53-603

No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74) VLR-12/21/76 NRHP-1/30/78

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC: Taylorstown

AND/OR COMMON: Taylorstown Historic District (Preferred)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: At Catoctin Creek: 2.9 miles SW of Potomac River; At western foot of Catoctin Mountain.

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN: Taylorstown — __ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Tenth (Joseph L. Fisher)

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Virginia	51	Loudoun	107

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
X DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	X AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
__BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	__YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	X YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME: Mulitiple Ownership (See continuation Sheet #1)

STREET & NUMBER:

CETY, TOWN: — __ VICINITY OF

STATE:

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS ETC.: Loudoun County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER:

CITY, TOWN: Leesburg

STATE: Virginia 22075

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (2) (See Continuation Sheet #2)

TITLE: (1) Historic American Buildings Survey inventory

DATE: 1958

X FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN: Washington

STATE: D.C.

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	X UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
X GOOD	__RUINS	__ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The tiny settlement of Taylorstown is nestled in the scenic, rolling farmlands of Virginia's northern Loudoun County, an area regarded as one of the most beautiful rural regions of the state. It is situated on the banks of Catoctin Creek, a meandering stream which formerly supplied power for the village mill. About two miles north of the community, the stream joins the Potomac. The wooded Catoctin Mountain is immediately to the east of Taylorstown; most of the remaining property in the vicinity is open farmland dotted with patches of forest. Little commercial development has taken place to mar the pastoral quality of the area.

The principal landmark of the community is Taylorstown Mill, a two-story structure built in the late eighteenth century of the local fieldstone. It is situated down by the creek immediately south of Route 688, the main east-west road through the town. Banked by tall trees, the 34 X 48 foot mill is approached by its three-bay gable end front. The gable is weatherboarded and painted dark red. At the peak of the gable is a hood covering the hoist; doors are located in the center bays of each level below. Typical of mill architecture, a single chimney is located in the building's northeast corner. The two-story frame extension on the rear was probably put up in the late nineteenth century. Much old framing, flooring and plastering survives on the interior; however, virtually all the machinery has been removed with the mill's conversion to a warehouse and later a residence. Several floods have caused significant but not permanent damage.

Atop the hill to the north of the mill is a one-and-one-half-story stone dwelling, Hunting Hill, an exceptionally picturesque structure believed to have been erected in 1737 as the residence of the original mill's owner. The main part of the house measures 33 X 25 feet with the front wall sheltered by an early, if not original, shed porch supported on chamfered posts. A later kitchen wing has been placed against the west wall. Essentially unaltered, the house has a German plan consisting of a large hall and two smaller chambers separated from the hall by a board partition. The hall is heated by a large fireplace centered on the west wall. A small, winding stair is in the hall's southwest corner. The room's ceiling has exposed summer beam and joists. The northeast chamber has a fireplace in its northeast corner, resulting in the chimney rising distinctively on the exterior from the corner of the house. On the slope to the east of the house is the farmer's late nineteenth-century bank barn; a smaller farm building is immediately to the west.

Taylorstown's early store building is located on Route 688 to the south of the barn. Erected ca. 1800, the 28 X 18 foot building is a one-story frame structure with a gable roof. After ceasing to function as a store, the building was used for a time as a theatre and later a movie house. Now covered with asphalt siding, it serves as an automobile garage. Its original storefront has been replaced by garage doors.

