

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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16).

1. Name of Property

historic name Blankenship Farm other names/site number 60-386

2. Location

2/5 mile south of junction of VA Route 733 and street & number VA Route 603. city, town Ellett state Virginia code VA county Montgomery code 121 zip code 24060

3. Classification

Table with 3 columns: Ownership of Property, Category of Property, and Number of Resources within Property. Includes sub-headers for Contributing and Noncontributing resources.

Name of related multiple property listing: Prehistoric and Historic Resources of Montgomery County Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet. Signature of commenting or other official Date State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

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

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling
Agriculture/Subsistence: animal facility
Agriculture/Subsistence: storage

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling
Agriculture/Subsistence: animal facility
Agriculture/Subsistence: storage

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and early 20th century revivals
Other: American Foursquare
Other: polygonal barn

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete
walls Wood: weatherboard
roof Asphalt
other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Blankenship Farm is situated in the valley of the North Fork of the Roanoke River near the village of Ellett. The circa 1920 to 1930 farmhouse is a three-bay, two-story, brick, hip-roofed foursquare-style dwelling with paired and single double-hung sash windows. The first-floor front (northwest) is sheltered by a three-bay hipped porch supported by brick piers. A hip-roofed central dormer contains three-over-one sash windows. The house contains a central passage with flanking parlors. Conventional moldings and detailing of the period are well preserved. A more complex floor plan is located to the rear, with kitchen, bath, and other specialized rooms.

To the east of the house stands the fourteen-sided barn. The frame structure stands on a poured concrete foundation. It has a concrete floor and is sided with German or novelty weatherboard. The exposed common-rafter roof rises in two slopes to form a conical monitor at the apex. Four-light casement windows light the interior in most walls. Doors on the northwest and southeast bays give access to a central aisle that bisects the building. Lofts cover the animal housing areas on either side of the aisle. A concrete block silo is attached to the east side of the building. Each side of the building is thirteen feet six inches in length. A noncontributing frame garage stands to the northeast of the house.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1920-1930

Significant Dates

1929

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The farm is eligible under criterion C as a good example of an early twentieth-century agricultural complex. The house is an unusual rural use of the typically urban foursquare form while the barn is unique in the county and region. Barns built during the period range from small frame three-bay barns and bank barns to large progressive dairy barns with a central aisle lined with stanchions and equipped with concrete floors. The Blankenship Farm combines the regional aisled form with a popular barn form derived from pattern books. It was influenced by writings on the economy of round or polygonal barns and features a fourteen-sided structure based on a conventional center-aisle plan rather than the often-published prototype of the central-plan barn in which a circular ring of cattle stanchions surrounds a central silo. The polygonal barn was recommended because it was believed less distance was involved in working in the barn and it could be shown that such a structure used fewer materials and took less time to erect (Peckham).

The Blankenship Farm was developed in the early twentieth century near the town of Ellett on the broad bottomlands of the North Fork of the Roanoke River east of Blacksburg and Christiansburg. C. E. Blankenship told an interviewer in 1973 that he had the barn and other buildings built. The barn was built in 1929 (Yates, 1973). The house, together with the barn, represents a well preserved early twentieth-century farm group. The noncontributing garage which stands between the two buildings does not detract significantly from the overall visual and historical value of the site.

While the barn has been slightly altered on the interior as its functions have changed, it remains in pristine condition. The house and grounds have likewise not been significantly altered.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Peckham, Mark L. "Central Plan Dairy Barns of New York State Thematic Resources." National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form, 1984.

Yates, Joe. 1973 Survey of Montgomery County's Historic Architecture, Virginia Division of Historic Landmarks (1973 site #60-55).

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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Virginia Department of Historic Resources

221 Governor Street

Richmond, Virginia 23219

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property two acres.

UTM References

A	<u>17</u>	<u>556380</u>	<u>41153010</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C			
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D			
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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at point A forty feet northwest and 220 feet northeast of the north corner of the house, proceeding south 205 feet to point B, thence west 135 feet to point C, thence northwest 105 feet to point D, thence west 110 feet to point E, thence north 125 feet to point F, thence east 145 feet to point G, thence southeast twenty feet to point H, thence east 145 feet to the point of origin.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundaries were chosen to include the house, barn, outbuildings, and the domestic-related space around the house and agricultural-related space around the barn.

