

VLR-10/20/93, NRHP-1/11/94

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 15A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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 BURLINGTON  
other names/site number VDHR File No. 68-07

**2. Location**

street & number 6400 Constitution Highway not for publication N/A  
city or town Barboursville vicinity X  
state Virginia code VA county Orange code 137 zip code 22923

**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 X statewide      locally. (      See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Heidi C. Moore Signature of certifying official 11/5/93 Date

**Director, 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 or 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	
__ 1 __	__ 2 __	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
__ 1 __	__ 2 __	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

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single dwelling

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

MID-19TH CENTURY: Greek Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK

walls WOOD: weatherboard

roof METAL: tin

other

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more 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 1850

Significant Dates 1850

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Routt, William H.

Stockton, George H.

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 #

- Primary Location of Additional Data
State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other
Name of repository: Burlington, Orange County, VA

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 200 acres

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

Table with 4 columns: Zone, Easting, Northing, Zone, Easting, Northing. Values include 1, 2, 3, 4.

x 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 Joseph S. White III
organization Virginia Department of Historic Resources date August 1993
street & number 221 Governor Street telephone 804-786-3143
city or town Richmond state VA zip code 23219

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section   7   Page   1  

**Burlington  
Orange County, Virginia**

---

**SUMMARY DESCRIPTION**

Burlington is an antebellum Piedmont Virginia residence situated on approximately two-hundred acres of farm and woodland in western Orange County. The residence is a pristine, frame, porticoed 1850 Greek Revival plantation house, whose exterior and interior detailing is derived almost entirely from Asher Benjamin's *The Practical House Carpenter*, 1830 edition, with a Jeffersonian Chinese lattice balcony cantilevered on the second floor. Unlike many houses of the period in Virginia, Burlington is a complete realization of a house built on pattern book principles. The house retains a high degree of architectural integrity, preserving most of its original fabric.

**ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS**

Burlington sits atop a small rise at the northern end of the plantation property. It is reached from the highway by a gravel drive that winds through mature cedar trees. The foundation of the house is planted in boxwoods. The trees which surround the house date from its construction. On its western border the property is bounded by the Norfolk Southern Railroad main line from Washington, D.C., to Atlanta, Georgia, and by State Route 20. The railroad is the former Southern Railway, which was formed from the Orange and Alexandria Railway. This rail line played a major rôle in troop and supply movements for both sides during the Civil War. State Route 20 is the colonial road from Charlottesville, Virginia, to the north. Burlington is approximately one mile north of the crossroads and agricultural community of Barboursville, named after Governor James Barbour, an uncle of James Barbour Newman, the builder of Burlington. The property is being actively farmed by its current owner. Livestock continue to occupy the fields close to the house, as was the case in Newman's time.

The house is a two-story, three-bay, T-shaped residence with a shallow hipped roof. The roof was originally covered in wooden shingles, which were replaced by a standing-seam, sheet-metal roof in the late nineteenth or early twentieth century. The foundation is of oversize brick laid in common bond. The house is sheathed in weatherboard produced from lumber harvested on the property, as is all of the interior and exterior woodwork.<sup>1</sup>

The roof is supported on the front by six Greek Ionic columns with a plain entablature. The model for the order used by the builder is the Greek Ionic from Benjamin, plate 12.<sup>2</sup> The design for the front door case with its Doric entablature, pilasters, transom, and sidelights is based on plate 28 of the *Practical House Carpenter*.<sup>3</sup> The Burlington realization differs from the book in that the sidelights are carried all the way to the bottom and some of the detail work shown in the Benjamin plate are absent from the doors. The windows with their Greek fret ornament are an identical realization of plate 31 of Benjamin.<sup>4</sup> The portico extends the length of the western façade and shelters the second-floor balcony. The balcony is cantilevered, runs almost the entire length of the second floor, and can be accessed from any of the three windows on that floor. The railing of the balcony is a Chinese lattice railing similar to that found on Pavilion II of the University of Virginia.<sup>5</sup> The use of the Chinese lattice railing is the one Jeffersonian feature of the house and indicates that someone working on the house was at least familiar with the academic buildings at the University of Virginia or with the probable sources for the pavilions at the University. The remainder of the house is a very un-Virginia design in that,

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section   7   Page   2  

Burlington  
Orange County, Virginia

---

while it is essentially an I-house with ell addition, it is a complete realization of pattern-book principles. Virginia houses of the period more typically used traditional vernacular forms with pattern-book-derived details, such as mantels or doorways, randomly applied. At Burlington someone, either Newman or the carpenter, made a conscious effort to create a different and coherent architecture.

