

VLR-1/18/83 NRHP-1/30/89

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

received OCT 11 1985 date entered

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms

Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Emory and Henry College (VHLD File No. 95-98)

and or common same

2. Location

street & number VA State Route 609 n/a not for publication

city, town Emory X vicinity of

state Virginia code 51 county Washington code 191

3. Classification

Table with 4 columns: Category, Ownership, Status, Present Use. Includes checkboxes for district, building(s), site, object, public/private, occupied/unoccupied, accessible, agriculture, commercial, educational, entertainment, government, industrial, military, museum, park, private residence, religious, scientific, transportation, other.

4. Owner of Property

name The Holston Conference Colleges Board of Trustees, c/o Dr. Heisse Johnson

street & number P.O. Box 1176

city, town Johnson City n/a vicinity of state Tennessee 37601

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Washington County Courthouse

street & number Main Street

city, town Abingdon state Virginia 24210

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

the Virginia Historic Landmarks Division Survey File No. 95-98 has this property been determined eligible? yes X no

date 1982 federal X state county local

depository for survey records Virginia Historic Landmarks Division - 221 Governor Street

city, town Richmond state Virginia 23219

# 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date <u>n/a</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

## SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The Emory and Henry campus consists of a complex of ten academic and residential buildings scattered informally through a pleasantly rolling park studded with many trees. The campus is located in the village of Emory which consists almost entirely of school-related buildings. Nestled in the beautiful countryside of Washington County, the grouping forms a classic image of a 19th-century college town. Ten buildings are considered of historic and architectural interest to the school. Interspersed among these early buildings are seven modern academic structures which though harmonizing in scale, color and materials are, because of their recent date (less than fifty years old), not considered essential to the historic integrity of the campus.

The buildings of historic and architectural significance consist of three Greek Revival faculty residences built during the period 1847-52: the Charles C. Collins House, the Emily Williams House, and the J. Stewart French House. All three houses are simple rectangular structures constructed of bricks made on the site. The early academic buildings include the following: Byars Hall Fine Arts Center (1889), Waterhouse-Carriger Hall (1904-08), Henry Carter Stuart Hall (1909), Miller-Fulton Hall (1914), Martin-Brock Student Activities Center (1923), and the Ephraim Emerson Wiley Hall (1928). The Tobias Smyth House is a log house, the home of one of the school founders, moved and rebuilt on the campus in 1929.

## Analysis of Ten Structures Significant in Age, Architectural Style, and Location

Following are ten buildings central to this nomination. All ten are more than fifty years old and stand on their original foundations, all are in the campus commons area, and most have had few exterior alterations since the initial construction.

## ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS

### 95-98-1. Charles C. Collins House

The Charles C. Collins House is the oldest building on the Emory and Henry campus still standing on its original site. The brick residence was built in 1845 as a home for the college's first president, Charles C. Collins. When Collins left the college in 1852, the new president already lived in another Emory home, so Collins House became a faculty residence. It remained such until 1964 when it was converted to a student residence hall.

The two-story house, with a basement partially above ground, is basically rectangular in shape with the rear portion slightly recessed from the front on both sides.

The coursed brick walls have no visible bond. However, it is documented that the brick was pressed and burned on campus using clay from pits located where the football field now sits. The pressing machine was a six-horsepower dry press mould used to produce all the brick for college buildings constructed prior to the coming of the railroad in 1856.

(see continuation sheet #1)

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1845– 1935

Builder/Architect

Unknown before 1927

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Emory and Henry College has significance as the oldest college in southwest Virginia and one of the few colleges in the south which have operated under the same name and with continued affiliation to the founding organization for more than 140 years. In Virginia, it is the oldest college west of Lexington. The cornerstone for Emory and Henry's first building was laid in 1836, the first students were enrolled in 1838, and the charter was granted by the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1839. The founding organization was the Holston Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the college remains affiliated today with The United Methodist Church. The pioneer days of Emory and Henry and its earliest leaders are remembered on the campus due to the survival of several structures: Charles C. Collins House, home of the first president; Emily Williams House, home of the second president; and J. Stewart French House, a faculty resident in the early years and later the official president's home for a succession of seven presidents. In addition to these buildings which still stand on their original foundations and have been little altered, the log home of Tobias Smyth has been reconstructed on campus for use as a museum and meeting place. Smyth is considered to be one of the four founders of the College, and his home originally stood about one mile from the campus. Along with these buildings and Emory and Henry's distinguished history, the College is significant due to its architectural collection of Georgian Revival buildings. The handsome grouping of these buildings in a collegiate setting gives Emory and Henry great visual appeal and makes it an archetypal small college campus.

#### HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The story of Emory and Henry's founding begins in 1825 when Methodists of the Tennessee Valley first considered the need for an institution of higher learning to serve the area's rapidly growing population. The valley was not exactly untamed frontier, but it was a pioneer settlement in need of educational institutions. The political and social climate of the age was much affected by the concept of Jacksonian Democracy, with its ideal of the common man and his great potential for learning. These factors, combined with the healthy state of the economy in the late 1820s, made the Methodists optimistic about the founding of a college.