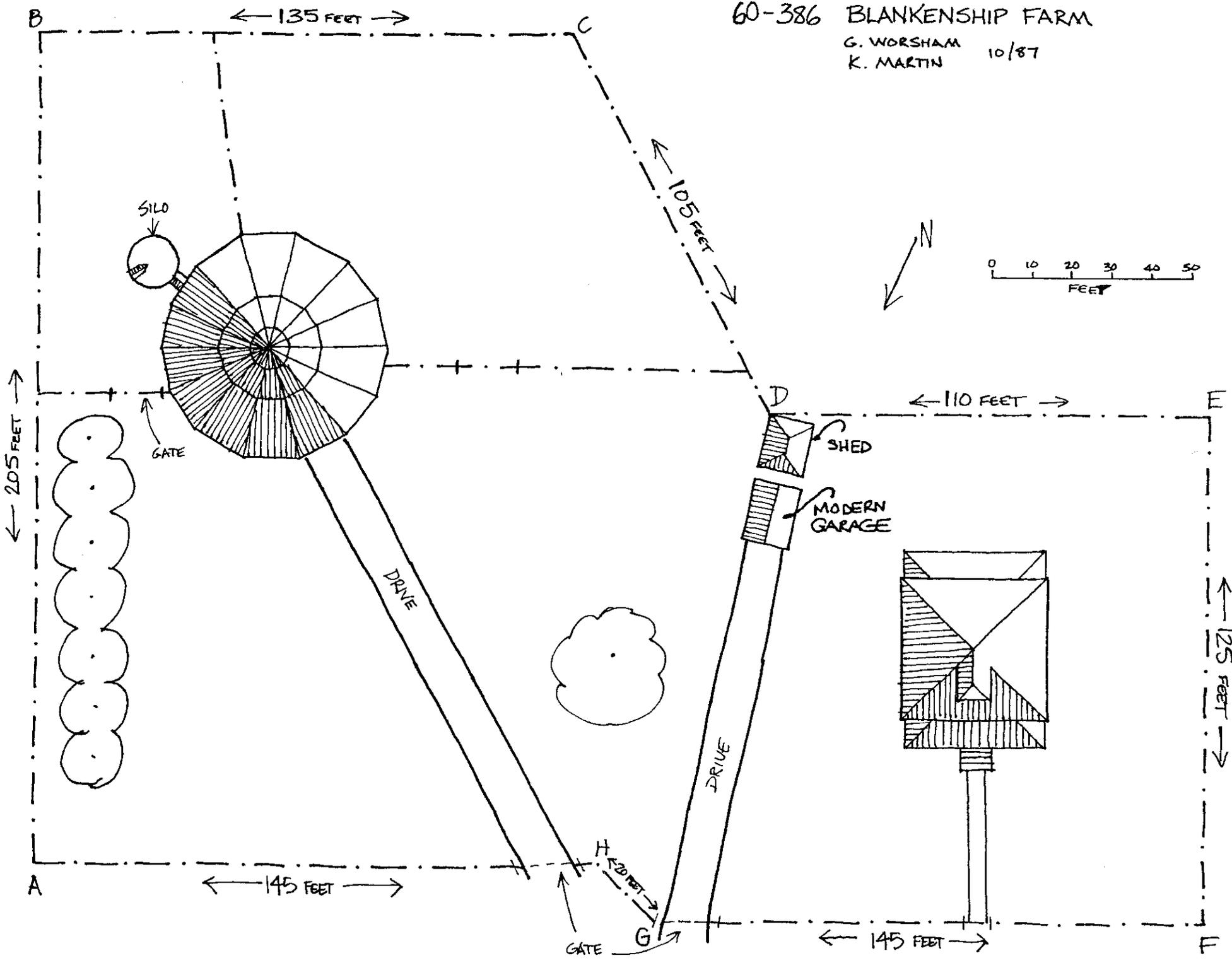
See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

