

**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 The Marshall Field & Company Clubhouse  
other names/site number The Fieldcrest Lodge, 044-5166

**2. Location**

street & number 2692 River Road  
city or town Fieldale, VA 24089 vicinity \_\_\_\_\_  
state Virginia code VA county Henry code 089 Zip 24089

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_ nationally \_\_\_ statewide X locally. ( \_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official Date  
**Virginia Department of Historic Resources**  
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
- See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

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

Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

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**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property** (Check as many boxes as apply)

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

**Category of Property** (Check only one box)

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

**Number of Resources within Property**

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>  5  </u>	<u>      </u> buildings
<u>  1  </u>	<u>      </u> sites
<u>  1  </u>	<u>      </u> structures
<u>  0  </u>	<u>      </u> objects
<u>  7  </u>	<u>      </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:   Domestic   Sub:   Single Dwelling    
  Social     Clubhouse    
  Domestic     Single Dwelling    
  Secondary Structure    
  Secondary Structure     Animal Facility    
  Recreation     Sports Facility (Tennis Court)  

**Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:   Work in Progress   Sub: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

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### 7. Description

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**Architectural Classification** (Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> century revivals \_\_\_\_\_

Tudor Revival \_\_\_\_\_

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**Materials** (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation  Stone \_\_\_\_\_

roof  Terra cotta \_\_\_\_\_

walls  stone, wood \_\_\_\_\_

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other  stucco \_\_\_\_\_

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

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### 8. Statement of Significance

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**Applicable National Register Criteria** (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations** (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

B removed from its original location.

C a birthplace or a grave.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object or structure.

F a commemorative property.

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

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

Architecture \_\_\_\_\_  
 Commerce, Recreation \_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**  \_\_\_\_\_ 1917-1955 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**  1917 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

**Cultural Affiliation** \_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**  Northrup, W.C. \_\_\_\_\_

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

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

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

**Previous documentation on file** (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Location of Additional Data**

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

Name of repository:  Bassett Historical Center \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property**  488 acres \_\_\_\_\_

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

Zone Easting	Northing	Zone Easting	Northing		Zone Easting	Northing	Zone Easting	Northing
1	17	595337E	4061926N		2	17	595992E	4061339N
3	17	595349E	4059458N		4	17	594935E	4060132N

**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.)

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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name/title: \_\_\_\_\_ Traci Petty \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_ Graphic Velocity \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_ January, 2005 \_\_\_\_\_

street & number: \_\_\_\_\_ 67 Motorsports Drive \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_ 276-632-9006 \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ Martinsville \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ VA \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_ 24112 \_\_\_\_\_

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**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)

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**Property Owner**

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

name \_\_\_\_\_ Joey Arrington \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ 2940 Kings Mountain Road \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_ 276-226-0522 \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ Martinsville \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ VA \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_ 24112 \_\_\_\_\_

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**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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## 7. Summary Description:

The Marshall Field & Company Clubhouse, currently known as the Fieldcrest Lodge, is located on a mountaintop surrounded by 488 acres of woods, pastures and the Smith River. The architectural style of the lodge is that of an English country house with stucco between half-timbering. The stone of which the lodge is built is native Henry County stone. The original clay-tiled roof is still intact, although some tiles have been replaced. The building has 8,500 square feet of floor space. There are six main rooms on the first floor and seven bedrooms on the second floor. There are six fireplaces, some of which are located in the bedrooms, of the same building stone as the lodge exterior. Dog kennels, stable and poultry yard are in the background. There's also a carriage house that is designed in the same architectural style as the lodge. There is also a manager's house that has a matching shed structure and a three-stall barn. There is a regulation size tennis court on the property as well that dates to the historic period. A barbecue located in the back yard of the manager's house and retaining walls throughout the property are constructed of the same stone as the lodge.

