

VLR: 12/19/78 NRHP: 6/19/79

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Kable House

AND/OR COMMON

Kable House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

310 Prospect Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Staunton

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th (M. Caldwell Butler)

STATE

Virginia

VICINITY OF

CODE
51

COUNTY
In City

CODE
790

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mary Baldwin College

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Staunton

VICINITY OF

STATE

Virginia 24401

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

City Hall; Office of the Clerk of Circuit Court

STREET & NUMBER

109-113 East Beverley Street

CITY, TOWN

Staunton

STATE

Virginia 24401

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic Staunton Foundation Architectural Inventory

DATE

April 1976

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Historic Staunton Foundation Office

CITY, TOWN

Staunton

STATE

Virginia 24401

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Kable House is a 2-story brick structure set on a raised basement. The hip roof originally had a belvedere which has since been removed. The 1-story porch across the front has slender, square chamfered columns on pedestals. The unusual capitals are also square; each of the four sides has a raised panel with pellet molding above it. These capitals support slender carved brackets under the porch roof. Sawn millwork balusters form the railing around the porch and up the front steps.

The first floor has five bays symmetrically grouped with two windows on either side of the front door. The four windows have segmental arch openings with 9/9 lights and carved wooden lintels. The front door was altered in 1917 to include an elliptical fanlight. The original doorway had a rectangular transom topped by a segmental arch lintel; this original framing is still visible. The glass-panel front door is flanked by sidelights.

The second floor windows originally echoed the five-bay arrangement of the first floor, with a double window in the middle bay. All openings had segmental arches with radiating voussoirs. These windows were altered in the 20th C. into a three-bay arrangement with large triple 9/9 windows replacing the two windows on either side of the middle bay. The brick addition topped by a sleeping porch on the right side of the house is also a 20th C. alteration, replacing an earlier frame 1-story side porch.

Carved brackets with pendants alternate with raised brick panels in the cornice. Brickwork throughout the house is 5 courses of stretchers with a Flemish bond at every 6th course. There are three tall chimneys decorated with vertical brick panelling and corbelled caps.

The 1917 alterations were designed by the local architectural firm of T. J. Collins & Son. The exterior changes included a new front door, the elliptical fanlight, the second-floor windows and the brick wing with sleeping porch on the right side of the house. Interior changes were mainly concerned with the rearrangement of the interior space to accommodate modernizations such as bathrooms and a kitchen.

Interior: The most extensive alteration of interior space was the removal of the wall separating the entry hall from the main parlor. A panelled beam supported by free-standing fluted Tuscan columns took the place of the wall. The staircase was altered to include the curved portion of the first three steps. Panelled wainscoting was added in the hall, parlor and up the stairs. The original parlor mantel was replaced by one of Colonial Revival design with semi-engaged fluted

(to 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 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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" 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 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 1873-74 BUILDER/ARCHITECT original house - unknown alterations - T. J. Collins & Son, Staunton

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Kable House, built 1873-74 for John W. Alby, is significant for being the first building of the former Staunton Military Academy which was recently purchased by adjacent Mary Baldwin College. Architecturally, it is one of the most significant and elaborate Italianate structures left in Staunton today.

In 1860 Captain William Hartman Kable founded the Charlestown Male Academy, a boys' school in Charlestown, Virginia (now West Virginia). After the Civil War, when West Virginia became a separate state, Kable decided to move his school back to Virginia. In 1883 he relocated in Staunton and purchased this house from Alby's trustee at a public auction in 1884. The school was renamed Staunton Male Academy until it took on a military format in 1886, at which time it was renamed Staunton Military Academy.

During the early years of the school, Kable lived in the house along with some students who used the upstairs as a dormitory. Gradually, as the school's enrollment grew, two frame buildings were added to the campus. A frame addition called "The Wing" and housing a dining hall and more living quarters, was attached to the rear of the house.

In 1900 due to his advancing years, the school's founder turned over the administration of SMA to his son, Col. William G. Kable, under whose guidance SMA's reputation and attendance grew steadily.

A great fire swept through the SMA campus in 1904, destroying all the buildings but Kable House and "The Wing." All the present SMA buildings except Kable House postdate this fire. In 1913 "The Wing" was dismantled and a new Mess Hall, designed by the local architectural firm of T. J. Collins & Son, was erected at the rear of Kable House. In 1917 Collins's firm designed a remodeling plan for Col. Kable's house. This plan called for the reorganization of the interior space to include modernizations such as bathrooms, kitchen, etc., but also for some exterior changes. Kable House remained an integral part of the school and was used for classrooms and administrative offices in more recent years.

Staunton Military Academy was the first school in the South to receive an "honor school" rating from the War Department. Locally,
(to continuation sheet #1)

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Kable House, Staunton, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET #1

ITEM NUMBER 7,8,9 PAGE 1

7. DESCRIPTION

Tuscan columns supporting an entablature undecorated except for dentil blocks under the mantel shelf. An identical mantel is in the south-east back room. The six-panel double pocket doors were retained as were most of the matching four-panel doors throughout the house. An original mantel remains in the southwest front room. It features recessed, round-headed panels in the supports flanking the opening, a long elliptical, recessed panel in the frieze flanked by two bracket-like forms and a curved mantel shelf. The original flooring has been covered by one of narrow oak planking.

WF

8. SIGNIFICANCE

it has certainly been one of the most prominent institutions in Staunton's history for nearly a century. SMA remained one of the nation's leading military preparatory schools until it closed in 1976 and was purchased by Mary Baldwin College.

WF

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Staunton Tax and Deed Records. City Hall - Office of the Clerk of
Circuit Court, Staunton.

