

✓ NR-10/9/91 NRHP-1/22/92

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). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Harnsberger Farm
other names/site number DHR File No. 82-132; Golden Creek Farm

2. Location

street & number Jet. SR 601 and SR 602 N/A not for publication
city, town Shenandoah vicinity
state Virginia code VA county Rockingham code 165 zip code 22849

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-lacar	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
		<u>2</u>	<u>6</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
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 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. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official: [Signature] Date: 12/10/91
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.

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, 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): _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Domestic: Single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Domestic: Single dwelling

Work in progress

Vacant/not in use

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian: Italianate

Other: Log dwelling

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone: Limestone

walls Brick

Wood: Log

roof Metal: Tin

other Wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The forty-two-acre Harnsberger Farm is located in northeastern Rockingham County in the Shenandoah Valley. It lies between Massanutten Mountain in the George Washington National Forest, a few miles to the west, and the Shenandoah River and the town of Shenandoah one mile to the northeast. State Route 601 is the eastern border of the farm; it intersects with State Route 602 one-quarter mile to the east. On the site are two nineteenth-century dwellings. The principal dwelling probably was constructed between 1859 and 1861.¹ It is a brick, rectangular, two-story, three-bay, gable-roofed Italianate I house. On the northwest elevation is a one-story ell with the cooking/eating rooms. Originally, a covered porch probably connected these rooms to the main house. The porch probably was enclosed in the 1880s.² During the early twentieth century two rooms were added: a library at the west corner of the main house and the enclosed porch; and a bathroom at the west corner of the library and the ell. The I house has decorative painting that probably dates to the 1890s.³ To the northeast of the principal dwelling is a rectangular, two-story, two-bay, log house. It probably dates to the second quarter of the nineteenth century based on the architectural evidence and similar houses of the period in the Shenandoah Valley. Also on the property are three noncontributing buildings--a smokehouse, a hog house, and a granary/shed; one noncontributing site, the ruins of a springhouse; and two noncontributing structures, a corncrib and a hay shed.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION AND ANALYSIS

The rolling pastureland of the forty-two-acre Harnsberger Farm is divided by Golden Creek. The two nineteenth-century dwellings are located in the southeastern corner of the property. Both are oriented to the southeast.

There are three noncontributing buildings, one noncontributing site, and two noncontributing structures on the property. The noncontributing buildings are a smokehouse and a hog house that date to the twentieth century and a granary/cellar with portions that may date to the nineteenth century. The noncontributing site is the ruins of a springhouse that may date to the nineteenth

See continuation sheet

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
c. 1825-1905

Significant Dates
1859
1890

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.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The forty-two-acre Harnsberger Farm is the core of a nineteenth-century 1,300-acre working farm that was owned by George and Elizabeth Harnsberger from 1849 to 1885. George Harnsberger was a descendent of Stephen Harnsberger, one of the early-eighteenth-century Swiss-German settlers of the Shenandoah Valley.¹ The farm includes a largely unaltered, Italianate I house that was probably constructed between 1859 and 1861. The house is a good example of a distinctly nineteenth-century Anglo-American house form that became the most prominent house form for prosperous farmers in the Shenandoah Valley.² The house is also significant for its decorative interior painting, which probably dates from the 1890s, apparent on the walls, ceilings, and woodwork throughout the house. Although decorative painting was popular in the Shenandoah Valley in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries, surviving examples are not common.³

The architectural significance of the I house is supplemented by a nearby log dwelling. Based on the architectural evidence and similar houses of the period in the Shenandoah Valley, the log house probably dates to the second quarter of the nineteenth century and is constructed of square-notched hewn logs that are covered with weatherboard. With its central fireplace, the house is a transitional form between the *Flurkuchenhaus*, the primary house form brought to America by German and Swiss immigrants and found throughout the Shenandoah Valley in the eighteenth century, and the I house, the primary house form in the Shenandoah Valley during the nineteenth century.⁴

The Harnsberger Farm is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for its significance in local architectural history and for its extensive interior decorative painting. The period of significance ranges from the probable date of construction for the log house through the dates of the major additions to the I house. Both houses are significant as part of the architectural and artistic tradition of the Valley.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Coffman, Floyd Wilmer. *The Conrad Clan*. Harrisonburg, Va.: Joseph K. Ruebush Co., 1939.
Rockingham County Deed Book 3, page 314.
Rockingham County Deed Book 29, page 503.
Rockingham County Deed Book 29, page 505.
Rockingham County Deed Book 71, page 78.
Rockingham County Deed Book 192, page 443.
Rockingham County Land Tax Books 1835-1946.
Rockingham County Will Book 13, page 302.
United States Agricultural Census 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880.
United States Census 1850.

