NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* 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.

LISTED ON:
VLR: 12/12/2014
NRHP: 02/10/2014

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Wilkins Farm
Other names/site number: VDHR File No. 085-0216
Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing

2. Location

Street & number: 989 Swover Creek Road
City or town: Edinburg State: Virginia County: Shenandoah
Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: X

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 at the following level(s) of significance:

___**national** ___**statewide** X **local**

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X **A** X **B** X **C** ___**D**

Julie V. Langan 12/20/13

Signature of certifying official/Title: **Date**

Virginia Department of Historic Resources

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official: **Date**

Title : **State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government**

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Signature of commenting official: **Date**

Title : **State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government**

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

___ entered in the National Register

___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private: [X]

Public – Local [ ]

Public – State [ ]

Public – Federal [ ]

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s) [X]

District [ ]

Site [ ]

Structure [ ]

Object [ ]

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
3	2	buildings
0	0	sites
0	1	structures
0	0	objects
3	3	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use
Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling
DOMESTIC: Secondary Structure
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: Storage

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling
DOMESTIC: Secondary Structure
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: Storage; Animal Facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)
COLONIAL
OTHER: Log Vernacular; Folk Victorian

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
Principal exterior materials of the property: STONE: limestone; WOOD: Weatherboard: METAL: Steel; BRICK; CONCRETE; SYNTHETICS: Vinyl; ASBESTOS; GLASS.

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Wilkins Farm consists of an evolved midland, folk, log two-story dwelling with ca. 1776 and ca. 1789 sections, a summer kitchen with a well, a log granary, a garage, a shed, and an equine pen within a farm yard of 3.5 acres. The yard lies near the northeast portion of the original 188.5-acre land grant of 1775, which still consists of open rolling agricultural fields, and sits near Swover Creek in rural Shenandoah County, Virginia. The two-story, three-bay, single-pile, side-gable log house rests on a limestone basement. The main house forms an L-shape with a smaller two-story, four-bay, single-pile, side-gable log house that was, in turn, appended to a ca. 1776 one–room log dwelling. Both sections have a limestone chimney in the gable ends. The main block was combined with the rear ell with an interior passage door on each story, ca. 1842, at which time a one-story addition also added to the south wall of the rear ell. Ca. 1951, a small addition with a bathroom was added to the kitchen extension and wrapped around to the two-story porch on the east wall. The architectural resources document local German immigration settlement patterns of the middle and late eighteenth century in the Shenandoah Valley. The late-eighteenth-century resources are constructed from local materials, simple in design, utilitarian, and document the German self-sufficient lifestyle. The contributing secondary buildings are a ca. 1789 log granary and a summer kitchen with a limestone basement, a limestone fireplace, a well, and domestic quarters above. The resources retain their original character and are well preserved. Most of the interior remains in its original condition and extant faux painting documents German folk art. Emanuel Wilkins grew up on this farm, became a schoolteacher and then a successful fraktur artist. His art reflects his agrarian beginnings. The Wilkins family occupied the farm

from 1824 until 2003. Noncontributing secondary resources include a ca. 1955 cement block garage, a 2007 run-in frame shed, and a 2007 equine round pen (structure).

Narrative Description

Setting

The Wilkins Farm is located near the center of Shenandoah County, Virginia, about midway between the City of Winchester and the City of Harrisonburg and within three miles of Interstate Highway 81, which parallels the Great Wagon Road (now U.S. Route 11). The farm sits three miles west of the village of Edinburg and lies in the Shenandoah Valley between North Mountain of the Allegheny Mountains to the west and Powell Mountain of the Massanutten Mountains to the east. The farmhouse and secondary buildings sit on the south side of Swover Creek in a narrow hollow formed by the stream. The stream flows to the east and joins Stoney Creek near Lantz Mill. Stoney Creek continues to the town of Edinburg where it empties into the North Fork of the Shenandoah River. The dwelling and secondary buildings are lined up in a north-to-south axis, with the summer kitchen at the edge of the alluvial floodplain of the creek. The farmhouse sits higher above the floodplain, and the granary is located immediately behind the house. Swover Creek Road is a one-lane paved road that passes within ten feet of the limestone chimney of the summer kitchen. This section of the road was constructed in the mid-20th century and previously followed the creek and then forded the stream and ascended the north side of the hollow behind a barn and chicken house that had been a part of the original farm. The farm lane, lined with black walnut trees, bifurcated from the road near the edge of the current eastern property line, traveled past the east side of the main house, continued up the hill to the southwest and served a couple of houses that had been a part of the original land grant. Remnants of the road remain but have been gated and cross fenced. The three noncontributing resources – a garage, shed, and equine pen – set to the east of the granary are at the same level. The main house and outbuildings sit on a small bench above the floodplain that intercepts a continuous slope greater than 7% that faces north. All of the surrounding land is rolling with limestone outcrops and a surface scatter of quartzite cobbles on a gritty clay soil. The soil responds well for growing agricultural grasses but is inferior for tilling.

Architectural Details

Main House – Exterior (Contributing Building)

The Wilkins Farm is an example of a late-18th-century German immigration and settlement pattern containing a ca.1776 frontier log house that evolved into a ca. 1789 vernacular log house. The dwelling was constructed as a main house and an abutted small house forming an L-shaped footprint. A ca. 1842 one-story addition is on the south wall of the ell and a ca. 1951 bathroom addition wraps from the kitchen to the ell's east wall. The ca. 1789 main house is 20 feet by 28 feet, and is a single-pile, three-bay, two-story log dwelling with a side-gable roof, situated on an

uncoursed, cut limestone basement. The north façade faces Swover Creek, and the single-leaf door with four-light transom is asymmetrically placed to the east to allow entry into the hall. Flanking the entry are two-over-two, double-hung-sash windows, and the second story has three evenly spaced windows with two-over-two sash. The original log walls were clad with weatherboard siding in the past. The weatherboard siding is extant, but has been covered in five-inch-wide, horizontal steel siding that replicates the profile and width of the underlying plain weatherboards. All of the trim boards and soffits are constructed of plain boards. The side-gabled roof is covered in standing-seam metal. The limestone basement exits one foot below ground level, and the door is protected by two limestone knee walls, 18 inches high that project forward six feet to exit at ground level. The interior basement floor is earth with limestone formations projecting from the floor.

On the north façade, a three-bay, hip-roofed full porch, covered in a standing-seam metal roof, 5 feet 6 inches deep by 19 feet long, shelters the basement entrance, main entry door, and lower windows of the first story. The porch is supported by four chamfered posts, and two half posts to trim the balustrades and spandrel to the house. From the ground level the porch is supported by four rough posts that are concealed by a diagonal wood lattice. The 7-foot-wide staircase descends from the porch to the north and has three rails and square posts. A 1913 photo shows the stairs descending on the porch's east end. The spandrel is made of fret-sawn spindles, running trim, and pendants with fan brackets at each post. The post face brackets are incised with a stylized tulip. The balustrade consists of flat boards fret-sawn with an unidentified pattern that is seen locally on several other houses. The hand rails are rounded, and the balustrades are attached with a bed molding. The bottom rails are two plain boards. The current porch trim is a late-19th-century alteration. The floor is narrow yellow pine boards, and the ceiling is closed with 2-inch-wide, double-beaded boards with a quarter-inch spacing.

Rising from the east elevation and gable end of the main house is a 42-inch by 84-inch, exterior-end, uncoursed, cut limestone chimney that features shoulders mid-way up the second story and becomes a brick stack that stands free of the gable and rises 30 inches above the ridge. A 16-inch by 20-inch ventilation opening pierces the basement wall near the north corner.

There are two bays on the south (rear) elevation of the main block. Two windows in the first bay are two-over-two, double-hung-sash wood windows and each occurs under the east porches of the rear ell. A six-panel entry door with a four-light transom also provides entry to the hall from the porch.

The rear ell is comprised of a four-bay, single-pile, two-story, hall-and-parlor-plan dwelling that originated from a one-room log house that was constructed ca. 1776. Around 1789 the second room was added to the north elevation of the one-room log house to create a two-room, one-story house with a loft, with an eight-inch step down between the two rooms. The house was connected on the interior to the main block around 1842, making its transition to a rear ell complete. Also at this time, the rear ell's second-story rooms and a second-story porch on the east elevation were added.

The east elevation of the rear ell today has a two-story porch that abuts the south side of the main house. A six-over-six, double-hung-sash wood window remains in the original parlor, and the other window above it on the second story is a two-over-two, double-hung-sash wood window. Three single-leaf entry doors are also situated on this elevation. On the first story, the one on the south end now accesses a ca. 1951 bathroom. The hall door is eight inches lower and is located to the south of the two-over-two, double-hung window. Opening to the second-story porch, there is a two-paneled door with half glass centered above the hall window below. The door appears to have replaced a window during the mid-20th century. The exterior walls under the porches retain their original face-nailed weatherboard siding on both stories. The posts and balustrades of the first-story porch were removed with the addition of the bathroom and are stored in the basement. The porch was screened ca. 1951 and in 2009 the screening was replaced with glass and wood framing. On the second story, the original balustrade remains and matches the other balustrades. There is no spandrel and the brackets are incurvate and plain. The three posts and two half posts are also chamfered. A 1913 photograph shows that the two porches were similar. About 1951, the floor of the first-story porch was replaced with concrete. The low-pitched shed roof is covered in standing-seam metal and creates the floor of the second-story porch. The second story of the rear ell has a gabled, standing-seam metal roof that transitions from a steep pitch over the dwelling to a low pitch above the porch.

