

VLR-6/13/01 NRHP-1/24/02

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
**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 _____ Sharp's Oakland _____
other names/site number ___ Sharp's ___ J. B. Mathews House ___ DHR #042-0461 ___

=====

2. Location

=====

street & number ___ 12308 Verdon Road _____ not for publication
city or town _____ Doswell _____ vicinity _____
state Virginia _____ code _VA_ county ___ Hanover ___ zip code ___ 23047 _____

=====

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

=====

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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.)

M. Catherine Pinner 10/22/2001
Signature of certifying official Date

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

Sharp's Oakland
Name of Property

Hanover County, VA
County and State

=====

4. National Park Service Certification

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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

- _2_ _0_ buildings
- _0_ _0_ sites
- _0_ _0_ structures
- _2_ _0_ 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 _____ N/A _____

Sharp's Oakland

Hanover County, VA

Name of Property

County and State

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:

Sub:

_____ DOMESTIC _____	_____ single dwelling _____
_____ DOMESTIC _____	_____ secondary structure (slave house) _____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Work in progress _____

Sub: _____

_____ Domestic _____	_____ single dwelling _____
_____ Domestic _____	_____ secondary structure (storage) _____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

__ LATE Victorian/Second Empire/Mansard __

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation _____ stone _____

roof _____ wooden shingle _____

walls _____ wood frame _____

other _____ stone chimneys _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation sheets

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.
x 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

Period of Significance ___ c.1830-1950 ___ Significant Dates _____

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above) _____

Cultural Affiliation ___ N/A ___

Architect/Builder _____

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

Sharp's Oakland
Name of Property

Hanover County, VA
County and State

=====

9. Major Bibliographical References

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(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: _____ Virginia Department of Historic Resources _____

=====

10. Geographical Data

=====

Acreage of Property _____ 10.0 _____

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

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1 18	279020	4197550	3 18	278980	4197250
2 18	279100	4197510	4 18	278850	4197240

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.)

Sharp's Oakland
Name of Property

Hanover County, VA
County and State

=====
11. Form Prepared By
=====

name/title _____ Theresa Stevenson, owner; J. G. Zehmer, DHR compiler

organization _____ date _____ August, 2000 _____

street & number _____ 12308 Verdon Road _____ telephone _____ 798-6041; 965-7700 _____

city or town _____ Doswell _____ state _____ VA _____ zip code _____ 23047 _____
=====

Additional Documentation
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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 _____ Thomas C. and Theresa S. Stevenson _____
street & number _____ Sharp's Oakland, 12308 Verdon Road _____ telephone _____ (804)-965-7700 _____
city or town _____ Doswell _____ state _____ VA _____ zip code _____ 23047 _____
=====

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.

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

**Sharp's Oakland
Hanover County, VA****NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**Section 7 Page 1

Summary Description:

Set in gently rolling open farmland surrounded by woods Sharp's Oakland is an unusual, Second Empire, three-story frame house built as an enlargement of a small earlier dwelling. Whereas most houses in this style are roughly cubic in volume, this house is emphatically long, narrow and tall giving the building proportions similar to those of many dolls' houses. Most of its original features survive including its high mansard roof still covered with patterned wooden shingles. Its flat straight-sided end chimneys with wide brick shafts are another unusual feature, made all the more so by the diminutive windowed projections that flank both chimneys on both levels. On the interior there are some late Federal features from the original house and robust post-Civil War finishes in most of the rooms. Near the house is one historic outbuilding, a slave quarter with a massive chimney. The house sits in open farmland that was once the scene of major action during the Civil War.

Sharp's Oakland
Hanover County, VA

Section 7 Page 2

Detailed Description:

The basement is the oldest portion of the house. It is constructed of rough fieldstone and most likely supported a one or one-and-a-half story frame house. From this house the stone basement walls, two mantels, and incidental woodwork survive.