See continuation sheet

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

Specify repository:

Virginia Dept. of Historic Resources
221 Governor St., Richmond, VA 23219

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 42 acres

UTM References

A	1 7	7 10 6 13 7 0	4 2 6 1 2 4 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C	1 7	7 10 5 15 7 0	4 2 6 1 2 4 0

B	1 7	7 10 6 13 0 0	4 2 6 1 2 4 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D	1 7	7 10 5 9 0 0	4 2 6 1 3 6 0

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated property is delineated by the polygon whose vertices are marked by the following UTM reference points: A 17 706370 42612240, B 17 706300 4261000, C 17 705570 4261240, D 17 705900 4261360.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The existing forty-two acres are the core of a much larger working farm which was owned by the Harnsberger family for almost a century. The nominated acreage includes not only the existing nineteenth-century dwellings, but is extensive enough to include the view of the Shenandoah Mountains and the Shenandoah Valley which is a valuable component of the resource.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Beatrice Hurt
organization Mary Washington College
street & number 6086 Heatherwood Drive
city or town Alexandria
date December 10, 1990
telephone (703) 971-2432
state VA zip code 22310

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century. The noncontributing structures are a corncrib and a hay shed that date to the twentieth century. Not visible, but said to have existed, are nine other twentieth-century buildings or sites located either on or just off the current forty-two-acre tract. These include a root cellar that was used to store potatoes and apples; an icehouse in which ice cut from the Shenandoah River was stored and preserved by packing in sawdust; a garage with machine shed attached; a chicken house just for sitting hens; a chicken house to raise chickens to sell; a bin for the farm animals' feed; a circular cement sheep house used to round up sheep for shearing of wool; scales used to weigh horses; and a brick fireplace used to heat water for a clothes-washing kettle five feet in diameter.⁴

Paralleling the principal elevation of the main dwelling is a one-hundred-and-sixty-six-foot long white picket fence with a gate in the center. The fence was reconstructed in 1989 using surviving pieces of an earlier fence as a pattern.⁵ There is a brick walk from the fence gate to the porch steps of the I house.

The foundation of the 48' x 20' I house and the 45'9" x 17'10" ell is random-coursed limestone. The load-bearing brick walls are laid up in Flemish stretcher bond in which courses of alternate headers and stretchers are separated by five courses of stretchers.⁶ The three bays of the southeast elevation have been visually divided by pilasters of brick. The brick exterior has been painted. The foundations of the later additions are random-coursed limestone and the exterior walls are painted wood siding.

There are three porches on the house. On the principal elevation is an 8'6" x 14'6", one-story wooden porch supported by brick piers. Four wooden steps lead to the porch. There are paired rectangular columns, each 7" x 12", on either side of the front of the porch and a pair of pilasters at the back corners. A railing and balusters surround the porch. Supporting the overhanging roof are a pair of brackets above each column and one on the side of the end columns. A wood board trim that imitates a corbel table extends below the cornice. The roof is standing-seam metal.

The northwest elevation of the ell has a 7'0" x 25'6" enclosed screened porch that runs the full width of the ell and extends 7'6" beyond it to the northeast. The porch foundation is not visible. The floor, rectangular support columns, and ceiling are wood. There are four wooden steps leading up to the screened porch door.

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A 45'9" x 7'6" porch runs the full length of the northeast elevation of the ell and adjoining sitting room. The foundation is concrete block and the floor is concrete. The rectangular columns and ceiling are wood. There are one concrete and six wooden steps leading to the porch.

There is a brick interior end chimney at each gable end of the principal massing and a central chimney in the rear ell.

The first floor of the principal elevation has a central doorway with a single, four-panel, wooden door. On the inside of the works of the doorbell is a patent date of April 28, 1874. There is a three-pane, rectangular transom surmounting the door and four-pane sidelights. Two of the panes in the sidelights are original and the others have been etched to match.⁷ The doorway is flanked on either side by coupled 7'4"-tall windows with four-over-four-pane, double-hung sashes. The windows are separated by a seven-inch-wide mullion and feature a wooden sill and wooden shutters. The bracketed crown above the window bay has wooden board trim that imitates a corbel table. The second floor has a central doorway with glazed double doors with eight panes in each door. The coupled windows that flank the second-floor central doorway are the same design as the first-floor windows but are only 5'-10" tall. The door and windows on the second floor have shutters but no crown. All shutters are replacements. The gable ends of the house have no fenestration while the northwest elevation has one window bay on the second floor on the southwest side. It is the same size and design as the second-floor windows on the southeast elevation.