## Narrative Description

The lodge is a fine example of English Tudor Revival architecture. It has two stories and a partial basement. The building materials included native Henry County fieldstone, box beams, pebble dash stucco and terra cotta tile. These long lasting materials have deteriorated very little in the last 84 years and the buildings have retained their historical integrity almost entirely. At the time it was built, the lodge was the most expensive and impressive building that many residents of the area had ever encountered. It features a porte cochere at the west entrance that opens into the library that is attached on one side by an office with a fireplace and on the other by the main living room and wet bar. The living room contains a bow window with window seat and is connected to a stairwell leading upstairs, another stairwell leading to the partial basement, a powder room and to the formal dining room. The dining room contains a period chandelier and is attached on one side by an industrial sized kitchen and on the other by a glassed in porch that has a fireplace. The industrial sized and equipped kitchen is adjoined by a small servant's office and powder room. The partial basement contains a finished entry hall and billiard room and the rest of the basement is an unfinished storage and laundry facility. The stairwell that leads upstairs from the living room is intricately carved with the symbols from a deck of cards (hearts, diamonds and clubs) with the spades being carved in the doorframes and doors. There are seven

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bedrooms and four full bathrooms upstairs with a small balcony at either end of the building. The lodge contains a total of six fireplaces.

**Secondary Resources**

There is a three-bay carriage house that is done in the same architectural style as the lodge, which houses the metered water supply and ancillary equipment and a blacksmith workshop on the ground floor, with the upper floor being blacksmith's quarters that contains three rooms and a powder room. There is a manager's house on the property that is a three bedroom, one bath, living room with fireplace, kitchen, carport, exterior entrance partial cellar, and a side porch. There is also a shed next to the manager's house. There is a 1 ½-story barn with three stalls. There is a regulation size tennis court that was a rare feature in 1917. The surrounding property features a barbeque, next to the carriage house, and rock retaining walls that echo the stonework of the Lodge. These four secondary buildings, one site, and one structure are all considered contributing, along with the main lodge building.

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Summary and Justification of Criteria**

The Marshall Field & Company Clubhouse, built in 1917, meets eligibility requirements for the National Register under Criterion A in the areas of Commerce and Recreation because the lodge was constructed in conjunction with the town and the mill, which collectively brought an immediate million dollars into the local economy and provided hundreds of jobs. Marshall Field & Company brought electricity and running water to an area where it had not previously existed. The lodge proved a necessary amenity because there were no acceptable accommodations in the area to house important figures visiting the mill. The employees and executives alike enjoyed recreation at the lodge, while business deals that would further the success of the company also took place there. The construction of Fieldale Mills prompted construction of the first maintained roads in the area, and continued to provide jobs and boost its economy for several decades to come. The property is also eligible under Criterion C for the architectural merits of the building's design, in which the mixed use of various locally found, natural building materials is employed to create a deft and appealing interpretation of the Tudor Revival style.

In 1756, George Washington was fearful of an Indian uprising so he established Fort Trial near present day Fieldale to protect the few hunters and trappers in the area. Fort Trial, the most southerly of George Washington's fourteen forts, was located on the Smith River at the mouth of Reed Creek.<sup>1</sup>

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George Waller was born in 1734 in Stafford County, Virginia.<sup>2</sup> In 1760 he and his wife, Anne, moved to the area and built Waller's Ford, a farm that was to cover all of the area in and around what is now Fieldale, Virginia.<sup>3</sup> The site for the house was just above the bridge.<sup>4</sup> Abram Penn and George Waller formed a militia company and took the lead in the formation of a settlement.<sup>5</sup> On March 17, 1781, under order from his commanding officer Abram Penn, George Waller marched sixteen companies of the militia to assist in The Battle of Guilford County Courthouse in North Carolina.

Waller then marched his troops southward to the siege of Yorktown.<sup>6</sup> He and his troops were with General Washington when Lord Cornwallis surrendered the British Forces and British claim to the American soil. Waller was promoted and commissioned Colonel Waller at this time and given several land grants as compensation for duty served. Waller went on to become one of the first justices of the newly formed county of Henry in 1777, and lived out his days at Waller's Ford in service to the area. He died in 1814.<sup>7</sup> Waller's Ford was passed down through the hands of the descendants of George Waller until 1916, when Marshall Field & Company purchased the property.<sup>8</sup>

