

VLR-9/12/96 NRHP-12/6/96

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 *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Weston

other names/site number DHR File NO. 30-58

2. Location

street & number 4477 Weston Road not for publication N/A

city or town Casanova vicinity

state Virginia code VA county Fauquier code 061 zip code 20139

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 38 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] Oct. 24, 1996
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
Virginia Dept. of Historic Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Weston
Name of Property

Fauquier County, VA
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

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

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| 9 | 1 | buildings |
| 0 | 0 | sites |
| 2 | 0 | structures |
| 0 | 0 | objects |
| 11 | 1 | Total |

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

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 Structures
Agriculture: animal facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Single Dwelling
Recreation and Culture: Museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN: Gothic

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE: fieldstone
walls WOOD: weatherboard
roof METAL: tin
other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Weston
Name of Property

Fauquier County, VA
County and State

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.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- 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.)

Property is:

- 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

ca. 1810-1893

Significant Dates

ca. 1810; 1860; 1870; 1893

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Virginia Dept. of Historic Resources

Weston

Fauquier County, VA

Name of Property

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approx. 10 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 18 2650140 42826000
Zone Easting Northing
2 18 2652250 4282730

3 18 265340 4282680
Zone Easting Northing
4 18 265220 4282540

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lauren Starke; Betty Quigley; Betty Gookin

organization Warrenton Antiquarian Society date June 5, 1996

street & number P. O. Box 227 telephone 540-788-9920

city or town Casanova state VA zip code 22017

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Warrenton Antiquarian Society

street & number P. O. Box 227 telephone 540-788-9920

city or town Casanova state VA zip code 22017

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. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1Weston
Fauquier County, VASUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The dwelling at Weston is best described as a rambling country house that began as a simple, one-and-one-half-story, early-nineteenth-century log house. With additions made in 1860, 1870, and 1893, the house evolved into an L-shaped dwelling with decorative motifs primarily inspired by the Carpenter Gothic style of architecture. The farm is also noted for its rare collection of ten nineteenth-century domestic and agricultural outbuildings.

ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS

The original one-over-one-room log structure currently comprises the central section of the house and, based on the presence of cut nails and a Federal-style mantel, probably dates to around 1810. The log walls of the original house are now covered with weatherboards on the exterior; however, they remain exposed on the interior.

Judging by whitewash stains and nail holes on the exposed ceiling joists, the ceiling of the first-floor room was originally lathed and plastered. This room also features wide, random-width, heart-pine floor boards secured by cut nails, late-19th-century matchboard wainscoting and simple chair rail, and a Federal-style mantel consisting of a simple shelf, a plain frieze, no pilasters, and architrave trim surrounding the firebox. Evidence of a northwest corner stair can be seen in the patched floor boards and "ghost" or trace of the stair stringer against the north wall. Original window frames with beaded sills now contain late-19th-century two-over-two double-sash windows. The room in the half story of the original log structure contains a Greek Revival-style mantel, wide floor boards, a front gable dormer with a two-over-two-sash window that was added in the late 19th century, and a rear shed dormer with a casement window that probably was added in the early 20th century.

The second phase of construction occurred in 1860 when a one-and-one-half-story frame and weatherboard addition was built to the northeast. Creating a fashionable central-passage-plan dwelling, the catslide-roofed addition consists of a stairhall and three rooms on the first floor and a stairhall and a bedroom in the half story above. The original one-room log structure became the

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southeast corner room of the central-passage double-pile house. Two exterior end stone chimneys with upper brick stacks are seen at the northeast gable of the addition. The larger of the two chimneys is inscribed with the date "1860". A five-bay porch with chamfered wooden posts extending across the front may have been added at that time as well as a central front gable containing a six-over-six double-sash window.

The front entrance is flanked by three-light sidelights and leads into a central passage containing a stair that rises from the rear of the passage. The stair features a turned newel, a rounded handrail, two square balusters per tread, and a decoratively sawn stringer that is similar to the bargeboard and eaves trim on the exterior. Interior woodwork throughout the 1860 addition is simple; architrave window and door trim, beaded window sills, four-panel doors with small metal box locks, and a Greek Revival-style wooden mantel in the first-floor northeast room. A mantel in the first-floor northwest room was replaced in the late twentieth century. Windows at the front are two-over-two double-sash replacements, while six-over-six double-sash rear windows appear to be original.