The ca. 1951 one-story addition that projects from the rear ell's east wall wraps around to the ca. 1842 extension on the ell's south wall. A concrete-floored, one-story, enclosed porch is on the east side of the 72-inch by 92-inch bathroom and kitchen addition. It has a low pitched, standing-seam metal roof. The east side of the porch is enclosed with a centered door flanked by two windows with three-over-one, double hung wood sash. A three-over-one sash is centered on the porch's short northern elevation. There is a concrete in-ground cistern in the floor of the porch that was added to supplement the water supply for the bathroom. The exterior was clad in weatherboards ca. 1951 and is now covered with five-inch-wide vinyl siding installed ca. 1972.

On the ell's south elevation, the one-story ca. 1842 addition has a low-pitched, gabled roof sheathed with standing-seam metal. The exterior weatherboard is covered with vinyl siding. From east to west, fenestration consists of a six-over-six, double-hung sash window that formerly was a doorway, an oversized tripartite window, an insulated awning window, and an original, fixed, six-light wood sash. Rising above the addition's roof is the gable end of the rear ell's second story, which features a ca. 1776 uncoursed, cut limestone chimney with shoulders at the kitchen roofline. Four feet above the roof it becomes a 28-inch by 40-inch limestone chimney stack that is 9 feet tall. Around 1843 the stack was extended an additional seven feet with brick to rise two feet above the ridge of the two-story ell.

On the main block's gabled west elevation, one window is centered on each story and has a two-over-two, double-hung wood sash wood windows. A two-over-two fixed sash window is centered in the attic gable. The rear ell has a window flanking a left-of-center, two-panel entry door. The window of the parlor is a six-over-six, double-hung sash, and the hall window is a two-over-two, double-hung sash. The two windows on the second story are centered over the lower windows and are also two-over-two, double hung sash windows. All of the windows on

this elevation were replaced ca. 2000 with insulated windows that resemble the windows they replaced. All exterior doors are covered with full-view aluminum storm doors.

Main House - Interior

The main house on the first story consists of three rooms. The hall is 14 feet by 20 feet and is exactly one half the dwelling. The hall has two opposing six-panel entry doors with four-light transoms on the north and south, and two six-panel doors that lead to the other rooms on the west wall. All of the interior walls are plastered above a beaded six-inch baseboard. A continuous hand molded chair rail encircles each room and is an integral part of the window sills. The floors are constructed with random-width, tongue-and-groove yellow pine boards. The room on the front of the house is 8 feet by 14 feet, and the other in the southwest corner is 12 feet by 14 feet. The interior walls are non-load-bearing board walls which have been plastered. A board-and-batten-door with a Suffolk bean thumb latch opens to a boxed, winding staircase at the third riser. From the hall the stair rises over the fireplace on the east wall. The fireplace mantel is made of boards with a large 5/8-inch bead and features three recessed panels below the shelf. The plinth blocks appear to be an alteration to the surround. The fireplace opening is 49 inches by 38 inches and has an exposed face of cut limestone. The six-inch mantelshelf has a hand-molded bead edge.

The interior of the original section, the ca. 1776 log house, has a single-pile hall that retains its original ambiance with exposed, chamfered ceiling joists, as well as beaded, hand-dressed floor boards (up to 16 inches in width), and the original fireplace mantel. The fireplace is now closed with a wood burning stove and has a mantel opening of 67 inches by 54 inches. The pilasters of the mantel are 11-inch and 12-inch beaded boards extending from the hearth to the mantelshelf. The shelf is ½-inch thick and six inches deep with a hand-molded front edge. The shelf is supported with a 1½-inch by 3 ½-inch beaded board and trimmed with a cove mold. A board-and-batten door leading to the kitchen to the east side of the fireplace is on the south wall. The door has a cast-iron thumb latch that dates to ca. 1850. A two-panel Greek Revival-style door on the east wall leads to the ca. 1951 bathroom, which originally led to the porch. To the north of the door is a six-over-six, double-hung-sash wood window. The bottom sash appears to have been replaced, and the distorted glass panes were reused in the newer sash. The back of a boxed stairway occurs in the northwest corner of the room. It was moved from the southeast corner of the room when the second room was added ca.1789. It has a half door under the stairway for storage. The unfinished area reveals the log walls and 8-inch-wide, tongue-and-groove yellow pine floor boards. The floor of the room was covered with 2¼-inch oak flooring ca. 1960. The walls are plastered with wainscoting below the plain chair rail. The wainscoting is random-width vertical beaded boards. The room is currently used as a dining room.

The ca. 1789 hall of the hall-and-parlor-plan ell is separated from the parlor by a beaded-board wall and an eight-inch step-down. The stairway in the southeast corner of the hall has a board-and-batten door and opens at the third riser. In the hall there are two opposing windows and two opposing exterior doors on the east and west elevations, respectively, a two-panel door

with two lights and a two-panel Greek Revival-style door. Another passage door of the same style with a ca. 1842 cast Blake thumb latch was added when the two houses were combined by passage doors. There is a 20th-century interior chimney on the north wall to accommodate an oil burning space heater. The chimney, walls, and ceiling are covered with drywall that covers plastered walls and a board ceiling. The 2¼-inch-wide white oak floor covers a random-width (3-6 inches) yellow pine floor which rests on log-hewn floor joists over the crawl area accessed from the basement. The ceiling joists are seven-inch-wide reciprocating sawn timbers. The wood trim in the hall and parlor of the rear ell is painted Prussian blue to match the original underlying blue paint that is found throughout the first story, including the kitchen.

The 9-foot by 16-foot ca.1842 addition is at the south end of the hall-and-parlor section and wraps around the ca. 1776 limestone chimney. The kitchen has been renovated, with earlier plywood wall cabinets remaining. Two fixed six-light original windows also remain on the east and west elevations along with the board-and-batten passage door from the dining room.

The ca. 1951 bathroom accessed from the parlor of the rear ell was rehabilitated ca.1980 and in 2012. The floor is ceramic tile with usual fixtures.

The porch east of the kitchen was added ca. 1951. The walls are covered with painted plywood, and the ceiling is a rough finish drywall. The concrete floor and cistern are covered with a low-level loop indoor-outdoor carpet. The room is used as a mudroom and utility area.

On the second floor of the ca. 1789 main block, the perimeter walls are plastered above a beaded baseboard, but the two interior walls are made of non-load-bearing, beaded boards. The painted ceilings have exposed beams with the beaded ceiling boards resting on them. There are three rooms. The first is the 10-foot by 16-foot room at the head of the stair. There is a 2007 half bath in the southeast corner. A board-and-batten door leads to a 10-foot by 16-foot chamber, and another leads to a 12-foot by-20 foot chamber on the west side. Both doors have ca. 1820 Norfolk thumb latches. On the back of the door leading to the smaller bedroom there is a faux painting with wood graining with squiggles as accents. This same faux work occurs on a built-in closet in the largest bedroom. It is made of beaded narrow boards from yellow pine. The hardware is a ca. 1850 cast side latch. From the entry area there is also in the southeast corner a walk-up attic access which like the other stairways has a board-and-batten door on the third tread. The third tread is the first winder of the winding staircase and ascends above the lower stairway on the east wall. The tongue-and-groove floors are random width, 5-inch to 8-inch yellow pine. The largest chamber has a painted floor, and floors in the two eastern rooms have a natural oil finish.

The attics are now insulated, but the attic of the main block may have been used as a sleeping area for a period of time. The stairwell is plastered, but the attic is unfinished except for a small four-light window in the west gable and there is a suggestion of a stove thimble into the chimney on the east gable. The rafter poles are fastened to a ridge board by mortise-and-tenon joinery and are overlaid with rough-sawn sheathing boards.

The second story of the rear ell, added ca. 1842, has plain board trim, and the walls and ceilings are plastered and now covered with drywall. The two rooms have 2 ¼ -inch-wide white oak flooring. There is an eight-inch step down from the main block into the rear ell section which can be accessed by a board-and-batten door with a cast thumb latch. The original center wall and stairwell dividing the two rooms is made of wide boards now covered with drywall. A small ca.1842 closet is located in the south room on the west side at the head of the stairs. Around 2001 a beaded-board wall with a board-and-batten door was added to enclose the south room from the stairwell. This room is currently used as a walk-in closet. In the hall chamber an exterior two-panel door with a half-light was probably added in the early 20th century to access the second-floor porch.

Secondary Resources

Summer Kitchen-Well House, ca. 1789, Contributing Building

A ca. 1789, 14-foot by 25-foot, two-story kitchen and well house, with domestic quarters on the second story, is located on the Swover Creek floodplain 40 feet north of the main house. It is a two-bay, single-pile, side-gabled building. The log building rests on a limestone basement. The log and frame walls are cross sheathed with oak boards now covered with a shingle-style vinyl siding. The roof is covered in standing-seam metal.

The west elevation has an original eight-over-four, double-hung-sash wood window with a mortise-and-tenon jamb and sill centered on the basement wall. The two, six-over-six windows in the upper story are mid-20th-century replacement windows of the same pattern based on a photo from the same era. In that photo the exterior log walls were exposed, and the area over the well was covered with plain weatherboards. A 9-foot by 6-foot opening in the well area was enclosed 2010 with weathered vertical oak boards and a recycled six-light sash to secure the well area. The east elevation has four opposing windows matching the west elevation. The north gable end has a 32-inch by 90-inch, two-story limestone chimney that is capped with seven courses of brick extending above the ridge. The chimney shoulders are located at the top of the second story. On the south elevation there is a six-light, fixed-sash window centered on the first story. An outside stairs leads to the second story at the east side of the south elevation. At the top of the stairs is a 25-inch-wide, board-and-batten door.