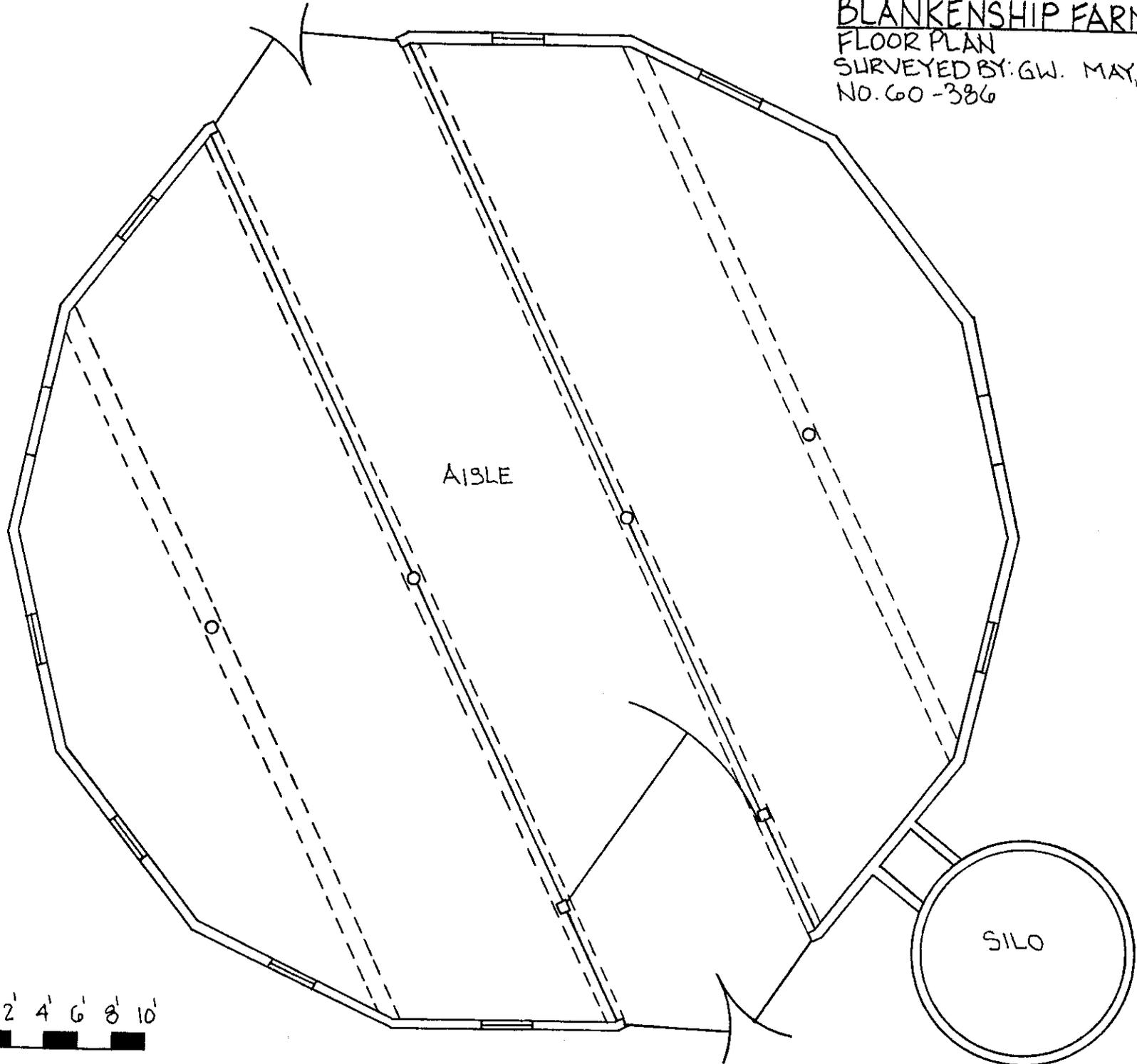
name/title Gibson Worsham
 organization Gibson Worsham, Architect date June 1988
 street & number Route 2, Yellow Sulphur Sprin telephone (703) 552-4730
 city or town Christiansburg state Virginia zip code 24073