In 1870 a one-and-one-half-story frame and weatherboard rear ell was constructed to the southwest, attached to the southwest corner of the 1860 addition. It consists of a kitchen, storage room, and passage on the first floor with an enclosed stair leading to two bedrooms and a small passage in the half story above. The gable-roofed addition features a decoratively sawn bargeboard and eaves trim, four-over-four double-sash windows with triangular window heads, and gable dormers. Interior woodwork includes four-panel doors with steeple-top hinges, symmetrically molded trim with bull's-eye corner blocks, and uniform-width floor boards.

In 1893 the dwelling was enlarged once again by the construction of a two-story frame and weatherboard addition to the south. Consisting of a dining room on the first floor with a bedroom, sitting room, bathroom, and passage on the second floor, the 1893 addition resulted in the L shape of the present house. It features a steeply-pitched gable roof with gable dormers and decoratively sawn bargeboards and eaves trim--common characteristics of the Carpenter Gothic style. The addition's two-story mass, attached to the earlier one-and-one-half-story main section of the house, as well as its fenestration pattern creates an asymmetrical composition typical of late-nineteenth-century architecture.

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Weston

Fauquier County, VA

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Also typical of the period is the addition's interior woodwork--four-panel doors with reeded trim and two-light transoms above, a stair with turned balusters and newel posts, and a dining room mantel that has a simple shelf supported by what appear to be halved turned newel posts.

Weston is especially noted for its fine collection of nineteenth-century outbuildings. They include eight contributing buildings and two contributing structures. Immediately south of the dwelling is a detached mid-nineteenth-century kitchen/wash house. It is a gable-roofed log and weatherboard building consisting of a one-and-one-half-story section (kitchen) to the north and a single-story section (wash house?) to the south with a corbel-capped brick chimney between both sections.

The mid-nineteenth-century smokehouse, located west of the kitchen, consists of two sections; the northern section is of log construction, while the southern section is of wood-frame construction. Both sections have board-and-batten exterior cladding and fieldstone foundations. The building features a gabled projection that extends well beyond a batten-door entrance and is supported by wooden posts. A louvered cupola is perched on the building's wooden-shingle gable roof.

Immediately southwest of the smokehouse is a nineteenth-century board-and-batten springhouse with a wooden-shingle gable roof surmounted by a large hip-roofed louvered wooden cupola.

A frame with board-and-batten tool house with a stone foundation and a standing-seam metal gable roof is located west of the springhouse. Nearby is a wellhouse, a contributing structure consisting of a wooden-shingle gable roof supported by six cedar posts.

A late-nineteenth-century board-and-batten blacksmith shop is located northwest of the tool house. It has a corrugated metal gable roof with wide overhanging eaves and an interior end brick chimney with a stone exterior stack.

Southwest of the blacksmith shop is a late-nineteenth- or early-twentieth-century frame corncrib with vertical board and horizontal slat sheathing. This contributing structure has a central drive-through, a wooden-shingle gable roof, and a brick pier foundation.

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Fauquier County, VA

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South and southeast of the corncrib and across the drive leading to the house is a complex of farm buildings consisting of a late-nineteenth-century stable, late-nineteenth-century hay barn, and mid-nineteenth-century barn. All are frame and board-and-batten buildings with wooden-shingle gable roofs.

The only noncontributing building on the property is a one-story, concrete-block kennel with a composition-shingle gable roof. Constructed in 1975 for the specific purpose of housing the Casanova Hunt hounds, the kennel is located southeast of the dwelling and is screened from the complex of historic buildings by plantings.