Interior-end brick chimneys are at each end of the T crossbar, and a third is centered on the intersection of the hip and the rear shed addition. Each chimney is divided into four stacks at roof level and are joined by a cap at the top. Each stack is a separate flue for the nine fireplaces in the house.

The house has ten rooms as well as a central passage, two staircases, and numerous closets. The main floor contains the central passage, which is flanked by equal-size parlors. Each parlor is separated from the hall by large, hinged doors. These doors are based on plate 39 of Benjamin with slightly different proportions.<sup>6</sup> The baseboards in the parlors resemble designs seen in plate 43 of Benjamin.<sup>7</sup> The doors are tall and narrow. Each case as two sets of tri-fold doors. When they are opened there is one large room across the entire front of the house. These doors retain their original graining and, like the other woodwork in the house, were produced from materials harvested on the property. The design of the mantel in the west parlor is from plate 50 of Benjamin, while that in the east parlor is from plate 49.<sup>8</sup> In the mid-twentieth century bookcases were built into the south parlor on either side of the fireplace. The doors, architraves, and base moldings of the bookcases duplicate the originals already in the room. The bookcases are constructed so they can be unbolted and easily removed. No architectural element in the room was disturbed when the bookcases were installed.

A large archway divides the central passage from the rear stair hall. It originally was closed with louvered doors. (These doors are extant and being restored by the owner.) The main staircase extends across the entire length of the stair hall. Under the main stair is an enclosed basement stair. No direct pattern-book sources have been identified for the main stair. The stair railing is more Georgian than Greek Revival in style and resembles examples at the Wythe House in Williamsburg and Amphill in the city of Richmond. Other elements of the stair are consistent with the Greek Revival details found elsewhere in the house including the railing section, the relatively small flat panels framed with applied molding, and the base molding facing the stringer. The handrail of the main stair is a continuous piece of butternut wood and the turned newels, balusters, and brackets are sycamore, now painted. The stair hall provides access to two side porches as well as to the dining room.

The dining room occupies the long section of the T plan. The mantel in this room is derived from Benjamin, plate 49.<sup>9</sup> The chair rail and baseboard molding follow Benjamin's plates 41 and 44.<sup>10</sup> Behind the dining room is a small hall giving access to a rear entrance as well as a rear stair hall with a narrow stair to the second floor. At the end of the house is, under the shed-roof section, is an additional room, possibly originally used as the plantation office, but now used as the kitchen.

The front portion of the second floor contains three bedrooms connected by a narrow passage. In each bedroom the original plasterwork has been papered over. The mantels in each of the bedrooms

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section   7   Page   3  

Burlington  
Orange County, Virginia

---

is of a plain, unornamented design. The passage is reached by a short flight of steps from the landing of the main stair. Another flight of steps from the landing leads to a bedroom over the main-floor dining room. A doorway at the rear of this room leads through a closet, down several steps, into a small hall at the top of the rear stair, and into a room over the kitchen.

According to a Newman family member who lived at the property in the nineteenth century, the basement room below the dining room was used as the family dining room. Although it was a finished room, it has been remodeled numerous times over the years and now has a concrete floor. Under the front section of the house are two large rooms with dirt floors. The room with the fireplace was the winter kitchen, while the other was unused. Behind the family dining room is small hallway leading outside and into a room below the main-floor kitchen. It now houses the heating and water systems.

None of the nineteenth-century outbuildings survive. The school buildings that may have existed were probably demolished in the late nineteenth century and most of the agricultural buildings were demolished in the mid to late twentieth century. There is cemetery on the property to the east of the house. Head and footstones survive in the cemetery. There are six twentieth-century agricultural buildings on the property that are noncontributing. Although no archaeological investigations have been performed, such investigations would probably identify the location of the possible school buildings, the slave quarters, and other nineteenth-century agricultural structures.

