

PH0509817 VLR-11/15/77

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

RECEIVED DEC 6 1977
DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

The White House (Preferred); (Kauffman House)

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1.6 miles SW of Hamburg; .1 mile E of South Fork of the Shenandoah River; N side of State Route 646; .1 mile WNW of intersection of State Route 646 and U.S. Route 211.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Hamburg

X VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Seventh (J. Kenneth Robinson)

STATE

Virginia

CODE

51

COUNTY

Page

CODE

139

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER: None

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. Max S. Foltz

STREET & NUMBER

R.F.D. # 3

CITY, TOWN

Luray

VICINITY OF

STATE

Virginia 22835

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Page County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Luray

STATE

Virginia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

(2) (see continuation sheet #1)

TITLE

(1) Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

DATE

1958

X FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington, D.C.

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The White House, set in a flat, open field near the South Fork of the Shenandoah River, is a two-story, three-bay Rhenish stone house covered with stucco. The present fenestration consists of two doors with a central window on the south facade and two windows with a door in the west bay of the northern facade. It is evident, however, that the fenestration was altered during an early 19th-century reworking of the house. Two lines in the stucco on the west end, together with a door at first-floor level on that end, suggest the possible former existence of a lean-to wing there. (Although lean-tos are not commonly found on standing Rhenish houses, there are surviving photographs of houses with them).

The present plan of the house consists of two rooms, the one to the east being slightly narrower, with a central chimney between them. Formerly the chimney only opened into the narrower küche, or kitchen. In the course of remodeling in the early 19th century, however, this fireplace was made smaller, and another small fireplace was cut into the stack from the rear. The present window and door openings in the küche may have been reversed, for the present door in the south wall covers a ventilator slit for the cellar. Furthermore, the doors in the larger stube were most likely windows that were enlarged during the alterations. Stairs rise in the southwest and southeast corners of the house.

When the house was remodeled, striking late Federal woodwork was installed in the two first-floor rooms. In the former küche is a mantel with fluted pilasters supporting recessed-panel entablature blocks and a molded shelf over an unusually tall frieze. In this frieze are three molded panels with fluted ellipses in them. To the right of the chimney breast was installed a glass-doored closet. Flush wainscoting is carried around the room.

In the larger room is recessed-panel wainscoting with a small cap. The room end is decorated with a black-painted mantel consisting of plain pilasters supporting a paneled entablature. To the left is a two-level closet with recessed-panel doors below and recessed-panel and glazed doors above. Another, smaller closet was installed high in the wall to the right of the fireplace. This woodwork retains its original paint, with light blue walls, pink trim, and tiger-maple-grained wainscoting and doors.

The second-floor plan was altered to conform to the first during the remodeling and was further divided in the 20th century.

In the open attic space may be seen the ghost of a stair ascending against the east gable from the floor to cellar-beam level. Such permanent stairs were frequently combined with movable boarding laid across the collar beams to provide access to increased storage space in the attic. This characteristically full use of the house volume is found in Dutch and Germanic houses throughout the Middle Atlantic States.

Under the küche is a barrel-vaulted cellar, found in many large Germanic houses of late 18th-century Page County.

No outbuildings survive, although old residents remember a log kitchen which stood to the north of the house. This structure may have been built at the time of the remodeling of The White House and subsequent removal of the küche's functions.

(See continuation sheet #2)

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The White House, built in the second half of the 18th century, is one of an important group of Rhenish log and stone houses situated in the Page Valley in the shadow of Massanutten Mountain. Possessed of many Germanic features including a two-room, central-chimney plan, a vaulted cooling cellar, and a large storage loft, it was remodeled in the early 19th century and retains from that alteration very fine Federal woodwork with its original paint.

The White House is traditionally dated 1760, as are many of the Page Valley Rhenish houses, and is ascribed to Mennonite preacher Martin Kauffman II, who is reputed to have held services there. However, because of the remodeling, confirmation of this date on the basis of its architecture is difficult. The Rev. Martin Kauffman/Coffman did own the land and appears in the land tax records as having been in possession of it in 1782, holding it until his death in 1813.