(see continuation sheet #7)

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Virtually all information has been taken from Increase in Excellence: A History of Emory and Henry College 1836-1963 by George J. Stevenson (New York: Appleton-Century-Crofts, 1963).

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property approx. 78

Quadrangle name Glade Spring, VA

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

**UTM References**

A	17	4215990	4070050	B	17	426190	4069570
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	17	4215540	4069260	D	17	425320	4069710
E	17	4215690	4070050	F			
G				H			

(See Continuation Sheet #9)

**Verbal boundary description and justification** Beginning at a point on the E side of Garnand Dr. where it intersects with the Norfolk and Western Railroad; thence extending approximately 600' along said side of said drive; thence following E side of a maintenance road for approximately 1100' to a point on the N side of the college's golf course (which is not included); thence

**List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries**

state	n/a	code	county	n/a	code
state	n/a	code	county	n/a	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Patsi Barnes Trollinger, Director of Public Relations

organization Emory and Henry College date November 1982

street & number n/a telephone (703) 944-3121

city or town Emory state Virginia 24327

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature H. Bryan Mitchell

H. Bryan Mitchell, Director date December 15, 1988

title Virginia Historic Landmarks Division

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

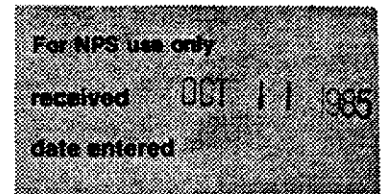
date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior  
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#1



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7. Description

Collins House has double-hung, sliding sash windows. Those on the facade and first story have 6 over 9 panes; all others have larger panes (2 over 2). All glass is the original.

The front of the house is arranged symmetrically with a one-tier veranda porch supported by wood posts with brackets. These brackets are repeated at the cornice. The porch roof imitates the low-pitched, hipped roof of the house. The front door has a square transom with sidelights.

The house is flanked by double chimneys. One fireplace has been kept in working condition.

The interior floors and staircases are the original; wall coverings have been altered to accommodate modern-day student residents.

95-98-2. Emily Williams House

Emily Williams House is the second oldest building standing on its original site on the campus. Built in 1848 as the home of a college faculty member, Ephraim Emerson Wiley, it probably was built by the same master builder who supervised the construction of Collins House. The two buildings share many features.

Emily Williams House is a brick residence with a basement which sits partially above ground. The front two-story portion is rectangular with an attached rear one-story rectangular section.

The coursed brick walls have no visible bond. The brick is the same as used in Collins House, pressed and burned on the Emory and Henry Campus.

The symmetrically arranged house has double-hung, sliding sash windows (6 over 6 panes). In a variation from the design of Collins House, Williams House has lintel-type window heads. All window panes are the originals.

The one-tier porch is supported by bracketed wood posts grouped in pairs. The brackets are repeated at the cornice. The front door has a square transom with sidelights. Both house and porch have low-pitch, hipped roofs. The house has two chimneys.

Interior floors and staircase are the original; wall coverings have been altered to accommodate the addition of electricity and plumbing as well as the convenience of modern-day student residents.

Historically, this building was known as Wiley House in deference to its first occupant, Professor Wiley. When he became president of Emory and Henry in 1852, he continued to live in this building and did so until his retirement in 1879. The house continued to carry his name while it served as home to other Emory and Henry presidents until sometime in the 1890s. It then became a faculty residence and continued as such until its conversion to student housing in 1978. At the time the building became a student residence hall, its name was officially changed to Emily Williams House to honor a benefactress of Emory and Henry.

(see continuation sheet #2)

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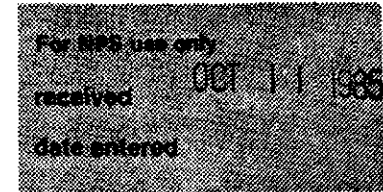
EMORY AND HENRY COLLEGE, WASHINGTON COUNTY, VA

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95-98-3. J. Stewart French House

J. Stewart French House is located on the same campus loop road as are Collins and Williams Houses, and it shares with them a common history. Constructed in 1852, it is the third oldest campus building standing on its original site.

The main portion of French House is a two-story square section with a small one-story portion in the rear. The basement is partially above ground, though not as much so as is the case for Collins and Williams Houses.

The coursed brick walls have no visible bond, and the brick is the same campus-produced brick as used in the other two houses.

The double-hung sliding sash windows have lintel-type window heads like those at Williams House. The original windows--which remain throughout the house except on the front side of the first story--mostly have fifteen panes (6 over 9) with a few four panes (2 over 2). The replacement windows on the front of the first floor (apparently installed due to deterioration of the wood trim in the originals) each have only two large panes (1 over 1).

Originally, the house had a one-tier, veranda porch. When the house was altered in the 1940s due to deterioration of the original wood, this porch was replaced with a square, flat-roofed portico with columns. The concrete slab floor of the portico extends the full length of the front of the house and around to another similar portico added to the east side of the house. (Apparently the style of the alterations was chosen to give the house a more "sophisticated" appearance than Collins and Williams, setting French House apart as the home of the college president.)

