streetscape along Leeds Manor Road, looking south

Negative Number: 23871 [12]

Photo 6 of 12

View: Jeffries Store [030-5159-0011]; northwest view

Negative Number: 23871 [7]

Photo 7 of 12

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View: Russell's Store [030-5159-0012]; east view  
Negative Number: 23873 [21]

Photo 8 of 12  
View: Russell House [030-5159-0013]; southwest view  
Negative Number: 23873 [16]

Photo 9 of 12  
View: Thorpe-Cornwell House [030-5159-0018]; southwest view  
Negative Number: 23874 [2]

Photo 10 of 12  
View: Orlean Methodist Church [030-0411; 030-5159-0016]; west view  
Negative Number: 23874 [24]

Photo 11 of 12  
View: Grimsley House [030-5159-0021]; northwest view  
Negative Number: 23875 [35]

Photo 12 of 12  
View: Providence Baptist Church [030-0364; 030-5159-0023]; northwest view  
Negative Number: 23875 [23]



Numbers indicate properties in inventory  
All numbers are preceded by the  
District # 030-5159

-  Contributing
-  Non contributing
-  Boundary
-  Photo key