The real estate and insurance firm of H.A. Ford & Co., Inc. was organized in 1914, and offices first opened upstairs over the firms present quarters at the corner of Church and Walnut Streets in Martinsville, Virginia.<sup>9</sup> The late "Heck" A. Ford (Hezekiah Armistead Ford), known as a "one-man chamber of commerce", was instrumental in showing Marshall Field & Company around the area.<sup>10</sup> One day while climbing the hill upon which the Fieldcrest Lodge would later be built, Marshall Field representatives and H.A. Ford discovered a small rugged valley accessible only by horseback. There was the twisting Smith River and Jordan Creek to provide all the water needed for dyeing, bleaching and finishing.<sup>11</sup> They decided this was the perfect place and instructed a third-party to obtain options on 25 parcels of land totaling 1,841 acres. The company maintained secrecy and even went to the point of optioning additional property in the Axton, Ridgeway and Stuart areas so they would not reveal their hand.<sup>12</sup> Marshall Field actually died in 1906 and would never see the town that carried his name.<sup>13</sup> Marshall Field III, came in person to see the location of this new industry and town in the early spring (1917) and he was carried away with the scheme as evidenced by his willingness to invest a million dollars in the venture. The Marshall Field & Co. general manager, Mr. W.B. Lynch announced in June of 1917, the location and construction plans for the project. The new town was named Fieldale.<sup>14</sup> 1917 proved to be the coldest winter ever, rivers were frozen solid, sickness and exposure took its toll in lives, but the building continued until completion in the spring of 1919.<sup>15</sup> The Henry Bulletin featured an article stating: "The town is up to date and is a credit to the state from the time the first shovel of dirt is moved. The streets are mapped out and will have both a sidewalk and a roadway, which will be kept in good

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condition. The town is to be electrically lighted and will have its own water and sewerage

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system, of modern type. This is gigantic business for Henry County and represents an immediate outlay of one million dollars.”<sup>16</sup>

Distinguished guests at the lodge have included governors, senators, statesman, noted merchants and buyers, industrialists, financiers, actors, directors and officers of various companies.<sup>17</sup> Randolph Scott, a popular western movie star during the 50’s took a tour of the hosiery mill and stayed in the lodge in 1951.<sup>18</sup> In the 1970’s actress Mary Martin was the spokesperson for Fieldcrest at the time and stayed in the lodge multiple times.<sup>19</sup>

The Fieldcrest Mills, located mainly in the south, would become Marshall Field’s most famous manufacturing division.<sup>20</sup> Over the years the company changed names from Fieldcrest Mills to Fieldcrest Cannon and eventually Pillowtex as new companies bought into the business. According to Manfred Schmidt, who managed the lodge and served as its chef since approximately 1981, the Fieldcrest Lodge was the “Mecca for Fieldcrest Cannon.”<sup>21</sup> The lodge was still in use through 1997, but was put up for sale that year. Since acquired by the present owner, the property has received much needed maintenance and repair.

**Endnotes:**

- 1 *Fieldale, Virginia* – The Officers and Staff of Virginia National Bank
- 2 *Waller’s Ford* – Beatrice Martin Bullard Feb. 2002
- 3 *Fieldale, Virginia* – The Officers and Staff of Virginia National Bank
- 4 Newspaper Article from Spray, North Carolina 1924
- 5 “Martinsville & Henry County, Virginia”–Illustrated special edition of the Henry Bulletin
- 6 *Waller’s Ford* – Beatrice Martin Bullard Feb. 2002
- 7 *Waller’s Ford* – Beatrice Martin Bullard Feb. 2002
- 8 Newspaper Article from Spray, North Carolina 1924
- 9 “Martinsville & Henry County, Virginia”–Illustrated special edition of the Henry Bulletin
- 10 “Martinsville Bulletin” – Sunday, May 26, 1973
- 11 *Waller’s Ford* – Beatrice Martin Bullard Feb. 2002
- 12 “Martinsville Bulletin” – Sunday, May 26, 1973
- 13 *Fieldale, Virginia* – The Officers and Staff of Virginia National Bank
- 14 “A New Town for Henry County” – The Henry Bulletin June 1, 1917
- 15 *Fieldale, Virginia* – The Officers and Staff of Virginia National Bank
- 16 “A New Town for Henry County” – The Henry Bulletin June 1, 1917
- 17 *Fieldcrest Cannon Today* – March 18, 1987
- 18 *Fieldale, Virginia* – The Officers and Staff of Virginia National Bank
- 19 “No Vacancy: Old Lodge Full of Fond Memories” – The News & Record Monday, February 24, 1997
- 20 *The Marshall Fields – The Evolution of an American Business Dynasty* Axel Madsen August, 2002
- 21 “No Vacancy: Old Lodge Full of Fond Memories” – The News & Record Monday, February 24, 1997