Immediately to the east of the old store building is the community's present store - Mann's Store, a curious one-story concrete building covered by a shallow hipped roof. Built in 1904 to replace an earlier building on the site destroyed by fire, the

(See Continuation Sheet # 3)

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1000-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
X 1800-1899	X COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
X 1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Although numerous milling communities survive across the state, few possess a setting so scenic or a collection of vernacular buildings of such interesting diversity as the tiny hamlet of Taylorstown. Even in its minuteness, the village has a historical ambiance of a quality rarely retained in similar communities. The origins of Taylorstown are traced back to the 1730s when the settlement of northern Virginia began. In that decade English families from the tidewater region and German and Quaker families from Pennsylvania began moving into what was to become Loudoun County. There the Germans occupied much of the northern section, while pockets of Quakers were established around Waterford, Lincoln, and what is now Taylorstown. The Taylorstown site offered a convenient ford across the Catoctin Creek and a steady supply of water power. Thus, in the 1730s the Quaker Richard Brown started a milling operation there and established a farm on the property now known as Hunting Hill. The present house at Hunting Hill may havebeen built in 1737, the date traditionally assigned to it, as its dimensions conform to those escribed by Lord Fairfax, the proprietor of the region, for settlers taking up land there.

In 1784 Richard Brown's son, Mercer Brown, sold the mill and family farm to Thomas Taylor of Frederick County, Maryland, who probably built the present stone mill. The original mill erected by Brown most likely was a log structure as were the majority of the earliest mills in the region. Taylor acquired with the mill a log miller's house which has since disappeared. After establishing himself, Taylor began selling off half-acre lots near the mill. The resulting small community came to be called Taylors Town, and later Taylorstown. The Taylor family lived at Hunting Hill and operated the mill for the next forty-five years. The last owner to continue the milling operation was Millard C. Myers, who ran the mill from 1912 to 1958. Today the mill is used as a private residence owned by Mr. and Mrs. Philip R. Ehrenkranz.

Although the mill has ceased its operation the tiny village, composed of less than a dozen structures, remains unspoiled by either neglect or modern intrusion and all the structures remaining in the town possess some degree of architectural interest. Of particular importance is Hunting Hill which may be one of the earliest houses in the county. Even though it was built in a Quaker community, the room arrangement and the stair location reflect a German influence. Having been well maintained over the years, with no significant modernization, the house possesses a charm and antiquarian interest frequently lacking in restored old houses. The mill is also a rare survival, as the majority of mills in Loudoun County, a county once known for its many mills, have disappeared. Taylorstown Mill indeed is one of the handful of such structures in the state that has been successfully adapted for a new function; most of the early mills across Virginia stand idle and andoned.

Of Taylorstown's other buildings, the eighteenth-century stone cottage known now

(See continuation Sheet # 4)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Lewis, John G., " Taylorstown," unpublished manuscript in Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Archives.

"Taylorstown Would Be Wiped Out," in Echoes of History, Pioneer America Society, Vol. IV, No. 5, September 1974.

Templeman, Eleanor Lee and Nan Netherton. Northern Virginia Heritage. Arlington, VA., 1966.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 61 acres

UTM REFERENCES

E 18/277550/4347860
F 18/277520/4348050
G 18/277590/4348220
H 18/277720/4348340

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A	18	277810	4348430
B	18	277806	4348070
C	18	277720	4347870
D	18	277660	4347830

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION The 61 acres comprising the Taylorstown Historic District are bounded by a line beginning at a point on N bank of Catoctin Creek, 1900' NE of State Route 668 bridge over said creek; thence extending approximately 1100'S, crossing Catoctin Creek to feeder creek, following latter for approximately 600', and continuing SSW to a point; thence extending approximately 350' SW to a point; thence extending approximately 700' SW to a point (C), crossing State Route 668; thence extending approximately 400' NW to a point, crossing State Route 665; thence extending approximately 150' S to a point; thence extending approximately 250 ' SW to a point (D); (See Continuation Sheet #2)

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
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE
December 1976

STREET & NUMBER
221 Governor Street

TELEPHONE
(804) 786-3144

CITY OR TOWN
Richmond

STATE
Virginia

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ___ STATE X 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 Junius R. Fishburne, Jr., Executive Director, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE DEC 31 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Virginia Landmarks Register

DATE JAN 3[illegible] 1977

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE JAN 3[illegible] 1977

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

National Register of Historic Places

GPO 892-453

orm No. 10-300a
Rev. 10-74)

