

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 type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Mt. Zion is a two-story, hipped roof mansion of massive proportions built of random-laid fieldstone with four stone interior end chimneys and a modillioned cornice. The southwest front is seven bays wide, the center three bays on the second story being arranged in a widely spaced Palladian motif with central arched window and narrow side windows. The northeast front is five bays wide with a Palladian opening in the second-story central bay. A one-story Victorian porch covers the entrance and the two flanking bays. Most windows are nine-over-nine on the first level and six-over-six on the second; the windows have stone flat arch lintels.

The broad central hall is flanked by two rooms on each side, with a small cross stair hall between the two rooms on the northwest. The entrance hall is separated from the rear stair hall by a three-arched "screen" in which the central elliptical arch with its flanking round-headed arches is supported by square columns. This division of the central hall is continued upstairs where the southwest end is defined by being raised three steps above the northeast end. The east room on the first floor is the most elaborate room in the house with its richly carved mantel and overmantel as well as the modillioned cornice. Other rooms are much more simple and provincial in detail, emphasizing broad uncluttered surfaces.

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 type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1771-72

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Mt. Zion was probably built soon after the Reverend Charles Mynn Thruston bought land in Frederick County (the land is now in Warren County) in 1771. Thruston (1738-1812) was the son of Colonel John Thruston and Sarah Mynn of Gloucester County. After attending the College of William and Mary in 1754, he served as a lieutenant under Washington in 1758 at the capture of Fort Duquesne. Thruston took holy orders in London circa 1765 and served as minister of Petsworth Parish in Gloucester County until 1768 when he moved to Frederick County, there taking up the ministry in Frederick Parish. During the Revolution, Thruston raised a company of troops and was wounded at the Battle of Piscataway. He was known as the "Warrior Parson" or the "Fighting Parson." In 1775 and 1776 Thruston represented Frederick County in the Colonial Conventions held in Richmond. Following the Revolution, he was a prominent member of the Virginia legislature. In 1808 Thruston moved to Louisiana where he died in 1812.

Since 1842 Mt. Zion has been owned by the Earle family. Captain Alexander M. Earle was a member of the Virginia legislature at the outbreak of the War Between the States; he enlisted in the Confederate Army and was Quartermaster of the Twelfth Virginia Cavalry. In 1881 he was State Senator from the Clarke and Warren District.

The tradition that Hessians executed the interior decorative trim of Mt. Zion cannot be discounted, especially in the magnificent northeast chimney breast. However, there is no hint of such delicate feeling in the exterior design whose high ratio of proportion of window to wall space creates a fortress-like form, especially when built into the rough stone facades. This contrast of exterior and interior themes combined with its magnificent site in the rolling hills of the lower Shenandoah Valley develop the idea of provincialism on the grand scale.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cartmell, T. K., Shenandoah Valley Pioneers and Their Descendants.
 Berryville, Va.: Chesapeake Book Company, 1963.
 Tyler, Lyon Gardiner, ed., Encyclopedia of Virginia Biography. Vol. I.
 New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, 1915, p. 342.
 Wayland, John W., Historic Homes of Northern Virginia. Staunton, Va.:
 The McClure Company, Inc., 1937.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES	
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes Seconds
NW	39° 00' 20"	78° 06' 35"	°	' "
NE	39° 00' 20"	78° 05' 50"	°	' "
SE	38° 59' 40"	78° 05' 50"	°	' "
SW	38° 59' 40"	78° 06' 35"	°	' "

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 Staff, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, James W. Moody, Jr., Director

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE: October 22, 1969

STREET AND NUMBER:
 Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond

STATE: Virginia

CODE: 45

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 _____

Dr. Edward P. Alexander, Chairman
 Title Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

Date _____

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	
Virginia	
COUNTY	
Warren	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Mt. Zion			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Mt. Zion			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: .1 mi. NW of Rt. 624, .7 mi. NE of intersection of Rt. 624 and Rt. 639 (in Milldale).			
CITY OR TOWN:			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Virginia	45	Warren	187
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE:			
U.S.G.S. 15', quadrangles Winchester, Va. - W. Va.			
SCALE: 1:62500 Front Royal, Va.			
DATE: 1942, 1939			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

