

VLR 9/11/02
NR 11/21/02

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 any 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 Old Turner Place

other names/site number King's Grant One 44-105

2. Location

street & number 7643 Henry Road not for publication

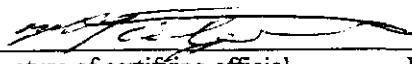
city or town Henry vicinity _____

state Virginia code VA county Henry code 089 Zip 24102

See continuation sheet.

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

 10/2/02
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 for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. 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 Keeper

Date of Action

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u> 2 </u>	<u> 3 </u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u> 2 </u>	<u> 3 </u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u> DOMESTIC </u>	Sub: <u> house/single dwelling </u>
<u> AGRICULTURE </u>	<u> processing </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u> DOMESTIC </u>	Sub: <u> house/single dwelling </u>
<u> AGRICULTURE </u>	<u> storage </u>
<u> DOMESTIC </u>	<u> house/single dwelling </u>
<u> AGRICULTURE </u>	<u> animal facility </u>
<u> AGRICULTURE </u>	<u> storage </u>

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation __ stone: sandstone _____
roof _____ metal: standing seam _____
walls _____ wood: log _____
other _____ chimneys: sandstone _____

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

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.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a 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 c. 1790-1870

Significant Dates 1804
1865

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

NA

Cultural Affiliation NA

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: Harry Lee King, Jr., papers

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 19.14

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	17	549580/4076540	2	17	549280/4076000
3	17	549180/4076310	4		

See continuation sheet.

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

See continuation sheet

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

See continuation sheet.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Harry Lee King, Jr.

Organization: (owner) date 9/7/2001

street & number: 7643 Henry Road telephone (276) 622-1276

city or town Henry state VA zip code 24102

See continuation sheet.

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 the SHPO or FPO.)

name Harry Lee King, Jr.

street & number 7643 Henry Road telephone (276) 622-1276

city or town Henry state VA zip code 24102

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 the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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2. Location

The property is also located in Franklin County, # 067.

7. Narrative Description

Summary Description

The Old Turner Place is located in Henry County, Virginia, just west of the tiny village of Henry, Virginia, on the north side of State Route 605 on Larkin's Branch. Of five buildings on the property, two remain from the former farm and are identified as *contributing buildings* in this nomination. They are a log house with sandstone end chimneys and a smokehouse, both dating to the late eighteenth or early nineteenth centuries. The house appears to have been substantially improved around the mid-nineteenth century. The two buildings and the property itself have maintained a good deal of historic integrity, although many of the early dependencies associated with the farmhouse have been demolished. The property is currently in use as a private residence.

Architectural Description

The two early buildings at the Old Turner Place consist of a one-and-one-half-story log house and a single pen log smokehouse. The house is built of dovetail corner-notched white oak logs set upon a mortared sandstone foundation. The logs are particularly well dressed, which suggests a late-eighteenth or early-nineteenth-century date. The gable roof is supported by lapped and pegged machined-planed rafters and crossies that appear to be of a nineteenth-century date but are not original. The roof is presently covered with early painted standing seam metal but originally had wood shingles. The gable ends are covered with early beaded weatherboards, a few of which have been replaced. Massive chimneys are located at each end of the house. They are built of uncoursed, roughly dressed sandstone laid up in tan-colored mortar. They each have thick square stacks with the top course of rocks projecting about 2 inches outward and smooth sloping shoulders that were particularly well made to better shed rain. The south end chimney is the larger of the two, accommodating a cavernous cooking fireplace. Small, four-light, fixed sash windows in the gable ends flank the south chimney. There is one such window on the north end. Modern improvements include the six-over-nine sash windows and raised-panel shutters, front entry doors, poured concrete front entry porch with classically inspired covering, aluminum box gutters and downspouts, and the kitchen/dining room addition on the rear of the house, which replaced a demolished nineteenth-century detached kitchen. All of the interstices between logs of the house and smokehouse have

Section 7 Page 2

been thoroughly reinked using modern cementitious materials. The chimneys have been repointed with a cement-based mortar that was colored to match the original reddish-tan mortar.

