

VLR- 6/18/09

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

LISTED ON:  
VLR 06/18/2009  
NRHP 08/20/2009

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 Clem-Kagey Farm  
other names/site number Hiram C. Clem House; Kagey House; DHR File No. 085-0206

2. Location

street & number 291 Belgravia Rd not for publication N/A  
city or town Edinburg vicinity X  
state Virginia code VA county Shenandoah code 171 zip code 22824

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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] 7/7/09  
Signature of certifying official Date  
Virginia Department of Historic Resources  
State or Federal Agency or Tribal government

In my opinion, the property X meets      does not meet the National Register criteria. (      See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting official/Title 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 the Keeper  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

\_\_\_ 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 the Keeper \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

**Clem-Kagey Farm**

**Shenandoah County, Virginia**

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**5. Classification**  
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**Ownership of Property** (Check as many boxes as apply)

**Category of Property** (Check only one box)

private  
 public-local  
 public-State  
 public-Federal

building(s)  
 district  
 site  
 structure  
 object

**Number of Resources within Property**

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>4</u>	<u>3</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  
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**6. Function or Use**  
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**Historic Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>single dwelling</u>
<u>DOMESTIC</u>	<u>secondary structure</u>
<u>AGRICULTURE</u>	<u>storage</u>
<u>AGRICULTURE</u>	<u>agricultural outbuilding</u>
_____	_____

**Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>single dwelling</u>
<u>DOMESTIC</u>	<u>secondary structure</u>
<u>AGRICULTURE</u>	<u>storage</u>
<u>AGRICULTURE</u>	<u>agricultural outbuilding</u>

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**7. Description**  
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**Architectural Classification** (Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate  
OTHER: I house

**Materials** (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE: limestone  
roof ASPHALT  
walls WOOD: weatherboard  
other BRICK

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

**Clem-Kagey Farm**

**Shenandoah County, Virginia**

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**8. Statement of Significance**

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**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 \_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance** 1880-ca. 1920

**Significant Dates** 1880; ca. 1920

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

**Cultural Affiliation** N/A

**Architect/Builder** R. S. Jones (attributed)

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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(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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Clem-Kagey Farm**

**Shenandoah 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, RICHMOND, VA.

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**10. Geographical Data**

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**Acreage of Property** 109.981 acres

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

Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing
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.)

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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name/title James C. Massey and Shirley Maxwell

organization Massey Maxwell Associates date 03/08/09

street & number P.O. Box 263 telephone 540-465-4566

city or town Strasburg state VA zip code 22657

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**Additional Documentation**

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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)

Sketch plan, first floor house interior

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**Property Owner**

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

name W. Denman Zirkle and Mr. and Mrs. William M. Carroll

street & number 12097 S. Middle Rd telephone 540-533-9322

city or town Edinburg state VA zip code 22824

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**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.). A federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 36 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 National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, 1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240.

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National Park Service**

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**Clem-Kagey Farm  
Shenandoah County, Virginia**

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**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION**

**SUMMARY DESCRIPTION**

The house on the Clem-Kagey Farm, at 291 Belgravia Rd., (VA Rt. 707) near Edinburg, Virginia, was constructed in 1880. It is a particularly fine and attractive example of the northern Shenandoah Valley I house. It is a two-story, three-bay house with an integral rear wing built at the same time as the front portion of the house, as well as a remarkable, highly ornamented, two-story porch spanning most of the façade. Two interior brick chimneys flank the center hall. The original owner, Hiram C. Clem, was a successful Shenandoah County farmer. The ornament on the house bears similarities to documented work in nearby houses by builder R. S. Jones, suggesting that he may be the architect of this house as well. The nominated property includes seven resources, four contributing and three noncontributing. There are four buildings, three of which are contributing: the house, 1880 (C); the frame garage (C), ca. 1920; and the two-story frame wagon shed/shop building (C), ca. 1880. There is one contributing structure, the granary (C), ca.1880. Noncontributing resources include one building--a modern pole barn (NC)--and two structures--the recently constructed vehicle shed (NC) and an animal shelter (NC), also of recent construction. Route 707 (Belgravia Road) bisects the farm, and the surrounding area is composed of multigenerational family farms set in gently rolling fields used for raising livestock and growing corn.

**EXTERIOR**

The Clem-Kagey House, built in 1880, is a two-story, five-bay, side-gabled, frame I house with a wide, two-story front porch, two brick interior chimneys, and an integral rear wing. The house is in very fine condition. The ascribed date is based on Shenandoah County property tax records and is supported by earlier evaluations and a recent analysis of ornament and overall design.

The Clem-Kagey House is a particularly attractive and intact example of a form common in the northern Shenandoah Valley—an I-house with integral rear wing and a wide front porch. The house is 39 feet wide. There are also smaller side porches. The basement, foundation, and house form all indicate that the front section and rear wing were constructed at the same time.

The rear wing is on the left side and has a two-story side porch within the ell. The porch is terminated by small rooms at the end of each story, a typical design of the period in this area. Prominent bay windows are on each gable side of the front I portion, a feature frequently found in later nineteenth-century construction, as are the two-over-two-light, double-hung, wood-sash windows used throughout the house.

While the intricate, sawn-wood gable ornament is typical of the post-Civil War era, the two-story design of the fanciful porch on the facade is unusual.

The central entrance has a two-leaf door with arched-head sash in each part. The second-floor central door to the porch is a single door with rectangular lights. Windows flank the doorways on each floor. They are original two-over-two-light, double-hung, wood sash, as are the windows throughout the house. Original two-panel wood shutters are also found throughout the house, except at the two bay windows located on the gable-end sides of the front section.

In the projecting front gable is a Gothic pointed-arch window with three panes of colored glass in the pointed upper section of the arch, each pane in a different color, with two rectangular clear panes below. The same Gothic arch window is repeated in each of the four gables.

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The walls are clad in plain wood weatherboards. The gable walls and side bay-window walls are wood-shingled, with both fish-scale and hexagonal butts.

