

VLR-9/9/69 NRHP-11/12/69 NHL-11/11/71

53-93

Form 70-300  
(Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

STATE: <b>Virginia</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Loudoun</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**Oatlands**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**Oatlands**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: **.9 mi. N of Goose Creek, .5 mi. NE of Rt. 15, 1 mi. S of intersection of Rt. 15 and Rt. 651.**

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE: **Virginia** CODE: **45** COUNTY: **Loudoun** CODE: **107**

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC	
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/>	Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In Process <input type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/>
No: <input type="checkbox"/>				

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>	
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>		
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>		

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNERS NAME:  
**National Trust for Historic Preservation**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**748 Jackson Place, N. W.**

CITY OR TOWN: **Washington** STATE: **District of Columbia** CODE: **08**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.  
**Loudoun County Court House**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **Leesburg** STATE: **Virginia** CODE: **45**

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **261 acres**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1958** Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**Library of Congress**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **Washington** STATE: **District of Columbia** CODE: **08**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

ST. E: **Virginia**  
COUNTY: **Loudoun**  
ENT. RYN. NUMBER:   
SITE:   
FOR NPS ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)				
	Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)	
	Altered <input type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Oatlands house is a large five-part Federal mansion with stuccoed brick walls. The center section of the house is three stories in height covered by a low hipped roof which is hidden by a parapet. The roof of the house was designed to be topped by an octagonal cupola, but it is uncertain whether it was ever built. The center section is fronted by a tetrastyle Roman Corinthian portico which was added in 1827 according to George Carter's instructions. Flanking the center section are two-bay two-story wings crowned by parapets. Beyond each of these wings is an octagonal-ended two-story projection which in each case contains a staircase. With the exception of the addition of a one-story porch on the octagonal-ended portico, the house has changed very little since the addition of the portico.

In addition to the large entrance hall, the house contains five principal rooms on the first floor with numerous bedrooms on the upper two floors. A simplicity of layout is revealed in the plan designed by George Carter and retained by the Eustis family, the last private owners. The entrance door has a definite Adamesque character both in the leaded tracery at the side windows and the overdoor lunette, and in the entablature frieze below the cornice. The cornice and frieze in the octagonal drawing room also reflect the sophisticated taste of the Adam period, although the cornice moldings and ceiling details of the other rooms are of a simple, solid character reflecting the Greek Revival style.

The house is situated on a broad terrace which has a commanding view of the surrounding farm lands and the Blue Ridge Mountains beyond. To the east of the house are the extensive formal gardens laid out circa 1803 by George Carter and enlarged and restored by the Eustis family. The gardens are particularly noted for their fine boxwood. The northwestern corner of the gardens is bordered by the formally designed outbuildings and quarters. Near the southeastern corner of the gardens are the numerous farm buildings, some of which date to the early-nineteenth century. Surrounding the complex of buildings and gardens is a large informal park and the farmlands beyond.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

**PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- Pre-Columbian       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century   
 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

**SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)**

**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- |   |                                       |  |  |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/>     | Education <input type="checkbox"/>    | Political <input type="checkbox"/>           | Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/>  |
| Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/>    | Engineering <input type="checkbox"/>  | Religion/Philosophy <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Historic <input type="checkbox"/>       | Industry <input type="checkbox"/>     | Science <input type="checkbox"/>             | _____                                    |
| Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/>    | Invention <input type="checkbox"/>    | Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/>           | _____                                    |
| Art <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Landscape <input type="checkbox"/>    | Social/Humanitarian <input type="checkbox"/> | _____                                    |
| Commerce <input type="checkbox"/>       | Architecture <input type="checkbox"/> | Theater <input type="checkbox"/>             | _____                                    |
| Communications <input type="checkbox"/> | Literature <input type="checkbox"/>   | Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>      | _____                                    |
| Conservation <input type="checkbox"/>   | Military <input type="checkbox"/>     |  | _____                                    |
|   | Music <input type="checkbox"/>        |  | _____                                    |

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)**

Oatlands house was built between 1800 and 1803 by George Carter, son of Robert "Councillor" Carter of Nomini Hall, and great-grandson of Robert "King" Carter of Corotoman. The land on which the house was built was part of a 63,093 acre tract which Councillor Carter had purchased in 1776 from the estate of Lord Fairfax, proprietor of the Northern Neck. Councillor Carter gave 5,000 acres of this tract, which came to be known as Oatlands, to George Carter as his coming-of-age gift in 1798.