The interior of the house is divided into a two-room hall-parlor plan; the loft space is divided like the first floor with one room slightly larger than the other. A nicely fashioned single-stringer stair with railing accesses the larger second-floor room, and a boxed-in corner stair accesses the smaller room. A connecting doorway has since been cut in the upstairs partition. The first-floor rooms are entered from outside by separate doorways and are heated by separate fireplaces, a plan that was typical of the period. On the interior the log walls, floor joists, and roof members are left exposed. The woodwork around windows and doors is very plain. The random-width pine floors, unbeaded joists, roof structure, staircases, mantels, and door surrounds all appear to date to around the mid-nineteenth century. These are improvements that were commonly made to existing well-built log structures during the mid-nineteenth century, when better transportation and technological advances made building materials more widely available and more affordable. Middling farmers in southwestern Virginia also made greater profits for their labor than ever before during the period, and therefore saw enhancing the comfort level and appearance of their homes as a reasonable expense.

The smokehouse is situated just to the northwest of the dwelling house. It is a square, single-pen structure of roughly dressed, mostly dovetailed pine logs. It has no visible foundation but is probably built on sandstone piers that have subsided. The roof structure is very similar to that of the house. The rafters are machine-planed, lapped, and pegged. The one-by-four-inch sheathing boards and sheet metal roof are modern replacements, as are the top plate logs, which are oak, sawn on four sides. The new plates and sheathing boards extend the front gable out to help shelter the entrance. According to oral tradition, the outbuildings on the property were all originally designed with extended gables on both ends. The rear gable end of the smokehouse has a modern eight-over-eight window.

Noncontributing Buildings

The three noncontributing buildings in the property consist of the following: a 1920s frame corn crib, with its original standing seam roof, which was moved onto the property in the 1960s and has since received a large sheet metal shed roof on the rear; a small frame structure built in the late-1960s for storage on the site of a former privy; and a modern mobile home screened by a row of trees toward the rear of the site.

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8. Statement of Significance

Justification of Criteria

The Old Turner Place is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance under Criterion C in the area of architecture because of its representation of early log farmhouse and dependency construction in the region. The house is a fine example of a log hall-parlor plan house that was commonly built in southwestern Virginia until the second quarter of the nineteenth century. It is a rare survivor that maintains the distinctive attributes of early American folk housing. Constructed sometime between 1783 and 1804, the Old Turner Place has continued to remain in possession of Turner family heirs to the present. The farm suffered from military raids at the close of the Civil War in April 1865.

Historical Background

The Old Turner Place is a one-and-a-half-story log structure situated in northwest Henry County, Virginia, just south of the Franklin County line on Larkin's Branch, a tributary of Town Creek which drains into Smith River 2 or 3 miles to the south.

Turner family histories assert that John Turner of Cornwall, England, came to Tidewater Maryland by 1718, where he married Elizabeth Brashears. John and Elizabeth's oldest son Shadrack Turner was born in Tidewater Virginia in 1728.¹ Shadrack Turner married Ann Hill in Tidewater Virginia in the mid to late 1740s and then moved to Piedmont, Virginia, and acquired extensive land holdings in Pittsylvania County in the 1750s and 1760s. By 1767 he owned over 4,000 acres in Pittsylvania County, including at least 800 acres on Town Fork or Town Creek;² in 1776 the Town Creek lands became part of Henry County. Shadrack Turner provided supplies to the Henry County militia in 1777 and to the Virginia militia in 1783.³ In 1783 Shadrack Turner executed a will that left "the plantation I now live upon" to his wife Ann. Sons Larkin, Jeremiah, and William received adjoining lands, and all eight of Shadrack's children were to receive the remainder of his estate following the death of his wife Ann.⁴

Surviving records and contemporary accounts by Turner family descendants are subject to varying interpretations concerning the date of construction of the Old Turner Place, the subject of this nomination. David Jones's genealogy of the Shadrack Turner family states that Larkin Turner, age 23 or 24, built the nominated log house for his bride Mary Hickey around 1788, the year before their marriage.⁵ The present owner of the Old Turner Place, Dr. Harry Lee King, Jr., himself a Turner family heir, asserts that his house was built by Shadrack Turner shortly after the execution of