60-386 BLANKENSHIP FARM

G. WORSHAM 10/87
K. MARTIN

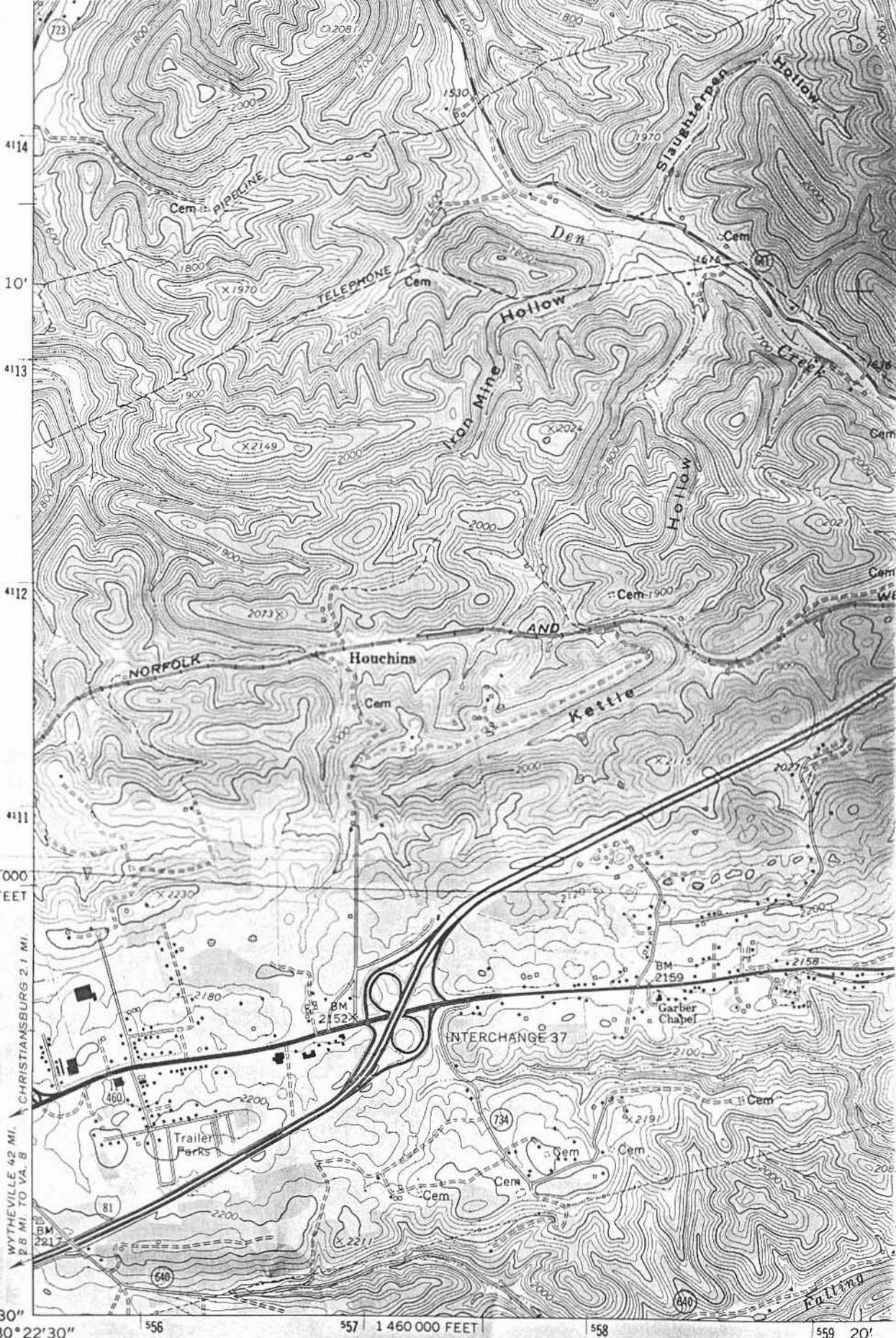


BLANKENSHIP FARM MONT. CO.
FLOOR PLAN
SURVEYED BY: G.W. MAY, 1986
NO. 60-386



$\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'-0''$
0 1' 2' 4' 6' 8' 10'

IRONTO
QUAD



HESTON HOUSE 300'000
17 5607100 4111060 FEET

WYTHEVILLE 42 MI.
2.8 MI. TO VA. 8
CHRISTIANSBURG 2.1 MI.

37°07'30" 80°22'30" 556 557 1 460 000 FEET 558 559 20'

(P. INFR)
4936 III-W

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1963. Field checked 1965

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

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

Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with Commonwealth of Virginia agencies from aerial photographs taken 1972. This information not field checked

Map photoinspected 1982