The design of the house is credited to George Carter himself, who derived his ideas from examples in William Chambers' A Treatise on Civil Architecture published in London in 1768. Not only did Carter design the house and supervise its construction, but he also laid out the extensive formal gardens and planned the architecturally interesting slave quarters and outbuildings.

Oatlands went into a gradual decline in the years following the War between the States so that by 1897 the Carter family sold the estate to Stilson Hutchins of Washington, D. C., founder of the Washington Post. In 1903 the estate was acquired by William Corcoran Eustis, grandson of William Wilson Corcoran, philanthropist and donor of the Corcoran Gallery of Art; and by his wife Edith, daughter of Levi Parsons Morton, Vice-President of the United States under Benjamin Harrison. The house and part of its farm were given in 1965 to the National Trust for Historic Preservation which currently exhibits the house and sponsors equestrian events on the grounds.

As architecture, Oatlands house with its extensive gardens and numerous outbuildings ranks as one of the most elaborate Federal country seats in America. The complex is also valuable as a social document exhibiting the elegance of Virginia country life in both the early-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

"Oatlands," pamphlet issued by National Trust for Historic Preservation.  
 Sherwood, Brinton, "Oatlands," Historic Preservation, Vol. 18-No. 2 (March-April, 1966), pp. 52-63.  
 Wayland, John W., Historic Homes of Northern Virginia. Staunton, Va.: The McClure Company, Inc., 1937, pp. 462-467.  
 Sale, Edith Tunis, ed., Historic Gardens of Virginia. Richmond, Va.: The William Byrd Press Inc., 1923, pp. 245-249.  
Homes and Gardens in Old Virginia, The Garden Club of Virginia. Richmond, Va.: Garrett and Massie, Incorporated, 1962, pp. 78-81.  
 Lancaster, Robert A., Historic Virginia Homes and Churches. Philadelphia: 1915,

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes Seconds
NW	39° 03' 03"	77° 37' 16"			
NE	39° 03' 03"	77° 36' 17"			
SE	39° 02' 15"	77° 36' 17"			
SW	39° 02' 15"	77° 37' 16"			

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
 Staff, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, James W. Moody, Jr., Director

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission      DATE: August 21, 1969

STREET AND NUMBER:  
 Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond      STATE: Virginia      CODE: 45

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Dr. Edward P. Alexander, Chairman  
 Title Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE	Virginia
COUNTY	Loudoun
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

