

VLR a/6/6
NRHP 12/1/6

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

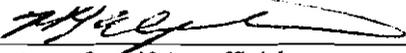
historic name George Chrisman House
other names/site number DHR File #082-0136

2. Location

street & number 5341 Shaver Mill Road not for publication N/A
city or town Linville vicinity N/A
state Virginia code VA county Rockingham code 165 Zip 22834

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
Virginia Department of Historic Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

12/17/66
Date

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

U. S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service

George Chrisman House
Rockingham County, Virginia

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>1</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>2</u>	<u>1</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
INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION Manufacturing Facility

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single Dwelling
OTHER Ruins
OTHER Electric Pump House

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

EARLY REPUBLIC: Federal

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation STONE: Limestone
Roof WOOD: Shake
Walls STONE: Limestone
Other BRICK

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

U. S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service

George Chrisman House
Rockingham County, Virginia

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.
- 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; AGRICULTURE

Period of Significance Circa 1787-1956

Significant Dates Circa 1787; Circa 1830

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder George Chrisman

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 # _____

U. S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service

George Chrisman House
Rockingham County, Virginia

Primary Location of Additional Data

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

Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property 4.51 acres

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

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	UTM 17	<u>685724E</u>	<u>4268482N</u>	2	UTM 17	<u>685870E</u>	<u>4268433N</u>
3	UTM 17	<u>685812E</u>	<u>4268331N</u>	4	UTM 17	<u>685685E</u>	<u>4268409N</u>

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: Sarah Edwards, Consultant
 Organization: Sabe Preservation Consulting date 6/8/2006
 street & number: 2804 Bywater Drive, Apt. 232 telephone (540) 435-1120
 city or town Richmond state VA zip code 23233

Additional Documentation

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)

Property Owner

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

name Gordon Daniel Pinnell, Jr. and Susan M. Pinnell
 street & number 5341 Shaver Mill Road telephone (540) 833-8346
 city or town Linville state Virginia zip code 22834

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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SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The George Chrisman House is located within picturesque Rockingham County in the Shenandoah Valley. The 4.51-acre property near the village of Linville is bordered on the north by Shaver Mill Road, which is also known as Route 780. The remainder of the border is shared with an adjacent farm. The main house is a circa 1787 two-story, side-gabled, Federal-style, limestone house with a three-bay facade and side wings. The south wing is a 1.5-story, two-bay, attached limestone kitchen that appears to have been constructed at the same time as the main house. The one-story, two-bay wing was constructed circa 1960 from limestone taken from the ruins of Shaver Mill, built circa 1830, and located southeast of the main house. A non-contributing concrete block electric pump house, built circa 1960, stands southeast of the mill ruins.

SITE INVENTORY

Contributing Resources

- (1) Two-Story Main House with Stone Addition, circa 1787, Building
- (2) Shaver Mill Ruins, circa 1830, Site

Non-Contributing Resources

- (1) Pump House, circa 1960, Building

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Situated near the village of Linville, Virginia, stand the George Chrisman House and the ruins of Shaver Mill. The Chrisman House is a regularly coursed limestone, two-story, side-gabled building with north and south limestone wings. The main block of the house has a three-bay facade, while each wing has a two-bay facade. The south kitchen wing is a 1.5-story structure that was built on a slightly lower grade than the main two-story block. The north addition is a one-story, side-gabled, limestone building that was built in the 1960s from the ruins of Shaver Mill.

The history of this property can be characterized by three distinct periods of construction. The first being the construction of the main house with the attached stone kitchen, circa 1787. The second period of construction is characterized by the construction of the limestone gristmill by the George Shaver family circa 1830. The third and final period of construction is characterized by the acquisition of the property by Frederick and Mary Holm circa 1960 and their subsequent alterations to the property including the construction of the one-story, side-gabled north addition, the construction of a non-

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contributing concrete block electric pump house, and the removal of a one-story log cabin that stood to the south of the stone kitchen. A complicating factor in the development of the George Chrisman property is the lack of many pertinent primary source documents from the early development of Rockingham County due to the unfortunate burning of these records during the Civil War. Although early records are lacking, some fragments of records still exist today. The prevalent gaps of time and information in the remaining records make it difficult to create timelines for early Valley properties. With regards to the George Chrisman property, the available primary source documents have been used as a supplement to the secondary source information and family history to determine the historical evolution of the Linville property and the Chrisman family's role in such development.