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Fauquier County, VASection number 8 Page 5STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Weston, a farm located near Casanova, Fauquier County, Virginia, was the seat of the Fitzhugh and Nourse families. The rambling frame and log building on the property began as a simple log house that was probably constructed for Thomas Fitzhugh around 1810. Purchased from the heirs of Giles Fitzhugh by Charles Joseph Nourse in 1859, the house was enlarged by Nourse in 1860, 1870, and 1893. The resulting L-shaped building is architecturally significant as a farmhouse that evolved over the nineteenth century from a vernacular log dwelling to a late Victorian composition influenced by the Carpenter Gothic style of architecture. A rare survival is the property's fine collection of ten domestic and agricultural outbuildings, making Weston one of Fauquier County's most completely preserved nineteenth-century farmsteads. Ten acres of the farm, including the house and outbuildings, were donated by Charlotte Nourse to the Warrenton Antiquarian Society in 1959. Currently the society operates Weston as a house and farm museum.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Local tradition states that the first known structure at Weston, the log cabin that comprises the nucleus of the present dwelling, was built for Thomas Fitzhugh as early as 1753. The cabin, however, contains no architectural evidence to suggest a date of construction any earlier than about 1810. As for Fitzhugh family ownership of the land, according to county deed books, Thomas Fitzhugh did not acquire land on Cedar Run, a stream in the vicinity of Weston, until 1788. No earlier record survives of Fitzhugh land in the vicinity of Cedar Run. At Thomas Fitzhugh's death in 1843, his land holdings were divided and 484 acres on Turkey Run, a tributary of Cedar Run, were allotted to Giles Fitzhugh.

The property on Turkey Run was acquired in 1859 by Charles Joseph Nourse from the heirs of Giles Fitzhugh, who had died in 1852. Besides the house, two outbuildings were mentioned in the deed, presumably the extant kitchen and smokehouse. Charles Nourse, who was reared at The Highlands in Georgetown, D.C. (currently Sidwell Friends School), gave the property its present name--Weston--to commemorate Weston Hall, his ancestral manor house located in Herefordshire, England. For three years the farm was managed by an overseer, but in April 1862, Nourse, his wife Margaret, and infant son traveled from Georgetown through Union military lines to take

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Fauquier County, VASection number 8 Page 6

up residence at Weston. The diary of Margaret Nourse, published in 1983 by the Virginia Historical Society, documents family life at Weston for seven months until November, 1862, when the family moved to Pennsylvania. Nourse returned to Weston in 1885 with his second wife, Annie Carroll Simpson. They produced a family of four children before his death in 1906. At that time the farm was left to the management of Nourse's widow.

During the century of Nourse family ownership from 1859 to 1959 the property served a number of specific needs. The farm operation was actively maintained during the lifetime of Charles Nourse and afterwards by his widow, Annie. She supplemented the farm income by operating a school at Weston for boarders and day students as well as a summer camp for girls in the early 1920s. During World War II Constance and Charlotte Nourse, daughters of Charles and Annie, opened Weston as a hospitality center for military servicemen on duty in the Washington, D.C. area. By the end of the war they had served about 11,000 meals to more than 1,600 guests at no charge. In appreciation the guests helped to maintain and repair the house and farm buildings.

In 1959 Charlotte Nourse willed the house, outbuildings, and ten acres of land to the Warrenton Antiquarian Society which has maintained Weston as a house and farm museum to the present date.

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Weston
Fauquier County, VA

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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- Feller, Cn. Richard T. and Fishwick, Marshall W., For Thy Great Glory, Washington, D.C., 1965.
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- Starke, Lauren, "Tea for Forty", Country Magazine, Alexandria, Virginia, May 1982.
- Virginia Department of Historic Resources. Architectural Survey File No. 30-58, Richmond, Virginia.
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Weston
Fauquier County, VA

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of the property known as Weston are described in Fauquier County Deed Book 211, p. 84 as "all of that certain tract...being situate near Casanova, in Cedar Run Magisterial District, Fauquier County, Virginia, containing ten (10) acres according to plot and survey of J. I. Covell."

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of Weston include the ten acres of land, containing the main house and outbuildings, that were donated by Charlotte Nourse in 1959 to the Warrenton Antiquarian Society to be preserved as a museum.