On the inside of the summer kitchen is a 62-inch by 51-inch fireplace with a 9-inch by 13-inch wooden lintel that spans 73 inches. The hand-hewn beams and reciprocate machine-sawn floor boards are exposed. The whitewashed limestone walls are rough uncoursed stone with an angled 9-inch by 9-inch opening on the south wall facing the well in the adjacent well room. The floors are concrete, but the large limestone hearth stone remains exposed. A comparison of the three chimneys indicates that the summer kitchen chimney is similar to the main house chimney in that they are more heavily built with stones six inches to eight inches thick laid horizontally. On the ca. 1776 cabin chimney, the stones with their narrow sides laid vertical allowed for a larger firebox with thinner walls and a thinner chimney stack.

The well room has an 18-inch-thick and 24-inch-high limestone knee wall on the south and east elevations with original structural beams, but the intermediate studs have been replaced with 20th-century, rough-sawn two-by-fours. The well room was enclosed by the mid-20th-century cross-braced oak sheathing. The three-foot-wide well sits in the center of the 10-foot by 14-foot room. It was hand dug to 18 feet and lined with fieldstone and the last 30 inches were finished with brick. The well is secured with a wooden cap. In ca. 1980 an electric water pump was placed in the well and was used until a deep well was drilled ca. 2000. The second story of the well room is accessed by an outside stairs on the south elevation. The framing is the same as the first story and the floor is overlaid with ½-inch strand board. The dressed ceiling beams are exposed with eased edges and have beaded ceiling boards resting on them. The log wall has numerous inscriptions on the chinking including the harvest amounts in bushels of wheat, rye, and oats, dating from 1868 through 1878. An inscription on a pine log has harvest amounts, the name "A. Cofman", and a possible date of 1778.

The second-story well room opens into a four-walled log dwelling. The large passage door has strap-and-pintle hinges and a Suffolk bean thumb-latch. The logs and door appear to be recycled from another application. Several logs have equidistant notching that would have received joists. This room was occupied until ca. 1975. The floor is covered with ½-inch strand board, but the ceiling and walls are original. Most of the chinking of hardwood split boards was repaired and refinished. The resource retains most of the original appearance.

Granary, ca. 1789, Contributing Building

The ca.1789 10-foot by 10-foot, front-gable, log granary sits 15 feet south of the kitchen. It is covered with a standing-seam metal roof. The puncheon-log floor was replaced with brick pavers in 2012 due to decay. The best timbers are preserved in a dry location. The logs were dressed to six inches and the pole rafters are notched and joined at the ridge with wooden pegs. Only an enlarged entry door on the north elevation pierces the exterior wall. The original jambs with pintles document a door opening of 33 inches by 48 inches. The exterior has been cross sheathed and covered with asbestos siding. A hip-roofed greenhouse with recycled windows is located on the south elevation. The proximity of the granary to the dwelling documents the value placed on harvested grain.

Garage, ca. 1955, Non-contributing Building

A 20-foot by 22-foot, front-gable garage sits 50 feet east of the granary. It is a concrete block building with a standing-seam metal roof with rough-sawn oak timbers for rafters and joists. The building is cut into the slope to a depth of four feet on the south. A hay shed, eight feet wide by sixteen feet long was added to the east side in 2009. The floor of the garage was earthen until 2013 when it was paved with brick pavers. Lapped sliding doors extend the full width of the

north elevation, and four steel framed windows pierce the block walls with one window each on the east and west elevations and two on the south elevation.

Equine Run-in Shed, 2007, Non-contributing Building

An on-ground, 10-foot by 14-foot, side-gabled, run-in shed covered with a fiberglass-shingled roof sits 75 feet east of the garage. The shed is constructed of white pine with trussed rafters.

Equine Round Pen, 2007, Non-contributing Structure

Twenty feet to the north of the run-in shed is a 45-foot equine round pen enclosed with a tubular steel fence and paved with crushed limestone.

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.)

- [x] A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- [x] B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- [x] C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- [ ] D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark “x” in all the boxes that apply.)

- [ ] A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- [ ] B. Removed from its original location
- [ ] C. A birthplace or grave
- [ ] D. A cemetery
- [ ] E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- [ ] F. A commemorative property
- [ ] G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
ARCHITECTURE
ART

Period of Significance
ca. 1776- ca.1950

Significant Dates
ca. 1776
ca.1789
ca. 1842

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)
Wilkins, Emanuel

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
N/A

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Wilkins Farm is an evolved farmstead located in the central part of Shenandoah County, Virginia, just west of the town of Edinburg near the heart of the Shenandoah Valley. The farmstead occupies 3½ acres of farmland just south of Swover Creek as it meanders to empty into the North Fork of the Shenandoah River. Locally significant, the Wilkins Farm consists of an evolved late-18th-century, three-bay, two-story, side-gabled log farmhouse with a two-story log rear ell, and is one of the most intact early farmsteads in Shenandoah County. Based on a 1913 photo, the present exterior is very similar to its early twentieth-century appearance today with its porch retaining its flat-sawn balustrade and fret-sawn architrave and brackets. The ca. 1789 footprint of the main house and its relationship to the two contributing buildings continue to reflect the colonial values of the immigrant Germans. The interior of the house retains the original ca. 1789 ambiance with beaded-board wall panels, original mantels, doors, hardware, exposed beams, and wide floor boards. The ca.1776 room, now a portion of the rear ell, with its colonial-mantel, beams, wainscoting, and hand-dressed boards, illustrates the immigrant Germans' simple use of structural elements for aesthetic value.

The Wilkins Farm is significant at the local level under Criterion A under Exploration/ Settlement as a late-18th-century farmstead of German immigrant origin. The farm was owned and developed by three different German families who settled in Shenandoah County, attended the same church, and expressed the same close knit values. The Wilkins family retained ownership of the farm for 179 years. The farmstead is also locally significant under Criterion B in the area of Art as the boyhood home of Emanuel Wilkins, a noted fraktur artist in the Shenandoah Valley. In addition the property is locally significant under Criterion C for Architecture as the construction reflects the immigrant Germans' use of native materials such as limestone and local hardwoods and yellow pine for dressed logs and boards. The single-pile, side-gabled log construction was simple, and exposed structural members were hand-dressed and beaded to fashion a more appealing look to the frontier house. The limestone was also dressed to create sharp vertical lines in contrast to the materials that were used to form the basements and three chimneys. The Wilkins Farm is distinctive in that most of the ca. 1789 interior elements remain intact and document the transition of German construction from the three-room, central-fireplace design *(flurkuchenhauser)* to a more Anglo-American design with exterior chimneys while retaining the essence of the *kuche* (kitchen), *stube* (parlor), and *kammer* (chamber) rooms. The period of significance begins in ca. 1776 with the construction of a one-room log building now incorporated into the rear ell, and ends ca. 1950 when modern amenities were introduced to the dwelling. In addition to the contributing dwelling, ca. 1789 log granary, and summer kitchen with well house, the Wilkins Farm has three noncontributing resources – a ca. 1955 concrete block garage, a 2007 frame run-in shed, and a 2007 equine round pen.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Developmental History

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

On November 8, 1775, Augustine Cofman obtained a land grant of 188.5 acres in Dunmore County (now Shenandoah County), Virginia, from the Northern Neck Proprietary of Lord Fairfax that was to become the Wilkins Farm.[1] Cofman served in the Seven Years War (French and Indian War) and was issued another land grant in 1763 for his service.[2] His first land grant was issued to him in 1750 for 200 acres on Narrow Passage Creek, Frederick County, "where he already lives," suggesting that he had arrived before 1750.[3] The Wilkins Farm is located in Shenandoah County, but was originally in Frederick County, which was divided in 1772 south of Cedar Creek to become Dunmore County, and in 1777 renamed Shenandoah County.

Augustine obtained this 188.5-acre tract for his second son Adolph Cofman which he deeded to him on May 25, 1779, for the sum of 50 pounds.[4] The Wilkins Farm tract was selected after neighboring land grants had been issued in the 1760s. The tract had two streams and an elevated land form of about 25 acres, was tillable, and had a fresh water source near Swover Creek. In order to satisfy the land grant stipulations, a cabin of 16 feet by 20 feet with a stone or brick chimney had to be built and 100 apple trees planted. For his son, Adolph, a one-room log cabin 15 feet by 16 feet was probably constructed ca. 1776 with a limestone chimney. On August 30, 1781, he sold the land to an investor, John Shanks, for 70 pounds.[5]

On May 30, 1782, John Shanks sold the 188.5 acres to George Moyer for 90 pounds.[6] George Moyer and his wife Mary Ann Moyer developed the acreage and established the farmstead that became the Wilkins Farm. Based on personal property tax records of 1785, another head of household joined the Moyer family to work on the homestead and brought with him three horses and five cattle. In 1788 and 1789 his brother, John Moyer, joined George along with his four horses, presumably to assist with the construction of the ca.1789 farmhouse and outbuildings. Cattle were not listed on the personal property tax records after 1787. In 1789, the land tax for George Moyer increased from four shillings six pence to six shillings 1 ½ pence, almost a 33% increase. The land taxes decreased progressively for the next four years, as did the personal property taxes. These two sources and the architectural evidence of house hardware help to place the date at ca. 1789.[7] The construction indicates that the addition to the original cabin to create a hall-and-parlor dwelling (currently the rear ell of the extant house), consisting of a two-story, one-pile, main house on a basement, was all done at the same time. The west elevation of the stone foundation is continuous even as it becomes the basement wall of the main house. At that time the two units had abutting walls. The summer kitchen and granary were also constructed in the same time period, and most likely additional animal shelters were clustered near the dwelling on the same small topographical bench. The dwelling area above the summer kitchen is constructed of recycled dwelling logs, beams, and floor boards. Most likely they came from another dwelling built near the house that had been built on the ground and then was

refitted to sit atop the stone foundation of the summer kitchen. The beams and beaded floor boards match those of the ca. 1776 cabin. A log has an inscription with harvest quantities, "A. Cofman", and a possible 1778 date. Other more legible dates on the chinking range from 1868 to 1878.