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Shadrack's will in 1783 and is referred to in that document as "the house to be finished out of the estate."⁶ Dr. King believes that his house was subsequently occupied by Larkin and Mary Turner until shortly before their departure for Kentucky around 1805. A Henry County deed abstracted by Lela C. Adams records the sale in 1804 of 33 acres on Town Creek "at Larkin Turner's still house branch" by Larkin and Mary Turner then "of Franklin County." This Henry County deed suggests that Larkin and Mary Turner "of Franklin County" in 1804 did not live in the Old Turner Place in Henry County at the time of that sale.⁷ Dr. King, who has transcribed a Franklin County deed for transfer of 346 acres in 1804 from Larkin Turner to his nephew John Turner, "the land and plantation whereon he now lives,"⁸ assumes that Larkin and Mary Turner vacated their log house in Franklin County prior to their departure for Kentucky and prior to their sale of the property to John Turner. Whether the Old Turner Place was built by Shadrack Turner shortly after the execution of his will in 1783, by Larkin Turner around 1788, or by John Turner shortly after his purchase of the property in 1804, it is certain that John Turner and wife Nancy Burnett lived in the log Old Turner Place after the time of their marriage in 1804 and until they left Henry for Patrick County around 1831.

John Turner moved to or built the log house on Larkin's Branch around the time of his marriage to Nancy Burnett in October 1804. He served as an ensign during the War of 1812 and was stationed in Norfolk, Virginia. By 1820 he and Nancy had had eight children and owned two slaves; five of the twelve members of their household were engaged in agriculture. John Turner became a Primitive Baptist preacher who served the Town Creek Primitive Baptist Church 2 miles to the east of Larkin's Branch from 1825 until 1831.⁹ Sometime after his move to Patrick County, the Rev. Turner transferred his Henry County land on Larkin's Branch to his nephew Stephen Turner.

Stephen Turner married Ruth Prillamen in 1832 shortly after his uncle the Rev. John and wife Nancy Turner moved from Larkin's Branch to Patrick County. By 1842 Stephen and Ruth Turner had acquired the land and log house on Larkin's Branch from the Rev. John Turner.¹⁰ The 1860 manuscript census for Henry County records Stephen Turner as a farmer, the 55-year-old head of a household of eight free persons and one 40-year-old male slave. John Turner's 600-acre farm, with real estate valued at \$5,000 and personal estate of \$2,150, had 200 acres of improved land. In 1860 the Stephen Turner farm produced 150 bushels of corn, 50 bushels of wheat, 40 bushels of oats, 30 bushels of Irish potatoes, 30 bushels of sweet potatoes, 23 bushels of rye, and 20 pounds of flax. His nineteen sheep yielded 16 pounds of wool; his four cows gave milk that turned to 156 pounds of butter. He had beehives that yielded 36 pounds of honey and 10 pounds of beeswax. Orchard products for 1860 were valued at \$200. In addition, Stephen Turner's farm had five other cattle, three horses, and seven swine. His livestock was valued at \$325. Animals slaughtered were valued at \$150. Pork from the pigs slaughtered that fall must have been cured in the Turner meat house, which still stands.

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Life on Stephen and Ruth Turner's farm and elsewhere throughout Henry County and southwest Virginia was disrupted by the Civil War. Company H of the 24th Virginia Infantry and Company G of the 42nd Virginia Infantry, both formed in Henry County, and Company B of the 57th Virginia Infantry, formed in Franklin County, included at least eighteen members of the extended Turner family; two were captured; two surrendered at Appomattox, and seven died during the war.¹¹ At the close of the Civil War in April 1865 federal cavalry commander Major General George Stoneman led a raid through Henry County to join forces with General Sherman in North Carolina. Local history accounts of chaos and plunder are supported by an official dispatch of Federal Major General H. G. Wright, then stationed in Danville. On May 10, 1865 General Wright wrote Major General Halleck that local authorities at Henry Court House "represent great destitution in their neighborhood, which has been raided by the rebel forces and by Stoneman's Cavalry." General Wright recommended the distribution of 1,500 bushels of corn to local authorities at Henry Court House "as a matter of humanity and as a means of securing order."¹²