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**9. Bibliography**

Madsen, Axel. *The Marshall Fields – The Evolution of an American Business Dynasty*. August, 2002.

“A New Town for Henry County” – The Henry Bulletin June 1, 1917.

*Fieldale, Virginia* – The Officers and Staff of Virginia National Bank.

*Fieldcrest Cannon Today* – March 18, 1987.

*Looking Back Sixty Great Years in Fieldale, Virginia 1919-1979*.

“Martinsville & Henry County, Virginia” – Illustrated special publicity edition of the Henry Bulletin.

“Martinsville Bulletin” – Sunday, May 26, 1973.

Newspaper Article from Spray, North Carolina 1924.

“No Vacancy: Old Lodge Full of Fond Memories” – The News & Record Monday, February 24, 1997.

“The Arrow” – December 11, 1924.

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**10. Verbal Boundary Description**

The 488 acre ± nominated parcel fronts about 260' along the west side of Va. Sec. Rte. #682 and the Smith River; it continues thence a distance of one mile southwest to a point on the east side of US Highway 220; thence north along 220 for a distance of one-third mile; thence northeast for a distance of one mile to point of origin. This boundary encompasses Tracts "A - F" (Henry County Tax Map), which includes all contributing resources identified in this nomination.

**Boundary Justification**

The boundaries of the nominated parcels are held by a single owner and include only that land that was encompassed by the historic Fieldcrest Lodge property. All surviving resources that were associated with Fieldcrest Lodge during the period of significance are located within the nominated parcel as described above.

**All Photos are of:** Fieldcrest Lodge, Henry County, Virginia  
Date: February, 2005  
Photographer: Michael J. Pulice & Traci E. Petty  
Negative # 21997, 22054  
Location of Negatives: VA Department of Historic Resources, Richmond

1. VIEW OF: Lodge south (front) elevation  
Photo 1 of 18, Negative # 21997
2. VIEW OF: Lodge north and west elevations  
Photo 2 of 18, Negative # 21997
3. VIEW OF: Lodge east and north elevations  
Photo 3 of 18, Negative # 21997
4. VIEW OF: Lodge west elevation and stone retaining wall  
Photo 4 of 18, Negative # 21997
5. VIEW OF: Carriage house south and east elevations  
Photo 5 of 18, Negative # 21997
6. VIEW OF: Caretaker's house east and north elevations

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Photo 6 of 18, Negative # 21997

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7. VIEW OF: Barbeque grill, northeast of lodge  
Photo 7 of 18, Negative # 21997
8. VIEW OF: Tennis courts  
Photo 8 of 18, Negative # 21997
9. VIEW OF: Storage shed  
Photo 9 of 18, Negative # 21997
10. VIEW OF: Lodge, side parlor/fireplace  
Photo 10 of 18, Negative # 22054
11. VIEW OF: Lodge, side parlor, windows  
Photo 11 of 18, Negative # 22054
12. VIEW OF: Lodge, main staircase  
Photo 12 of 18, Negative # 22054
13. VIEW OF: Lodge, main staircase  
Photo 13 of 18, Negative # 22054
14. VIEW OF: Lodge, main staircase  
Photo 14 of 18, Negative # 22054
15. VIEW OF: Lodge, main staircase windows  
Photo 15 of 18, Negative # 22054
16. VIEW OF: Lodge, dining room  
Photo 16 of 18, Negative # 22054
17. VIEW OF: Lodge, dining room  
Photo 17 of 18, Negative # 22054
18. VIEW OF: Lodge, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor hallway/bedroom door  
Photo 18 of 18, Negative # 22054