The southwest elevation of the ell has two asymmetrically placed two-over-two-pane double-hung sash windows. They are of the same style, but one is 5'7" tall and the other 6'2" tall. The northwest elevation of the ell has a symmetrically placed four-panel wooden door leading to the screened porch. The northeast elevation of the ell has two sets of coupled windows in the same design and size as the windows on the first floor of the I house. To the southeast of these windows is a single wooden door with two vertical glazed panes over two wooden panels. There is a three-panel rectangular glazed transom above the door.

The enclosed porch, currently the sitting room, has a single four-panel wooden door and a 5'7"-tall two-over-two-pane, double-hung sash window. It is the same design and width as the windows on southwest elevation of the ell, suggesting that they were all installed at the same time. The southwest elevation is the common wall with the twentieth-century room addition, now used as a library.

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The first twentieth-century room addition was the library. It has a six-panel wooden door on the southwest elevation. There is a two-over-two-pane, double-hung sash window with horizontal muntins on the southwest elevation and another on the northwest elevation. The second room added in the twentieth century, the bathroom, has a two-light casement window with vertical muntin on the northwest elevation.

The gable roofs of the I house and the ell and the shed roofs of the library and bathroom are standing-seam metal. On the principal elevation of the I house dentils extend beneath the cornice and four sets of paired brackets support the overhanging eaves. On the northwest elevation one bracket at each end supports the overhanging eave.

The I house has no basement, only a crawl space with a dirt floor.

The house has a single-pile, central-passage plan. The open string stairs to the second floor begin on the northeast wall of the 16'10" x 9'10" passage. The wooden newel has an unusual design. It has an octagonal-shaped base, a turned section, then a tapered octagonal-shaped section, and finally another turned section with a finial on top. An oval handrail meets the newel. There are two turned, tapered balusters for each tread. Under the stairs is a spandrel with a concealed door that provides access to the crawl space and to the furnace that was installed in 1988.⁸

The wooden floors throughout the I house and the ell are tongue-in-groove with planks of random widths from four to nine inches. Except for the wallboard walls that cover the heating ducts on either side of the first-floor fireplaces, the walls and ceilings throughout are plaster. The interior doors in the I house are four-panel wood; there are no interior doors in the ell. Throughout the brick house and the ell, the molded baseboards vary in height from eight to ten inches. All the baseboards are original except in the dining room. There are 8 1/2"-wide door surrounds on the first floor and seven-inch-wide door surrounds throughout the second floor and the ell. The window surrounds on the first floor are eleven inches wide and ten inches wide on the second floor. The window surrounds in the ell vary from six to nine inches wide. All the woodwork has been painted.

There are 10'6"-high ceilings on the first floor and 9'11"-high ceilings on the second floor of the I house, 10'3"-high ceilings in the three rooms of the ell, a 9'6"-high ceiling in the library, and a 8'2"-high ceiling in the bathroom.

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The extent and quality of surviving interior decorative painting on the walls, ceilings, and woodwork is impressive. The decorative painting is in very good condition except for the first-floor sitting room which needs restoration work. There is a *trompe l'oeil* on the first-floor parlor ceiling and on the second-floor passage ceiling. Shadowing was used to create a three-dimensional appearance of plaster work. There is stenciling on the first-floor sitting room walls, while another painting style found in the house is woodgraining and marbling. It is likely that all of the rooms were woodgrained or marbled since there is woodgraining on the mantel and woodwork of the second-floor southwest bedroom and paint samples show marbling was present on fireplaces throughout the house. Fireplace mantels were remarbled in 1990 where paint samples showed it had been previously.⁹

The first-floor southwest bedroom measures 17'4" x 17'8". The fireplace has an elaborate cast-iron liner with a diamond pattern. The facing of the liner has a floral pattern with rosettes in the upper corners. Originally the room had windows facing each other on the northwest and northeast walls. Although the northwest window was converted to a doorway to provide access to the library from this room, the original window surround is intact.

