

VLR-6/20/89 NRHP-11/13/89

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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Phlegar Building

other names/site number 154-7

### 2. Location

street & number 2 S. Franklin Street

N/A

not for publication

city, town Christiansburg

N/A

vicinity

state Virginia

code VA

county Montgomery

code 121

zip code 24073

### 3. Classification

Ownership of Property

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

Category of Property

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

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing

Noncontributing

1

0 buildings

0

0 sites

0

0 structures

0

0 objects

1

( ) Total

Name of related multiple property listing: Prehistoric and  
Historic Resources of Montgomery County

Number of contributing resources previously  
listed in the National Register 0

### 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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 36 CFR Part 60.  
In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official

Date

Virginia Department 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.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

### 5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this 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

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Government: government officeCommerce/trade: business

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Government: government office**7. Description**Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)Late Victorian: Italianate

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone: limestonewalls brickroof metal: tin

other \_\_\_\_\_

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Located on the south side of the public square in Christiansburg, the Phlegar Building is a three-story rectangular stretcher-bond brick office building that incorporates portions of an earlier government-related structure. The commercial-form building features a pressed metal cornice on the front (west) parapet and on approximately the first quarter of the west end of the side walls. To the east the side walls step gradually down concealing the sloping standing-seam metal roof. The three-story section at the front is more decorative than functional, as the windows were used to ventilate the attic and no easy access to the attic was provided. All the doors and two-over-two double-hung sash windows were given segmentally-arched heads. Openings on the first-floor front (west) were arranged in a six-bay symmetrical pattern unlike the three-bay upper floors. The first-floor front openings and westernmost two north side windows have apparently mid-nineteenth-century or earlier molded exterior trim with pintles for early blinds. The south end of the front range of rooms on the first floor is built of Flemish-bond brick and incorporates a large interior chimney, both facts indicating perhaps an almost total reworking of what may have been a six-bay, one-story, two-room building. The sides of the building are decorated with a metal cornice or belt course, which may correct or cancel some structural<sup>n</sup> problem or addition. A two-bay section on the south side, just to the east of the Flemish-bond section, is built to the second-floor level in twelve-course American bond, as opposed to stretcher bond elsewhere, indicating an early addition to the one-story original section. These two windows have square heads, unlike all the others in the building. The front features a two-story porch of six bays with turned posts, a spindle frieze, brackets, and turned balusters.

The interior features two rooms in the front section divided by a frame partition, but evidence remains of several former rear (east) windows or doors. The rooms have received modern paneling and dropped ceilings. The rear section has a cross passage with a large open-stringer stair from the late nineteenth century and contains offices on both floors. Most late nineteenth-century features remain intact in the building's interior, including door and window trim, partition location and staircase.

 See continuation sheet

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Commerce/professional

Period of Significance

ca. 1860 - ca. 1910

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Phlegar Building is significant under criteria A and C as the county's best example of a late nineteenth-century law office. In addition, the building incorporates recognizable, formal, and material elements of the early nineteenth-century county clerk's office. The structure was augmented and enlarged in the late nineteenth century to form an office building, used chiefly by lawyers and other professionals requiring easy access to the courthouse. The interior and exterior present a substantial late nineteenth-century appearance to the courthouse square.

When, in 1834, the justices of the county court decided to build a new courthouse, they issued a commission to auction the materials of the old courthouse and the old clerk's office (first mention known of the building). The court however, apparently decided to keep the building, and rented it to William Preston, one of the justices, to pay for needed repairs to its fabric. Several years later, the court ordered Hamilton Wade and R. D. Montague be appointed commissioners for the purpose of disposing of the old clerk's office, but it was not done, and in 1846 the court ordered the sheriff to repair the building using money from the rents. The building was sold to Walter Staples and John Wade in 1858. They built the new jail for \$600 and were given the old clerk's office in lieu of payment in cash. According to the 1937 WPA survey form, the southern room housed the law firm of Wade and Sullivan (Col. J. J. Wade and his junior partner, Capt. T. E. Sullivan) and the north room contained the office of Judge W. R. Staples. Wade left Christiansburg in 1878, being succeeded by Sullivan alone. In later years the firm of Staples, Sullivan, and Cassel were housed in the building. In 1897 Archer A. Phlegar purchased the building and remodeled it extensively, adding a large rear wing and a second story. The Phlegar family owned it until the mid-twentieth century, when it was again

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Nicolay, John. "The Old Clerk's Office: Christiansburg." Montgomery News Messenger, December 19, 1982, p. 6.