The distinctive, ornamented, two-story front porch and gable above are the most remarkable features of the house. The 33-foot-wide porch is five bays across and one bay (ten feet) deep on the first floor. There are square posts ornamented at the top, with plain, arched frames between the posts, and with a rounded pendant at the top of each arch. The smaller second-floor porch is also in five bays, but the two end bays are actually only half-bays, each containing half of an arched frame. The roof between the two sections is concave, covered in standing-seam metal. The second-floor porch has a two-tiered geometrical railing. There is no railing on the first floor, although there may originally have been one, as seen in porches on other nearby houses. The large, cusped, round arch on the front gable, though reminiscent of earlier Gothic Revival pointed arches, is uncommon in the rounded form.

The porch and house cornices have small, spaced brackets in a frieze under a molded upper section. The house cornice makes a partial return across the side gables of the house.

**REAR WING**

The right side of the rear wing has a two-story, three-bay porch inserted into the L formed by the main block and the wing. The porch is terminated on each floor by a small room at the end, with one small window in each room, one-over-one-light. Doors lead to the porch from the central hall, dining room, and kitchen. The kitchen has a sash door. On the second floor, a four-panel door opens to the porch from the upstairs center hall, as well as a sash door from the rear hall. There is no porch railing on the first floor. The second-floor porch railing is in ornamental sawn-work. The posts on both floors are square, with small curved trim at the top.

The bracketed cornice continues around this side and the remainder of the house. The rear facade of the wing has a plain gable without ornament except for a Gothic window. The first and second floors have one window each, and the kitchen has a rear door. Also in the rear are covered steps to the basement.

The left side of the house is flush from front to rear, in two stories and three bays, including a prominent bay window and two windows farther back. There are four windows on the second floor and a Gothic gable window in the attic. The siding and shingled and ornamented gable and bay window are similar to the right side.

**INTERIOR**

The interior doors are four-paneled. The floors are original five-inch boards, repaired and refinished. The walls and ceiling are plaster, and there are no cornices. In general, the interior design is simple and restrained compared with that of the exterior. The front I section of the house has a central hall leading back to the rear wing's side porch door, as was common in area houses of this period. There is a good Victorian stair with a short return to the second floor and a large square, ornamented newel post and turned balusters. The side of the stair is vertically paneled. An unusual four-door storage cabinet is on the right side of the hall near the rear.

To the right of the hall is a family room with a fireplace with wooden mantel and brick hearth. The mantel has simple pilaster sides, a plain shelf, and chevron stripes in the frieze. Antique-style Dutch tiles surround the firebox.

The window and door trim, like that in the rest of the house, has molded pilaster trim and unusual corner blocks with molded edges and cross-cut (horizontal and vertical) work in the center. The walls and ceilings are plastered; there is no cornice.

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To the left of the center hall is the living room. It has bead-board wainscoting. The fireplace has a molded mantel shelf with turned pilaster sides, an ornamented and paneled frieze, and a brick hearth. There is a window on the front and one on the side.

Behind the living room, in the wing, is the dining room. It has vertical-board wainscoting and no fireplace. There is a door to the rear side porch and one window on each side.

Behind the dining room is the kitchen, and between the two rooms is a narrow, enclosed stairway leading up to the second floor and down to the basement. The kitchen is modern, with built-in cabinets and appliances and a central island. There is vertical-board wainscoting and doors both to the side porch and to the rear. A new lavatory is in the side-porch termination, formerly a pantry. There are three windows, side, rear and porch.

**SECOND FLOOR**

The second floor has a central hall with bedrooms on both sides of the front I section. The center hall has a rear door to the side porch. The hall also opens to a narrow rear hall.

The right-side bedroom has windows on the front and side but no fireplace. The left-side room is the master bedroom, with windows on the front and side. There is a closet against the hall wall, but no fireplace.

A modern bath and closets are in the wing, behind the left-side bedroom. At the rear of the house is a bedroom with a very small bath in the porch termination. This bedroom also has a door to an enclosed attic stair. The inner wall of this room is in old, vertical, wide boards.

The attic has a low ceiling and is unfinished. It is notable only for its Gothic windows.

The basement is reached by stairs from the kitchen and by an outside door at the rear of the house. It is full-height on the left side of the house and wing. Evidence in the foundations suggests that it has been lowered to its present level from what was probably a partial-height basement. A crawl space is under the right side of the house. The foundation under the bay windows indicates that they were part of the original construction.

The house was thoroughly rehabilitated in 2001, with good care taken of historical features. The contractor was William Wine of Wine Construction Company. The only major change was the insertion of new bathrooms. The walls and ceilings were replastered, and the floors repaired and refinished. Modern forced-air heating, ventilation, and airconditioning system was discreetly installed. The partially enclosed side porch was re-opened to its original appearance. New electrical systems and lighting were installed.

**SECONDARY RESOURCES**

A line of six farm structures is to the rear of the house in a form described by Allen G. Noble as "linear to the rear". They are: 1) an old (ca. 1880), frame, two-story wagon shed and shop building, clad in weatherboards, with a front-gabled roof, brick chimney, and a vehicle bay on the right (contributing); 2) a modern, frame, shed-roofed, three-bay vehicle shed with an open front (non-contributing); 3) on the south side of the drive, an old, frame, shed-roofed, watherboarded, two-vehicle garage with sliding doors (ca. 1920; contributing); 4) in the field behind the garage, a modern frame, shed-roofed animal shelter (ca. 2001; noncontributing); 5) behind the north-side outbuildings, an old, frame granary with matched wood siding, a side-gable metal roof, limestone foundation, and sliding front door (ca. 1880s; contributing); 6) at the rear of the lane, a large modern, gable-roofed pole barn, built in part on the stone foundation of a ca. 1880s barn, from which a portion of the ramp survives (non-contributing).