The property documents the settlement of German immigrant farmers to the area and the development of their farms into small independent units that utilized extended families and servants for labor intensive construction and agriculture. The George Moyer family was diverse in crafts of farming, blacksmithing, leatherworking, woodworking, weaving, spinning, food preservation, dairy culture, beekeeping and milling. According to the 1804 appraisal of George Moyer's estate, he also had a windmill.[8] The family grew grains, flax, and just enough sheep, horses and cattle to meet the needs of the farm. In 1785, Jacob Rinker compiled a tax list of the families near the Wilkins Farm which indicated a large concentration of German families living in the area at the time. He listed 103 head-of-household with 635 "White souls" living in 32 houses. On average, that meant three families and about eighteen persons lived in each house.[9] The tradition of expanded households continued through the Civil War and lasted until the mid-20th century based on census data and oral accounts by Brenda Kline, the last Wilkins family member to occupy the Wilkins Farm. The four nearest dwellings that were built before 1860 also had separate living units within a house containing a separate stairs and entry doors.[10]

George Moyer, age 42, his wife Mary Ann, and their family of five sons and two daughters, most likely lived in the main house, and a servant's family in the hall-and-parlor-plan rear ell. In the 1800 census, George Moyer had two males over the age of 16 living with him. According to the census in 1810 after George Moyer had died, his son, who was also referred to as George Moyer, lived with five children and his wife in the main house while the mother "Marian" (Mary Ann) and an adult male, wife and daughter lived in the rear ell. Based on the senior George Moyer's estate appraisal of 1804 we see that his farm had become a self-sufficient farm at the turn of the nineteenth century.[11] Including items purchased from his father Henry Moyer's (Miers) estate sale, almost every conceivable craft used on a self-sufficient farm is mentioned.[12] The labor intensive construction of shaped-log structures and dwellings could easily take a couple of years to build, not including the felling, dressing and drying of lumber that was to be used for flooring, trim, and wall panels.

George Moyer (Jr.) and his mother Mary Ann continued to operate the farm jointly until her death in 1818, when the farm was sold at an estate auction for $3,360 to son-in-law Henry Long.[13] He sold off a 48-acre tract to Frederick Moyer, a son of George Moyer (senior), with improvements, and 40 acres to Mary Ann's nephew Augustine Hollor.[14] Augustine was a substantial landholder and never occupied this tract of land. Sometime between 1800 and 1817, at least two additional dwellings were constructed on the farm along Swover Creek which were a part of the 88 acres that were sold off, leaving the farm with 100 acres.

On January 24, 1824, Henry Long sold to Jacob Wilkins 100 acres with improvements.[15] Henry Long continued to pay the land taxes until at least 1839 with the building valued at $175.00, indicating the property was purchased in a land contract. We know that Jacob Wilkins took possession of the farm by his communion attendance at the local Zion-Pine Lutheran/

Reformed Church in 1825. In 1834, three of his relatives – Heinrick, Johann, and Philipp Wilkins – were also on the communion list.[16] Possibly they were living with Jacob to begin the major part of the renovation to the house. The Moyers, Longs, and then the Wilkinses all attended this same church. Before Jacob Wilkins moved to the Wilkins Farm, he was known as a blacksmith near Toms Brook. His father Godfrey was regarded as a skilled craftsman and known for the chests and rifles he made.[17] Many of his father's tools were purchased by Jacob from his estate auction near Toms Brook on April 23 and 24, 1812.[18]

In 1843, the buildings were valued at $275.00 according to the land tax records. By this time Jacob Wilkins was deceased and he had two remaining sons, Isaac and Emanuel. Isaac, the heir, probably carried out the last remaining major changes to the house. To the hall-and-parlor-plan rear ell he had added a second story with a second-story porch to the east elevation. To the south he added a nine-foot by sixteen-foot kitchen which was cut into the descending hill. The exterior doors were replaced with two-vertical-panel Greek Revival-style doors and fitted with cast Blake thumb latches and fastened with blunt screws, a remnant of the pre-industrial tapered screw which changed ca. 1846. He also created two interior doorways to join the two houses. In the late 19th century, Isaac replaced most of the windows with the extant two-over-two, double-hung-sash wood windows, and also updated the porches with decorative Victorian flat-sawn balustrades, chamfered posts, and a spandrel on the main house porch. Faux painting executed on the back of a chamber door and a built-in chamber closet survives to date. The faux painting on wood was a simple wood graining with intermittent squiggles. All of the interior trim boards used during this period were plain boards with no beading. The house was complete as it is shown in a 1913 photo. No other alterations appear to have been made until the mid-20th century.

The 1840 federal census listed Isaac as the head-of-household and by the occupants' ages we can deduce that his mother, brother Emanuel, and two sisters still resided on the Wilkins Farm. In 1847, Jacob paid $500 to each of his siblings − Emanuel, Lydia, and Rebecca − for their shares of the farm.[19] The 1850 federal census valued the farm at $2,000.00. The youngest sister of Isaac, Lydia, continued to live with his family on the farm.[20] In 1854, Isaac Wilkins constructed a large barn (now on an adjacent parcel) on the north side of Swover Creek which doubled his property value.[21] Isaac died on September 9, 1892. Having lived on the farm for 68 years, he was the head of the household for 45 of those years and very much the creative force behind how the Wilkins Farm looks today. For 100 years, from the mid-19th century to post World War II, there was very little change.

The Wilkins Farm on March 1, 1919, was deeded to George Wilkins, the second oldest son, who had lived with his parents on the farm in a separate house on the south side of the 100-acre farm.[22] George willed his farm to his second wife, Mary, and she continued to live on the farm after it had been deeded to their son Floyd and his wife Maude.[23] The 1940 federal census show three heads of household living on the Wilkins Farm.[24]

On February 24, 1940, the Wilkins Farm was deeded to Floyd's niece, Hilda Santmiers-Kibler, and her husband William T. Kibler.[25] According to an oral account given by Brenda Kline, the last Wilkins descendant to live on the farm, her mother Hilda, was raised on the farm by her grandmother Mary Wilkins as her own daughter. Both of her parents had died when she

was young. They electrified the house, added an indoor bathroom to the east porch after they had replaced the floor of the porch with concrete, and added a porch to the east elevation of the kitchen with a water cistern in the concrete floor. They also added a concrete block chicken house on the north side of Swover Creek (now on an adjacent parcel), and a concrete block structure that served as a garage with an earthen floor near the house. A central chimney stack was installed in the hall of the small house to accommodate an oil-burning space heater, and 2 ¼-inch-wide oak flooring was put on all of the floors of the rear ell.

After William Kibler's death in 1988, Brenda Kline and her husband became the owners of the Wilkins Farm.[26] They were the last owners in the Wilkins family line and occupied the dwelling and farm until 2003.[27] The Wilkins family owned the property from 1824 until 2003 – 179 years. The house retains the simple farming ambiance, and documents limited alteration with time.

EMANUEL WILKINS, FRAKTUR ARTIST

Emanuel Wilkins (1820-1904) was reared on the Wilkins Farm during his developmental years and into his early adulthood. At the age of four, in 1824, he moved with his family to the Wilkins Farm from the Toms Brook area where the ancestral Wilkins families first became established in Shenandoah County with land grants as early as 1756. The family was financially successful because of their craftsman skills in many disciplines. The grandfather of Emanuel, Godfrey Wilkins, and his sons, John and Jacob, are listed by the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts as known craftsmen.[28] Jacob Wilkins, Emanuel's father, was listed as a blacksmith before moving to the Wilkins Farm. Godfrey made a chest which is currently in the Henry Ford Museum, and one of his rifles was featured in an article by Wallace Gusler.[29]

According to a verbal account given by his daughter Ellen Kline to a historian writing about school teachers in Rockingham County, Emanuel Wilkins was lame early in life. She recalled that one day Emanuel was riding to school on a horse that slipped on ice, breaking his already lame leg. Emanuel continued to teach during his recovery from a bed that was placed in the one-room school, and a student brought him all of his needs.[30] Most of the information on Emanuel is elusive, especially in his childhood, when several relatives came to help on the house in 1843, and also attended communion. Emanuel was not present. His siblings were consistent about attendance at the Zion-Pine Lutheran/German Reformed Church that met near Swover Creek, but Emanuel was noticeably absent. While his brother and two sisters were confirmed and took communion on a regular basis, it is not recorded that Emanuel ever participated.[31] His ancestors wrote numerous letters and articles regarding the German Reformed church which are on file in the Swem Library in Williamsburg, Virginia.[32] Based on the 1840 population census which recorded the head-of-household and the residents by age, Emanuel was still living on the farm. In 1847, he received his portion of his inheritance ($500) from the farm and sometime during the mid-1840s, Emanuel began his career as a teacher and a fraktur artist near the New Market area.

Emanuel Wilkins' mid-19th-century fraktur art reflects the agrarian themes of his early life which included grains, flowers, trees, and birds. His work was unusual because he used the

English language, although his graphics followed the German folk tradition. The word fraktur is of Latin origin and means "broken," the lettering style used by many of the Germanic people starting in the 16th century. Manuscripts became elaborate decorations with ornate lettering and were used in Bibles and religious papers. Gold or bold colors were used for accentuated letters. Fraktur art had its origins in the regions of the Palatinate and Alsace. Both regions were near the Rhine River and the homeland of many German-speaking immigrants who came to America in the 18thcentury. Following difficult winters in the early 18th century, many came to America under the protection of William Penn, in a chain migration to Pennsylvania and later to the Shenandoah Valley, and on to the Midwest. The Palatinate lost as much as 20% of its population to migration during the 18th-century. Most families left the area nearly destitute, taking with them a strong religious faith, and the knowledge of arts and crafts which they brought to America and the Shenandoah Valley. The art was often repeated on furniture, rifles, and manuscripts.

Emanuel's three birth certificate frakturs, which were published in 2011 in *Bernhart & Company: Shenandoah Valley Folk Art Fraktur (1774-1850)* by the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Historical Society, each contained a Basque cross, or lauburu. This art form is found infrequently but did occur on barns in Pennsylvania, along with hexes, and on chests by local folk artist Johannes Spitler. The fraktur art was primitive, simple, and bold. The paints and inks came from natural valley sources. The usual four colors were red from berries, yellow from resins, green from verdigris, and blue from indigo or the mustard plant that produced dyer's blue woad.[33] The mustard plant was brought from Europe but soon became naturalized locally in the mid-Atlantic region. Frakturs were made to celebrate births, marriages, and baptisms.

All of Emanuel Wilkins' known or published art works were completed in the late 1840s when he was also a teacher. A Shenandoah art dealer and collector indicated that he had located and identified three additional works by Emanuel Wilkins but declined to give additional information on the matter.[34] Around 1848 Emanuel was paid by Solomon Henkel, according to his day book, for "the education of two scholars."[35] Solomon was a trustee of the New Market Academy and a publisher and printer of German language books and pamphlets. The Henkel Press also printed forms to produce frakturs with printed borders and verse, leaving the script to be completed by the artists. Two of Emanuel's works published in the book *Bernhart & Company* were preprinted forms, but the other one was done totally by hand.[36] The frakturs completed by Emanuel Wilkins were for residents living in Rockingham County.

Emanuel was not found living in either county in 1850 federal census, but in 1851 he married Sarah C. Higgs from Tenth Legion, 5.5 miles south of New Market. The subsequent births of three daughters, from 1851 to 1856, are also listed as being born in Tenth Legion, a town in Rockingham County.[37] From 1859 through 1867, Sara and Emanuel had five more children in Shenandoah County near Little Stoney Creek only 5.5 miles from the Wilkins Farm.[38] He was listed as a teacher in the "common school" and a farmer in the 1870 population census. The thriving community was near Columbia Furnace which supplied iron for the Confederate States during the war and was burned three times by Union troops.[39] The family moved to Timberville in Rockingham County ca. 1875, where he continued to teach. In the 1880 census, he was listed as an enumerator, but additional sources say that he taught school until 1885 in the

Brocks Gap area of Rockingham County.[40] Emanuel died in 1904 in the home of his daughter, Ellen Kline, in Broadway, Virginia.[41] The Wilkins Farm dwelling has faux painting in two second-story chambers. While the painting may not be attributable to Emanuel Wilkins, it is a testament to the Wilkins family's love of folk art.

ARCHITECTURE

The Wilkins Farm farmhouse evolved from a one-room settler's cabin, perhaps dating ca. 1776, into a ca. 1789, single-pile, two-story, side-gabled, folk-log house. Two additional contributing buildings of the same era help illustrate the settlement patterns of the immigrant Germans into the Shenandoah Valley during the 18th century. The use of local native materials and simple and practical designs reflect the environment that surrounded the reclusive Germans. Plain trim boards against plain weatherboard create an almost austere appearance but a look that is very tidy. The windowless gable ends have large uncoursed cut limestone chimneys capped with brick stacks. The main block sits on a limestone basement that exits under the northern three-bay façade, which is protected by a porch of late-Victorian flat-sawn decorative balustrades, architraves of fret-sawn spindles, running trim, and fan brackets. The porch is supported by chamfered posts and a six-panel door with a four-light transom pierces the center of the porch. The gabled roofs are covered with standing-seam metal. The wood windows are two-over-two, double-hung sashes, although the ca. 1776 room retains the six-over-six, double-hung sashes. The east elevation has a two-story porch with a matching balustrade and posts of the front porch on the second story. The lower porch protects the entrance to the rear ell and the door with four-light transom, to the main block. Before the mid-20th century, this eastern elevation was the façade, and the northern porch of the main block exited to the east instead of to the north as it does presently. A kitchen was added ca. 1842 to the southern elevation of the rear ell. It has a slab floor, a low-pitch standing-seam metal roof, and wraps the ca. 1776 limestone chimney.

The interior of the single-pile dwelling eliminates the need for passageways or empty spaces. The beams, floor boards, and wall boards, which were left exposed, were hand dressed with draw knives, and edges eased with a hand formed bead. The exterior log walls on the interior are plastered to the trim boards. The trim boards of the windows and doors of the main block have beaded edges with a stacked mold. The trim in the rear ell is usually of plain boards. Perhaps the trim was changed with the ca. 1842 renovations. Any known trim changes that took place ca. 1842 were done with plain boards. The earlier trim of ca. 1789 was always beaded or molded in some fashion. Three rooms of plastered walls are overlaid with drywall to cover the plaster, but most walls retain their original quality and texture. Two boxed, winding stairways occur in the halls of the main block and the rear ell. The interior doors of the main floor are six-panel doors, and the doors on the second story are board and batten. The battens of the doors have been masterfully tapered and dovetailed into the three boards that comprise each door. The interior ambiance of the main block takes a visitor back to 1789. The walls, wainscoting, windows, ceiling and fireplace in the colonial cabin reflect the primitive nature of an early settlement dwelling.

A study by Edward Chappell, of early-18th-century Rhenish (from the Rhine River valley of Germany) houses in the Shenandoah Valley centered near the Massanutten Settlement, illustrates

the transition from the German *Flukuchenhaus* design, to the widely accepted I- house of the early 19th century. The house at the Wilkins Farm is a last vestige of that transition which incorporates the Anglo-American exterior chimneys while retaining the three-room plan that uses the 20-foot by 14-foot hall as a kitchen (*Kuche*), a 14-foot by 12-foot room with two windows used as a parlor (*Stube*), and a windowless, 14-foot by 8-foot room as a sleeping chamber (*Kammer*). Ca. 1842 the center partition was moved to allow more space for the doorway that was added to combine the two dwelling areas. Edward Chappell also cites a number of characteristics of Rhenish origin, all of which are shared by the Wilkins Farm main dwelling. They are the three-room plan, balancing exterior openings based on the needs of the interior, exposed wall and ceiling structural elements, conservative trim limited to baseboard, chair rails, and modest mantels, interior vertical-board wall construction, and hill siting, which allows entry close to ground level on two different stories.[42]

The main dwelling and the summer kitchen with domestic quarters illustrate the need for additional housing for servants and extended family members. The attic of the main block might have been used for sleeping quarters as evidenced by a stove thimble into the chimney. Each of the three log units has substantial fireplaces for heating and cooking, suggesting fairly equalitarian attitude toward the extended households. Mid-19th-century German-Americans became less reclusive with their language and embraced the architectural changes in the Shenandoah Valley as illustrated by the improved porches that displayed early Victorian characteristics. The main block and ell were united by interior doorways on both stories within the same period.

The well preserved front-gabled log granary in close proximity to the house reflects the importance of harvested grains in the late 18th century as a valuable resource to the family. The ambiance of the extant summer kitchen with the well also offers an insight to late-18th-century life, and a review of the 1804 estate appraisal of George Moyer offers a glimpse of what was used in this work area. The construction of the summer kitchen is similar to the main house with exposed beams dressed on the top and bottom for joists exposed in the basement, and shaped and dressed beams exposed in the living area. The exposed logs of the summer kitchen also give an insight to the concealed construction of the main house. The logs were dressed to 6 inches on the sides, and left naturally rounded, or slightly shaped on the top and bottom. The height of the logs ranged upward to sixteen inches. The voids between the logs were filled with split hardwood bats, and top-dressed limed gritty soils of on-sight origin. The V-notched exposed log ends give an additional look at the German construction. The granary exhibits the same construction form from the inside with very close voids between logs. Based on a 1913 photo, other structures, small barns, and sheds also existed in this same farm yard of 3.5 acres along the same latitude of the house.

ARCHAEOLOGY POTENTIAL

Although no archaeological investigations have taken place on the property, there is potential to yield information related to the location of former buildings and structures on the property, as well as material culture of domestic lifeways. Because the geological bench of the occupation

area is limited, any potential for archaeology appears to be confined to an elongated 50-foot by 300-foot area. A 1913 photo reveals additional small outbuildings east of the main house. Irregular land forms in the current pasture suggest the possibility of a larger on-ground log barn. A possible foundation base of limestone rubble fashioned into a 24-inch-wide platform with an undetermined length was found 50 feet east of the main house. Potentially this area might explain the source of the reused logs in the summer kitchen. West of the granary, a barrow pit was found that may have been used to build the ca.1776 fireplace. The mortar seems to be made of local gritty clay which was repointed at a later date. It was back filled with limestone rubble and flakes from the chimney construction. The exterior dimensions are unknown. Two non-diagnostic aboriginal surface finds were a fire reddened low-grade jasper end-scraper and a fired quartzite preform. Large quantities of historic pottery shards have been found and include ca. 1750, English cream-ware, pearl-ware, transfer-ware, buff to red-bodied earthen-ware with lead-glaze and salt-glaze stoneware, and white-ware. A lot of the red-ware shard rims indicate dairy pots and pans. A single piece of an English pipe stem from the mid-19th century and an 18th-century bone button were found.