The northeast sitting room, measuring 17'4" x 14'7", is undergoing restoration. The fireplace has a cast-iron fireplace liner and facing in a similar pattern to the one in the southwest bedroom.

The second-floor southwest bedroom measures 17'4" x 18'6". The fireplace is flanked on the right with a one-foot-deep closet.

The second-floor northeast bedroom measures 17'4" x 15'5".

The original rooms in the ell were a kitchen and probably a dining room. Both rooms were remodeled in 1990. The dining room measures 17'11" x 15'7". The wood-paneled wainscoting below the chair rail and a niche on the northwest wall were installed in 1990. The 14'0 x 15'8" kitchen has a green slate floor over the southwest half of the room and a 2' x 5' island with sink that were also installed in 1990.¹⁰ The five-foot-long, eight-foot, five-inch-tall cabinet on the southeast wall probably is original.

Both the sitting room and the library have tongue-in-groove wood flooring. The sitting room measures 10'5" x 15'5". The paint has been sandblasted from the walls of the sitting room revealing the original red brick exterior of the house and ell. The other two walls are plastered and wallpapered. The library measures 14'7" x 15'6". The room was completely remodeled

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in 1989 and now has wood paneling on all walls and built-in bookshelves on the southeast wall. The 7'7" x 8'2" bathroom has a marble floor that was installed in 1988.¹¹ There is a four-foot-high tongue-in-groove dado below a chair rail that is probably original.

Thirty-two feet off the northeast corner of the ell is a two-story, two-bay, rectangular, 34'6" x 24'3" log house. It is oriented with the principal elevation facing southeast. The foundation is random coursed limestone. The house is constructed with square-notched hewn logs that are covered with weatherboard. The roof framing is lapped and pegged at the ridge and lapped and nailed with cut nails at the collar beams. There is a central chimney and a standing-seam-metal gable roof. Based on the architectural evidence and similar houses of the period in the Shenandoah Valley, the log house dates to the second quarter of the nineteenth century.

On the principal southeast elevation is a 12'2" x 10'6" one-story wooden porch. It is of impermanent construction with 6" x 6" posts placed directly in the ground. Widely spaced vertical strips run between the posts and widely spaced slats are laced over them in a V pattern. The roof is covered with tar paper.

The northeast elevation has a 24'3" x 8'2" shed that was constructed in 1960.¹² It is unsafe for use and will be taken down.

The entrance door is symmetrically placed on the principal southeast elevation. It is a replacement door with three vertical panes of glass over three horizontal wooden panels. To the northeast of the door is a window with two-over-two-pane sash and shutters. On the second floor are two asymmetrically placed windows with six-over-three-pane sashes without pulleys.

The southwest elevation has two symmetrically placed windows on each floor. They are the same size and design as those on the southeast elevation. The west window on the first floor has shutters.

The northwest elevation has two symmetrically placed windows on the first floor only. They are of the same design and size as the other first-floor windows. Some of the weatherboarding is missing below the northeast window revealing cut logs that indicate there may have been a doorway in this location. The northeast elevation has one symmetrically placed replacement window on the second floor.

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The interior of the first floor has been modernized and divided into a kitchen, living room, one bedroom, and bathroom. The central fireplace has been completely enclosed. The owner plans to remove the modern interior fabric and restore the rooms to an earlier period.

An enclosed, double-run stairway to the second floor is located on the northwest wall of the kitchen. There are two risers outside the enclosed stairway. At the top of the stairs, one four-panel door leads to the southwest room and a second four-panel door leads to the two northeast rooms. The tongue-in-groove flooring throughout the second floor has planks of random widths from four to nine inches wide.

The walls in the southwest room are wallboard. There is a simple fireplace on the northeast wall. The exterior walls in both rooms on the northeast side of the house have exposed logs and chinking while the interior dividing walls are circular-sawn vertical plank. The door between the two rooms is board and batten. An eight-inch-high, six-inch-wide center beam appears to run the length of the house. The eight-inch-high ceiling joists are notched and rest on this beam.