Today Sharp's Oakland is an impressive Second Empire farmhouse. It is unusual to find an I-house in this style which usually was rendered in buildings more cubic in volume. Both front and back facades are three-bays wide. A simple porch with Eastlake posts shelters the center entrance door on the first floor. Its railing, however, is of the sheaf-of-wheat pattern not normally found at so late a date. Perhaps this railing was reused from the earlier house. The walls consist of horizontal lapped siding with simple corner boards. All windows have two-over-two sash set in unadorned frames. The roof rests on a bracketed cornice. The roof is a remarkable survival of wooden shingles in a pattern of (from bottom to top) 5 rows of rectangular shingles, 5 rows of rounded shingles, 4 rows of rectangular shingles, and finally one row of rounded shingles below the wooden roof curb. The dormers in the mansard also have 2-over-2 sash and are topped with shallow unadorned pediments. The end elevations are identical each having an unusual flat, straight-sided rough stone chimney which rises to the main cornice line and then continues in a slightly narrower brick shaft. Flanking each chimney on each level are rectangular closet-like structures with full-size windows on the end walls and narrow windows on the short sides adjacent to the main front and rear walls. This peculiar arrangement results in a quirk in the roof that breaks out in its slope near each corner to cover the protrusions. In the center of the rear façade is a small three-story addition recently made to house modern conveniences. It repeats the materials of the house.

On the interior the house has a central stair hall flanked by single rooms on each floor. In the basement, a few remnants of the earlier house can be found in the stair and the mantel in the east room. The mantel is a very simplified 3-part Adam one framing a large stone fireplace. A more elaborate 3-part Adam mantel occurs in the main floor east room. It has decorative convex ovals in its frieze panels. The rest of the interior trim in the house dates from the 1890s rebuilding. All the rooms have typical symmetrically molded architraves and roundel cornerblocks. The large doors have two long vertical panels over two short panels. The center rails are unusually wide. The mantel in the west first-floor room is a robust one in the Eastlake idiom with engaged turned posts. The rest of the mantels are simple ones with plain friezes and side panels. The basement stair features a newel square in section and a round handrail over simple balusters square in section. At the top of the single flight is an unusual gate with an open horizontal top panel filled with diagonal lattice-like work, and a large lower panel filled with vertical pickets. The main stair that rises over the basement stair in a series of single transverse flights has an unusual newel shaped like an elongated milk bottle. Its railing is like that of the basement stair, but heavier in all details. Throughout most of the house early, if not original, false graining survives on most of the doors and trim.

Just off the northwest corner of the house is the only remaining outbuilding. This is a frame single-room structure with an accessible attic above. It has a door and window on

the front, a window in the east end and a massive stone chimney on the west end. On

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CONTINUATION SHEET

OMB No. 1024-4018

Sharp's Oakland
Hanover County, VA

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this chimney is evidence of a fireplace on its outside wall which indicates that another room or building was served by this second fireplace. The original configuration was probably the familiar layout of a slave dwelling with a center chimney serving single rooms on either side. The framing and some original features survive, but the building was badly damaged by a tornado and is deteriorating.

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CONTINUATION SHEET**

OMB No. 1024-4018

**Sharp's Oakland
Hanover County, VA**

CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 4

Summary of Significance:

The core of the dwelling at Sharp's Oakland existed when the farm was at the vortex of military operations associated with the unsuccessful Union advance on Richmond in the spring of 1864. It was surrounded by action on May 23-24 and located behind Federal lines during the Battle of North Anna.

In 1879, J. D. Sharp from New York purchased the property. He built the present three-story house which contains some portions of the original dwelling (mainly the basement rooms). His mansion is a cunning essay in the Second Empire style. It combines rustic stone chimneys with a delicately patterned wooden-shingle mansard roof. The chimneys are flanked by curious two-story corner projections with windows on each face at each level. The resulting tall narrow proportions are unlike the typical cubic solidity of most Second Empire dwellings. Its unique combination of design elements render it eligible under Criterion C in the Architecture category.