ENDNOTES

1. Newman, James Barbour, "Building Book." Copy in possession of Kenneth G. Colby, Burlington.
2. Benjamin, Asher, *The Practical House Carpenter*, 1830, Reprint. (New York: Da Capo): pl. 12.
3. Ibid. pl. 28.
4. Ibid. pl. 31.
5. Halfpenny, William and John Halfpenny, *Rural Architecture in the Chinese Taste*, 1755, Reprint ed. (New York: Benjamin Blom): pl. 2.
6. Benjamin, *The Practical House Carpenter*, pl. 39.
7. Ibid. pl. 43.
8. Ibid. pls. 49 & 50.
9. Ibid. pl. 49.
10. Ibid. pls. 41 & 44.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section   8   Page   4  

Burlington  
Orange County, Virginia

---

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Burlington is a sophisticated and unaltered example of pattern-book construction in rural Virginia. Constructed in 1851 for James Barbour Newman by George H. Stockdon, carpenter, and William H. Routt, bricklayer, Burlington's Greek Revival detailing, including the order of the portico, front door case, and interior details, are derived from Asher Benjamin's *The Practical House Carpenter*, 1830 edition. The wood and brick used to construct Burlington were harvested or produced on the property. While in plan a traditional Virginia I-house with an ell addition, Burlington looks to period pattern-books for its sophisticated interior and exterior architectural details.

### HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

James Newman, grandfather of James B. Newman, purchased the 1,500 acres known as Burlington from the Chancery Court in 1796. This property had been part of the extensive land holdings of Ludwell Grymes. James Newman passed 1,200 acres of this purchase to his son Thomas. On Thomas's death the property went to his son James B. Newman, the builder of the current house. In the 1780s, Walker Maury, Ludwell Grymes' son-in-law, had a private school at Burlington. Students from many areas of Virginia came to study with that famous teacher. One of the best known of these students was the future statesman, John Randolph of Roanoke. Any school buildings that may have existed are no longer extant.

The present house at Burlington is the second house on the property. The original house was constructed in the 18th century. In 1830 James B. Newman married Sally B. Fitzhugh and brought her to Burlington to live with him and his father and to continue to farm and manage the family interests. In 1832 the elder Newman moved to a new house on a section of the plantation known as Mineral Hill, leaving James B. Newman in possession of the main house. At the time that construction started on the current Burlington the Newmans moved into a rented house in Barboursville. James B. Newman continued to reside and work at Burlington until his death on 5 March 1900.

Burlington was built in 1851 for James Barbour Newman. Construction started on 15 April 1851 and the family moved into the house on 1 January 1852. The house was constructed by George H. Stockdon, carpenter, and William H. Routt, bricklayer. Most of the construction labor on the house was provided by black laborers, either slave or free. The 70,000 board feet of lumber used in the house were cut by Newman on the Burlington property and the approximately 90,000 bricks used were burned by Newman on the property. The building accounts list all materials used in the construction, but omit any mention of millwork being ordered, or sub-contracts being let for millwork, for use in the house.

James Barbour Newman was born on 24 April 1803 at Burlington, a property held by the Newman family since 1796, when it was purchased by Newman's grandfather, James Newman from the Chancery Court. The Newmans originally resided in Essex County, and the family owned property near Orange Court House and the Montpelier area by the 1750s. In 1826, after preemptory schooling and travel in the South, Newman leased a farm from Tandy Bowcock, near Barboursville,

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section   8   Page   5  

Burlington  
Orange County, Virginia

---

Orange County. In 1830 Newman married Sally B. Fitzhugh and brought her to live on the plantation. James B. Newman was a nephew of Governor James Barbour and Judge Philip Barbour.

After the death of James B. Newman in 1900 the property passed through a series of owners. The property came into the possession of Kenneth Colby in 1957. Burlington was in the same condition in 1957 as the when James B. Newman died in 1900. None of the intervening owners had modified or changed the house in anyway.