NOTES

1. Rockingham County Land Tax Records 1861.
2. The Land Tax Record for 1880 has a note "\$200 for improvements" and the Land Tax Record for 1887 has a note "\$250 in improvements." *Either one could have been the date the porch was enclosed.*
3. Ann McCleary, Museum of American Frontier Culture, Staunton, Va., telephone conversation with author, 12 September 1990.
4. Marlana Shifflett Comer, mother of current property owner, conversations with author, October 1989 through August 1990. Mrs. Comer's parents owned the property from 1944 until 1980.
5. Michael D. Comer, property owner, conversations with author, October 1989 through August 1990.
6. Ronald Brunskill and Alec Clifton-Taylor, English Brickwork (London: Ward Lock Limited, 1978), 70. Flemish stretcher bond is "a bond in which courses of alternate headers and stretchers are separated by courses of stretchers. Usually there are three courses but there may be any number from one to six." It is sometimes called American with Flemish.
7. Michael D. Comer.
8. Ibid.
9. Ibid.
10. Ibid.
11. Ibid.
12. Ibid.

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HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The nominated acreage of the Harnsberger Farm is the core of an agricultural farm that was in the Harnsberger family for almost a century. It is located near the center of the German settlements in the Shenandoah Valley.⁵ Located on the farm are two dwellings: an Italianate I house and a log house.

The log house probably already stood on the 692 1/2 acres George W. Harnsberger, a physician, purchased in 1849 from his father-in-law, Isaac Long. Although there is much that is unknown about the log house and the property before 1849, it is known that it was a successful working farm. According to the 1850 Agricultural Census, 300 of the 692 1/2 acres were improved and produced 1,700 bushels of wheat, 37 bushels of rye, 2,000 bushels of Indian corn, 140 pounds of wool, 5 bushels of peas and beans, 50 bushels of Irish potatoes, 2 bushels of sweet potatoes, 25 bushels of buckwheat, 250 lbs. of butter, 20 tons of hay, and 29 lbs. of beeswax honey. The value of farming implements and machinery was \$279. The value of livestock was \$1,283 and included 9 horses, 13 milk cows, 28 cattle (other than working oxen), 40 sheep, and 24 swine. The value of animals slaughtered was \$200.⁶

George Harnsberger probably constructed the brick I house between 1859 and 1861 as it first appears on this property in the Rockingham County land tax books in 1861. In the eighteenth century, German and Swiss immigrants had brought with them a culturally distinct house form, but by 1800 the gradual process of acculturation had taken place and "the I-house or one of its formal derivations became virtually the only house type a successful middle-class farmer in the region would build."⁷

George Harnsberger also owned an adjoining 609 acres of property located between the above-mentioned 692 1/2 acres and the Shenandoah River, making him one of the largest landowners in the county.⁸ There were only five others who owned more land. According to the 1860 Agricultural Census, George Harnsberger was also one of the wealthiest. Of the approximately 1,800 landowners listed in Rockingham County, only 93 had land of equal or greater value than Harnsberger's. His 800 acres of improved land produced 1,250 bushels of wheat, 200 bushels of rye, 1,300 bushels of corn, 300 bushels of oats, 50 lbs. of wool, 100 bushels of Irish potatoes, 10 bushels of sweet potatoes, 400 lbs. of butter, 50 tons of hay, 55 bushels of clover seed, and 15 bushels of grain seeds. The value of farm implements and machinery was \$500. He owned 16 horses, 6 milk cows, 28 cattle other than working oxen, 20 sheep, and 70 swine.

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The value of livestock was \$2,600 and the value of animals slaughtered was \$450. The Agricultural census records of 1870 and 1880 indicate that this continued to be a productive working farm.⁹

On January 1, 1885, George W. Harnsberger sold the two parcels of land to his daughter, Carrie V. Harnsberger.¹⁰ During the 1880s and 1890s the brick house was improved by the enclosure of the porch and the addition of decorative painting. Carrie sold 376 1/80 acres of land to her son, Gilbert M. Harnsberger, on May 1, 1903.¹¹ The land included the brick I house and the log house. It was probably during his ownership that the two rooms were added (no evidence of a specific year has yet come to light). According to the son of the man who managed the property from December 1925 until March 1944, the Gilbert Harnsberger family lived in ~~Harrisonburg~~ so their daughters could attend school there and used the Harnsberger Farm as a summer home.¹² Sarah H. Harnsberger acquired the land on February 25, 1944, "by virtue of the will of Gilbert M. Harnsberger."¹³ The farm passed out of the Harnsberger family after ninety-five years when Sarah Harnsberger sold it on February 25, 1944.¹⁴

ADDENDUM

George Harnsberger acquired two pieces of property from Isaac Long. Six hundred and ninety-two acres were deeded and recorded in Rockingham County Deed Book 3, Page 314. There was no reference in the deed to an earlier property transaction. The second piece of land was willed to George Harnsberger's wife, Elizabeth, by her father, Isaac Long. According to the will, the land was located on the Shenandoah River and therefore, would not be the property being researched.