French House has a hipped roof which comes to a center point and appears to be more steeply pitched than the roofs of Collins and Williams. The central portion of the house has three chimneys, and there is one additional chimney on the rear section. The wood brackets at the cornice are similar to those at Williams House.

Like the other two houses, interior floors and woodwork are the original, and wall coverings were altered for the addition of electricity and plumbing.

J. Stewart French House originally was built as a faculty residence. The first occupant most likely was Professor Edmund Longley because he was the only other faculty member at the college in 1852 in addition to Collins and Wiley. Longley lived to be quite old and continued teaching at the college for many years, so it is possible that he resided in the house until the 1890s when the building was designated as the official home of the college president. Dubbed "President's Home," the structure continued to serve in that capacity until 1965 when a new president's home was constructed. At that time, the house was converted to a student residence hall and was officially named J. Stewart French House to honor the man who served as president of Emory and Henry from 1920-22. In 1981, French House was made into an office complex and guest house for the college.

95-98-4. Henry Carter Stuart Hall

Stuart Hall is a two-story brick building with its basement raised well above

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ground level (approximately six feet). The building is in the Georgian Revival style with a modillioned cornice, decorative roof pediments, and windows topped by flat arches with keystones.

The building is rectangular in shape. The front is symmetrically divided into five sections, two of which are marked by recessed, two-tier porches. These porches have smooth columns topped by Ionic scrolls. Both tiers have balustrades. The other three segments are marked by coursed brick walls with a decorative pattern at each corner; at the top of each of these sections is a pediment.

The windows in Stuart Hall are double-hung, sliding sash windows with large panes (1 over 1). In the front of the building, the windows are grouped in pairs. On the ends, there are single windows.

The building has a hipped roof.

The interior rooms have been altered by the addition of paneling and upgrading of the plumbing. The floorplan and woodwork (floor, stairs, etc.) have not been altered.

Henry Carter Stuart Hall is located on the west end of the Emory and Henry campus. Since its construction in 1909, it has served as a residence hall for men students. The building is named for an Emory and Henry alumnus who served as governor of Virginia and was a major benefactor of the college. The structure was given its name at the time of construction.

95-98-5. Waterhouse-Carriger Hall

Waterhouse-Carriger is a men's residence hall constructed in segments during the years 1904-08. The east wing was completed in 1904, the west wing in 1908, and the central lounge in 1908.

Waterhouse-Carriger is a two-story building with the basement totally below ground level at the front; due to sloping ground, the basement is mostly visible at the rear of the building. The structure is divided into three distinct sections, apparent from the front. In the center is a lounge which was originally constructed as a YMCA hall. The lounge is one story, but the very high interior ceiling causes the roof line to intersect the remainder of the structure at a level midway in the second story. The lounge has a gable roof hidden from ground-level view by a brick facade above the cornice. The coursed brick walls have pilaster strips topped by decorative stone work. The double-hung, sliding sash windows (1 over 1) are grouped in pairs, each pair topped by an arched transom which is filled with approximately twenty-five small panes. A segmental brick arch and concrete keystone top each window.

On either side of the lounge are the building's residential sections, each featuring a two-tier, pedimented portico on the front wall. The porticos have Ionic columns topped with scrolls; there are balustrades on the upper tier. Each wing has a gable roof with modillioned cornice. The bottom floor of each portico extends to the end of the building's front and all the way down the adjacent side to form a porch with Ionic columns spaced at six-foot intervals. All windows in both wings are double-hung, sliding sash windows with one large pane per sash.

(see continuation sheet #4)

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Each wing has four chimneys. The east side and west side each have two decorative roof pediments.

The interior of Waterhouse-Carriger has the same floor plan as originally constructed but the original decor has been replaced with modern paneling and carpeting. High ceilings (16') have been retained in the lounge.

At the rear of Waterhouse-Carriger is Matthews Hall, a long, narrow, three-story brick building built in 1953 to house male students. Initially the two buildings were not connected although Matthews was constructed quite close to the older building. In 1972, the two buildings were joined by a narrow hallway.

Funds for the project were raised by a local women's group known at that time as the Women's Home Makers' Band. A successor to that group still survives, the College Community Club. The structure is named for Richard Green Waterhouse, Emory and Henry President from 1893-1910, and his stepson, Herbert M. Carriger, who died in 1900 while enrolled as a student at Emory and Henry.

95.90-6. Ephraim Emerson Wiley Hall

E. E. Wiley Hall is the central campus building at Emory and Henry College, in terms of both its geographical location on the campus and its function as the administration building. It sits astride a hill in the heart of the campus commons area and offers a commanding view of the area.

The current structure is a 1928 reconstruction of a building which burned that same year. That building was identical to the current one with the exception of the auditorium which had a balcony in the original structure. The current building uses the same foundation and exterior walls as the original building which was constructed around 1912. (That building replaced yet another forerunner on the same spot, a three-story brick structure which was razed in 1912 due to its deteriorating condition.) The architect for the 1912 construction is unknown. The architects for the 1928 reconstruction were G.M. and G.C. Stone of Bristol, Virginia. The building originally was known simply as the Administration Building but was officially named Ephraim Emerson Wiley Hall during the 1940s in honor of the man who was president of the college from 1852-79.