First Period of Construction

The first period of construction of the George Chrisman House is characterized by the erection of the main house with the attached stone kitchen, circa 1787, according to tax records. Historical photographs that are on file at the Virginia Department of Historic Resources Archives show a log dwelling that was located a few feet to the south of the main house. This building was torn down by the Holm family around 1960. There is limited information about this building, but it could have served as a temporary structure during the early development of the property. From the photographs, the log dwelling appears to have been a single-pen, side-gabled building that was not attached to the main house. While it was a freestanding building, the photographs show it located only a few feet south of the stone kitchen wing of the main house.

The most significant architectural aspect of the circa 1787 main house with its attached stone kitchen wing is its extensive use of regularly coursed limestone for the foundation and walls, thus making it an exemplary example of Shenandoah Valley vernacular architecture.

The limestone foundation of the main block and attached wing encloses a cellar structure, which would have likely been used as a food storage area. The ceiling for the cellar also shows the use of a double laid wood flooring system that appears to be original and would have served as a structural stabilizer for the first floor as well as an insulator for the food storage area of the cellar. The cellar is accessed by a wooden six-panel door located on the south elevation of the main block of the house. The wooden door and hardware appear to be original to the house and date to the late 18th century. Upon entering the cellar area from the exterior door located on the southern elevation of the main block, there is an exposed wooden floor joist that bears a stamp "GC", the initials of the builder and original owner, George Chrisman.¹

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On the east elevation, which is the main facade, the use of coursed limestone continues two stories to terminate at an ornamental cornice and the eave overhang of the side-gabled roof line. The cornice line is a modified dentil molding that is reflective of Federal-style influence on American architectural development. A stone and brick interior-end chimney is on each of the north and south gable ends of the main block. Currently the roof is clad in cedar shakes; however, no remnants of original roofing material are evident. There are small windows located below the first story on the east and west elevations that provide light and air into the cellar. The first-story windows are nine-over-six double-hung, wood-sash and the second floor windows are six-over-six double-hung, wood-sash. The north and south elevations have two-over-two windows on the attic level. The south elevation also has a narrow four-over-four, double-hung, wood-sash window that provides light into the enclosed staircase leading from the first to second floor of the house.

The interior of the main block of the house reveals much about the design and construction. The first floor illustrates the use of a traditional three-over-three room plan with an enclosed winding staircase in the southeast corner of the house that provides access to the second floor. The first-floor plan originally consisted of a large rectangular room to the south and two small square rooms, each with a corner fireplace, to the north. A wall has been removed between the south and northwest rooms, otherwise the original floor plan remains largely intact. While the second floor also has a three-over-three room plan, the previous owners created a north-south hallway that modified this plan and created a small clothes closet on the eastern side of the house. A small modern bathroom was added in what originally was a portion of the central passage on the western side of the house. Despite these alterations, the second-floor plan is still largely intact. All fireplaces within the bedchambers are still intact, including the corner fireplaces in the north bedchambers. The second floor also provides access to the attic by an enclosed winding staircase located in the southeast corner. Mantels and woodwork throughout the interior of the house suggest a mid-19th-century remodeling, as they are Greek Revival in inspiration. The attic shows no evidence of alteration.²

The current owners have uncovered the original paint finishes on most of the interior walls of both the first and second floors. One of the most interesting finds can be seen on the southwest wall of the first floor. There is evidence of simulated or painted baseboards in the southwest corner of the main room of the first floor, where black was used as the base shade with a medium gray over the top of the black basecoat. The size of the uncovered section makes it difficult to determine the intended design, thus it is impossible at this point to determine whether the area was marbleized or grained. It is likely that further research and sampling with microscopic investigation could reveal more about the intended pattern. In addition to the simulated baseboard, the original plaster and lath systems in the main room also have original rosehead nails and irregular