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Shenandoah County, Virginia**

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**SUMMARY STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Clem-Kagey Farm house (Hiram C. Clem House) is located at 291 Belgravia Road (VA Rt. 707) in Shenandoah County, four miles southwest of Edinburg, Virginia. County land records indicate that it was constructed in 1880 by Hiram C. Clem. It is an exceptionally handsome, decorative, and intact example of the vernacular Late-Victorian I houses that marked the prosperous family farms of the northern Shenandoah Valley from the 1870s until the beginning of the twentieth century. It is locally significant under Criterion C, both for its architectural distinction and for its exceptional architectural integrity, both of which are rarely found in area I houses. It seems probable that the house and its Italianate ornament are the work of R. S. Jones, a Shenandoah County architect, builder, and carpenter who is known to have designed the J.W.R. Moore House (1871; NR) and the C. A. R. Moore house (ca. 1871), both located a few miles away near Mount Jackson, Virginia, and both with unusual ornamental features similar to those found here. Only minor changes have been made to the house, and it is in excellent condition. The period of significance extends from 1880, the construction date of the house, to circa 1920, the construction date of the contributing garage. There are four contributing resources on the property: three buildings—the house, 1880; a frame wagon shed/workshop; ca. 1880; and a two-car frame garage, ca. 1920—and one structure: a ca. 1880 frame granary. There are three noncontributing resources, all of recent construction, ca. 2001; one is a building—a pole barn --and two are structure--an open vehicle shed; and a frame animal shelter. The property consists of 109.981 acres, including the 3.6 acres on which the house is sited.

**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

**Clem Ownership, 1880-1925**

Hiram Calvin Clem was born in 1836 not far from Edinburg, in Powells Fort (Fort Valley) in eastern Shenandoah County. <sup>1</sup> The 1860 U.S. Census shows the 24-year-old Clem living at the home of Ann Stickley in Shenandoah County <sup>2</sup> Although he would have been of prime military age at the time of the Civil War, two separate lists of Shenandoah County men serving in the Confederate Army (compiled respectively by Don Silvius and Richard Kleese) do not include Hiram Clem's name.. In 1867, he married Adeline King (1841-1906), and the 1870 census found the couple living in the Lee Magisterial District in "Dwelling 111". It lists Hiram's occupation as "blacksmith" and notes that the couple had two children, ages two years and eight months. The Clem family eventually grew to include nine children, eight of whom survived infancy.

It is not clear exactly when the Clems moved to Ashby Magisterial District where the Clem-Kagey Farm is located, but Hiram Clem paid county taxes on 100 acres of land there, on what is now the Clem-Kagey Farm, in 1880. In 1881, the value of buildings and improvements on the property jumped from \$25 to \$300, at which level it remained until at least 1885, suggesting that the house was constructed in 1880. Lake's 1885 Atlas of Shenandoah County shows not one but two farms lying near each other and belonging to "H. Clem". <sup>3</sup> Land records indicate that Hiram's father, Elias Clem, had also moved from Fort Valley to the Edinburg area and had a farm near that of his son, so it is possible that Hiram and his family lived there for a time before building their house.

The Kagey Era, 1936-2001

In 1936, the farm was purchased from the Smiths by John S. and Grace B. Kagey and Elizabeth Kagey as tenants in common. Elizabeth Kagey conveyed her share of the property to John and Grace Kagey in 1948. John Kagey died intestate in 1980. Grace Kagey died in 2000, leaving the farm to their two daughters and sons-in-law and the

children of a son who had predeceased Grace Kagey. Thus, the farm had been in Kagey family ownership for 65 years when it

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was purchased from the Kagey heirs by W. Denman Zirkle in 2001. Mr. Zirkle, a descendant of Hiram Clem's near neighbor, Isaiah Bowman, carefully rehabilitated the farm house, and farming operations on the property continued. In 2003, the house and 3.6 acres immediately adjacent to it were purchased by its present owners, William M. Carroll and Sigrid Zirkle Carroll. Mrs. Carroll is the daughter of W. Denman Zirkle. The remainder of the land was retained by Mr. Zirkle, who has indicated an intention to donate an easement on his portion of the property to the Virginia Department of Historic Resources.

Except for the addition and modernizing of kitchen, bathrooms, and heating and cooling systems, the Clem-Kagey house remains essentially as it was constructed, presenting a remarkably intact example of a prosperous farm residence of the last quarter of the nineteenth century.

**ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE**

**Shenandoah County I Houses In Context**

The basic I-house form is common in the northern Shenandoah Valley and is widely found throughout the Mid-Atlantic and Midwest. It is classified by Allen G. Noble, et al in Wood Brick and Stone: The North American Settlement Landscape, Vol. 1, Houses in several types and periods. The three-bay-by-one-bay, two-story frame house with chimneys on each gable end or flanking the central hall (Noble's Type 2) predominates in the Valley and is found in both rural areas and towns. [Footnote: Maral S.Kalbian, in Frederick County, Virginia: History through Architecture, uses the term "Folk Victorian" in referring to decoratively trimmed I houses of the late nineteenth century.

The frequent presence of the I house is well documented in the Virginia Department of Historic Resources survey of Shenandoah County, conducted in two phases by Kalbian and Massey Maxwell Associates respectively. Recent field work by the authors of this nomination includes several I houses documented in National Register nominations and Preliminary Information Forms. Additionally, an article on the I house by Massey and Maxwell appears in the May-June 2009 issue of *The Old-House Journal*.

Henry Glassie's study of vernacular dwellings in Louisa and Goochland Counties, Folk Housing in Middle Virginia: A Structural Analysis of Historic Artifacts provided an early examination of the I house in a Virginia context, while a similar effort in North Carolina is documented in Michael Southern's essay, "The I-House as a Carrier of Style in Three Counties of the Northeastern Piedmont" [in Carolina Dwelling: Towards Preservation of Place: In Celebration of the North Carolina Vernacular Landscape, the Student Publication of the School of Design, Volume 26, North Carolina State University, 1978.] The literature devoted specifically to Shenandoah County is sparse. An exception is a brief discussion in Common Houses in America's Small Towns, the Atlantic Seaboard to the Mississippi Valley (Jakle, Bastian, and Meyer), which describes houses in the town of Woodstock, the Shenandoah County seat.

I houses constructed of brick, as well as variant types identified by Noble, were built both before and after the Civil War in the northern Valley. It is the basic Type 2, however, that typifies farm dwellings during the 1865-1885 period. Kalbian writes that the I house "was the most common type of dwelling constructed in [Frederick County] during the late nineteenth century." The same claim might be made for Shenandoah County.<sup>4</sup>

Wide front porches, as well as rear wings that create an L-shaped footprint, are common appendages to I houses of

this area and time period. In general, I-house literature discusses the rear wing only in passing, although Jakle does offer a brief discussion of wings. In Shenandoah County and the northern Shenandoah Valley, a two-story rear wing containing two rooms is most common, and at least one room of the wing is usually part of the original construction. Most frequently, a two-story rear side porch opens to the main house through a door at the rear of the center hall.