Wiley Hall is a two-story brick structure with the basement floor extending well over halfway above ground level. The two-story front portico has smooth columns with Ionic scrolls. The portico is topped with a pediment and a cupola with Palladian windows. The portico also has a full entablature and modillioned cornice. Three double-doors open onto the portico (the central door is no longer operable due to interior changes) and each set of doors has a transom and pedimented frontispiece. The doors are deeply recessed. Above each door at the second-story level is a double-hung, sliding sash window with 8 over 8 panes.

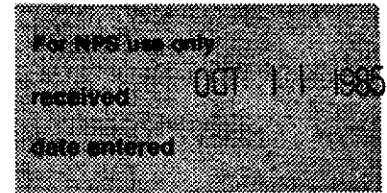
The front of each wing of the building is recessed from the center pavilion by about ten feet. The coursed brick walls have strip pilasters and other pediment and other first-floor windows are topped by a flat arch with keystone. All windows are double-hung, sliding sash. Most of the front windows are 6 over 6 with transoms. Second-story windows mostly are 6 over 6 without the transom.

(see continuation sheet #5)



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The east and west walls of the building have monumental columns. Between the columns are double-hung, sliding sash, 8 over 8 windows with square transoms and concrete architrave trim. The second-story windows are double-hung, sliding sash, 6 over 6. These sections of Wiley Hall also have a full entablature and a balustrade above the cornice.

The rear section of the building, recessed from the sides of the front portion, has Palladian-style windows with sidelights on the second story; each has a segmental brick arch. The first-floor windows on this section are double-hung, sliding sash, 6 over 6 with sidelights.

Above each of two side entrances at the front of the building and also above the rear entrance are distinctive arched transoms with wrought-iron decorative trim.

The interior of Wiley Hall features 15' ceilings in the main lobby and hallways and 14' ceilings in most offices. In the halls hang the official portraits of the college's founders, all the past presidents, and other key figures. Most of the office doors are the original 42-inch wide doors with 8-pan transoms. The auditorium, into which the Palladian style windows open on the second floor, has a 20' ceiling.

95-98-7. Byars Hall Fine Arts Center

Byars Hall Fine Arts Center is the oldest academic building on the Emory and Henry College campus. The current structure was built in 1889 on the site where a previous building burned. Originally used as a boarding house, Byars became the college library in 1954. It was at that time that extensive alterations were made to the building's exterior. Also a new section was added at the rear.

As originally constructed, Byars Hall was a two-story, rectangular building with a Romanesque Revival tower centered in the front. A one-story porch was built around the tower and extended almost the full length of the building. In the 1954 renovation, the tower was replaced by a front addition which has a semi-circular portico with columns like those on Wiley Hall and Carriger-Waterhouse Hall. This new section matches the original in several respects--a basement which is partially above ground and double-hung, sliding sash windows (4 over 4) which are tall, narrow, and topped by segmental brick arches.

A rear section also was added in 1954. To make the new section compatible in style with the old, this rear section has a large number of narrow double-hung, sliding sash windows (thirty-six windows on the rear wall alone).

The central original building has a hipped roof and modillioned brick cornice.

The building bears the name of Colonel William Byars, one of the four founders of Emory and Henry. Colonel Byars also designed the first structure which stood on the site now occupied by Byars Hall. The architect for the 1889 Construction is not known, but the architect for the 1954 renovation was Alfred N. Abernethy of Johnson City, Tennessee.

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OTHER STRUCTURES IN THE CAMPUS COMMONS AREA

95-98-8. Miller-Fulton Hall

Miller-Fulton Hall sits astride the tallest hill on the Emory and Henry campus. The current name of the building represents a combination of the original Creed Fulton Observatory built in 1914 and the much newer Miller Mathematics Wing built in 1967.

The Creed Fulton Observatory was named for one of Emory and Henry's founding fathers, and the fund-raising effort for this structure is a story in itself. Fred Allison was a 1904 honor graduate of Emory and Henry and was invited to remain as a faculty member after receiving his degree. An exceptionally bright and energetic scientist, Professor Allison felt strongly that the college needed an observatory and telescope. He personally undertook the project of raising funds for the building and finally reached his goal with one last fund-raising event--a speaking engagement by the flowery orator William Jennings Bryan who was then Secretary of State. Tickets were sold for Bryan's address in Emory and, ultimately, the Secretary was so impressed with Allison that he gave him an even bigger cut of the gate receipts than had been originally agreed upon. (Allison later became a renowned physicist, discovering two chemical elements.)

The impressive central core of the Creed Fulton Observatory still serves as the front and main entrance to the entire building. Essentially a one-story building, the Observatory has part of its basement well above ground level. At the center front of the rectangular structure is a one-and-a-half story Pavilion with a pedimented gable roof; atop this sits the observatory dome which houses a six-inch equatorial telescope. The main entrance is distinguished by its columns, door with arched transom and side-lights, and full entablature. The front of the building has double-hung, sliding sash windows (1 over 1) grouped in pairs. Beside each pair is a strip pilaster.