The twentieth-century changes made by Mr. Colby include bringing the electrical wiring and plumbing up to current code standards, the addition of a bathroom at the head of the main stairway, in the center bedroom, and the placement of a concrete floor in the family dining room in the basement.

Burlington is a complete realization of a house based almost solely on pattern books. Most houses in Virginia had pattern book detailing applied to them, but they still remained essentially Virginia houses. Burlington, while it is in shape an I-house with an ell addition, does not look to the Virginia farmhouse or to Virginia tradition for its design. The one Virginia specific detail that Burlington has is the Chinese lattice railing on the second-floor balcony. While it cannot be proven that any of Newman's craftsmen worked at the University of Virginia, someone, either Newman, Stockdon, or Routt had probably seen the University or knew the sources which Thomas Jefferson used in the design of the academic buildings at the University.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 & 10 Page 6

Burlington  
Orange County, Virginia

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Benjamin, Asher. *The Practical House Carpenter*. 1830. Reprint ed. New York: Dover, 1972.
- Halfpenny, William and John Halfpenny. *Rural Architecture in the Chinese Taste*. 1755. Reprint ed. New York: Benjamin Blom, 1968.
- Newman, James Barbour. "Building Book." [1850-1851?]. Copy in possession of Kenneth Colby, Burlington.
- \_\_\_\_\_. "Sketch of the Life of J. B. Newman." 1845. Copy in possession of Kenneth Colby, Burlington.

UTM REFERENCES

A	17/740120/4229380
B	17/740900/4228290
C	17/740360/4227880
D	17/740310/4228080
E	17/740380/4228140
F	17/740340/4228240
G	17/740220/4228120
H	17/740180/4228110
I	17/739680/4228760
J	17/739740/4228840
K	17/739640/4228960
L	17/739800/4229100
M	17/739780/4229160
N	17/739930/4229280
O	17/739980/4229240