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 # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Virginia Department of Historic Resources  
221 Governor Street  
Richmond, VA 23219

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of property less than one acre.

UTM Referencés

A 17 552560 4109200  
 Zone Easting Northing

C \_\_\_\_\_

B \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zone Easting Northing

D \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary corresponds to lot 527-(A)-87 on the county tax maps.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundaries were chosen to reflect the original lot lines when the lot was first separated from county property in 1858.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Gibson Worsham date June 1988  
 organization Gibson Worsham Architect telephone (703) 552-4730  
 street & number Route 2, Yellow Sulphur Springs state Virginia zip code 24073  
 city or town Christiansburg

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

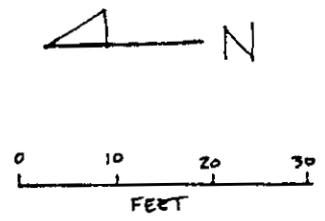
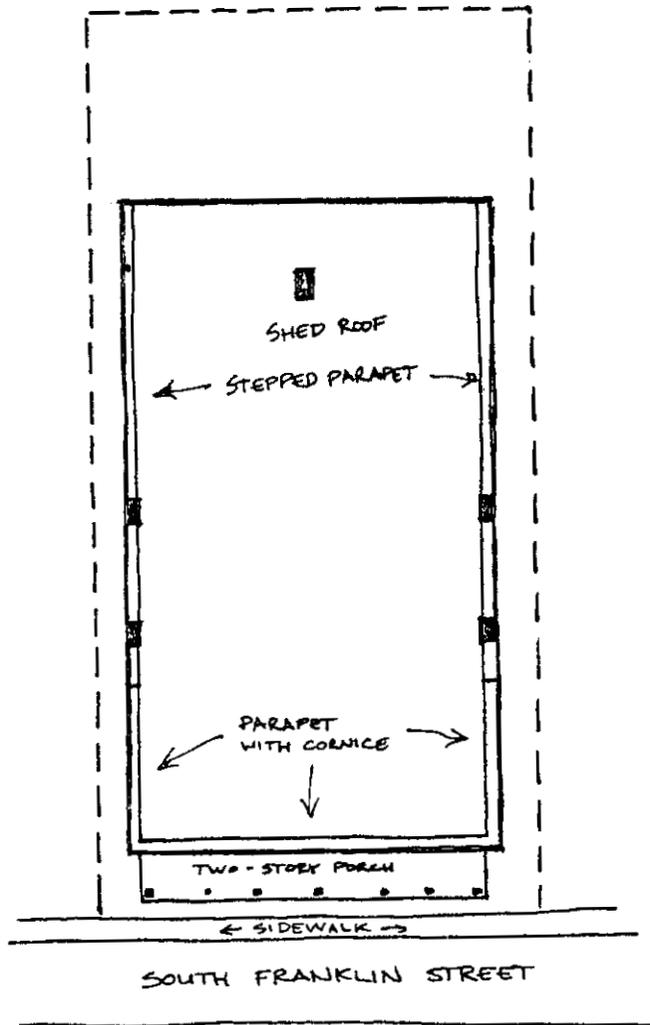
## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Prehistoric and Historic  
Resources of Montgomery County  
Phlegar Building, 154-7