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nail holes. All of the original interior doors remain. Some of the original HL hinges remain, while replacement HL hinges do not fully cover visible ghost marks of the original, larger hinges. The ceiling joists of the interior reveal a framing system that includes a summer beam with mortise-and-tenon and wood pegged binding and trimming joists. The rafters are comprised of three pieces joined by beveled and recessed half dovetail lap joints that are oak pegged.³

A stone and brick chimney dominates the southern gable end of the kitchen wing of the house. The windows and doors have been replaced during the various renovations to the house. The current windows are located on the east and west elevations and are six-over-six, double-hung, wood sash. The window and wooden entry door on the east elevation have limestone jack arches above, while the window on the west elevation does not. The interior of the stone kitchen has a large intact stone fireplace. While the fireplace and original woodwork remain intact, the half story above is no longer accessible as the staircase was removed. Other interesting elements include pit-sawn boards and hewn floor joists. Alterations in the 1960s included the filling in of the half-story window openings on the western and eastern elevations. The wing is currently used as a modern kitchen.

Second Period of Construction

The ruins of Shaver Mill, circa 1830, are located southeast of the George Chrisman House. Originally a two-story coursed limestone building with a limestone foundation and a wooden wheel, it was built after the acquisition of the property by the George Shaver family in 1829 and used as a gristmill. The mill was seemingly out of operation by 1885 according to the absence of notation on Lake's Atlas of Rockingham County published in 1885. Various local historians have interviewed Shaver family members and their accounts suggest it was one of the oldest limestone mills in Rockingham County. There is no evidence in tax records to suggest that the Chrisman family built the mill, thus placing its date circa 1830 under the Shaver family ownership. The lack of a mill mentioned in the Shaver family census data from 1860-1880 suggests that it was merely a part of the family's agricultural operation in Linville and not an industrial operation. The mill now stands in ruins, and it is impossible to determine any other elements of the form and design of the building.⁴

Third Period of Construction

A circa 1960, small, rectangular, concrete block pump house is a non-contributing building located southeast of the mill ruins. This period is also marked by the construction of the north wing of the main house out of limestone from the ruins of the Shaver Mill, circa 1960. The one-story, side-gabled north addition has an interior brick chimney on its north gable end. The building has one six-over-six, double-hung, wood-

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sash window on the east elevation and one six-over-six, double-hung, wood-sash window on the west elevation. There are also two exterior doors; one on the east elevation and one on the west. The north wing was completed by the Holm family upon their acquisition of the property and the subsequent collapse of the mill's roof in the late 1950s. Subsequent renovations in the twentieth century also led to the removal of the porch that dominated the main facade and its replacement with the current one-bay porch with a gabled front.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The George Chrisman House, located in Rockingham County at 5341 Shaver Mill Road in Linville, Virginia, is significant under Criterion A for agriculture and Criterion C for architecture. The circa 1787 Federal-style limestone dwelling with original kitchen wing is an outstanding example of Shenandoah Valley vernacular architecture that embodies characteristics of both late eighteenth-century and nineteenth-century design and fashion. The development and cultivation of the original grant of 376 acres of land by his father allowed George Chrisman to begin a life for his family in the fertile Shenandoah Valley. On this land he was able to cultivate a variety of crops and livestock on a small scale in the beginning, while progressing to a more sophisticated agricultural system using the services of up to fifteen slaves. Future Chrisman generations enhanced the agricultural output of their Shenandoah Valley farm with the introduction of new livestock breeds. The addition of a gristmill by the Shaver family in 1830 and their continued use of the property as a working farm further contributed to the agricultural and architectural evolution of the property. While the property has been reduced in size over the years, it still reveals much about the agricultural settlement patterns, agricultural evolution, and architectural traditions of an Upper Shenandoah Valley farm of the late eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Historical Background