Sharp's Oakland
Hanover County, VA

Section 8 Page 5

Historical Background:

The construction date of the original house owned at the time of the Civil War by the J. B. Matthews family is not known. The details of the surviving mantels presumed to be from that house would indicate that it was built about 1830. In any case, the house is clearly shown on Civil War era maps as "J. B. Matthews." It was, in fact surrounded by fighting during the battle of North Anna on May 23-24, 1864 and was located behind Federal lines.

Fifteen years after the end of the Civil War J. B. Matthews sold the farm to R. J. Sharp on September 15, 1880. The tax value of the house at that time was \$100. From 1881 to 1895 the value remained the same. In 1896 it doubled to \$200. In some concrete work in the basement was found the following inscription, "R. J. Sharp 1895." These bits of evidence prove that the house reached its present Second Empire appearance in the middle of the 1890s. It continued to be a working farm for the next century. In 1998 the property was struck by a tornado which did irreparable damage to many of the farm buildings. The ruins of some can still be discerned including an icehouse, barn, privy, garage and hen house. A building that once served as a slave quarters still stands. It has a massive stone chimney that once served two rooms. Only the room to the east survives. The house has recently been restored by Thomas C. Stevenson, a descendant of R. J. Sharp, and his wife, Theresa S. Stevenson.

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CONTINUATION SHEET**

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**Sharp's Oakland
Hanover County, VA**

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Major Bibliographical References

Gabbert, John M. *Military Operations in Hanover County, Virginia, 1861-1865.*
Gurtner Graphics & Printing Co., 1989.

Hanover County, Virginia Land and Tax Records.

Hanover County, Virginia Tax and Census Records. Library of Virginia, Richmond.

The Official Atlas of the Union and Confederate Armies. U.S. Government Printing
Office, 1891

Sletten, Charles A. *An Annotated Chronology of the North Anna Battle.* 1989.

Trudeau, Noah Andre. *Bloody Road South.* Little, Brown and Company.