Sufficient order had been restored to Henry County life by 1870 so that Stephen Turner's farm, then valued at \$1,500, produced 100 bushels of corn and 18 bushels of rye. Stephen Turner paid \$70 for agricultural labor in 1870, and the farm produced 500 pounds of tobacco. Perhaps the turn to cash crop tobacco precluded attention to yields from other agricultural products. Stephen Turner's farm in 1870 no longer showed returns for honey, orchard products, or wool.

In 1889 Stephen Turner's daughter Martha Jane Turner and her husband James Alexander Turner secured title to the log Turner House and 86 acres of the 600-acre farm. The Turner House and some of its land subsequently passed on to Turner family descendants until the final transfer in 1968 of house and 19 acres to present owner Harry Lee King, Jr., himself a Turner family heir.

Notes

1. David R. Jones, Jr., *Shadrack Turner (1728-1783) of Virginia, His Ancestors and Descendants*, Private Printing, 1998, p. 5. Jones's study presents a remarkable compilation of nine generations and more than 5,000 descendants of Shadrack Turner and his two younger brothers.
2. Notes from Chatham Court House, Pittsylvania County, in Harry Lee King, Jr., papers.
3. *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, Vol. 10, p. 239; Vol. 15, p. 92.
4. Lela C. Adams, *Henry County, Virginia, Will Abstracts, Vols. I and II, 1777-1829*, Bassett, Virginia, 1985, p. 13.
5. Jones, p. 11.
6. Dr. Harry Lee King, Jr., personal communication July 2002. King papers.
Lela C. Adams, *Abstracts of Deed Books, Vols. V and VI, Henry County, Virginia, Oct. 1792 through Dec. 1805*, Bassett, Virginia, 1979, p. 159. Definitive dating of house construction has

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been complicated by the fact that the Old Turner Place land fell into the jurisdiction of two counties after the formation of Franklin County in 1786.

7. King papers.
9. Martha P. Thornton, *Town Creek Primitive Baptist Church, Henry, Virginia*, Bassett Printing Corporation, Bassett, Virginia, 1975, states that John Turner was a messenger to the Pigg River Association of the Primitive Baptist Church, was ordained in 1825, and represented Town Creek in the association until 1832.
10. King papers.
11. Ralph White Gunn, *24th Virginia Infantry*, H. E. Howard, Inc., Lynchburg, Virginia, 1987, pp. 3, 101. John D. Chapala, *42nd Virginia Infantry*, H. E. Howard, Inc., Lynchburg, Virginia, 1983, pp. 1, 135. Chandes W. Sublett, *57th Virginia Infantry*, H. E. Howard, Inc., Lynchburg, Virginia, 1985, vol. 2, pp. 87-88.
12. *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*. U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1894, Vol. 46, part III, pp. 1128-1129. Virginia and Lewis Pedigo, *History of Patrick and Henry Counties, Virginia*. Stone Printing and Manufacturing Company, Roanoke, Virginia, 1933, pp. 34-37.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Adams, Lela C. *Abstracts of Deed Books, Vols. V and VI, Henry County, Virginia, Oct. 1792 through Dec. 1805*. Bassett, Virginia, 1979.

Chapala, John D. *42nd Virginia Infantry*. H.E. Howard, Inc., Lynchburg, Virginia, 1983.

Gunn, Ralph White. *24th Virginia Infantry*. H.E. Howard, Inc., Lynchburg, Virginia, 1983.

Jones, David R., Jr. *Shadrack Turner (1728-1783) of Virginia, His Ancestors and Descendants*. Private printing, 1998.

King, Harry Lee, Jr. Papers. 6543 Henry Road, Henry County, Virginia.