Acquisition of the Property

The story of the Chrisman property began years before George and Hannah Chrisman acquired the land in 1761 by a grant from George's father, Jacob Chrisman, and mother, Magdalena Hite Chrisman, who resided in Frederick County, Virginia. Jacob, however, like many of the other German settlers had made his way to the Shenandoah Valley by way of Pennsylvania. George's mother was the daughter of Jost Hite, who is noted as one of the first settlers in the Valley. Jost Hite acquired over 7,000 acres in the Linville Creek area of the Shenandoah Valley. Upon acquisition of this acreage, Jost Hite established a mill on Linville Creek and, in turn, rented the mill to the founder of Linville, Thomas Linville, in 1742. Thomas Linville subsequently purchased 1,200 acres on Linville Creek from Hite by 1746, which was diminished when Linville sold 500 acres to Jacob and Magdalena Chrisman on November 14, 1746. There is no evidence to suggest that Jacob and Magdalena ever settled in the Linville Creek area, as their two-story stone homestead, Chrisman Springs, in Frederick County was undergoing construction at that time. On May 5, 1761 Jacob and Magdalena deeded 376 acres of the property to their sixteen-year-old son, George Chrisman, to establish his own farm and home. It is possible that the land was a wedding gift to George Chrisman and Hannah McDowell who were married by 1762.⁵

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Family History

Once George left Frederick County at the age of 16, he made a life all his own that would impact the history of the upper Shenandoah Valley for years to come. His most notable contribution was his Revolutionary War military service and his service as captain of the Rockingham Militia beginning in 1781. His role in the early developmental stages of Rockingham County is also revealed in the limited historical court records found in the Rockingham County Courthouse. An example of such involvement dates from July 26, 1779 when George Chrisman is listed as a surety at the swearing in of the third sheriff of Rockingham County, Adam Smith. He assumed the role of land surveyor for a right-of-way case, Vance v. Keyser in 1779. He is also listed on numerous occasions as a bondsman from 1780-1804. George was also an official witness to the signing of the deed between Abraham and Bathsheba Lincoln (the paternal grandparents of President Abraham Lincoln) and Shanks and Reuf on February 12, 1780. He also served as a juror on a land dispute case in September 1802, Dunkenson et ux. v. Moore. George Chrisman was also one of the contributors to the William Herron School in 1792.⁶

George Chrisman's son John, who is often known as Gentleman Jack, dedicated much of his life to public service as he served as postmaster of Linville. John was also a lieutenant in the 116th Regiment of the militia in 1806. John's son, George H. Chrisman was an advocate for farmers' rights and fair agricultural economic practices, which in turn led to the development of the Farmers Alliance. The most notable Chrisman is George Chrisman's great grandson, Major George Chrisman, who served during the Civil War as captain of Chrisman's Infantry, the 10th Virginia Regiment, and also served as captain of Chrisman's Boy Company. Major Chrisman was also one of the three founding members of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Historical Society. His role as a farmer in Rockingham County also led to the introduction of new breeds of livestock to the Valley, and he wrote numerous articles on successful agricultural techniques.⁷

Development of the Property

Once George and Hannah Chrisman acquired the property in 1761, it is believed that settlement and land development shortly followed. Given the prevalence of fertile soil and the fact that the Chrismans were one of the largest land holders in Rockingham County with 376 acres of land, farming was the chosen livelihood for the young couple. Such farming would have been on a small scale in the beginning which progressed into a more sophisticated agricultural system with the acquisition of 15 slaves by the 1810 Census. Their means of living and housing also followed this pattern of development.⁸

The Chrismans probably built a small temporary building at first constructed from roughly hewn logs that were likely a result of the clearing of the land. The log dwelling

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that was torn down in the 1960s after the Holms acquired the property may have been the couple's original dwelling on the property. From historical photographs on file at the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, this log dwelling is shown as standing a few feet to the south of the main house. It appears to have been a simple, one-story, likely side-gabled structure.⁹