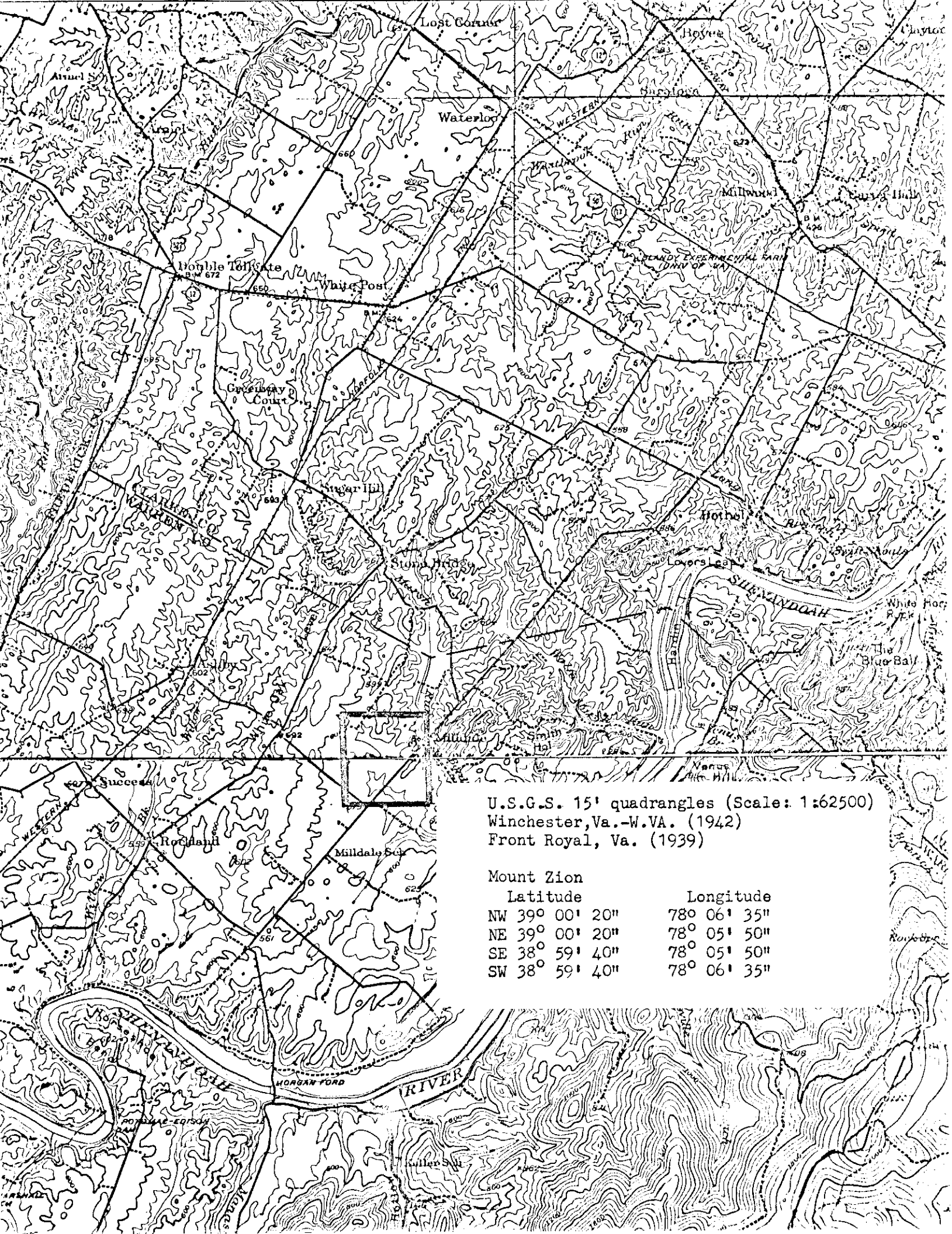
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE	
Virginia	
COUNTY	
Warren	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Mt. Zion			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Mt. Zion			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: .1 mi. NW of Rt. 624, .7 mi. NE of intersection of Rt. 624 and Rt. 639 (in Milldale).			
CITY OR TOWN:			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Virginia	45	Warren	187
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission			
DATE OF PHOTO: 1968			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Richmond, Virginia			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
View of front from the Southwest.			



U.S.G.S. 15' quadrangles (Scale: 1:62500)
 Winchester, Va. - W.VA. (1942)
 Front Royal, Va. (1939)

Mount Zion

	Latitude	Longitude
NW	39° 00' 20"	78° 06' 35"
NE	39° 00' 20"	78° 05' 50"
SE	38° 59' 40"	78° 05' 50"
SW	38° 59' 40"	78° 06' 35"