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PHOTOGRAPHS

The following information is common to each of the accompanying photographs:

NAME: Weston
LOCATION: Fauquier County, Virginia
PHOTOGRAPHER: Richard O. Anderson
DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: March 1990
NEGATIVE LOCATION: Warrenton Antiquarian Society

Main House and Kitchen/Wash House
View looking north
Photo 1 of 8

Corncrib, Blacksmith Shop, Tool House, and Wellhouse
View looking northwest
Photo 2 of 8

Kitchen/Wash House
View looking southwest
Photo 3 of 8

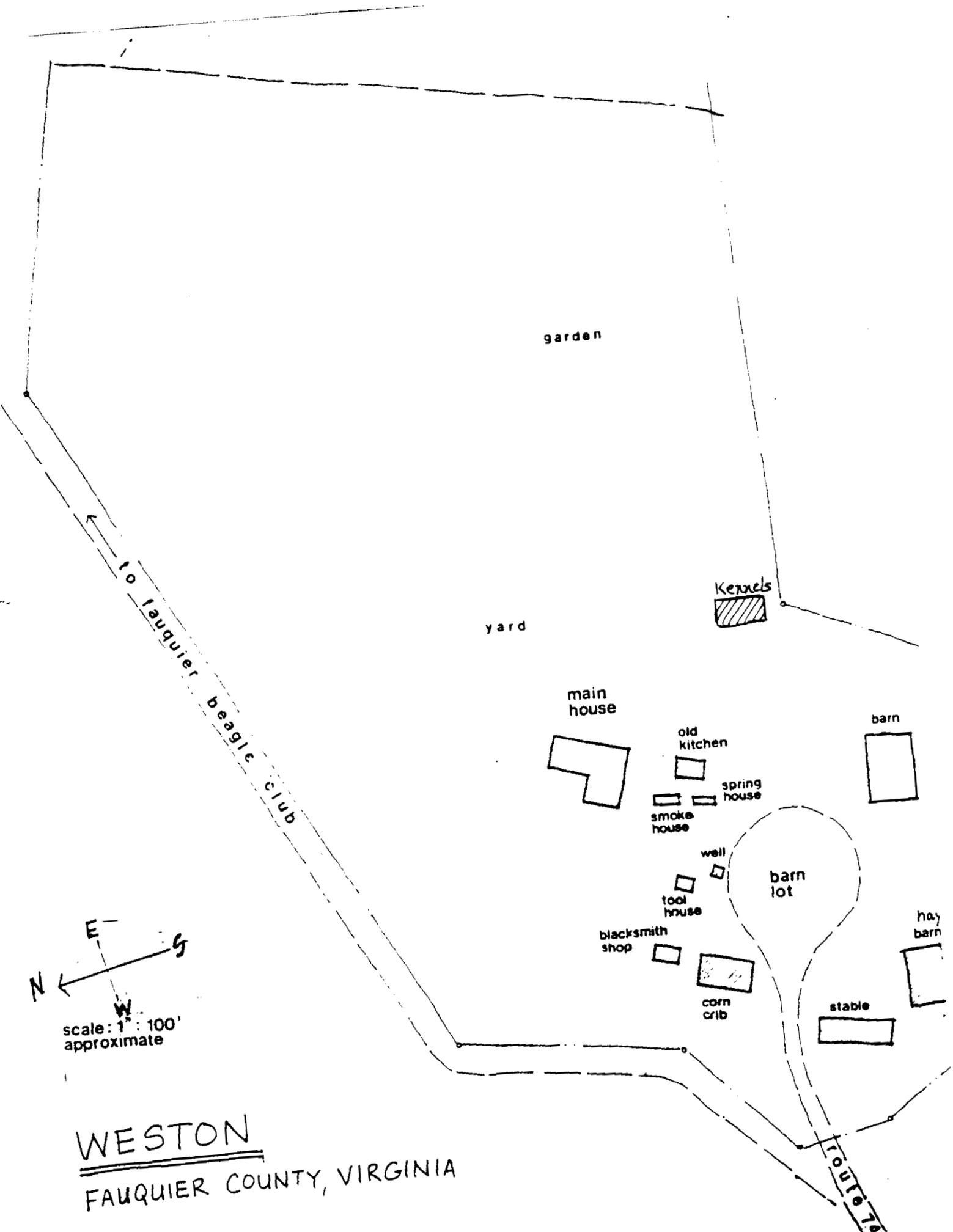
Interior of Kitchen/Wash House
View looking south in kitchen
Photo 4 of 8