The Grantee books were checked to determine from whom Isaac Long acquired the properties. Between April 1813 and May 27, 1845, there were sixteen listings with an Isaac Long as Grantee. None of these deeds could be identified as the Harnsberger Farm property being researched. Either the deed described property in another part of the county or the deed was partially or completely burned so it is impossible to determine the location of the property. (Some of the Rockingham County courthouse records were burned during the Civil War. These books are referred to as the "Burned Books.")

The Land Tax Books were also checked. Between 1840 and 1853, Isaac Long of Page County is listed in the Land Tax Books as having owned two pieces of property: one is 293 acres and the other 119.2 acres. During these years, there was no valuation for buildings for either property. Since there is none, it is doubtful that either one is the property with the log house on it that was probably constructed some time during the second quarter of the nineteenth century. Also, the land is valued at one-half the value of the land owned by George Harnsberger in 1852. In the 1840 book, there was a note "by Jacob Price." Burned Book 13, page 131, shows a deed where Jacob Price sold 293 acres to Isaac Long, but the land is near Peaked Mountain which is not near the Harnsberger Farm. There was no note for the other property. Isaac Long does not appear in the 1835-1839 Land Tax Books.

Isaac Long is probably of German descent. The historical evidence suggests that the Long name is an Anglicized version of the Germanic name Lung and the Lungs were among the earliest settlers in the Shenandoah Valley. References to this effect are found in the following books: Old Homes of Page Co., Virginia by Jennie Ann Kerkhoff, Lauck & Co, Inc. Luray, Va, 1962, p. 9; The German Element of the Shenandoah Valley by John Walter Wayland, The Michie Co., Charlottesville, Va., p. 37 and p. 64; and the Index of 1810 Census of Virginia.

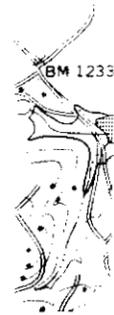
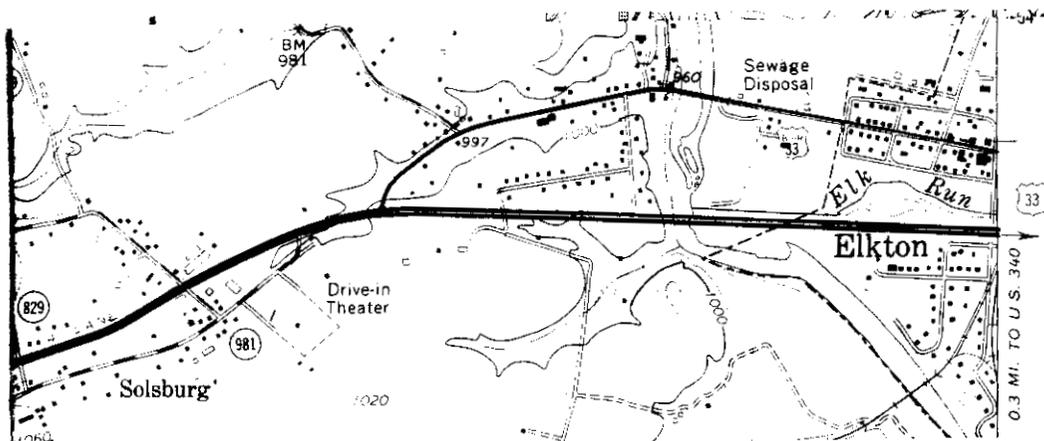
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NOTES