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CONTINUATION SHEET**

OMB No. 1024-4018

**Sharp's Oakland
Hanover County, VA**

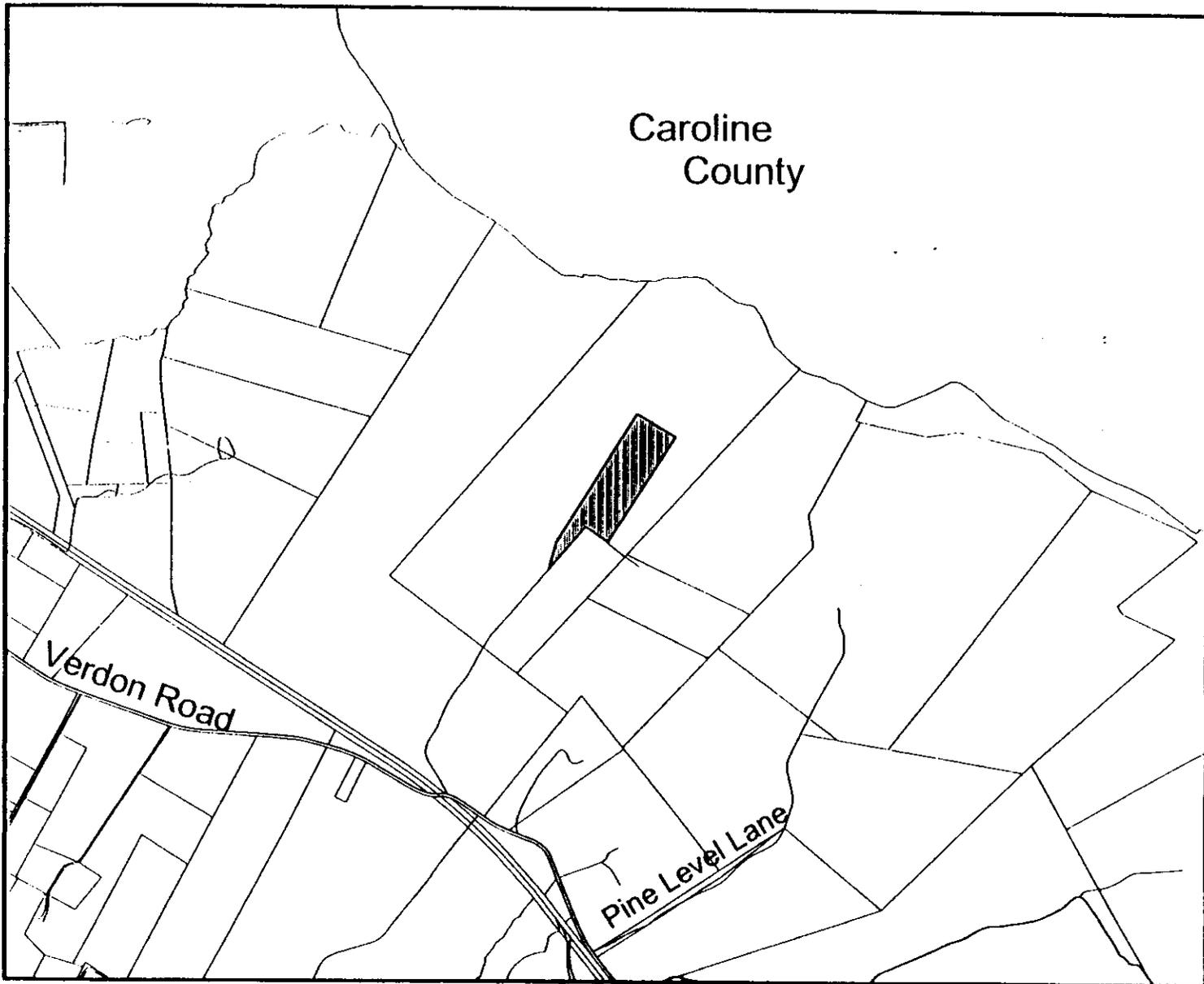
Section 10 Page 7

Verbal Boundary Description

The land nominated includes all the property within a 10.0 acre parcel designated as /7856-6547 on the tax maps of Hanover county, Virginia.

Boundary Justification

The land included in the nomination includes all the historic features directly associated with the resource.



C-30-99(c)

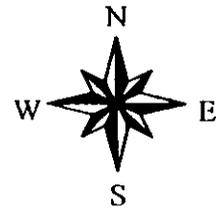
Theresa & Tom Stevenson

A-1 to A-1/OHP

GPIN: 7865-72-4685

Beaverdam Magisterial District

0.2 0 0.2 Miles



Sherp's Outlook

Hanover Co., VA

Zone	Easting	Northing
1. 18	279020	4197550
2. 18	279100	4197510
3. 18	278980	4197250
4. 18	278850	4197240

4197
570 000 FEET
(SOUTH)