PIAP  
III

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

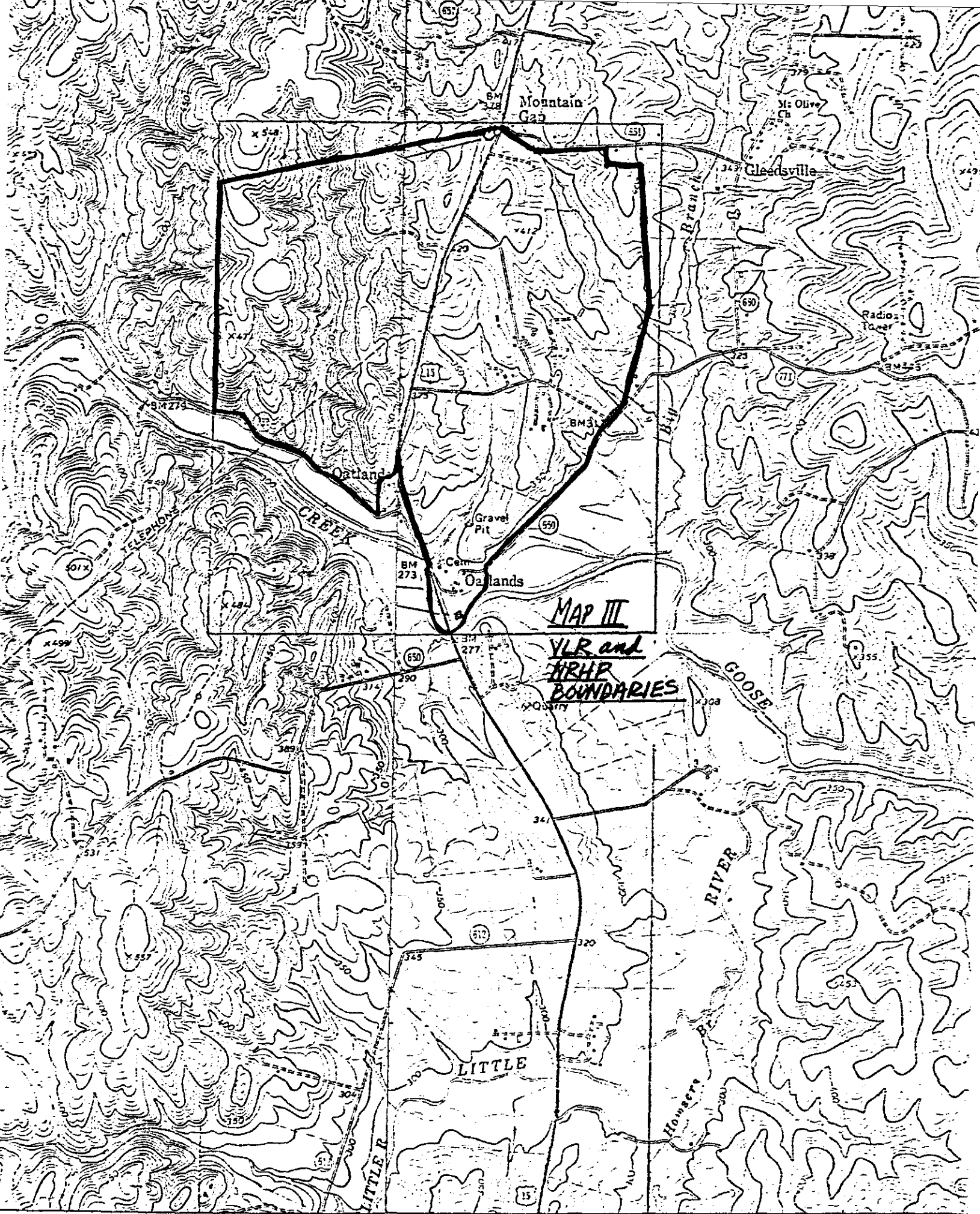
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

VIRGINIA LANDMARKS REGISTER (2/19/74) AND  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF (Continuation Sheet)  
HISTORIC PLACES (3/3/74) BOUNDARIES AND VERBAL  
BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION  
(Number all entries)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