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Kable House, Staunton, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET #2

ITEM NUMBER 10

PAGE 1

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description - 310 Prospect Street

Legal Description - City Engineer's Map #343, 1958. Block B, Parcel #1
of Mary Baldwin College/Staunton Military Academy.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Kable House, #132-0022
Staunton, Virginia**

Section 8 Page 3

8. Significance Statement (additional research):

The original 1979 nomination states that “in 1860 Captain William Hartman Kable Founded the Charlestown Male Academy, a boys’ school in Charlestown, Virginia (now West Virginia). After the Civil War, when West Virginia became a separate state, Kable decided to move his school back to Virginia.” Further research has uncovered that Kable was in fact principal of the Charlestown Male Academy from 1872 until 1884, at which time he established the Staunton Male Academy. The school was renamed the Staunton Military Academy in 1886.

This updated information and historic articles were provided by Dr. Pietrowski at the Mary Baldwin College in Staunton that owns the Kable House.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Pfisterer, Fred. "Future of Great Military School Still Uncertain."
The Staunton Leader(Area Bicentennial Edition), July 2, 1976.

"Records Divulge School's History." Augusta Historical Bulletin 13
 (Spring, 1977).

(to continuation sheet #1)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 7	6 6 9 1 8 0	4 2 2 4 4 6 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property consists of the building and the land on which it sits.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

William T. Frazier, Executive Director

ORGANIZATION

Historic Staunton Foundation, Inc.

DATE

November 10, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 2534

TELEPHONE

(703) 885-7676

CITY OR TOWN

Staunton

STATE

Virginia 24401

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

TITLE Tucker Hill, Executive Director
 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE DEC 19 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

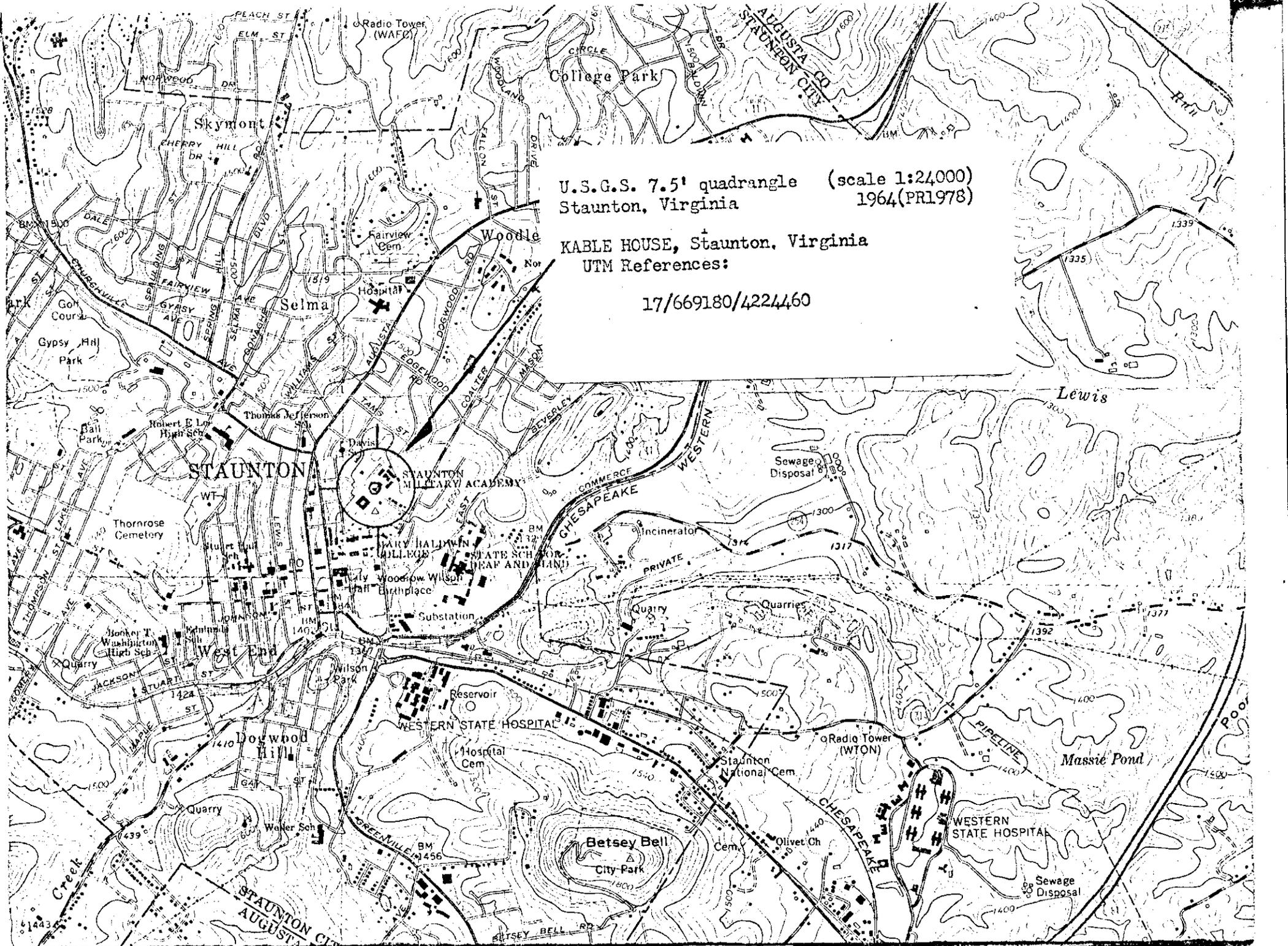
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



U.S.G.S. 7.5' quadrangle (scale 1:24000)
Staunton, Virginia 1964(PR1978)

KABLE HOUSE, Staunton, Virginia
UTM References:

17/669180/4224460