Pedigo, Virginia, and Lewis Pedigo. *History of Patrick and Henry Counties, Virginia*. Stone Printing and Manufacturing Company, Roanoke, Virginia, 1933.

Sublett, Charles W. *57th Virginia Infantry*. H.E. Howard, Inc., Lynchburg, Virginia, 1985.

Thornton, Martha P. *Town Creek Primitive Baptist Church, Henry, Virginia*. Bassett Printing Corporation, Bassett, Virginia, 1975.

Section 9, 10 Page 7

U.S. Census Manuscripts, Agriculture

1860: Eighth Census, manuscript. Henry County, Virginia. Microfilm.
1870: Ninth Census, manuscript. Henry County, Virginia. Microfilm.

U.S. Census Manuscripts, Population

1820: Fourth Census, manuscript. Henry County, Virginia. Microfilm.
1860: Eighth Census, manuscript. Henry County, Virginia. Microfilm.

U.S. Census Manuscripts, Slave Population

1860: Eighth Census, manuscript schedule. Henry County, Virginia. Microfilm.

Virginia Magazine of History and Biography. Virginia Historical Society, Richmond, Virginia.
Vols. 10 and 15.

The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies. U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1894. Vol. 46, part III.

10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at an iron stake on Henry Road (State Route 605) at the corner with Herman Mullins, proceeding northwest along said road to its intersection with Larkin's Branch Road (State Route 769), there turning east and following said road to an iron stake thereon at the corner with Doyle Markham and continuing eastward and crossing Larkin's Branch to an iron stake at the top of the ridge at the corner with Stuart Warren, then proceeding south along said ridge to an iron stake where it turns west to a corner walnut tree on Larkin's Branch and proceeding south to an iron stake on said branch along which it continues to the corner with Herman Mullins and then west back to the beginning.