The Miller Mathematics Wing added to the rear of the observatory in 1967 gives the building an overall T shape. The new one-story wing with partially exposed basement is constructed of coursed brick, has double-hung, sliding sash windows (1 over 1), and two portico entrances which have fluted columns and modillioned cornices. A full entablature continues around the building.

The Miller Wing is named for Dr. James Shannon Miller who taught mathematics at the College for forty-nine years (1893-1919 and 1922-44).

The architect for the original Creed Fulton Observatory is unknown. Architects for the Miller Mathematics Wing were Abernathy and Robinson of Johnson City, Tennessee.

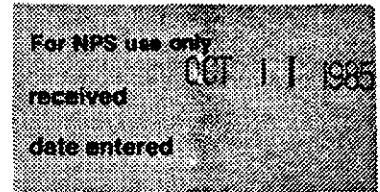
95-98-9. Tobias Smyth House (95-91)

This one-and-a-half story log house is a reconstruction, with modifications, of the home of one of Emory and Henry's founders--Tobias Smyth, a prosperous local farmer. The original house set about one mile from the college and was built in the 1770s. It fell into disrepair after the family constructed another dwelling. In 1929 a community organization decided to rescue the building by salvaging most of the materials for reconstruction on the Emory and Henry campus. In the process, the

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floor plan was altered to make one large downstairs room rather than two rooms split by a central chimney/fireplace, a rear portion was added to accommodate a kitchen and bathroom, and plumbing and electricity were added. The structure now houses historical artifacts and memorabilia associated with the college and the region.

95-98-10. Martin-Brock Student Activities Center

The Martin-Brock Activities Center was constructed in 1923 as a gymnasium and in 1950 the Hagy Addition was added to accommodate several types of student activities. Since the construction of a new gym in 1970, Martin-Brock has served as the site for intramural competition and dances, headquarters for student publications, and related activities.

The building is the equivalent of a three-story structure. In the original portion, there is a one-story basement almost fully exposed above ground. The upper two stories are open on the interior, housing the basketball court plus a balcony which provided one of the few indoor tracks at the time the building was constructed. The construction is coursed brick with brick pilasters between the windows. Each six-pane casement window is set in the center of a total grouping of thirty-two panes; there are five such groupings across the front and rear of the building's main portion. The Hagy Addition (a small, three-story, recessed section on the west end of Martin-Brock) also has casement windows but on a smaller scale. At the front of the building is a one-story, pedimented portico supported by smooth columns.

The original architect for Martin-Brock is unknown. The building is named for the Rev. I.P. Martin and W.E. Brock, outstanding Methodists and Trustees of the College.

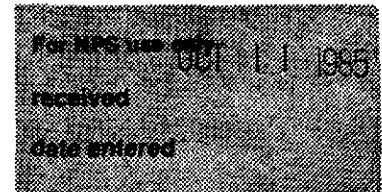
8. SIGNIFICANCE

Their optimism probably wore thin over the course of a decade as a Methodist seminary was opened in Tennessee, faltered, and then failed altogether. But when the church's Holston Conference finally assigned an energetic young minister named Creed Fulton the task of promoting its educational interests by cultivating funds and property, it virtually guaranteed that the dream of church-related higher education for the area would be fulfilled. A tireless worker, Fulton searched for possible sites for a college and talked with Methodist laymen about support for a school. In 1835 when the conference happened to meet at Abingdon, Fulton found in Tobias Smyth an equally energetic and interested layman whose farm was about seven miles east of Abingdon. That same year the Conference voted to found a manual labor college, and with Fulton and Smyth working in tandem--along with two of Smyth's neighbors, Colonel William Byars and Alexander Findlay--the Holston Conference agreed to open Emory and Henry College in a rural area of Washington County. As a manual labor college for men,

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8. Significance

it was to involve students in the pursuits of the mind (a liberal arts education) and the honest labor of the body (work on the college farm). The effort to found such a college apparently appealed to a wide variety of local citizens, and Emory and Henry became a reality in 1836 when the cornerstone was laid. The diversity of the founding fathers--Fulton the Methodist minister, Smyth the Methodist farmer, Byars the Presbyterian planter, and Findlay the Methodist merchant--indicates something of the nature of the college in its earliest days.

The manual labor requirement at Emory and Henry was dropped within ten years of the college's founding, partly due to the attitude of students who felt they had come to college for scholarship rather than physical labor and partly due to the college's inability to locate a faculty member to develop an academic program in scientific agriculture. Such an academic program might have linked the manual labor requirement to the general curriculum but, without it, the requirement seemed out of context.

Emory and Henry then defined itself as a four-year, liberal arts institution for men. It is especially appropriate that the homes of early faculty members Charles Collins, E.E. Wiley and Edmund Longley have been preserved and are part of this nomination. All three were instrumental in establishing Emory and Henry's commitment to the liberal arts and to scholarly excellence. All were graduates of Wesleyan University in Connecticut, a respected Methodist liberal arts college. The men planned Emory and Henry's educational program to imitate the Wesleyan model of classical education.