Section number 8 Page 1

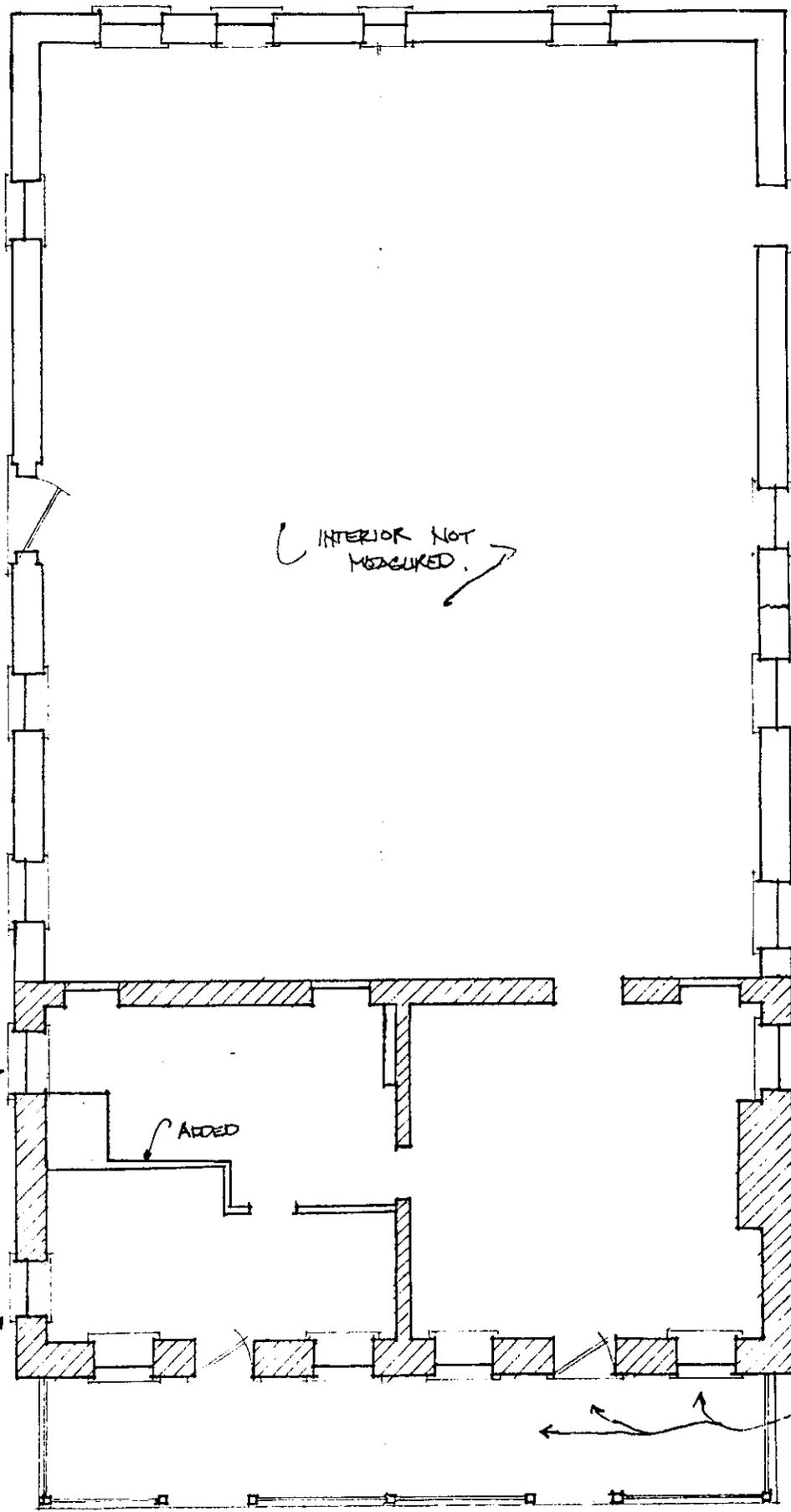
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acquired by the county; it has held county-related offices since that time. The interior alterations made by the county in recent years have not affected the significant elements of the plan and materials as stated in section 7.



154-7 PHLEGAR BUILDING

G. WORSHAM  
 K. MARTIN 04/88



INTERIOR NOT MEASURED.