The construction of the two-story limestone main house helps to illustrate the economic success of George Chrisman and his place within the local gentry. While the existing fragments of tax records for Rockingham County begin at 1787, the rate of tax and the total value that the Chrismans paid suggests that there was a substantial structure located on the property on Joe's Creek. The tax value on their property is almost triple what many other residents in the district paid, thus supporting the date of the house's construction prior to 1787. While the tax information alone is not significant enough to accurately date the building, other sources of information suggest an earlier date of construction including a letter from noted Rockingham County historian John Wayland to Frederick Holm, who speculated the house was one of the oldest in Rockingham County. Another piece of information is the 1784 Head of Household Survey, which indicates the Chrisman property was inhabited by "9 white souls" and included "1 dwelling and 3 other buildings." While the details of the buildings are not documented, it is believed that the one dwelling is the surviving main house and that the three other buildings are probably domestic and agricultural outbuildings.¹⁰

The development of the property under the George Shaver family began with their acquisition of the property in 1829. Continuing in the agricultural traditions already established by the Chrisman family, the Shavers operated a successful and sophisticated agricultural enterprise in Linville. The Agricultural Schedules from 1850-1880 show the cultivation of numerous crops and various livestock on the Shaver farm that would allow for a diverse agricultural enterprise. The main crop and most lucrative for the Shaver family was wheat like many other early farms in the Valley. The 1850 United States Census agricultural production schedule notes that the Shaver family was in possession of "800 wheat bushels," which far surpassed their other crops that included corn, rye, and oats. As was the case with many other families in the Valley, the Shavers were using grain as their major source of revenue. The expansion of their agricultural enterprise included the Shavers' construction of a limestone gristmill on the property, circa 1830.¹¹

Gristmills appeared in Rockingham County as early as 1750; however, most early mills were small operations that provided subsistence for the needs of the small working farm or small community. The emergence of larger mills came largely with the development of more sophisticated transportation systems in the Valley. During the nineteenth century more sophisticated income-producing mills emerged like Shaver Mill. The improvements in transportation made it easier for more grain to be brought in for processing, which in turn provided a greater economic return than earlier mills for

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families like the Shavers. While the mill would have still provided the necessary flour for the Shaver family and surrounding communities, its main function was as an income producer for the owner. The mill also became a center for commerce and social interaction in farming communities, thus its significance superceded its basic agricultural function. One such example of trade and social interaction is seen with the mention of Shaver Mill in Silas Fisher's Day Book from Highland County that spanned from 1853-1855. This historic record notes that in 1855 Silas engaged in the following transaction with the Shaver family: "Sept 10 put 25 bushels wheat in Shavers Mill and got 82 lbs flour." The ability of the Shaver family to expand their farm's agricultural system due to the contribution of the mill further enhanced the agricultural significance of the George Chrisman property.¹²

It is believed that the lack of notation of Shaver Mill on Lake's Atlas of Rockingham County published in 1885 means that it was no longer a working mill, thus placing its time of operation from 1830-1880. While the mill stands in ruins today, it is interesting to note the role of the surrounding landscape in the function of the mill. There is a visible millrace to the southwest of the ruins, which would have diverted water from Joe's Creek to most effectively power the mill. The mill was in ruins by the 1940s and once the Holm family acquired the property in 1956, they decided to reuse the limestone from the mill ruins to build an addition to the north of the two-story portion of the main house.

Current Efforts

The current renovation of the house has also revealed fragments of redware pottery, blue transferware, decorated pearlware, and green feather edge ceramics that were found throughout various sections of the cellar and surrounding the house. These artifacts are consistent with the early 1800s. There are also a number of legible signatures etched onto the exterior of the building; "Geo T Chrisman", "Conrade Custer...5th 1813", "Joseph Custer Oct 6 1823 his hand", "Evaline Custer." The foundation for the original slave quarters has yet to be found, but oral history suggests that it was located to the south of the main house.