During much of the 1800s the college struggled for solvency, perhaps because its founding church body was a denomination then known for its preponderance of working class citizens. Nonetheless, the college's alumni of the 1800s included several noteworthy leaders: J.E.B. Stuart, Confederate war hero; R.J. Reynolds, tobacco magnate; Robert E. Humphries, scientist who invented the thermal method of cracking crude oil into petroleum to produce gasoline; Bishop Walter Russell Lambuth, a Methodist missionary bishop who founded more than fifteen hospitals and colleges in the Orient and Africa; Braxton B. Comer, founder of Avondale Mills and governor of Alabama; and Edward C. Huffaker, a co-worker with the Wright brothers in early efforts toward manned flight.

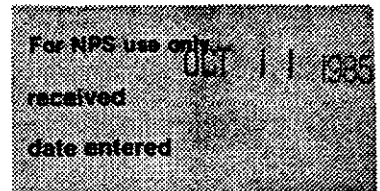
By 1900 Emory and Henry seems to have firmly established a reputation for academic quality and to have achieved a measure of economic stability, but hard times returned in the 1940s as World War II caused a severe enrollment drop. The school's very existence seemed threatened until a Navy V-12 contract was secured which kept funds flowing until the war was over. That set the college on a strong course and during the period 1940-82, only one year saw fiscal operations dip into red ink.

Although there is no official notation in any college records, it seems plausible that the college's architectural decisions have been influenced by the degree of economic security felt during particular periods. In the earliest days when funds were tight, several academic buildings seemed to be constructed of less than the best materials. Records show that the Sam Small Gymnasium, William Morrow Science Hall and the first administration building all failed to hold up under the test of time. In contrast, during the early 1900s when Emory and Henry flourished, a number of buildings resulted which were well constructed and designed with what might be called "self-conscious identity and academic confidence." Waterhouse-Carriger, Weaver and Stuart really set the tone for the modern-day campus, and it seems no accident that they were constructed during

(see continuation sheet #9)

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8. Significance

an era of strength at Emory and Henry.

Similarly, as Emory and Henry found itself struggling during the 1940s and 1950s, buildings tended to be utilitarian, lacking in architectural distinctiveness and reflective of some uncertainty about the college's strength. Gibson Hall and Matthews Hall are the most striking examples, and Hillman Hall and Van Dyke Student Union seemed affected in the early 1960s. Most people who care about the campus do not find these buildings attractive or appropriate; most also consider it fortunate that--of the group--only Gibson is really in the heart of the commons area. Hillman and Van Dyke are side-by-side at the east end of the campus loop road; Matthews is tucked behind Waterhouse-Carriger.

It was only in the 1960s that Emory and Henry began to regain that sense of confidence and self-conscious pride which results in intentionally handsome buildings. A campus master plan was developed which set the stage for the construction of Kelly Library and Wiley Jackson Hall. The plan clearly called for preservation of an undisturbed commons area and application of consistent architectural standards to the buildings which would front on the commons. Happily, Emory and Henry now has the commons with its pedestrian-only traffic. The south edge is notable for older structures, especially the cluster of Wiley, Waterhouse-Carriger and Byars. Opposite these is the row of compatible newer structures--Kelly Library, Memorial Chapel, and Wiley Jackson Hall. Out around the western and northern perimeter of the commons, Stuart Hall, Collins House, Williams House and French House are set to themselves without interference from other buildings. On the southern side, Tobias Smyth House has its own hideaway and then Sullins, Martin-Brock, the shop, and the little frame staff residence are in a row. Partly by luck and partly by planning, Emory and Henry's buildings are quite well grouped.

Emory and Henry is now firmly established as a strong, four-year, liberal arts college. In 1919, it officially became coeducational by merging with Martha Washington College, and all-female Methodist college located in Abingdon. There are approximately 8000 living alumni of Emory and Henry College.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA -- Verbal Boundary Description