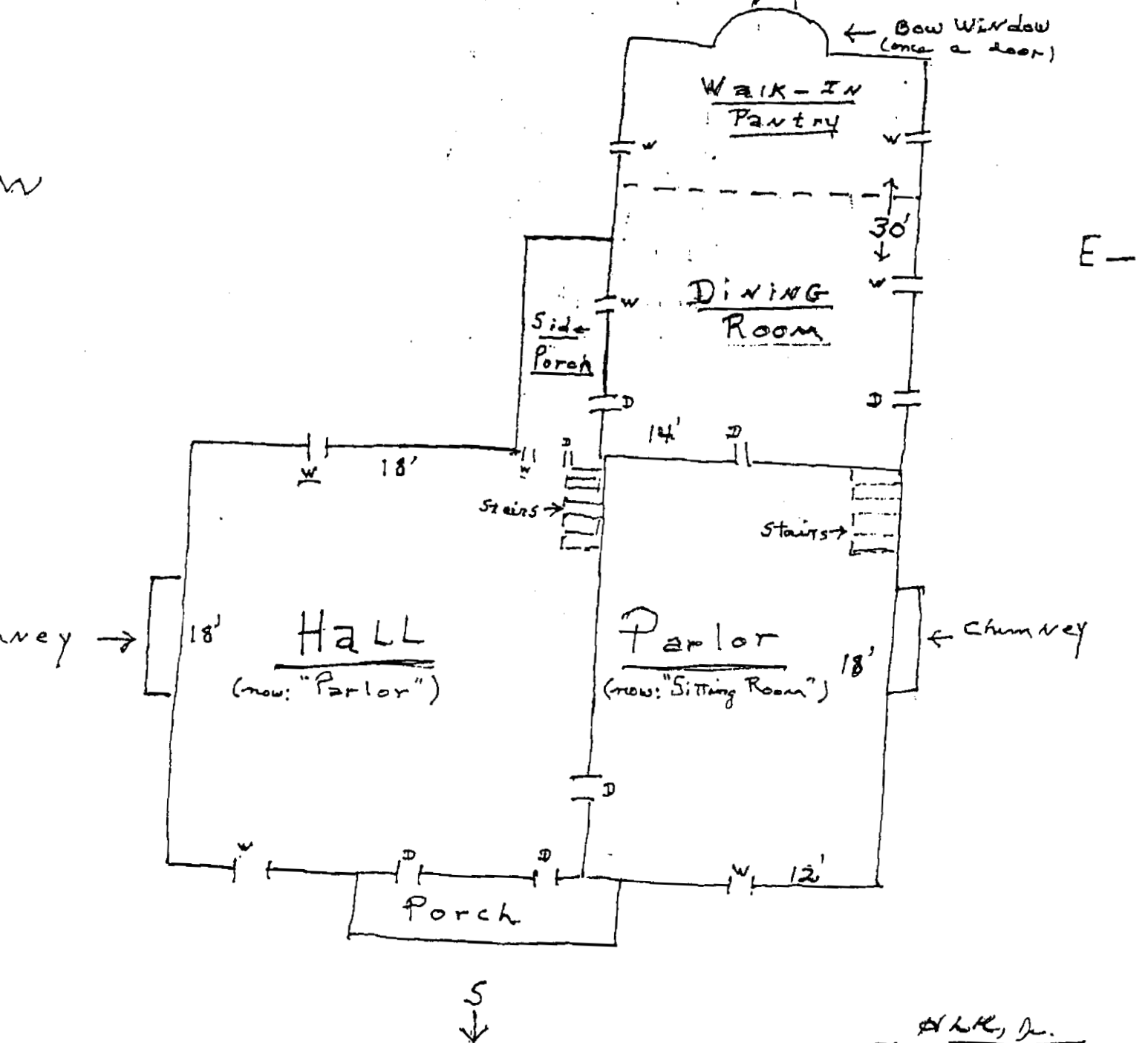
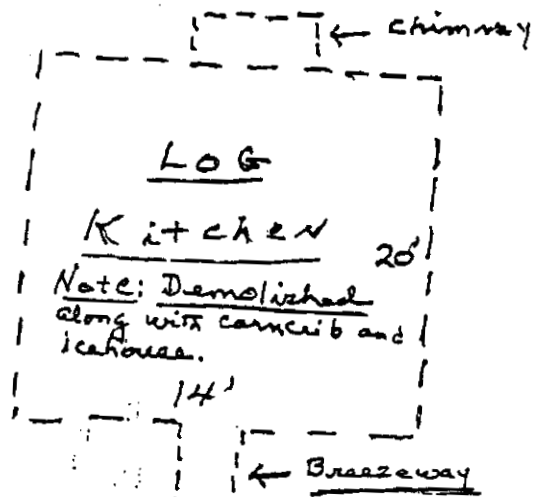
References