Conclusion

The Chrisman House is a property that warrants recognition by the State and National Registers under Criterion A for agriculture and Criterion C for architecture with a period of significance from its construction, circa 1787, to the last historic addition in 1956. Although the property has been reduced in size over the years, it still reveals much about the agricultural settlement patterns and architectural traditions of the Upper Shenandoah Valley during the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. While the dates of the

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property's history remain somewhat blurred by the lack of adequate records, the current renovation of the house and the observed architectural elements provide insights into its construction and subsequent remodeling during the mid-nineteenth century. Future archaeological investigations have the potential to yield information about the locations of earlier buildings as well as material culture related to domestic and farm life during the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries.

ENDNOTES

¹ Carl R. Lounsbury, Editor, *An Illustrated Glossary of Early Southern Architecture and Landscape*, 143. *Early American Architecture*, 42. Issac Long Terrell, *Old Houses in Rockingham County*, 14.

² Terrell, 10-14.

³ Roger W. Moss, Editor, *Paint in America: The Colors of Historic Buildings*, 17,131,175.

⁴ Agnes Kline, *Stone Houses on Linville Creek*, 52. Janet Baugher Downs, et al. *Mills of Rockingham County Vol. 2*, 195-197. Agricultural Census Schedule 1850-1880.

⁵ Augusta County Courthouse Records Room, Deed Book 9 Page 369, 5 May 1761. J. Houston Harrison, *Settlers by the Long Grey Trail*, 116, 135,196, 382-383. John W. Wayland, *Historic Homes of Northern Virginia and the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia*, McClure Co. 1937, 69, 76. John W. Wayland, *The German Element of the Shenandoah Valley*, C.J. Carrier, Harrisonburg, 1975, 33-34, 68. J.E. Norris, editor, *History of the Lower Shenandoah Valley*, 56. Samuel Kercheval, *A History of the Valley of Virginia*, 60.

⁶ Harrison, 285-286, 370, 383. Rockingham County Minute Book Vol. 1 1778-1786. Dunkenson et. ux. V. Moore Judgments Sept. 1802, A to R; Chalkley Vol. 2, 26. Marguerite B. Priode, *Executor, Administrator and Guardian Bonds in Rockingham County, VA 1778-1864*, Harrisonburg, 1978, 1-7.

⁷ William A. Good, *Discovery, Formation and Growth of Rockingham County and Harrisonburg*, 55. Wayland, *A History of Rockingham County*, 134, 300, 318, 370. John Heatwole, *Chrisman's Boy Company*, 13. Edith F. Axelson, *VA Postmaster and Post Offices 1789-1832*, Iberian, Athens, 1991, 169. Matthew Page Andrews Vol. 1, *Virginia: The Old Dominion*, Dietz, Richmond, 1949, 572-573.

⁸ US Census 1810. *Mills of Rockingham County Vol. 4*, 659. William A. Good, *Discovery, Formation and Growth of Rockingham County and Harrisonburg*, 13.

⁹ John W. Wayland, *History of Rockingham County*, 43. *Early American Architecture*, 13-14, 21-22, 24. Terrell, 5-7, 10-14. Harrison, 383. *Historic Architectural Survey of Rockingham County*, Dec 2000, 7, 41, 43. James C. Massey and Shirley Maxwell, *House Styles in America*, 15-23. Kercheval, 84.

¹⁰ John Wayland Letter to Fred Holm. Harrison, 383. Head of Household Census of 1784. Rockingham County Courthouse Genealogy Records Room, Land Tax Book for Rockingham County of 1787 First Book, 18. *Early American Architecture*, 20-21. Henry Glassie, *Folk Housing in Middle Virginia*, 21-40. Terrell, 14. Glen Christman, *A Chrisman/Christman Genealogy: The Descendants of Jacob Christman I, of Frederick County, Virginia*, 209.

¹¹ *Mills of Rockingham County, Vol. 2, 195-200. Mills of Rockingham County, Vol 4,473. 658-661. Agnes Kline, Stone Houses of Linville Creek and their Communities*, PVP Publishing, Harrisonburg, 1971, 52. Agricultural Schedules Census 1850-1880.