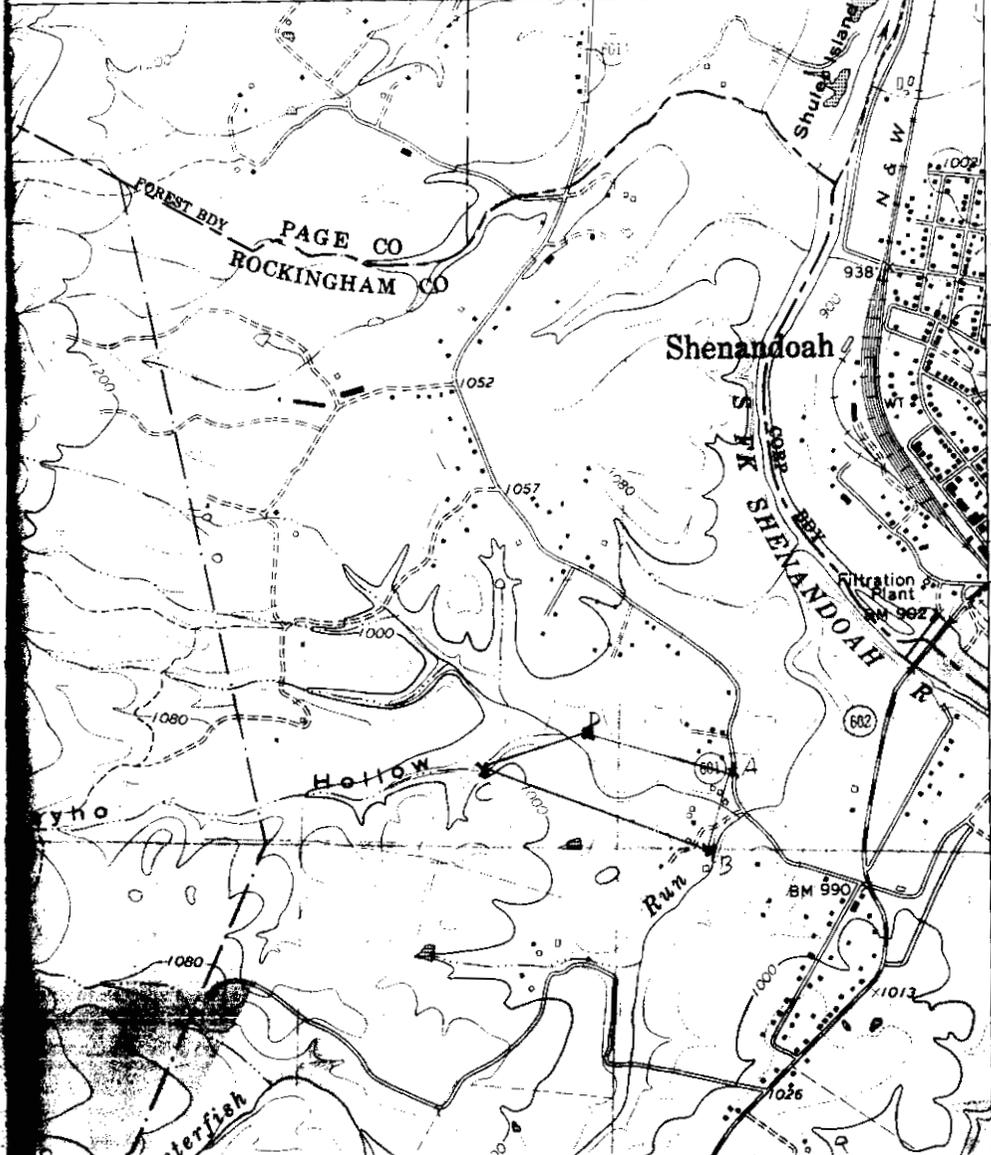
1. Floyd Wilmer Coffman, The Conrad Clan, (Harrisonburg, Va.: Joseph K. Ruebush Co., 1939), p. 191.
2. Dell Upton, ed., Common Places: Readings in American Vernacular Architecture (Athens and London: The University of Georgia Press, 1986), p. 28.
3. Ann McCleary, Museum of American Frontier Culture, Staunton, Va., telephone conversation with author, 12 September 1990.
4. Dell Upton, 19-43.
5. John Walter Wayland, The German Element of the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia (Charlottesville, Va.: The Michie Company, Printers, 1907), p. 20.
6. United States Agricultural Census, 1850.
7. Upton, 29.
8. This is the land willed to Elizabeth Harnsberger from her father, Isaac Long. See endnote 5 above.
9. United States Agricultural Census, 1860, 1870, 1880.
10. Rockingham County Deed Book 29, p. 505 and Rockingham County Deed Book 29, p. 503. Carrie married her second-cousin, John Samuel Harnsberger.
11. Rockingham County Deed Book 71, p. 78.
12. Escue Garrison, Elkton, Va., conversation with author, 15 August 1990. Mr. Garrison was 12 years old when his father began working for Mr. Gilbert Harnsberger on December 8, 1925. His father worked on the farm until March 1944.
13. Rockingham County Will Book 13, p. 302.
14. Rockingham County Deed Book 192, p. 443.



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