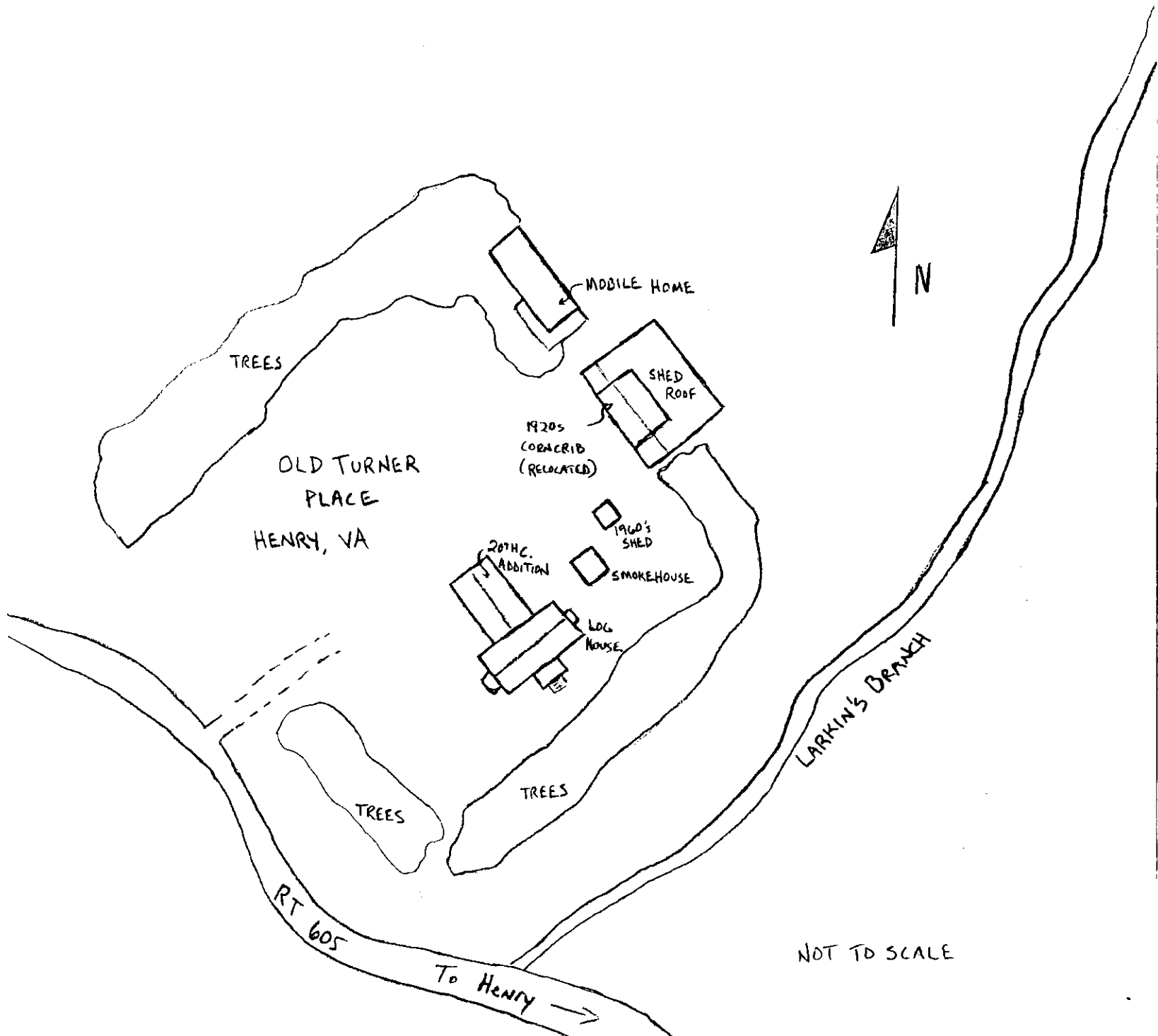
1. Deed from Martha Ellen Ingram to Harry Lee King, Jr., some 18 acres; Henry County, Virginia, Deed Book 211, page 908, June 28, 1968.
2. Deed from Wallace L. Gusler to Harry Lee King, Jr., 1.3 acres; Franklin County, Virginia, Deed Book 277, page 652, January 28, 1972.

OLD TURNER PLACE

Henry Co. VA

(House Plan)





TREES

OLD TURNER PLACE
HENRY, VA

MOBILE HOME

1920S
(CORACRID
(RELATED))