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A less common feature in some houses is a small room at the rear of the porch on one or both stories; gained by enclosing the end of the porch. On the first floor, this space usually was utilized as a pantry. This wing layout is also seen frequently in period houses of other forms, such as behind a Four Square or a center-hall, double-pile house. Partial basements are normal in I houses.

The Clem-Kagey Farm house was built with an integral rear wing containing a dining room and kitchen and a two-story side porch with rear pantry/storage rooms closing the end of each floor of the porch. The J.W.R. Moore House (1871; NR) near Mount Jackson follows the same pattern, while the Bowman-Zirkle House, not far from the Clem-Kagey House, was built with an integral two-story, one-room-deep rear wing.

Although it is true that the I house form predominated among post-Civil War houses in Shenandoah County, most such houses have lost their integrity because of inappropriate alterations and additions, or they have not been maintained in a historically appropriate condition. Relatively few prime examples of the type remain, and most of these are located within towns rather than on farms. Thus, the near-pristine condition of the Clem-Kagey House makes it nearly unique as an example of the late-nineteenth-century family farm house in Shenandoah County.

The spacious, ornately trimmed dwelling was undoubtedly a symbol of Hiram Clem's success as a farmer, as well as a comfortable dwelling for his large family. Although the I-house with-integral rear wing that Clem built for his residence represented the most common house form used in post-Civil War Shenandoah County, the broad, two-story front porch, gable-end bay windows, and elaborate, sawn-wood ornament on the house's multiple gables distinguished it from other nearby farm dwellings. The ornament provides a clue not only to Hiram Clem's prosperity, but also to the probable identity of the builder/carpenter who created it. It seems likely that the builder was a Shenandoah County carpenter named R. S. Jones, whose work at the J .W. R Moore House (1871; NR) near Mount Jackson, south of Edinburg, bears striking similarities to the ornament on Clem's more modest residence.

Hiram Clem's farm adjoined those of several other long-time residents of the Hamburg area.<sup>5</sup> His neighbors included Isaac Bowman and Isaac's son, Isaiah Bowman, as well as the Fravel family, to which Isaiah Bowman's wife, Annie, belonged. Portions of the Clem farm had once belonged to the Bowmans and the Fravels. Shenandoah County land records for 1890 note that the Clem property had gained in value the previous year through the acquisition of "Fravel land bought from Annie, Isaiah, Sarah, and William Bowman".

Hiram Clem was active in the affairs of the Bethel Lutheran Church, which had been established at Hamburg in 1867. Shenandoah County land records for 1890 note that "Hiram (sic) C. Clem and others" provided "descriptions of alterations" to Bethel Church. Hiram and Adelaide both died in 1906, within a month of each other, and both are buried in the Bethel Church cemetery. Their second son, George Monroe Clem (1872-1925), purchased the farm from the other heirs. The farm subsequently was owned by Parke M. and Rulette Smith until 1936.

**CLEM-KAGEY HOUSE ORNAMENT**

The Clem-Kagey house has fine, unusual decorative wood ornament, primarily on the front porch and principal gables but also on the interior.

The Clem-Kagey house frame porch is an unusual form in the northern Shenandoah Valley. While two-story porches

under a full pediment or flat entablature are commonplace from the mid-eighteenth century into the twentieth century, this form--a second-floor porch recessed from the first floor and roofed with a concave standing-seam metal roof with the top floor covered by a partial front gable--is most distinctive. The authors have found no comparable porches in the region. Two other uncommon ornamental forms found on this house are the open-arch frame between the

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rectangular bays of the porch and the large arch on the pediment with ornament within the arch, a form derived from Gothic Revival pointed arches with cusps but rare in the Italianate form.

The open-arched frame is commonly found with the spandrels filled in, or in the Tudor arches of the Downing era, but it is not often seen in the simple, open form seen here. There are other examples in Shenandoah County—specifically, in the porches of the J. W. R. Moore House (1871; NR) near Mount Jackson; the Dr. Christian Hockman House (1870; NR), an Italian villa near Edinburg; and a porch addition to the Kaempfer House near Timberville. In adjoining Frederick County, it is seen on a fine I house in Stephens City. In the boldly ornamented Anthony Hockman House (1871; NR) in Harrisonburg, Virginia, the porch has arches with the spandrels filled in with scrollwork, in a manner reminiscent of the Shenandoah County examples.

A search of period pattern books and books on houses of the era yields only a handful of similar examples in other states. A comprehensive analysis of Virginia has not been made, but it is possible that the form is seen primarily in the northern Shenandoah Valley. R. S. Jones, the builder-designer of the J.W. R. Moore House, is a likely author. Other than his work on the J.W.R. Moore House and the C.A.R. Moore House in Mount Jackson, however, little is known about him except that he is credited in an 1871 New Market, Virginia, newspaper article with having built some “neat and substantial bridges” in Shenandoah County the previous year.

The second distinctive ornamental form found in the Kagey House is the cusped arch in the front pediment, which is found in only a few other houses. The C.A.R. Moore House, built by Jones in 1869 for the brother of J.W.R. Moore, has two gables with this form. It is also seen in a house in Edinburg on two gables; on a house similar to a Shoppell mail-order catalog design; No. 216, and on one in Woodstock. All these houses are within a few miles of each other. Based on the similarity between the ornament on Jones’s two Moore houses and that of the Clem-Kagey house, it seems probable that Jones may have been responsible for the Clem-Kagey design.

The porch railing on the Clem-Kagey House is also distinctive, with a geometrical pattern not in common use until the 1880s-1890s. The simplicity of the design suggests that it is original to the 1880 date of the house.

In each of the four gables is a simple Gothic pointed-arch window, with the upper panes in colored glass. The two side gables are enriched with an ornamented arched form at the peaks, a design that, while common in American architecture, is rarely found in Shenandoah County. The molded cornice surmounts a frieze of small ornate brackets.

The fancy work is reminiscent of the work of the prominent North Carolina and Virginia designer-builder Jacob W. Holt (Catherine Bishir, *Carolina Dwelling* op.cit.), two of whose houses from the 1870s have smaller versions of the cusped arch, but with a cross bar. Holt is noted for bold and heavy ornament like that in the two Moore houses and in other Shenandoah County houses, suggesting the possibility that R. S. Jones may have been one of Holt’s many apprentices.