¹² Kline, 52. *Mills of Rockingham County, Vol. 2, 195-200. Mills of Rockingham County, Vol 4, 659-660. Silas Fisher's DAY BOOK 1853-1855. US Agricultural Schedules Census 1850-1880.*

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

The Chrisman House property is located within Rockingham County at the physical address of 5341 Shaver Mill Road, Linville, Virginia. The property is made up of 4.51 acres of land with three buildings on the property as defined on the Rockingham County Land Map 64 A, Lot 57 found in the Rockingham County Tax Assessor's office land book. The property is bordered to the west, south, and east by the Edom Acres, LLC property. The south boundary also follows a part of Joe's Creek. The north border is defined by Route 780, which is known today as Shaver Mill Road.

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the nominated property includes the historical resources associated with the George Chrisman property and is recorded on Rockingham County Land Map 64A as Lot 57. The property is owned by Gordon Daniel and Susan Pinnell.

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Section Photographs Page 15

All photographs are of:

GEORGE CHRISMAN HOUSE

LOCATION:

5341 Shaver Mill Road
Rockingham County, Virginia
DHR File no. 082-0136

PHOTOGRAPHERS: Matthew Corder and Sarah Edwards

DATE: April 15, 2006

NEGATIVE #: 22930

All negatives are stored at the Department of Historic Resources in Richmond, Virginia

VIEW: East Elevation Main House

NEGATIVE #: 22930, **FRAME #:** 32

PHOTO 1 OF 15

VIEW: South Elevation Main House

NEGATIVE #: 22930, **FRAME #:** 30

PHOTO 2 OF 15

VIEW: South and West Elevations of Main House

NEGATIVE #: 22930, **FRAME #:** 8

PHOTO 3 OF 15

VIEW: West Elevation of Main House

NEGATIVE #: 22930, **FRAME #:** 36

PHOTO 4 OF 15

VIEW: North Elevation of the Main House

NEGATIVE #: 22930, **FRAME #:** 33

PHOTO 5 OF 15

VIEW: First Floor Interior Looking South

NEGATIVE #: 22930, **FRAME #:** 24

PHOTO 6 OF 15

VIEW: Interior of Stone Kitchen

NEGATIVE #: 22930, **FRAME #:** 22

PHOTO 7 OF 15

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Section Photographs Page 16

VIEW: Second Floor Interior Hall Looking South
NEGATIVE #: 22930, FRAME #: 18
PHOTO 8 OF 15

VIEW: Southwest Bedchamber Mantel and Fireplace Detail
NEGATIVE #: 22930, FRAME #: 19
PHOTO 9 OF 15

VIEW: Staircase Detail Southeast Corner of Main House
NEGATIVE #: 22930, FRAME #: 17
PHOTO 10 OF 15

VIEW: Baseboard Detail with Period Finishes
NEGATIVE #: 22930, FRAME #: 11
PHOTO 11 OF 15

VIEW: Cellar Entry Door Located on South Wall of Main House
NEGATIVE #: 22930, FRAME #: 10
PHOTO 12 OF 15

VIEW: Ruins of Shaver Mill Looking South
NEGATIVE #: 22930, FRAME #: 27
PHOTO 13 OF 15

VIEW: Non-Contributing Concrete Block Pump House
NEGATIVE #: 22930, FRAME #: 25
PHOTO 14 OF 15

VIEW: Overview of Farmstead Looking North
NEGATIVE #: 22930, FRAME #: 3
PHOTO 15 OF 15

CHRISMAN HOUSE
VADHR#082036
ROCKINGHAM COUNTY

BROADWAY QUAD
WGS84 / NAD83
UTM COORDINATES

1: UTM 17
685724E
4268482N

2: UTM 17
685870E
4268433N 32'30"

3: UTM 17
685812E
4268331N

4: UTM 17
685685E
4268409N