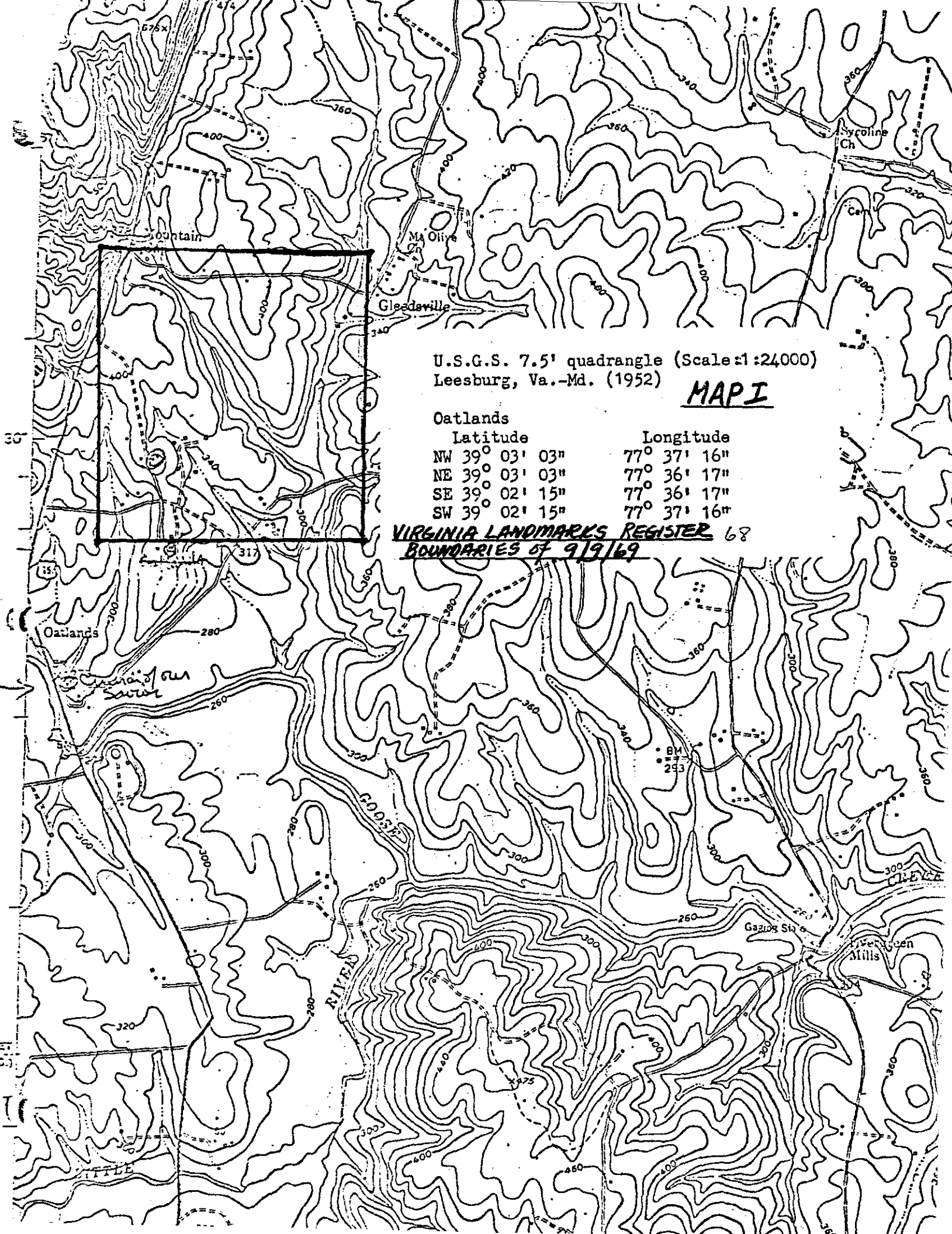
- 1) Plotting of the property boundaries extends from the Leesburg Quadrangle (Virginia-Loudoun Co., 7.5 minute series) to the Lincoln Quadrangle (Virginia-Loudoun Co., 7.5 minute series).
- 2) The following description includes properties currently owned by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, under acquisition by the National Trust, pending easement to the National Trust and presently under open space easement to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation.

Beginning at the Northeast corner of the district, the property line extends WEST along State Rt. 651 crossing Rt. 15 to the Northwest corner of the Mountain Gap School site; turning to the WEST-SOUTHWEST the line extends approximately 4300' to the westernmost point where turning to the SOUTH, the line extends to the southern edge of State Rt. 733; turning EAST, the line runs along the south edge of State Rt. 733 to a point slightly west of Rt. 15 where it turns NORTH for a short distance and then EAST crossing Rt. 15, omitting three houses at the junction of Rts. 733 and 15, it proceeds south along the east side of Rt. 15 to the junction of Rts. 15 and 650; where, turning west, it re-crosses Rt. 15, to the bank of Goose Creek, opposite the junction of State Rts. 15 and 650; then extending EAST along the north bank it passes under Rt. 15 to the Oatland Mills site; it turns NORTH bounded on the east by State Rt. 650, to a point approximately 150 yards north of BM 317 where it turns due North returning to the point of beginning on State Rt. 651 bounded by the lands of Edgar Young Estate, Kathleen C. England and Melvin Bush; the whole containing 947 acres, more or less.



MAP III

VLR and  
NRHP  
BOUNDARIES



U.S.G.S. 7.5' quadrangle (Scale: 1:24000)  
 Leesburg, Va.-Md. (1952)

**MAP I**

Oatlands

	Latitude	Longitude
NW	39° 03' 03"	77° 37' 16"
NE	39° 03' 03"	77° 36' 17"
SE	39° 02' 15"	77° 36' 17"
SW	39° 02' 15"	77° 37' 16"

**VIRGINIA LANDMARKS REGISTER 68**  
**BOUNDARIES of 9/9/69**