12-course Am. bond

EARLY WINDOW FRAME

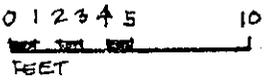
Flemish bond

EARLY WINDOW FRAME

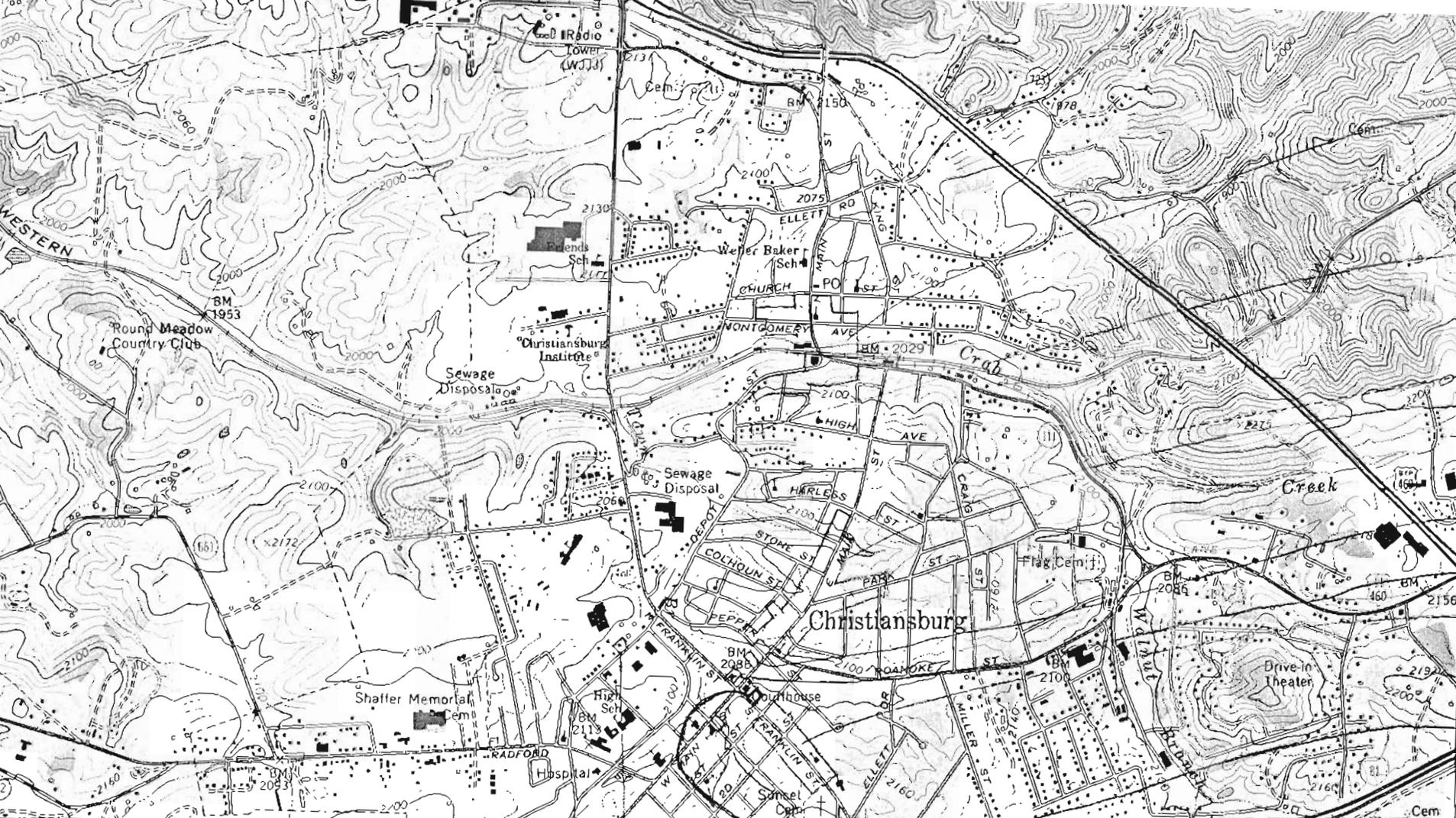
ADDED

EARLY WINDOW FRAME

NOTE:  
HATCHING INDICATES ORIGINAL FORM.



154-7  
Allegar Building  
SOUTH FRANKLIN STREET



CAMERIA HISTORIC DISTRICT  
 17 553580 4110420  
 17 553420 4110805  
 17 553420 4110010  
 17 554830 4110435

SURFACE HOUSE  
 17 552595 4110280

E. MAIN ST. HISTORIC DISTRICT  
 17 552520 4109410  
 17 552900 4109390  
 17 553178 4109562  
 17 552670 4109300

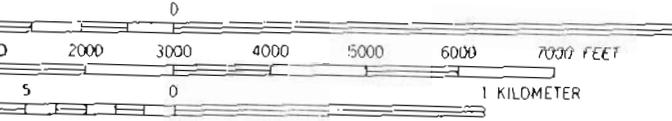
HARRISON-HANCOCK HARDWARE  
 17 552510 4109270 BLDG.  
 CHRISTIANBURG POST OFFICE  
 17 552430 4109220

S. FRANKLIN ST. HISTORIC DISTRICT  
 17 553440 4109017  
 17 553320 4109320  
 17 553045 4108910  
 17 553200 4108805

A.L. JOHNSON STORE BUILDING  
 17 552410 4109070

PHLEGAR BUILDING  
 17 552540 4109160

(RINER)  
 4958 III SW  
 SCALE 1:24 000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET  
 ONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

PLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
 S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
 F MINERAL RESOURCES, CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22903  
 OPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

MONTGOMERY WHITE SULPHUR  
 SPRINGS COTTAGE  
 17 551985 4109360



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

Boundary lines shown in purple compiled from latest information available from the controlling authority

INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1978  
 554 2 4 MI. TO VA. 8 WYTHEVILLE 41 MI. 555000mE 80°22'30"

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

BLACKSBURG, VA.

N3707.5—W8022.5/7.5

1965  
 PHOTOREVISED 1978  
 AMS 4958 III NW—SERIES V834