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL**

Although archaeological investigations have not been conducted at the Clem-Kagey Farm, the property has the potential to yield underground information related to domestic and farm life in the Shenandoah Valley during the 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries.

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**GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

**UTM References (NAD 27)**

**Edinburg Quad Zone 17**

- 1) 706 720 E  
4296 540 N
- 2) 706 380 E  
4295 720 N
- 3) 706 280 E  
4295 730 N
- 4) 706 300 E  
4296 100 N

**Conicville Quad Zone 17**

- 5) 705 850 E  
4296 340 N
- 6) 706 220 E  
4296 800 N

**BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The nominated property consists of Parcels 29 and 29A on Shenandoah County Tax Map 69, as shown on the attached surveyor's plat dated May 16, 2007, by Walsh Land Surveyors, Inc., Woodstock, Virginia.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The nomination comprises the historic Clem-Kagey farm anchored by its 1880 house and surrounding farm structures. The traditional family farming is continued on this and surrounding farms in the area. To the adjoining west side, the Bonnie J. Painter Farm is under conservation easement, and the owner of the Clem-Kagey Farm has committed to the donation of a conservation easement on this farm and on the Zirkle Family Farms adjoining to the north as shown on the Shenandoah County Tax Map 69, Parcels 29 and 29A, as shown on the attached surveyors plot dated May 16 2007 by Walsh Land Surveyors, Inc., Woodstock, VA.

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**PHOTOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTATION**

All photographs are common to:

PROPERTY: Clem-Kagey Farm

LOCATION: Shenandoah County, Virginia

DHR File No.: 085-0206

PHOTOGRAPHER: James C. Massey

DATE: 2008

LOCATION OF NEGATIVES: the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia

Photo 1 of 15

View: House from entrance drive, looking southeast

Negative number: 24514, frame 4

Photo 2 of 15

View: House façade, looking southeast

Negative number: 24514, frame 5

Photo 3 of 15

View: House, front porch and gable detail, looking southeast

Negative number: 24514, frame 6

Photo 4 of 15

View: House, southwest side, looking northeast

Negative number: 24514, frame 9

Photo 5 of 15

View: House, northeast side, looking southwest

Negative number: 24514, frame 7

Photo 6 of 15

View: House, hall and stairs, looking south

Negative number: 24514, frame 18

Photo 7 of 15

View: House, living room, looking southwest

Negative number: 24514, frame 17

Photo 8 of 15

View: House dining room, looking southwest

Negative number: 24514, frame 19

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Photo 9 of 15

View: Wagon shed/shop building, looking northeast

Negative number: 24514, frame 13

Photo 10 of 15

View: Garage, looking southwest

Negative number: 24514, frame 10

Photo 11 of 15

View: Animal shelter, looking southwest

Negative number: 24514, frame 11

Photo 12 of 15

View: Vehicle shed, looking northeast

Negative number: 24514, frame 14

Photo 13 of 15

View: Granary, looking east

Negative number: 24514, frame 15

Photo 14 of 15

View: Barn, looking northeast

Negative number: 24514, frame 16

Photo 15 of 15

View: General view of farm, looking southwest

Negative number: 24514, frame 2

**ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION**

**Figure 1.** Clem-Kagey Farm, house first floor sketch plan.

**Figure 2.** Clem-Kagey Farm, sketch plan of house and outbuildings.

**Figure 3.** Survey plat of May 16, 2007, showing tax parcel containing National Register boundary.



# CLEM-KAGEY FARM

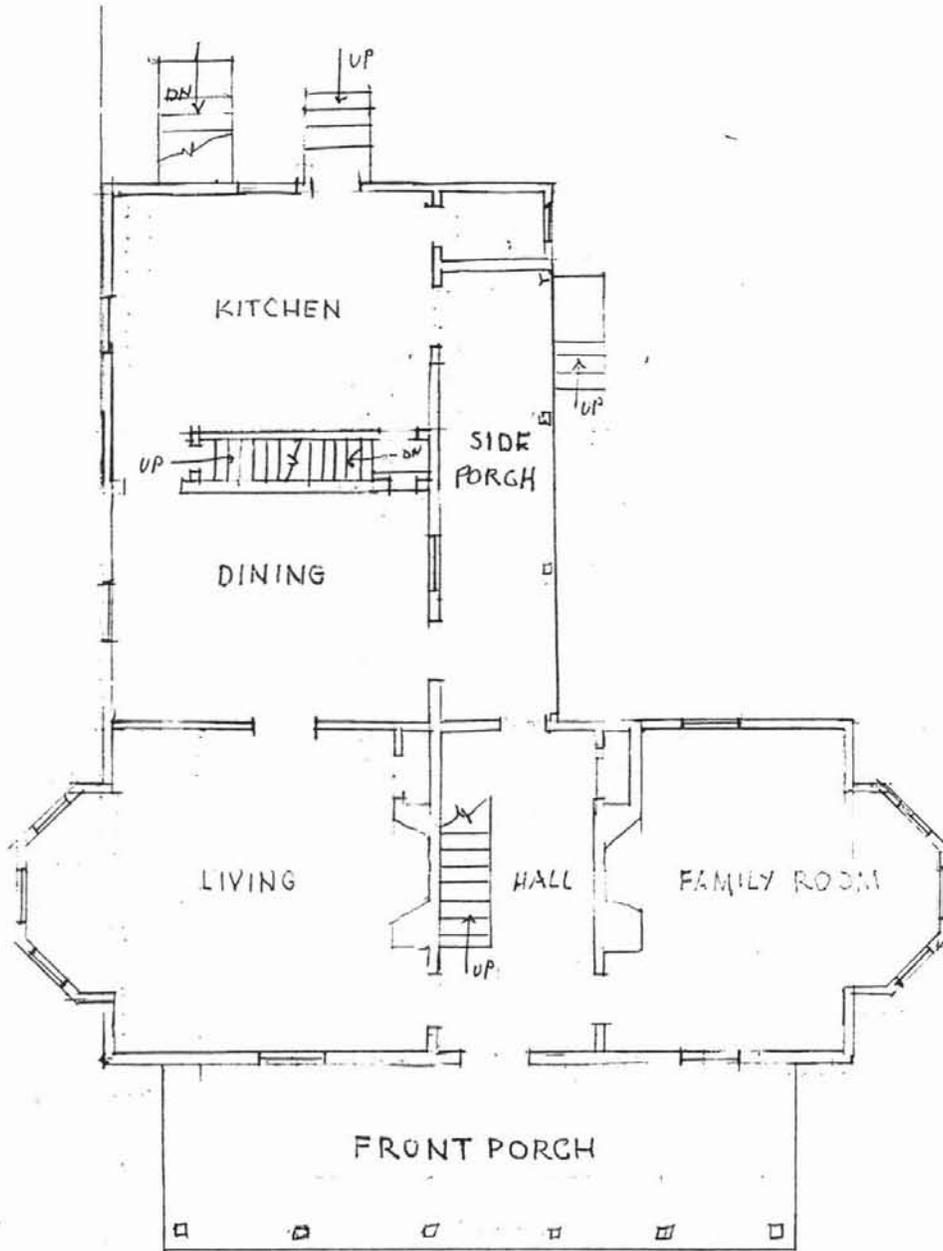
VA DHR-385-0206

## HOUSE FIRST FLOOR SKETCH PLAN

291 BELGRAVIA RD EDINBURG, SHENANDOAH CO. VA.

Figure 1.

← NORTH



SCALE  $\approx 1" = 10'$

JCH 1/09

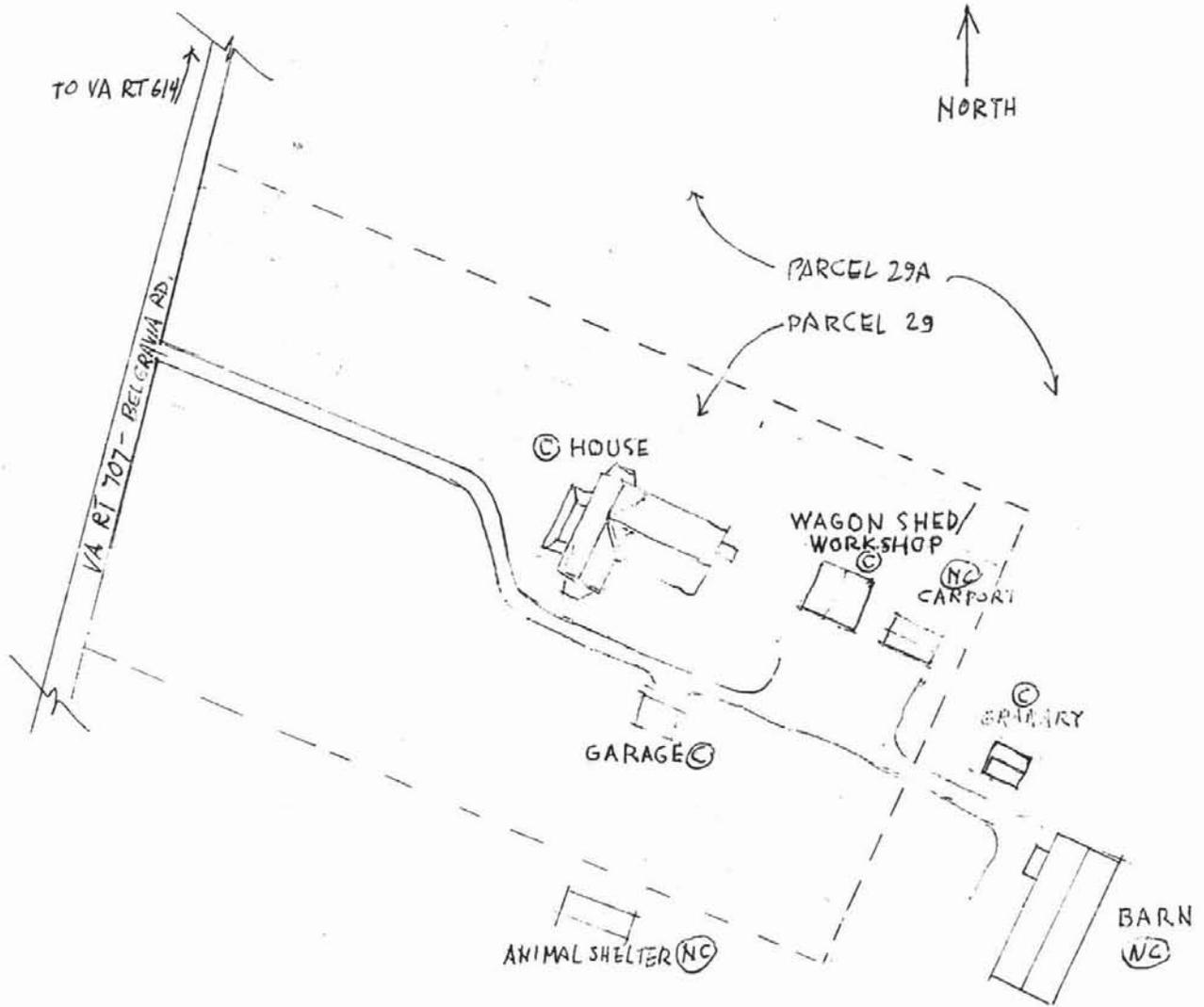
# CLEM-KAGEY FARM

VA DHR 085-0206

SKETCH PLAN OF HOUSE AND BUILDINGS

291 BELGRAVIA RD, EDINBURG, SHENANDOAH CO, VA.

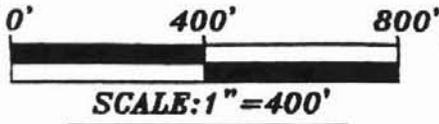
Figure 2.