Kauffman was a Mennonite who was converted by Baptist preacher John Koonz and who is credited with having founded what was known as the Mennonite Baptist Church at his own house. Writing in the 18th century, the Baptist leader James Ireland stated that he "attended stately at a place called The White House, where I was instrumental in planting what has since been called the Mennonite Baptist Church."¹ Later Kauffman withdrew from the Baptist fellowship in disagreement with its pro-military stance during the Revolution, and in 1793 he formed a Separatist Independent Baptist Church.

After Kauffman's death, the property remained in his estate until 1822, when it was sold by commissioners to the estate of Peter Brubecker. By 1825, it was the property of John Brubecker but was apparently occupied by a tenant. It was apparently during Brubecker's tenure that the alterations were made. An interesting sidelight of 1827 tax records is that the property, known as White House since the 18th century, was referred to as the "Fort House," a curiously early use of that misnomer for the vaulted-cellar Germanic houses.

DU, MTP

¹ H.A. Brunk, History of the Mennonites in Virginia, 1727-1900. Vol. I. (Stanton, Va.: McClure Printing Co., 1959), p.26.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Augusta County Deed Book I, 1746.
 Brunk, H.A. History of the Mennonites in Virginia, 1727-1900. Vol. I. Staunton, Va.: McClure Printing Co., 1959.
 Chappell, Edward A. "Rhenish Houses of the Massanutten Settlement." 1977. Manuscript at Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission.
 Kerkhoff, Jennie A. Old Homes of Page County, Virginia. Luray, Va.: Lauck and Co., Inc., 1962.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Shenandoah County Land Tax Books, 1782-1830. Strickler, Harry M. A Short History of Page County. Richmond, Va.; Dietz Press, 1952.

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 14 acres
 UTM REFERENCES

A	1,7	7,1,4	5,8,0	4,2	8,0	5,0,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING			
C	1,7	7,1,4	6,4,0	4,2	8,0	2,4,0

E	1,7	7,1,4	3,2,0	4,2	8,0	3,1,0
B	1,7	7,1,4	7,0,0	4,2	8,0	2,2,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING			
D	1,7	7,1,4	5,3,0	4,2	8,0	2,1,0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION (The White House)

The 14 acres comprising The White House property are bounded by a line beginning at a point (A) approximately 2400' E of South Fork of the Shenandoah River and approximately 900' NNW of eastern intersection of State Route 646 and U.S. Route 211; thence extending approximately 900' SE to N side of U.S. Route 211 (point B); thence extending approximately 200' SW, along N side of said route to western intersection of State Route 646 and U.S. Route 211 (point C); thence extending approximately 1400' NW along NE side of State

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

Route 646 to a point (E); thence extending approximately 1000' NE to point of origin.

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE
 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission	DATE October 1977
STREET & NUMBER 221 Governor Street	TELEPHONE 804-786-3144
CITY OR TOWN Richmond	STATE Virginia 23219

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. *RESUBMITTED: 1/10/80*

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Tucker Hill, Executive Director
 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE NOV 15 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

The White House, Page County, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET #1 ITEM NUMBER 6 PAGE 1

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

- (2) Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey
1967, 1969, 1977 State
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
221 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

The White House, Page County, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET

#2

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 1

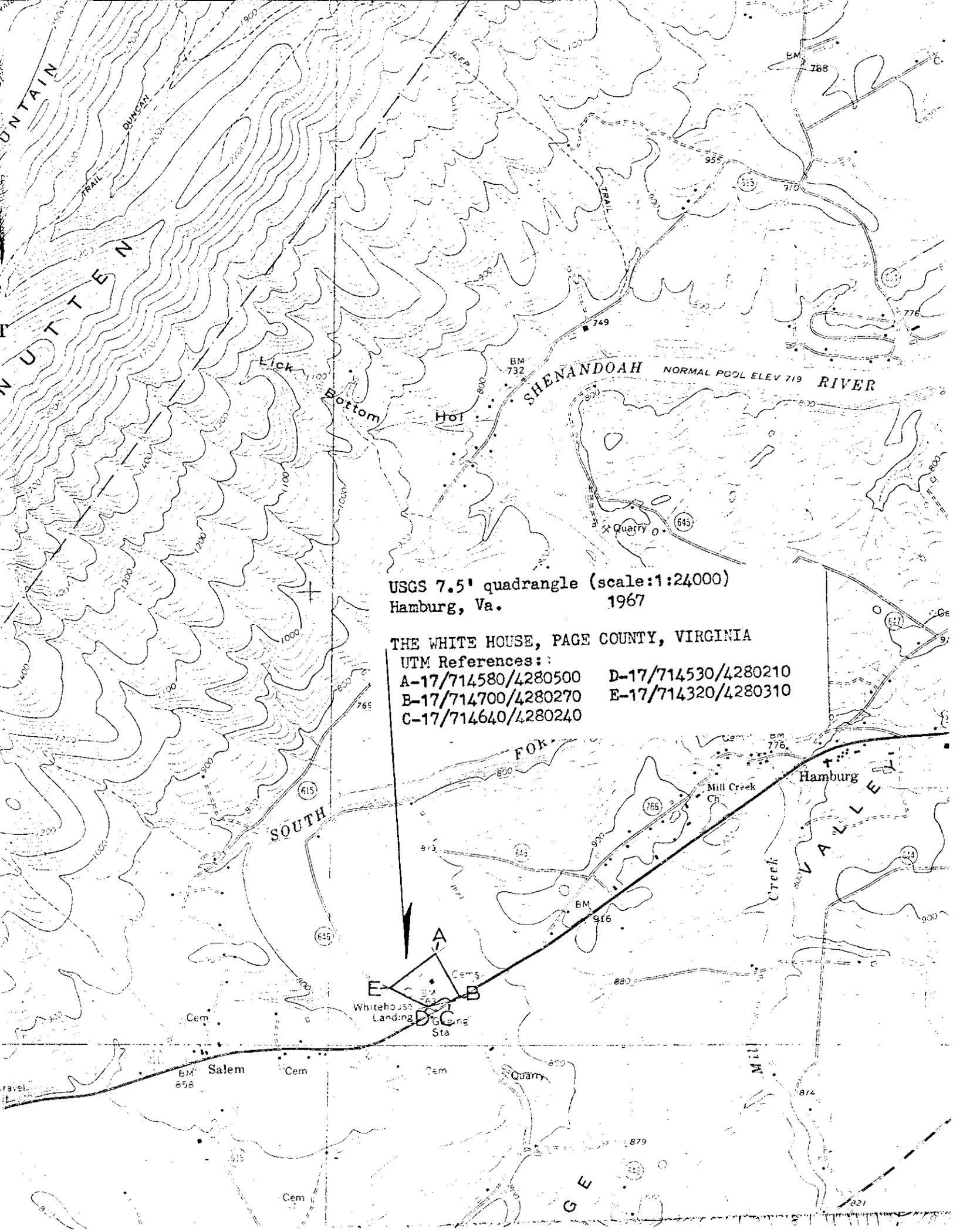
7. DESCRIPTION

Several hundred yards east, included in the boundaries of the property, stands the successor to The White House, a large, two-story brick house with handsome details. Probably built in the third quarter of the 19th century, it nevertheless retains at least one traditional German feature -- an outdoor bake oven to the rear.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

DJ

The boundaries are drawn to conform with current property lines and to include the immediate grounds of the White House and of the 19th-century successor house. These boundaries are necessary to provide a suitable pastoral backdrop for the White House, a dwelling whose isolated quality is a significant historical element.



USGS 7.5' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)
Hamburg, Va. 1967

THE WHITE HOUSE, PAGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA

UTM References:

A-17/714580/4280500

D-17/714530/4280210

B-17/714700/4280270

E-17/714320/4280310

C-17/714640/4280240