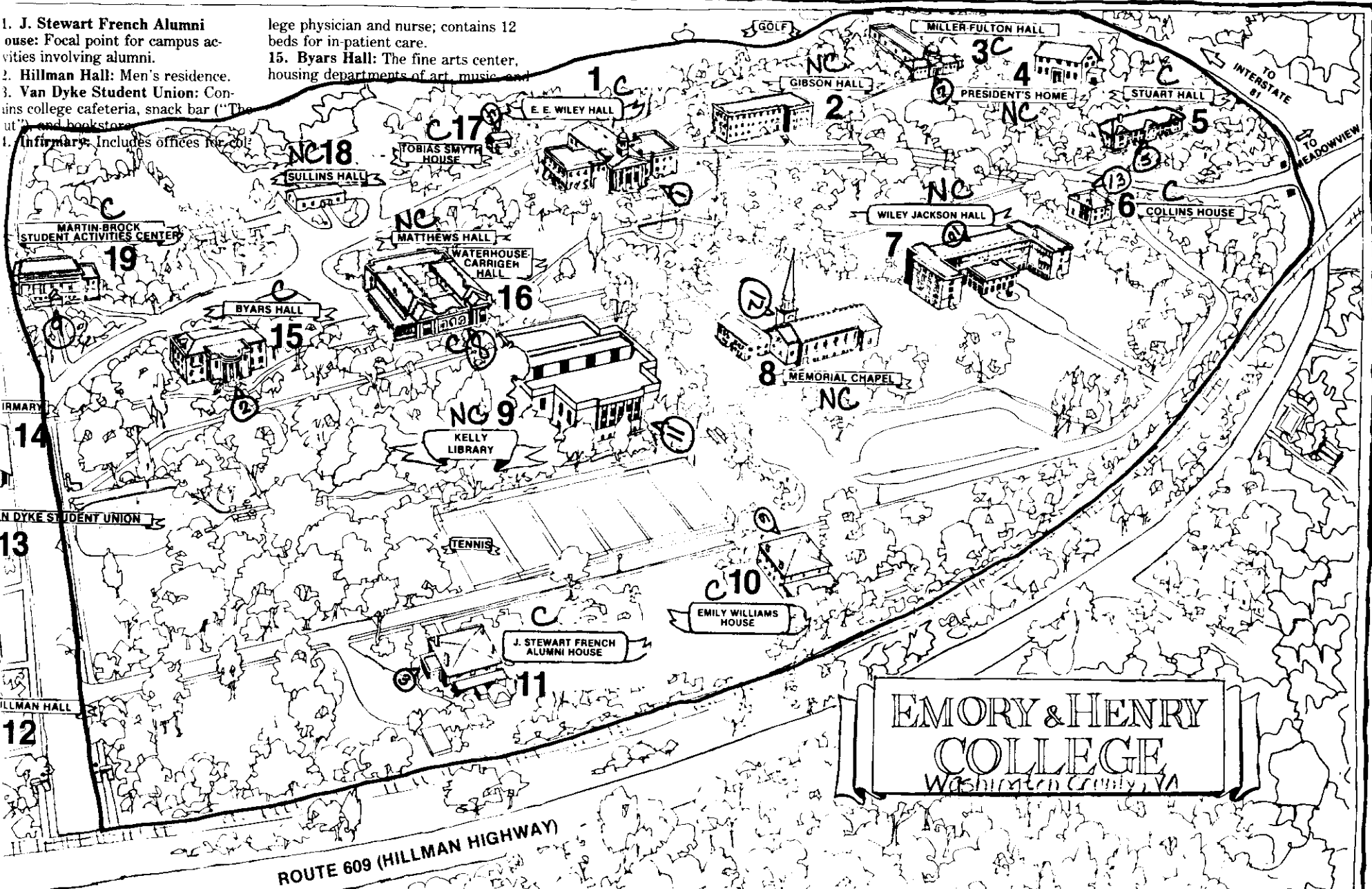
approximately 2300' W and S following the northern edge of the golf course to a point at the SW corner of the golf course; thence approximately 400' SW to a point on the western boundary unmarked road; thence approximately 1500' NW along E side of said road to a point on railroad track; thence approximately 2400' NE along railroad track to point of origin.

Boundary Justification

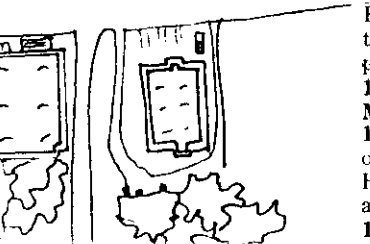
The bounds have been drawn to include the college's seventeen principal academic buildings, seven of which are noncontributing.

1. **J. Stewart French Alumni House:** Focal point for campus activities involving alumni.
2. **Hillman Hall:** Men's residence.
3. **Van Dyke Student Union:** Contains college cafeteria, snack bar ("The Hut") and bookstore.
4. **Infirmary:** Includes offices for college physician and nurse; contains 12 beds for in-patient care.

5. **Byars Hall:** The fine arts center, housing departments of art, music and



**EMORY & HENRY COLLEGE**  
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16. **Waterhouse-Carriger Hall and MattheWs Hall:** Men's residences.
17. **Tobias Smyth House:** Home of one of the founders of Emory & Henry; contains historical information and artifacts.
18. **Sullins Hall:** Men's residence.

**Center:** Headquarters for student newspaper and yearbook, as well as photographic darkroom; site for intramural competition and recreation.

**20. King Physical Education Center:** Contains classrooms and offices for Physical Education Department, basketball court, junior Olympic swimming pool, racquetball court, weight room.

**The Campus**

Emory & Henry is located in the Appalachian foothills of Southwest Virginia, and its campus is as picturesque as the surrounding area. The 150-acre grounds are marked by grassy open spaces, a wide variety of trees, and the duck pond which is a favorite student gathering place. The