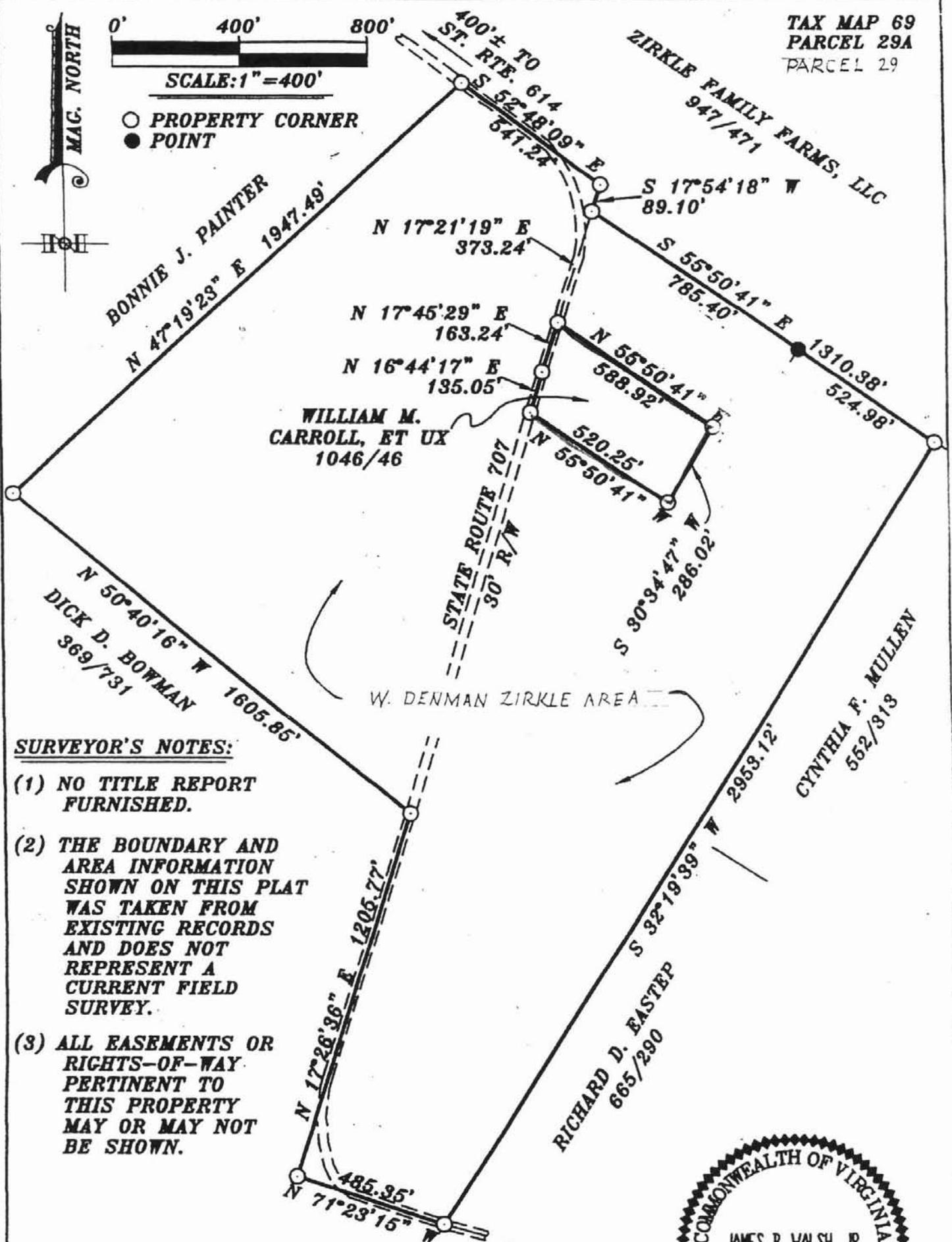
NOT TO SCALE

JAN 1988

TAX MAP 69  
PARCEL 29A  
PARCEL 29



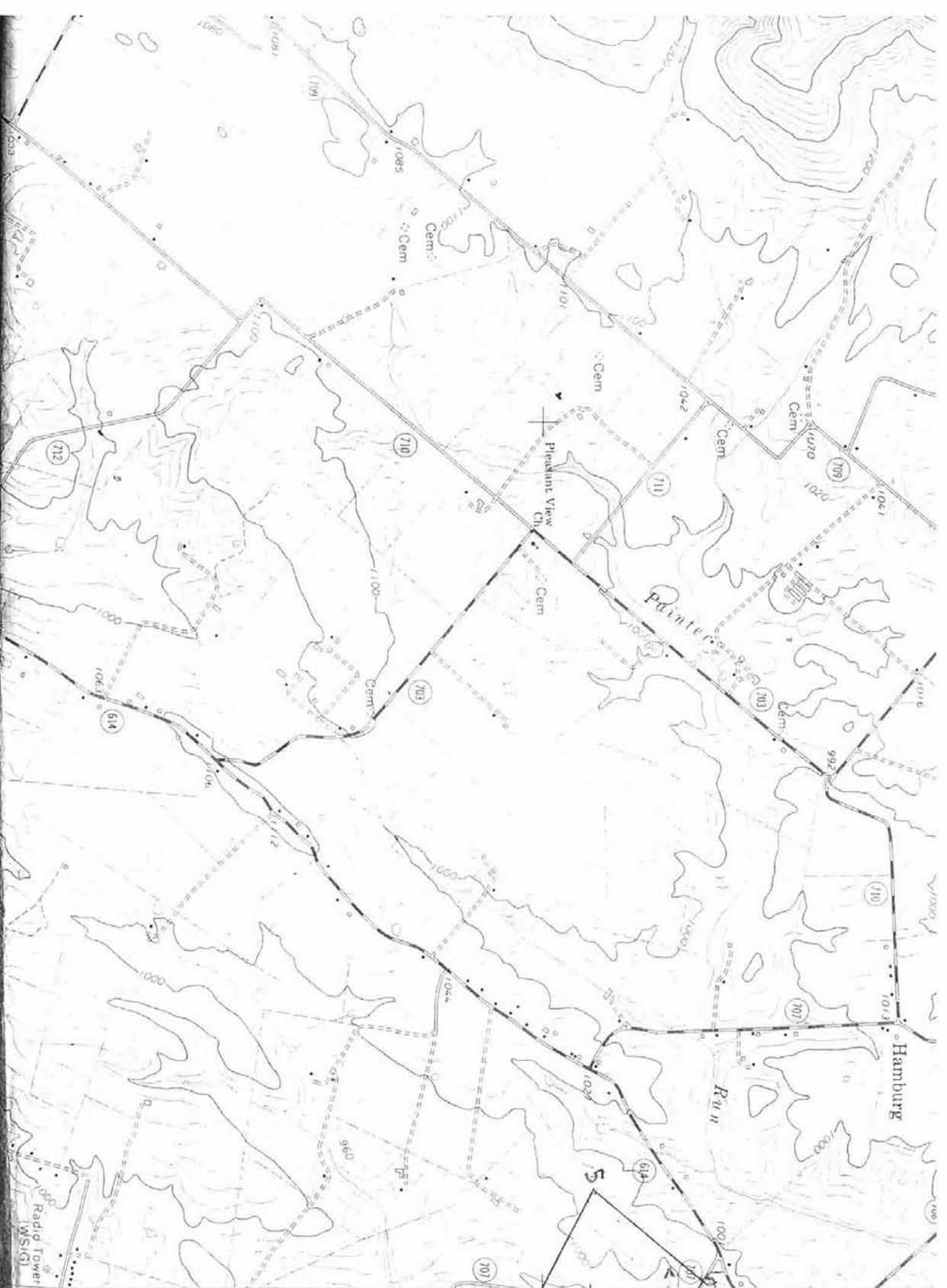
○ PROPERTY CORNER  
● POINT



**SURVEYOR'S NOTES:**

- (1) NO TITLE REPORT FURNISHED.
- (2) THE BOUNDARY AND AREA INFORMATION SHOWN ON THIS PLAT WAS TAKEN FROM EXISTING RECORDS AND DOES NOT REPRESENT A CURRENT FIELD SURVEY.
- (3) ALL EASEMENTS OR RIGHTS-OF-WAY PERTINENT TO THIS PROPERTY MAY OR MAY NOT BE SHOWN.





INTERCHANGE 71  