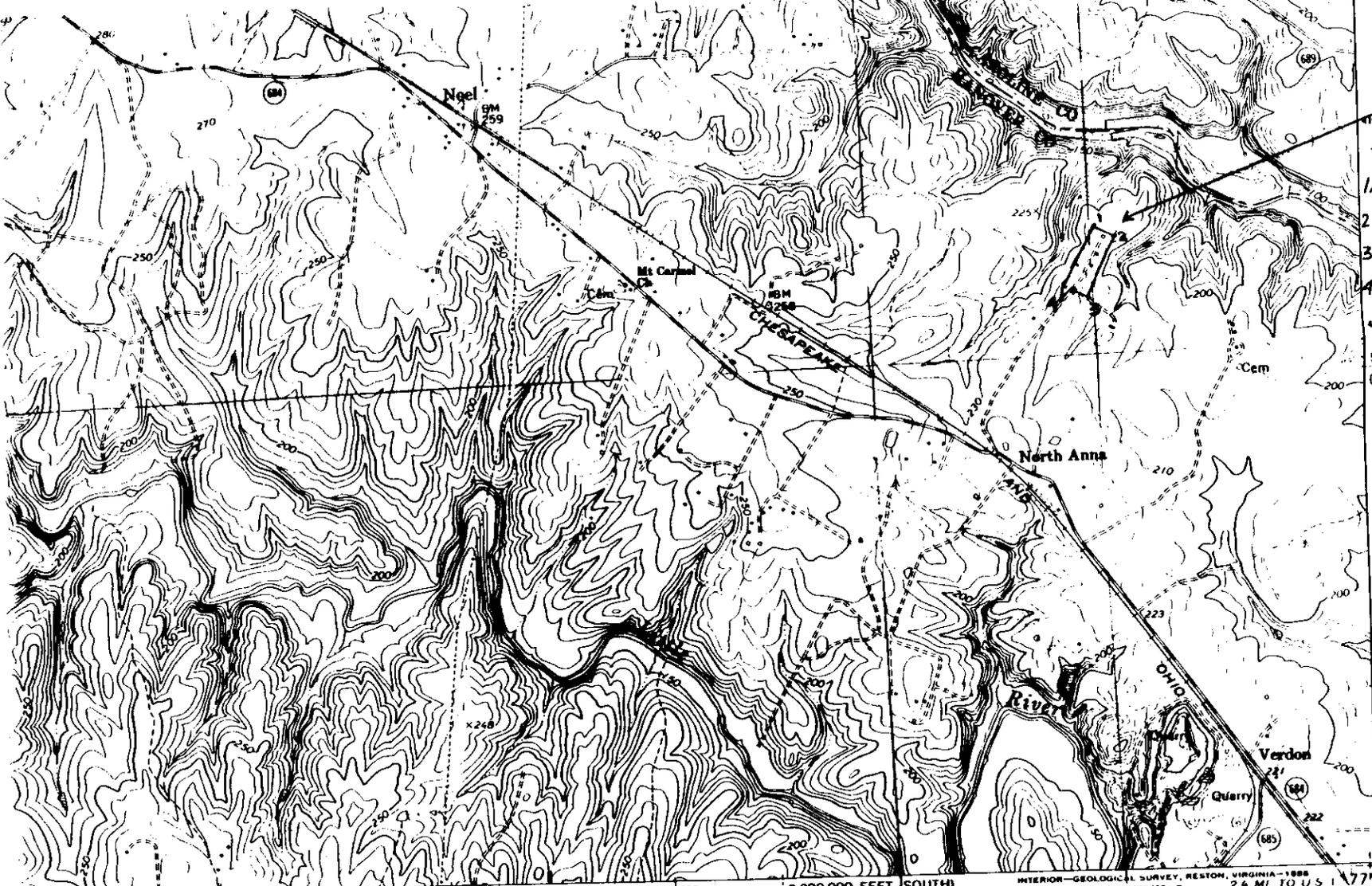
4196

4195000 N

37° 52' 30"

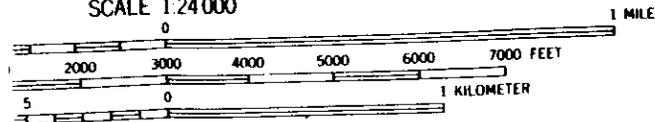
77° 30'

CASHLAND
2550 N SW

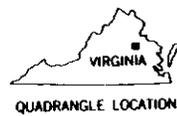


774 (HANOVER ACADEMY) 1275
5459 1 SE

SCALE 1:24 000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

CONFORMS WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
MINERAL RESOURCES, CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22903
TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled from
aerial photographs taken 1984 and other sources
This information not field checked. Map edited 1985

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, all weather, hard surface Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface Unimproved road, fair or dry weather

U. S. Route

State Route

HEWLETT, VA.
37077-H5-TF-024

1969
PHOTOREVISED 1985
DMA 5459 1 NE SERIES V834