SHED
ROOF

20THC.
ADDITION

1960'S
SHED

SMOKEHOUSE

LOG
HOUSE

TREES

TREES

LARKIN'S BRANCH

RT 605

To Henry →



NOT TO SCALE

Transmittal

To: Marc Wagner, Richmond

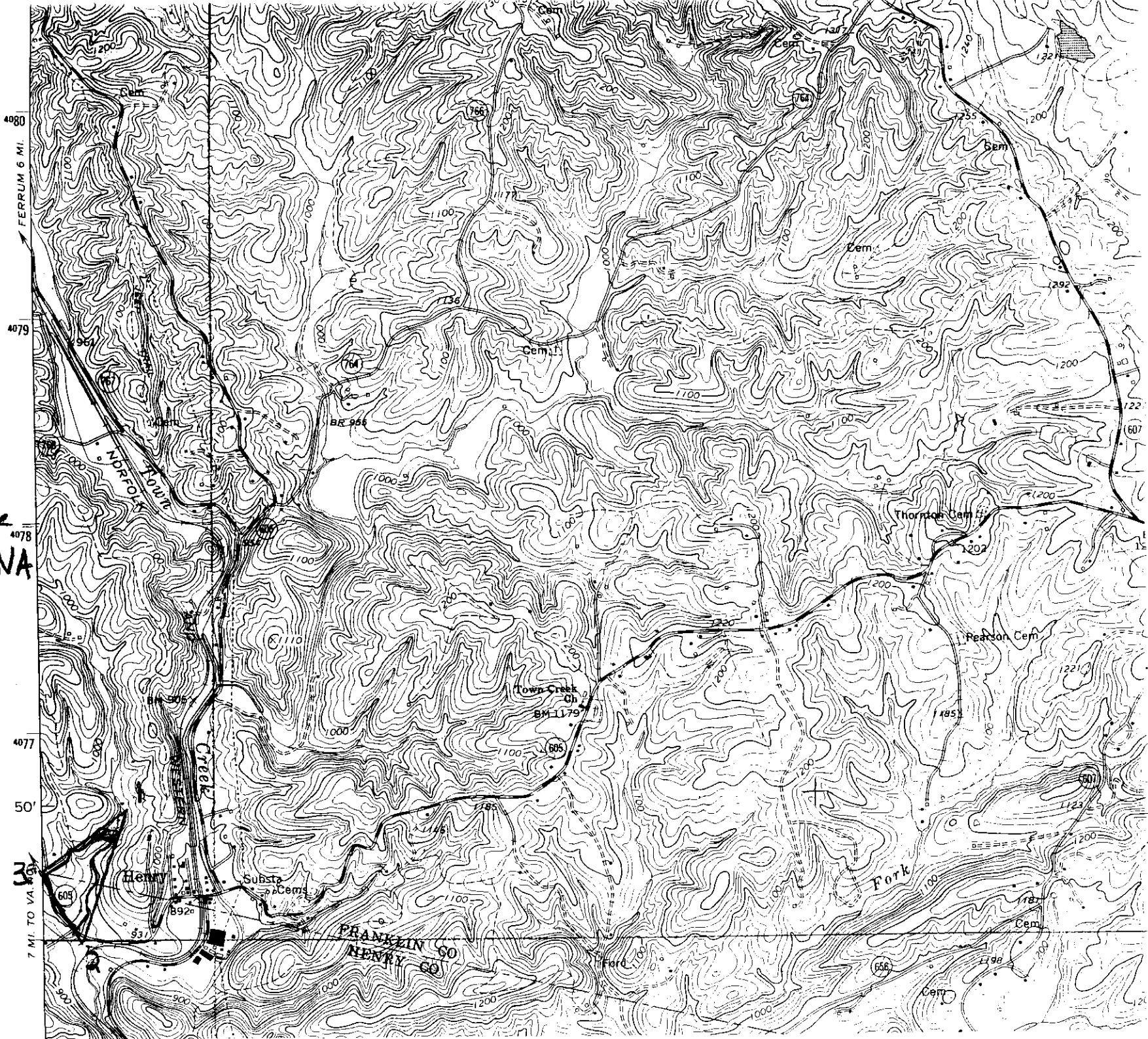
From: Mike Pulice, RRPO

Date: 7/10/02

Please find enclosed the following:

Old Turner Place, Henry, VA National Register nomination package including:

- 1) NR form
- 2) Owner of Record Form (signed and completed)
- 3) Two sets of adjacent owner mailing labels
- 4) USGA quad map with marked boundary and UTM coordinates
- 5) Site sketch map
- 6) 2 sets of labeled, 4" x 6" archivally-stable black and white photos, plus three 5" x 7" black and white publication photos
- 7) Descriptive list of photos
- 8) Labeled negatives
- 9) Completed electronic NR form on floppy disk



Old Turner Place
Henry County, VA

1, 17/549580/
4076540

2, 17/549280/
4076000

3, 17/549180/
4076310