 ESTER 44 MI

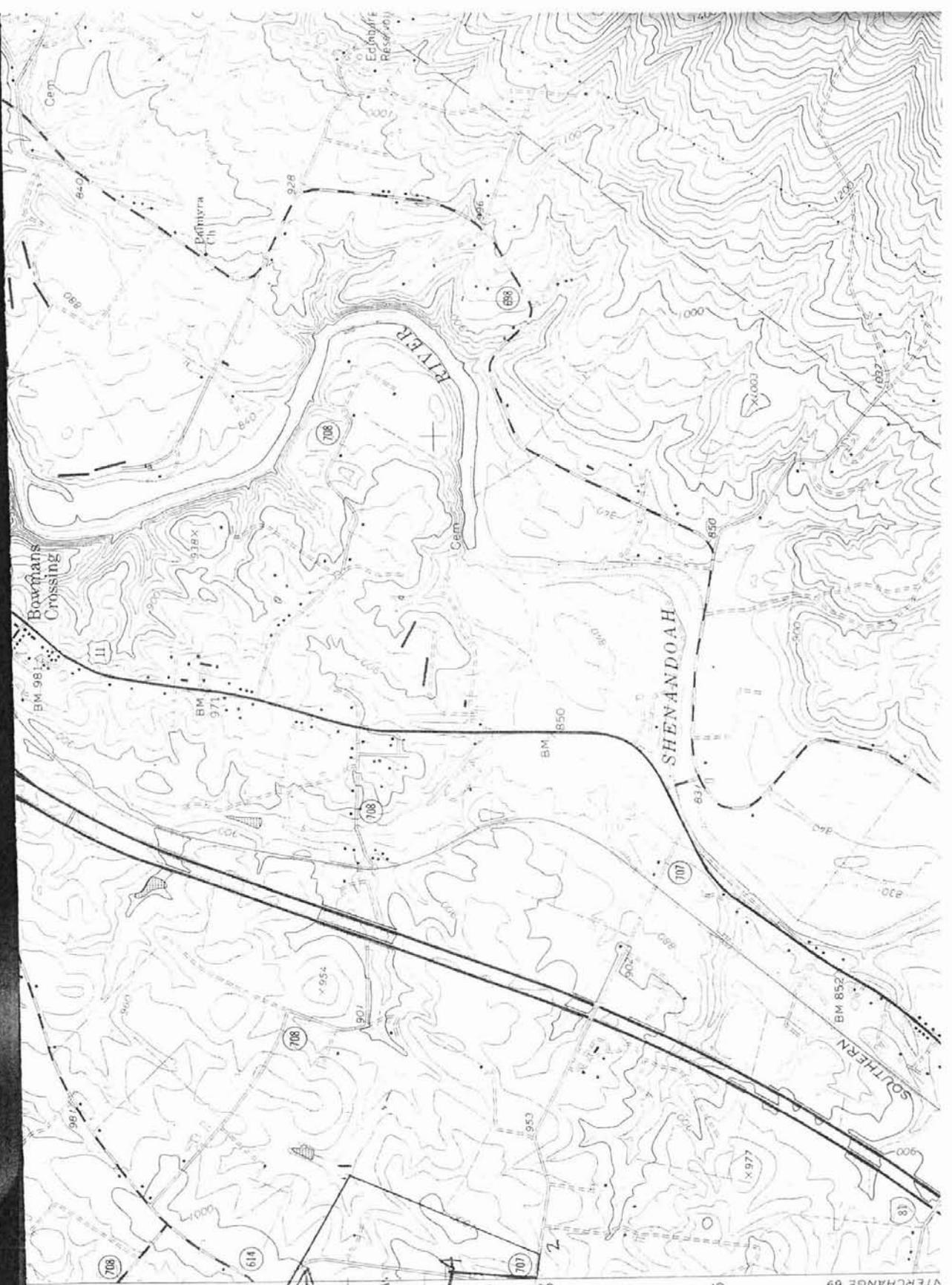
4295

4296

4730

4297

CLEM-KAGY FARM  
 DIME FILE NO. 085-0206-000  
 SHENANDOAH CO VA  
 CONICVILLE QUAD.  
 UTMS 182811NAD  
 517705850 E  
 4296340N  
 017706220E  
 4296800N



CLEM-KAGLY FARM →  
 AR FILE NO. 085-0206  
 SHENANDOAH CO. VA.  
 EDINBURG QUAD.  
 TMS 171211NAD 47-56" 4  
 1) 17706720 E  
 4296540 N  
 2) 17706380 E  
 4295720 N  
 3) 17706280 E  
 4295730 N  
 4) 17706300 E  
 4296100 N

BURG 28 M  
 INTERCHANGE 69