Smokehouse
View looking west
Photo 5 of 8

First-Floor Room in Original Log Section
View looking northeast
Photo 6 of 8

Second-Floor Room in Original Log Section
View looking southwest
Photo 7 of 8

First-Floor Northwest Room in 1860 Addition
View looking northeast
Photo 8 of 8



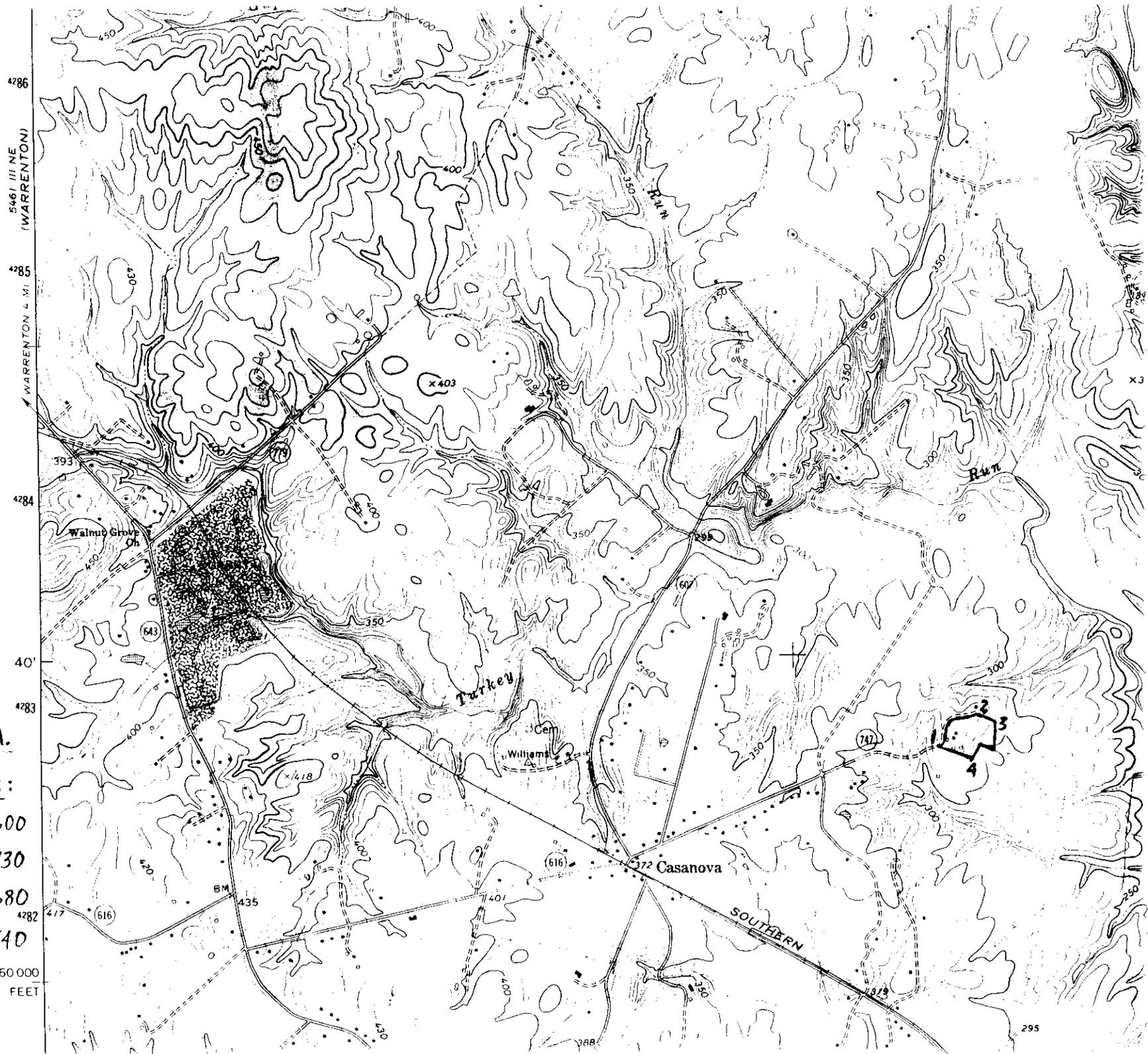
WESTON
FAUQUIER COUNTY, VIRGINIA

WESTON
FAUQUIER CO., VA.

UTM References:

1. 18/265040/4282600
2. 18/265250/4282730
3. 18/265340/4282680
4. 18/265220/4282540

360 000
FEET



4286
5461 III NE
(WARRENTON)

4285
WARRENTON 4 MI

4284

40'

4283