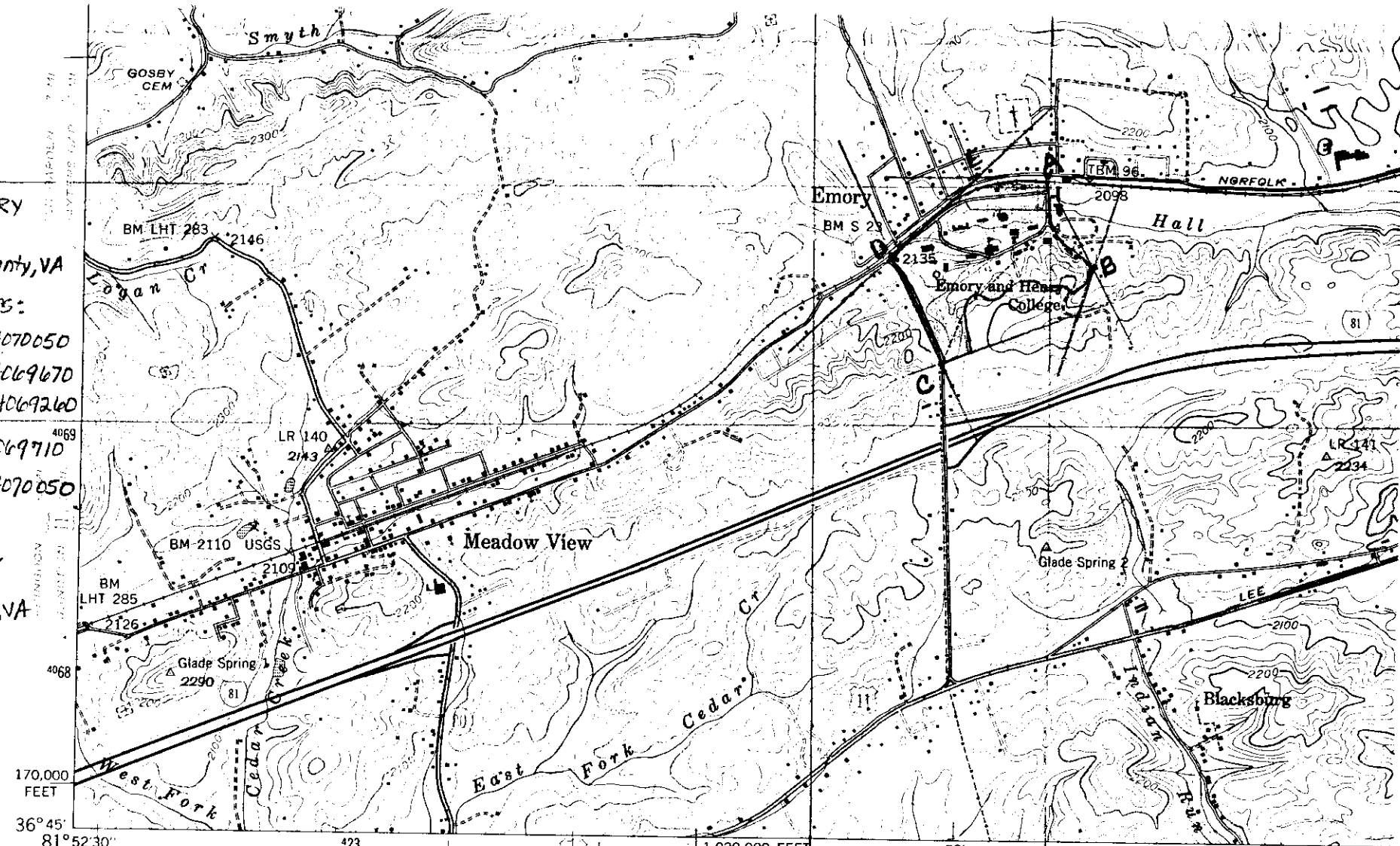
bounded by a six-hole golf course, and six tennis courts are located near the center of the campus commons.

The heart of the campus, an oval area bounded by a loop road for automobiles, is open only to pedestrian and bicycle traffic.

The entire college campus has been designated as a historic district on the Virginia Register of Historic

EMORY AND HENRY COLLEGE  
 Washington County, VA  
 UTM References:  
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 B-17/426190/4069670  
 C-17/425510/4069260  
 D-17/425320/4069710  
 E-17/425690/4070050

Map 2 of 2  
 Gladespring, VA



(Abingdon 219-NW)  
 4657 III NW

Control by USC & GS, USGS, and TVA.  
 Topography by Fairchild Aerial Surveys, Inc.,  
 by stereophotogrammetric process.  
 Field examination by Tennessee Valley Authority—1938.  
 Office inspection and review by the Geological Survey.

1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 17,  
 shown in blue

Revisions shown in purple and recompilation of woodland areas  
 compiled by the Geological Survey in cooperation with Commonwealth  
 of Virginia from aerial photographs taken 1969. This information  
 not field checked

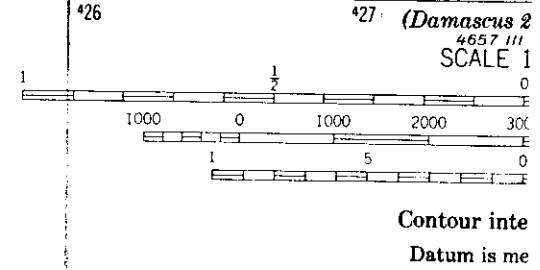
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UTM GRID AND 1969 MAGNETIC NORTH  
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FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
 VIRGINIA DIVISION OF MINERAL RESOURCES  
 AND U. S. TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY, CHATTANOOGA  
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS