

VLR-6/19/73 NRHP-6/19/73

330-2

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Virginia
COUNTY: Shenandoah
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Shenandoah County Court House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Northwest corner of intersection of West Court St. and South Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Woodstock

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Seventh, J. Kenneth Robinson

STATE:
Virginia

CODE:
51

COUNTY:
Shenandoah

CODE:
171

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comment.
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Shenandoah County

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Woodstock

STATE:
Virginia

CODE:
51

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Shenandoah County Court' House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Woodsrock

STATE:
Virginia

CODE:
51

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

DATE OF SURVEY: 1958
 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE:
D.C.

CODE:
11

SEE INST CT ONS

STATE: Virginia

COUNTY: Shenandoah

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The original portion of the Shenandoah County Courthouse is a single-pile, two-story structure with a facade of rough-hewn coursed limestone ashlar. The side and rear walls are laid in uncoursed rubble. In the center of the seven-bay facade is a three-bay pedimented pavilion to which a projecting tetrastyle Tuscan portico was added in 1929. In the center of the gable roof is a strikingly handsome hexagonal cupola in a form recalling those found on south German Baroque parish churches. The ogee-shaped roof above the belfry is surmounted by a short spire topped by a ball finial. Above the ball is an elaborate wrought-iron weather vane with delicate scrollwork and an Indian profile. The weather vane is a replica of the original preserved in the interior. The segmental arches in the belfry originally were open but were closed with louvres in the 1870's. At either end of the roof is an interior end chimney stack. The molding along the base of either gable was added about the same time as the portico to give the gables a pedimented effect. All the windows in the facade preserve their original architrave surrounds and early louvred shutters, but the original sash has been replaced by nineteenth century two-over-two sash. The second-story windows preserve their molded sills, but the first floor windows have had their sills replaced with square heart pine sills. The main entrance originally was surrounded by simple architrave similar to the windows; the present pedimented frontispiece is a recent addition.

The courthouse was built to have a two-story courtroom in the center section with a tier of rooms on either side. The courtroom's massive turned ceiling supports are intact, but have been bisected by a new floor, presumably installed when the new courtroom wing was added. No other original courtroom fittings survive. The two levels of rooms on either side of the former courtroom space preserve much early trim including window architraves, baseboards, chair rail, and architrave fireplace surrounds. These rooms have suffered numerous minor alterations, however.

The one-story Greek Revival wing containing the present courtroom was added to the rear around 1840. The otherwise plain courtroom as a decorative stamped metal ceiling. Attached to the rear of the courtroom wing, with its gable roof perpendicular to the latter is a one-story clerk's office added in 1880. This handsomely ornamented addition has a corbeled brick cornice, pilasters, and segmental arched openings. The original interior of the two-room wing is well-preserved, and is a splendid example of a finely appointed Victorian Clerk's Office. The dark-stained woodwork is richly carved with geometric patterns, and the floors are laid in colorful encaustic tiles. The richly trimmed mantels are exceptional.

The Courthouse is situated in the center of the small town of Woodstock in a predominantly commercial neighborhood. Facing east, the building is set back about fifty feet from Main Street. West Court Street bounds the property of the south. The building remains in fair condition. Plans are underway to build a new courthouse across West Court Street, but the present building is to be preserved for county offices.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) C. 1790

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | <u>Government History.</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Shenandoah County Courthouse is one of the oldest, if not the oldest courthouse still in use west of the Blue Ridge Mountains. The original two-story, limestone section of the structure dates from the early 1790's. Shenandoah County Courthouse is most unusual because of the conglomeration of architectural styles found in the courthouse complex; Early Republican, American Vernacular, south German Baroque, Greek and Tuscan Revival and Victorian.

The Town of Woodstock was predominantly German from its establishment in 1761 well into the mid-nineteenth century. German and Pennsylvania Dutch culture and folk art were quite evident throughout this area as evidenced in the design of the courthouse, the town's most important building. The structure's facade as well as its highly baroque central hexagonal cupola strongly reflect this heritage.

The brick central section of the present three-part courthouse complex, constructed in 1840, further reflects this heritage. All of the bricks for the courthouse were made by David Hoshour, a member of an early German-Lutheran pioneer family in the Valley. The bricks were manufactured at the south end of Church Street in Woodstock. At this time an English block tin roof was placed on the structure. David Hoshour's son, John S. Hoshour, constructed the rear section of the building, now the clerk's office, in 1880.

Shenandoah County Courthouse has always been particularly reminiscent of the War Between the States to the citizens of Woodstock. The Confederate leader, Stonewall Jackson, passed by this building many times while on his campaigns. Soldiers have gathered on the courthouse steps to muster for all wars from the War of 1812 to the First World War.

J.L.F.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"History of the C. H." Shenandoah Herald, Woodstock, Va., April 21, 1971
 John D. McDermott, "Shenandoah Co. C. H. Woodstock, Va." U. S. Dept. of International Park Service Division of History, March 12, 1969. Special report.
 John W. Wayland, A History of Shenandoah Co. Va., Strasburg, Va.: Shenandoah Publishing House, Inc., 1927, reprint 1969.
 Files of Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		38°	52'	55"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		78°	30'	20"
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than ten acres.

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission DATE: April, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER:
Room 1116 Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond STATE: Virginia CODE: 23219 51

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Junius R. Fishburne, Jr., Director
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
 Title _____

Date _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation








Date _____

ATTEST:

 Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

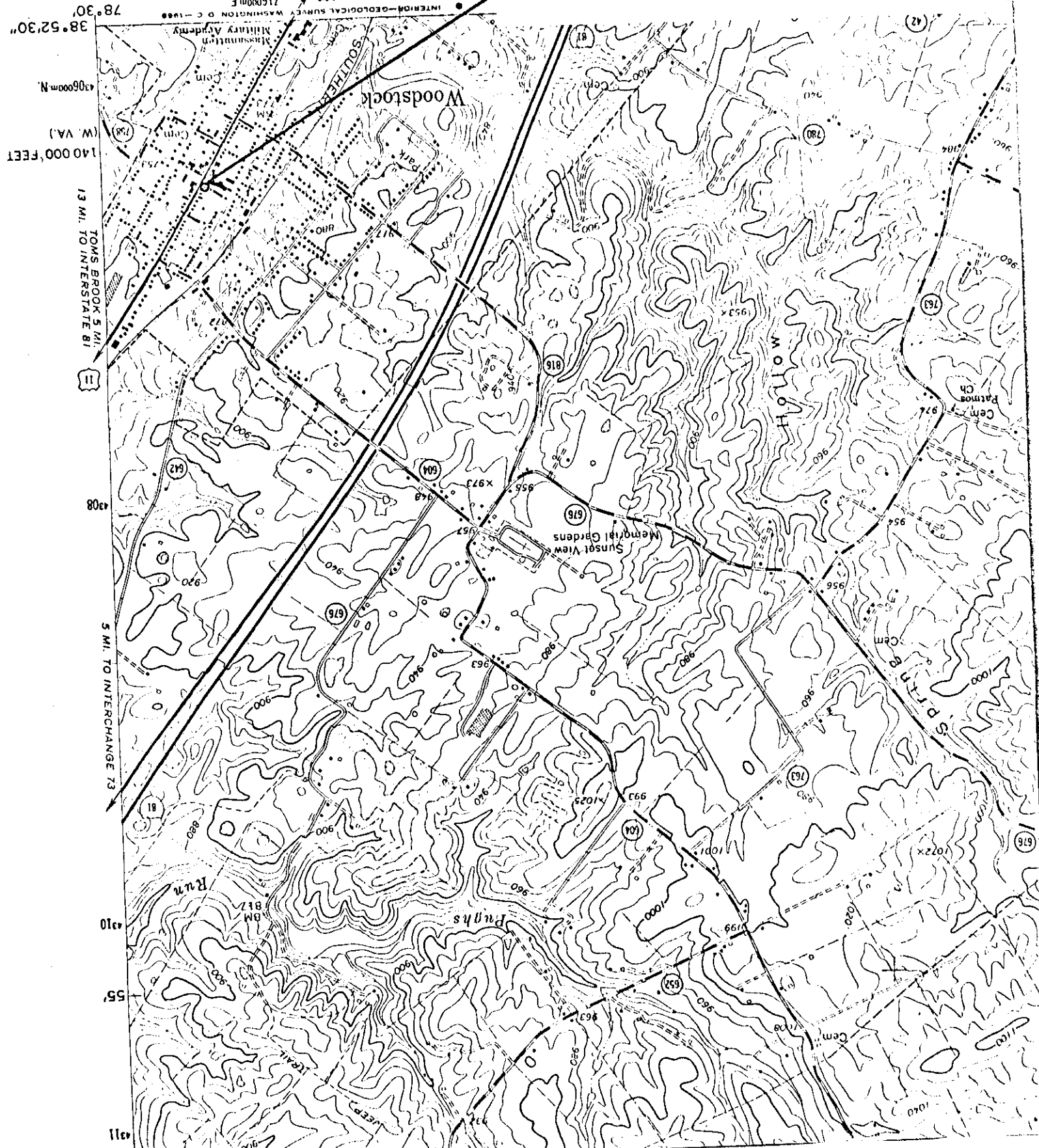
WOODSTOCK, VA. - W. VA.

Interstate Route  U.S. Route  State Route 
 Heavy-duty  Medium-duty  Unimproved dirt  Light-duty 

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

INTERIOR-GEOLOGICAL SURVEY WASHINGTON D.C. 1988
 EDINBURG 4.5 MI.
 716000m E.

U.S.G.S. 7 1/2' quadrangle (scale: 1:24,000)
 Woodstock, Va.-W.Va. 1966
 SHENANDOAH COUNTY COURT HOUSE
 Longitude 78°30'20"
 Latitude 38°52'55"



13 MI. TO INTERSTATE 81
 5 MI. TO INTERCHANGE 73
 140 000 FEET
 4308
 4310
 4311
 38° 52' 30"
 78° 30'

RILEYVILLE 3.5 MI. SW.