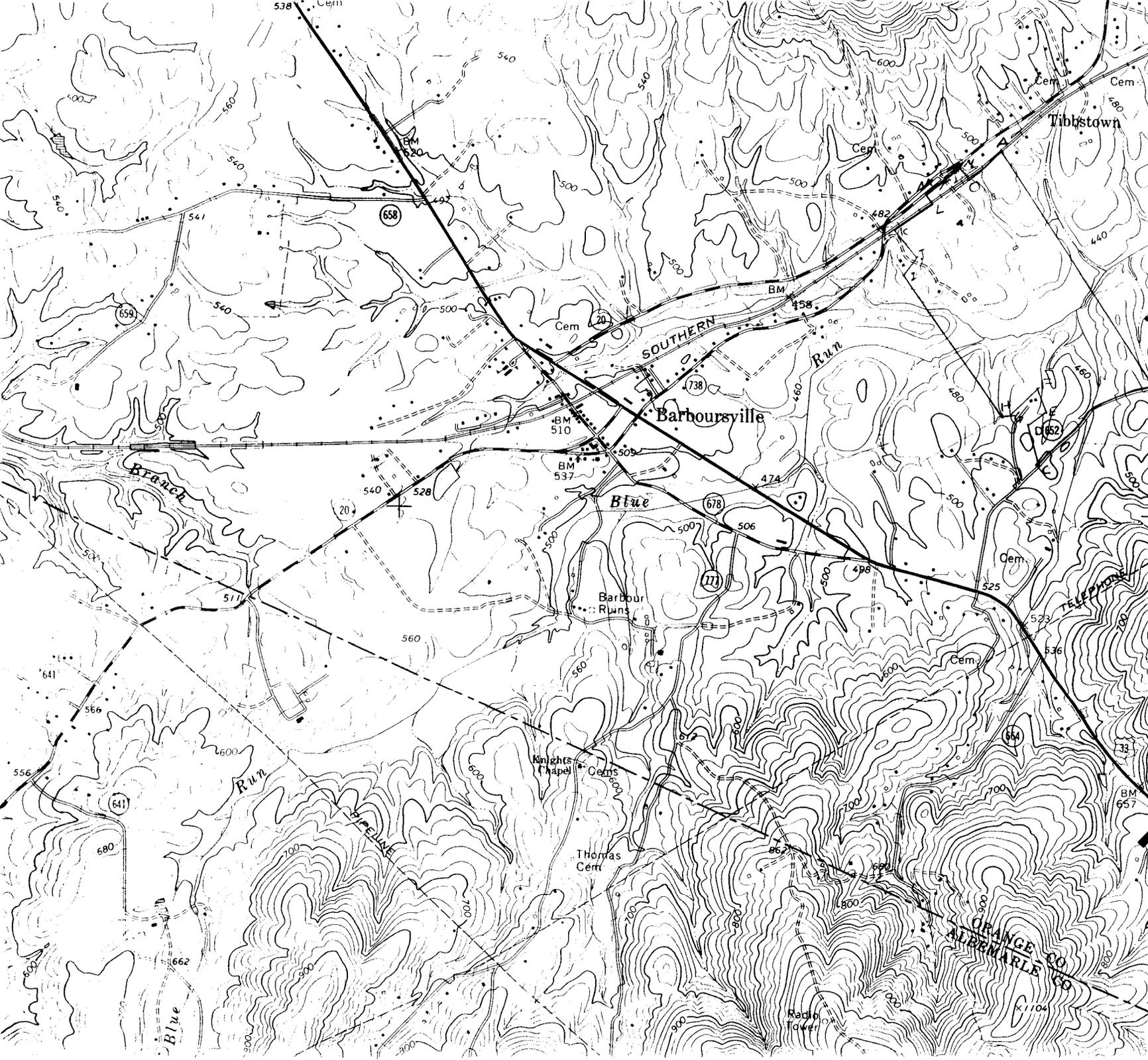
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point on the south right-of-way of the Norfolk Southern Railroad delineated by UTM reference A 17/740120/4229380, proceed southeast some 4400' to a point on the north right-of-way of county route 652 delineated by UTM reference B 17/740900/4228290, thence southwest along the said right-of-way some 2200' to a point delineated by UTM reference C 17/740360/4227880, thence north some 600' to a point delineated by UTM reference D 17/740310/4228080, thence east some 500' to a point delineated by UTM reference E 17/740380/4228140, thence east some 400' to a point delineated by UTM reference F 17/740340/4228240, thence west some 600' to a point delineated by UTM reference G 17/740220/4228120, thence northwest some 200' to a point delineated by UTM reference H 17/740180/4228110, thence north some 2800' to a point delineated by UTM reference I 17/739680/4228760, thence northeast some 300' to a point delineated by UTM reference J 17/739740/4228840, thence north some 500' to a point on the south right-of-way of the Norfolk Southern Railroad delineated by UTM reference K 17/739640/4228960, thence east along the said right-of-way approximately 800' to a point delineated by UTM reference L 17/739800/4229100, thence north some 200' to a point on the south right-of-way of state route 20 delineated by UTM reference M 17/739780/4229160, thence east along the said right-of-way some 600' to a point delineated by UTM reference N 17/739930/4229280, thence south some 200' to a point on the south right-of-way of the Norfolk Southern Railroad delineated by UTM reference O 17/739980/4229240, thence east along the said right-of-way approximately 700' to the point of beginning.

VERBAL BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated acreage includes the house and the core grazing land historically associated with Burlington.





(GORDONSVILLE 5360 II NW)

4229

B

4228

10'

GORDONSVILLE 4 MI.

LOUISA 18 MI.

4226

660 000 FEET (SOUTH)

BURLINGTON  
68-7

- A 17/740120/4229280
- B 17/740100/4228290
- C 17/740300/4227850
- D 17/740310/4228050
- E 17/740350/4228140
- F 17/740340/4228240
- G 17/740220/4228120
- H 17/740150/4228010
- I 17/731000/4228360
- J 17/739740/4228340
- K 17/739600/4228900
- L 17/739800/4228110
- M 17/739700/4228910
- N 17/739100/4228290
- O 17/739900/4228229

ORANGE CO  
ALBEMARLE CO