Endnotes:

[1] Northern Neck Proprietary Land Grant, Virginia State Library, Richmond, VA: Online documents. 188.5 Acres in Frederick County, from Lord Fairfax to Augustine Cofman. November 8, 1775.

[2] Northern Neck Proprietary Land Grant, Virginia State Library, Richmond, VA: Online documents. From Lord Fairfax to Augustine Cofman. 200 acres, November 8, 1751, "Were he now lives" in Frederick County, Va.

[3] Northern Neck Proprietary Land Grant. Virginia State Library, Richmond VA: Online documents, Patent Book P.115, March, 3, 1763. Frederick County, Lord Fairfax 200 acres to Augustine Cofman.

[4] Shenandoah County, Va., Deed Book C.321, May 25, 1779. Augustine Cofman, to son Adolph Cofman. 50 pounds.

[5] Shenandoah County, Va., Deed Book C.422 August 29, 1781. Adolph Cofman to John Shanks 70 pounds.

[6] Shenandoah County, Va., Deed Book C.474. May 30, 1782. John Shanks, to George Moyer, 90 pounds.

[7] Philip C. Marshall, article. *Dating Old Houses*. 1923, (Doylestown, PA: Henry C. Mercer Museum), and Henry Lionel Williams, *Old American Houses and How to Restore Them*. *1700-1850*. (Garden City, NY: Double Day & Company, Inc., 1964), 164-170.
Two Suffolk Bean thumb latches with straight lifts occur in the main house and summer kitchen area, giving them both a date before 1800. Five interior doors have Norfolk latches with

escutcheons, giving them a date ca.1825. Three cast Blake thumb latches installed with blunt screws give the doors a ca.1846 date.

[8] Shenandoah County, Va., Will Book F.223-224, Line # 4 April, 26, 1804. Estate Appraisal of George Moyer.

[9] John W. Wayland, PhD. *A History of Shenandoah County Virginia*, C.J. Carrier Company, Dayton, Virginia 2006 2nd edition. 226-227.

[10] The John Miley Maphis House, 56 Bells Lane, VDHR #085-5181. 1857 Swover Creek Road, a two-pile folk log ca. 1850. 1693 Swover Creek solid brick, two pile ca. 1775. 270 Corner Road L-shape, single-pile folk, ca. 1860.

[11] Shenandoah County, Va., Will Book F.223-224, April 26, 1804. Estate Appraisal of George Moyer.

[12] Shenandoah County, Va., Will Book E.213-216, December 30, 1797. Estate Sale of Henry Meyer (father of George Moyer).

[13] Shenandoah County, Va., Deed Book Z.111 March, 3, 1818. George Moyer to Henry Long 188.5 Acres at auction for $3,660.

[14] Shenandoah County, Va., Deed Book Z.59, June 7, 1819. 48 acres from Henry Long to Frederick Moyer, a son of George Moyer for $205.00. Deed Book AA.577 June 6, 1821. 40 acres from Henry Long to Augustine Hollar with "all houses and buildings" for $400.00.

[15] Shenandoah County, Va., Deed Book CC.544, January 21, 1824. Henry Long deed to Jacob Wilkins, 100 acres.

[16] Daniel Warrick Burris II, and Sandra Helsley–Yelton, 1988 *Faith in the Valley- Early Shenandoah County Church Records.* Volume IV, Zion Church near Swover Creek. Commercial Press Inc., Stephen City, Virginia, 110-113.

[17] Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts, 924 South Main Street, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, 27101, Online craftsman database, I.D. # 49125 and # 49126 Godfrey and Jacob Wilkins.

[18] Shenandoah County, Va., Will Book I.126-127, April 23-24, 1812, Estate auction of Godfrey Wilkins, father of Jacob Wilkins.

[19] Shenandoah County, Va., Deed Book, WW.309, July 13, 1847. Deed to Isaac Wilkins.

[20] 1850, Federal Population Census of Shenandoah County, Virginia.

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[21] Shenandoah County, Va., Land Tax 1854 book A. of Isaac Wilkins.

[22] Shenandoah County, Va., Deed Book, 86.72, January 30, 1919. George Wilkins wills to Mary E. Wilkins.

[23] Shenandoah County, Va., Deed Book, 113.77. Mary E. Wilkins to Floyd Wilkins.

[24] Shenandoah County 1940 federal census listed as heads of households Floyd Wilkins, Rufus Wilkins, and Truman Kibler.

[25] Shenandoah County, Va., Deed Book, 128.420, February 24, 1940. Floyd and Maude Wilkins deed to William T. Kibler and Hilda Santmiers Kibler.

[26] Shenandoah County, Va., Deed Book 584.680, June 9, 1989. Dorothy Kibler (wife) deed to Kenneth and Brenda Kline (daughter).

[27] Shenandoah County, Va., Deed Book 1050.72, May 7, 2003. Kenneth and Brenda Kline deed to Geis.

[28] Museum of Southern Decorative Arts, 924 South Main Street, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, 27101. Online craftsman data base, I.D. # 49125, and # 49126.

[29] Henry Ford Museum, Dearborn Michigan, Online "*Pic of the Month*", August 2010. Chest by Godfrey Wilkins for Jacob Wilkins, in 1804, and Gusler, Wallace, article in *Journal of Southern Decorative Arts*, November, 1979. 25. Rifle made by Godfrey Wilkins.

[30] Agnes Kline, *Old Schools on Linville Creek, Rockingham County, Virginia*. (Dayton, VA: Harrisonburg-Rockingham Historical Society, 1973, Reprint 1997), 21.

[31] Daniel Warrick Burris II, and Sandra Helsley–Yelton, 1988, *Faith in the Valley- Early Shenandoah County Church Records*, Volume IV, Zion Church near Swover Creek (Stephen City, VA: Commercial Press Inc.), 110-113.

[32] Wilkins Family Papers 1763-1896. William & Mary, Early Gregg Swem Library, Special Collections, I.D. # Mss. 39.1 W 64. Six folders with articles on German Reformed Church by Wilkins family members.

[33] *Bernhart & Company, Shenandoah Valley Folk Art Fraktur (1774-1850)*, (Dayton, VA: The Heritage Museum, Harrisonburg-Rockingham Historical Society, 2011), 25.

[34] Personal email from Jeffery Evan, auctioneer and folk art collector, January 13, 2013.

[35] Solomon Henkel. *Plain Mills Store Day Book*, 1835-1849, page 510, MSS. Acc. 2007.113, William & Mary, Early Gregg Swem Library, Special Collections.

[36] *Bernhart & Company, Shenandoah Valley Folk Art Fraktur (1774-1850)*, 2011, (Dayton, VA: The Heritage Museum, Harrisonburg-Rockingham Historical Society), 74-76.

[37] Rockingham County, Va., federal population census 1860.

[38] Shenandoah County, Va., federal population census 1870.

[39] John W. Wayland, *A History of Shenandoah County Virginia*, 2nd edition (Dayton, VA: C.J. Carrier Company, 2006), 296 and 297.

[40] Kline. Also see: Faye Ruebush and Dorothy Swank, *History of Rockingham Public Schools*, available online as RCPS History, 1963.

[41] Obituary, Rockingham Register, Emanuel Wilkins, June 15, 1906.

[42] Edward A. Chappell, "Acculturation in the Shenandoah Valley: Rhenish Houses of the Massanutten Settlement," *Common Places, Readings in American Vernacular Architecture*. Edited by Dell Upton, and Michael Vlack. (Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 1986).

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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_____. *The German Element of the Shenandoah Valley*. Harrisonburg, VA: C.J. Carrier Company, 1907.

Wilkins Family Papers, 1763-1896. William & Mary, Early Gregg Swem Library, Special Collections. Williamsburg, VA.

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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 # _____
____ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

__X_ State Historic Preservation Office
____ Other State agency
____ Federal agency
____ Local government
____ University
____ Other
Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): VDHR File No. 085-0216

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approximately 3.5 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates
Datum if other than WGS84:_____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: Longitude:

2. Latitude: Longitude:

3. Latitude: Longitude:

4. Latitude: Longitude:

Or
UTM References
Datum (indicated on USGS map):

[X] NAD 1927 or [ ] NAD 1983

1. Zone: 17 Easting: 707554 Northing: 4301743

2. Zone: Easting: Northing:

3. Zone: Easting: Northing:

4. Zone: Easting : Northing:

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundaries of the Wilkins Farm are shown on the accompanying Shenandoah County tax map # 56-A-101. Starting at a pin in the northeast corner of the property along Swover Creek Road the boundary commences in a line South 00· 00.00" E for 344.05', and along a line N 90·00'00' E , for 400.00' and then N.00·00'00' E for 370.57' to Swover Creek Road, following the curve of the road eastward to the original pin. The entire property is enclosed with a black board fence.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)
The 3.5 acres encloses the farmyard area of the ca. 1776 farm dwelling, the extant contributing buildings historically associated with the Wilkins Farm, and the historic setting of the domestic complex.

---

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Delmar Hooley
organization: NA
street & number: 989 Swover Creek Road
city or town: Edinburg state: Virginia zip code: 22824
e-mail: djhooley@shentel.net
telephone: 540-984-8315
date: August 30, 2013

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

All photos are common to:

Name of Property: Wilkins Farm,
VDHR File number: 085-0216
City or Vicinity: Edinburg - rural
County: Shenandoah County State: Virginia
Photographer: Delmar Hooley
Date Photographed: January, 2013
Digitals stored at: Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of 14: VA_ShenandoahCounty_ Wilkins Farm_0001.
View: Setting, looking southwest.

2 of 14: VA_ShenandoahCounty_ Wilkins Farm_0002.
View: East elevations of contributing buildings: log granary on left, main house, and summer kitchen on right, looking west.

3 of 14: VA_ShenandoahCounty_ Wilkins Farm_0003.
View: Façade (north elevation), looking south.

4 of 14: VA_ShenandoahCounty_ Wilkins Farm_0004.
View: East elevation of main house, looking west.

5 of 14: VA_ShenandoahCounty_ Wilkins Farm_0005.
View: West elevation of main house, looking east.

6 of 14: VA_ShenandoahCounty_ Wilkins Farm_0006.
View: South elevation of main house, looking northwest.

7 of 14: VA_ShenandoahCounty_ Wilkins Farm_0007.
View: Interior of main house, ca. 1776 colonial mantel detail.

8 of 14: VA_ShenandoahCounty_ Wilkins Farm_0008.
View: Interior facing south into ca. 1776 room with colonial mantel, and boxed winding staircase on left.

9 of 14: VA_ShenandoahCounty_ Wilkins Farm_0009.
View: Interior showing detail of board walls, staircase, and ca. 1776 six-over-six, double-hung-sash, wood window.

10 of 14: VA_ShenandoahCounty_ Wilkins Farm_0010.
View: Faux painting in hall chamber of main block, second story.

11 of 14: VA_ShenandoahCounty_ Wilkins Farm_0011.
View: Faux painting on closet in chamber of parlor chamber, second story.

12 of 14: VA_ShenandoahCounty_ Wilkins Farm_0012.
View: Interior hall view of fireplace and staircase in 1789 section: facing southeast.

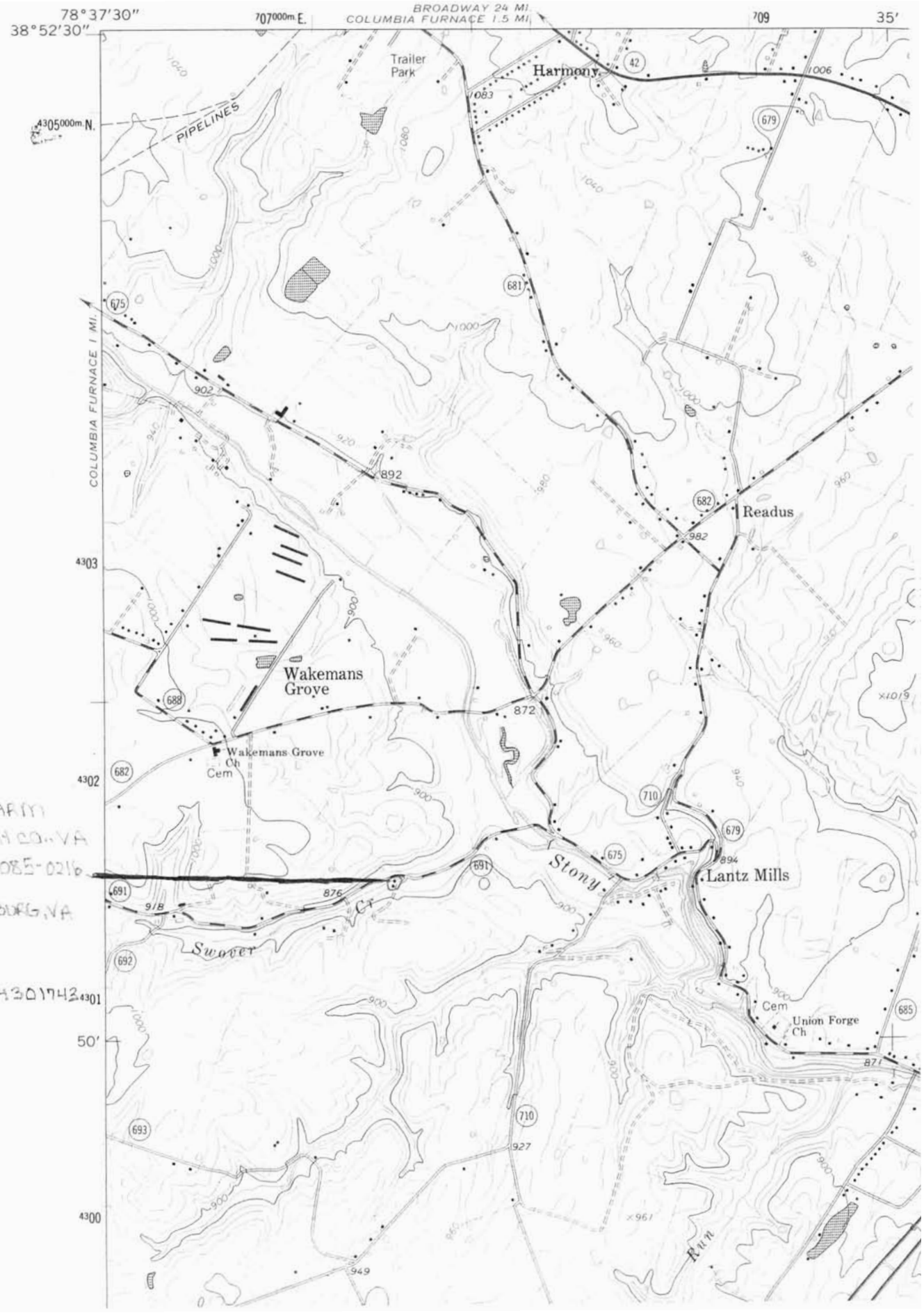
13 of 14: VA_ShenandoahCounty_ Wilkins Farm_0013.
View: East elevation of summer kitchen.

14 of 14: VA_ShenandoahCounty_ Wilkins Farm_0014.
View: West elevation of log granary.

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.460 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

5261 I NW
(WOLF GAP)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

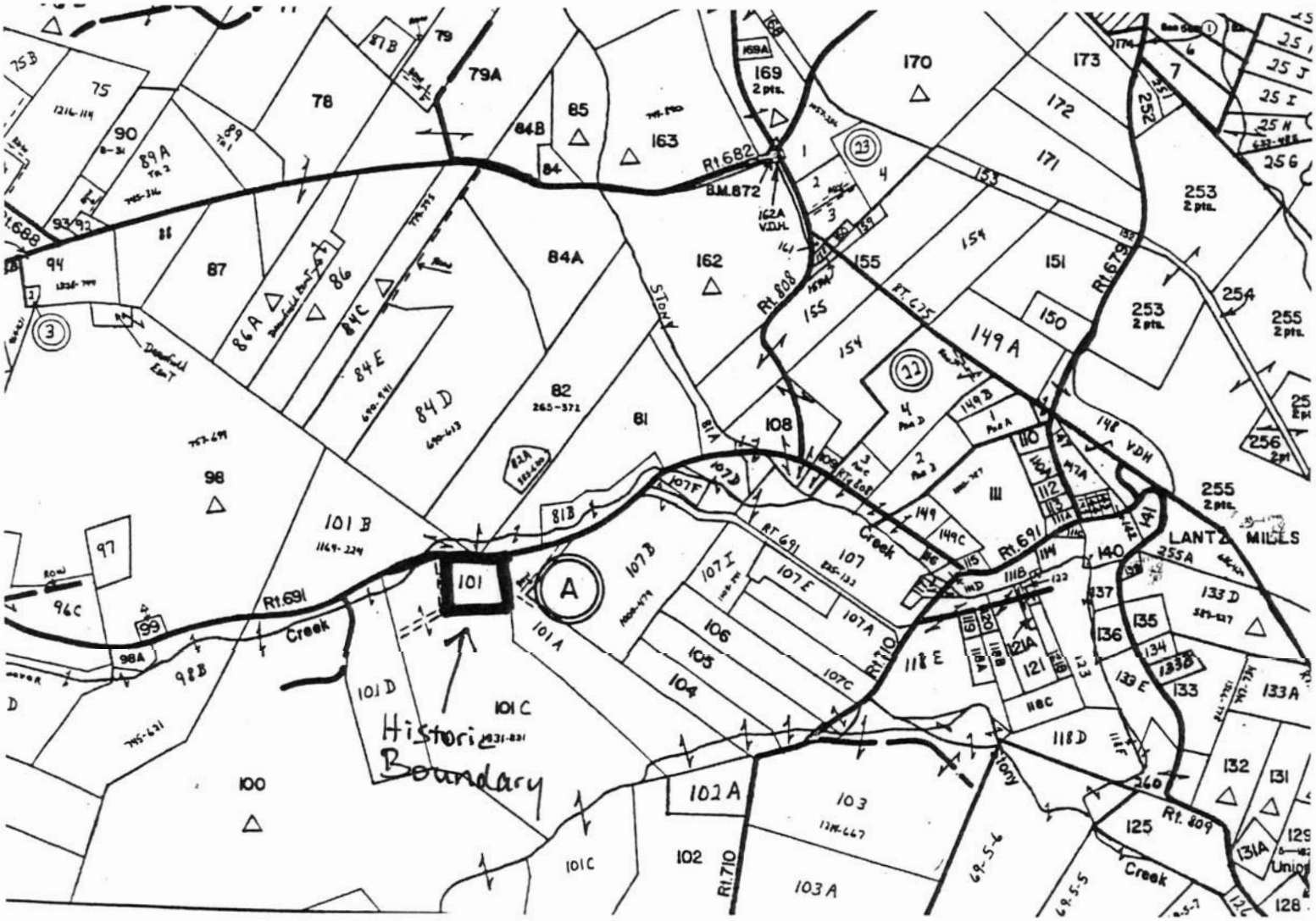


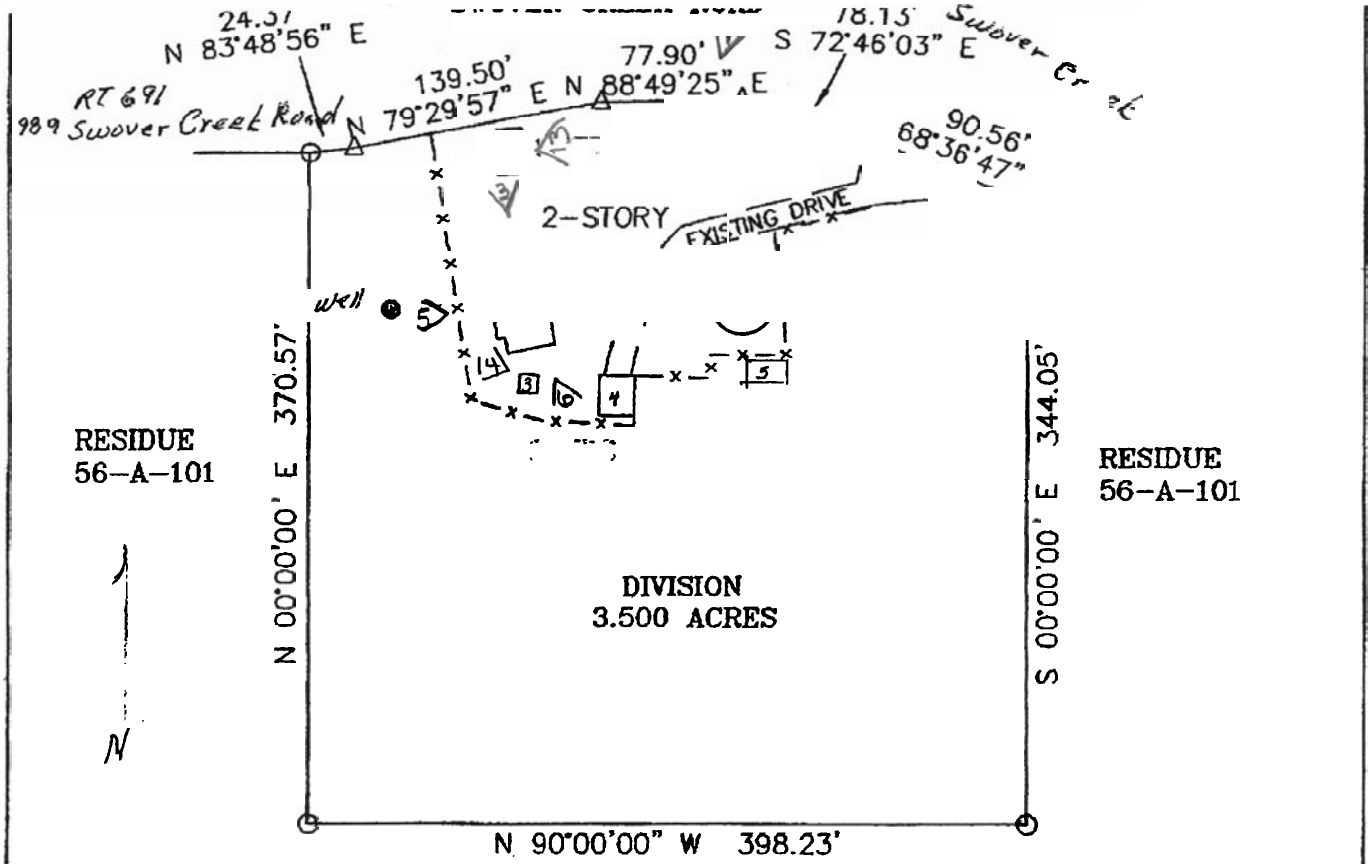
WILKINS FARM
SHENANDOAH CO., VA
VDHR FILE # 085-0216

QUAD: EDINBURG, VA
NAD: 1927

UTMS:
17/707554/4301743

Wilkins Farm
Shenandoah County, VA
DHR # 085-0216
Tax Parcel Map
Parcel # 56-A-101





1. house c.1776-90 - C
2. Summer kit-wellhouse c.1790 - C
3. Log granary c1790 - C
4. garage c.1955 - NC
5. run-in-shed c.2007 - NC
   Jan. 16, 2013
6. round pen 45'-2007 - NC

1/4" = 26.6' scale

RESIDUE 56-A-101
NEW AREA: 73.742 ACRES

Photos 7-12
Interior views

THE 3.500 ACRE TRACT IS A PORTION OF
56-A-101 AND IS A NEW DIVISION
SEE SECTION 142-3-(1).

THE RESULTING PARCEL IS BEING DIVIDED FROM A LARGER TRACT

LOCATED IN THE MADISON MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT,
SHENANDOAH COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

OWNER: PIERRE J. GEIS, III AND JULIANNA M. GEIS
REFERENCE: DEED BOOK 1050. PAGE 72

JOB NO. 56-A-107B FEBRUARY 9, 2006

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
RANDALL K. NEWMAN
No. 1627
LAND SURVEYOR

NEWMAN SURVEYING
Licensed Land Surveyor
Mt. Jackson, Virginia 22842
(540) 477-3730

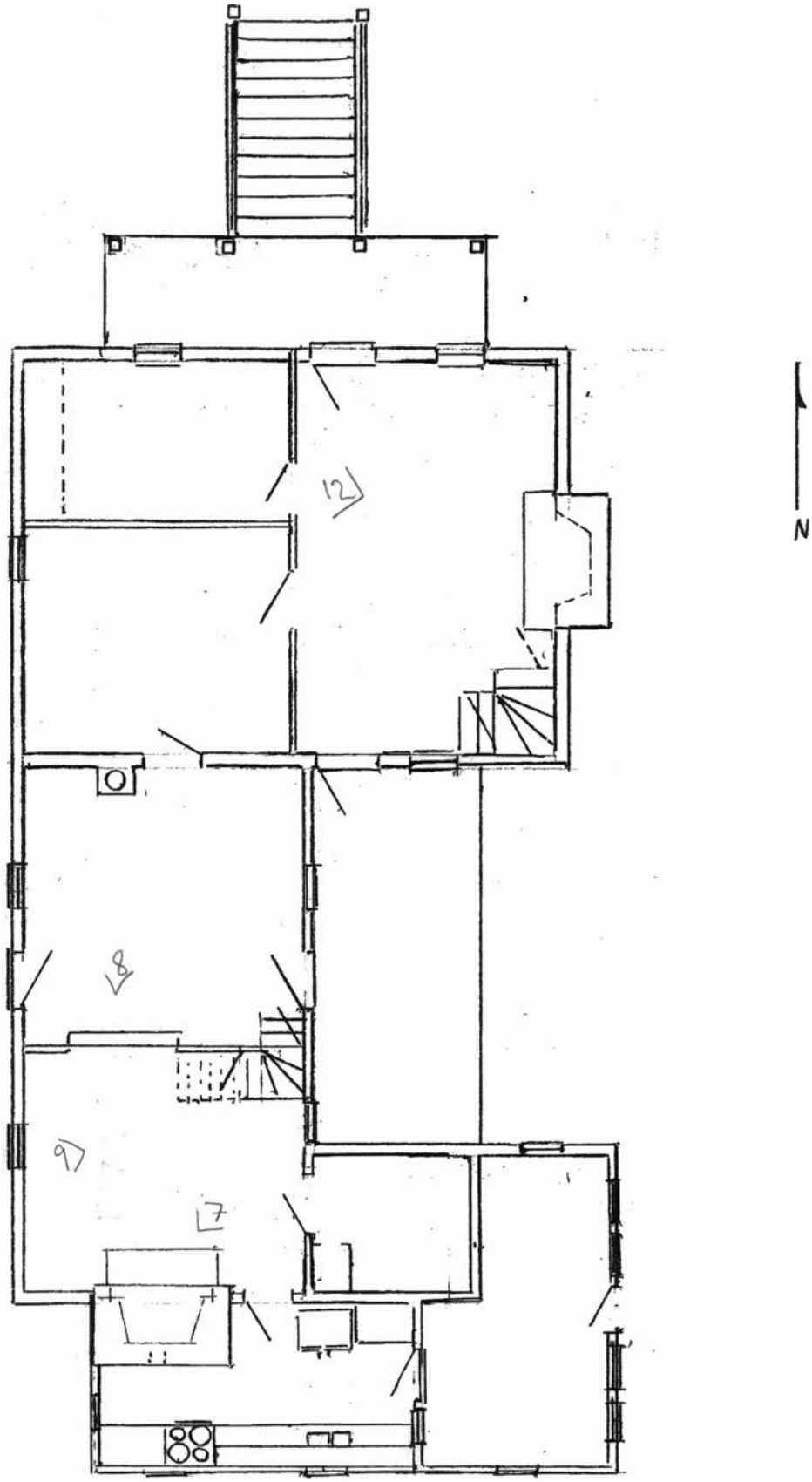
C = Contributing
NC = Non-contributing

WILKINS FARM
SHENANDOAH COUNTY, VA
VDHR FILE NO. 085-0216

Feb 14 06 11:15a RANDALL NEWMAN 540-477-9798 p.1

Photo Location

PHOTO KEY/SITE PLAN



WILKINS FARM
SHENANDOAH COUNTY, VA
VDHR FILE NO. 085-0216

Dwelling - First Floor Plan
7 Photo location