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4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

(Lot numbers correspond to those indicated on Loudoun County Tax Map Section 11. A sketch map based on this tax map is included with this report)

Lot # 85
~~Mrs. A. Elizabeth Mann~~ (also owns #104)
~~RFD~~
~~Lovettsville, Virginia 22080~~

Lots #88, 88A
Miss C. Joan Rollins
Route 2, Box 224
Lovettsville, Virginia 22080

Lot # 91
Mr. and Mrs. Philip R. Ehrenkrantz (also own #93)
Route 2, Box 54
Lovettsville, Virginia 22080

Lot # 92

Miss Anna F. Hedrick (also owns#103)
Hunting Hill
Route 2, Box 53
Lovettsville, Virginia 22080

Lot # 93
(see #91)

Lots # 98, 99, 101, 102A
Mr. and Mrs. Raynold Cheronis
Route 2, Box 54-A
Lovettsville, Virginia 22080

Lot # 103
(see # 92)

Lot # 104
(see # 85)

Form No. 10-300a
(Rev. 10-74)

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CONTINUATION SHEET #2 ITEM NUMBER 6, 10 PAGE 1

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

(2) Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey
1969, 1974, 1976 State
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
221 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA (Verbal Boundary Description cont'd)

thence extending approximately 400' WNW to a point (E) at confluence of feeder creek and Catoctin Creek; thence extending approximately 550' NNE, crossing Catoctin Creek to a point on S side of State Route 668 approximately 200' W of said creek; thence extending approximately 300' WNW to a point (F), following S side of State Route 668; thence extending approximately 600' NNE to a point (G),crossing State Route 668 and continuing through wooded area; thence extending approximately 300' ENE to a point; thence extending approximately 350' NNE to a point (H); thence extending approximately 350' SE to a point on N bank of Catoctin Creek; thence extending NE along N bank of said creek to point of origin. These boundaries coincide with the Taylorstown Historic Preservation Area District established by Loudoun County on April 20, 1976.

Post-it® Fax Note 7671	Date 1.11.96	# of pages ▶ 4
To Ray Cheronis	From Jim Hill	
Co./Dept.	Co. VDHR	
Phone #	Phone # 804-371-0821	
Fax # 703-8224-088	Fax # 804-2254-261	

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DESCRIPTION

present structure has its concrete walls scored with deep vee joints to make the walls appear to be laid in very formal ashlar stonework. The front of the building is sheltered by a shed porch supported on thin posts.

Directly across the road from Mann's Store is the Mann house, a ca. 1900 frame dwelling situated on a broad sloping lawn dotted with shade trees. Typical of its era, the two-story, three-bay structure has a gable roof with cross gable and a front porch ornamented with sawn balusters and brackets. A dwelling of similar age and architectural character, the Rollins house, is located directly across Route 665 to the west. It too is set on a broad, grassy lawn and, with the Mann House, adds a homey, late-Victorian note to the hamlet's main intersection.

Directly across Catoctin Creek, just to the north of Route 688, is Foxton, a quaint one-story cottage built against the hill leading down to the creek. Probably erected in the late eighteenth century, the cottage has walls of the local fieldstone and is covered by a gable roof. The south side is sheltered by a shed porch. Attached to the north side is a one-and-one-half-story, five-bay, frame wing in the Colonial style, recently added to make the cottage a more commodious dwelling.

Catoctin Creek is presently spanned in the village by a modern concrete bridge of little visual interest. It replaces a metal truss bridge taken down within the past ten years, which was located just to the south of the present bridge, closer to the mill. The stone abutments of the former bridge were left in place.

Except for the new bridge and a scattering of new houses south of the main intersection along Route 665 (not included in the historic district), Taylorstown has suffered few modern intrusions. The historic buildings, and the scenic open spaces between them, form a picturesque, visually cohesive unit.

CCL

orm No. 10-300a
Rev. 10-74)

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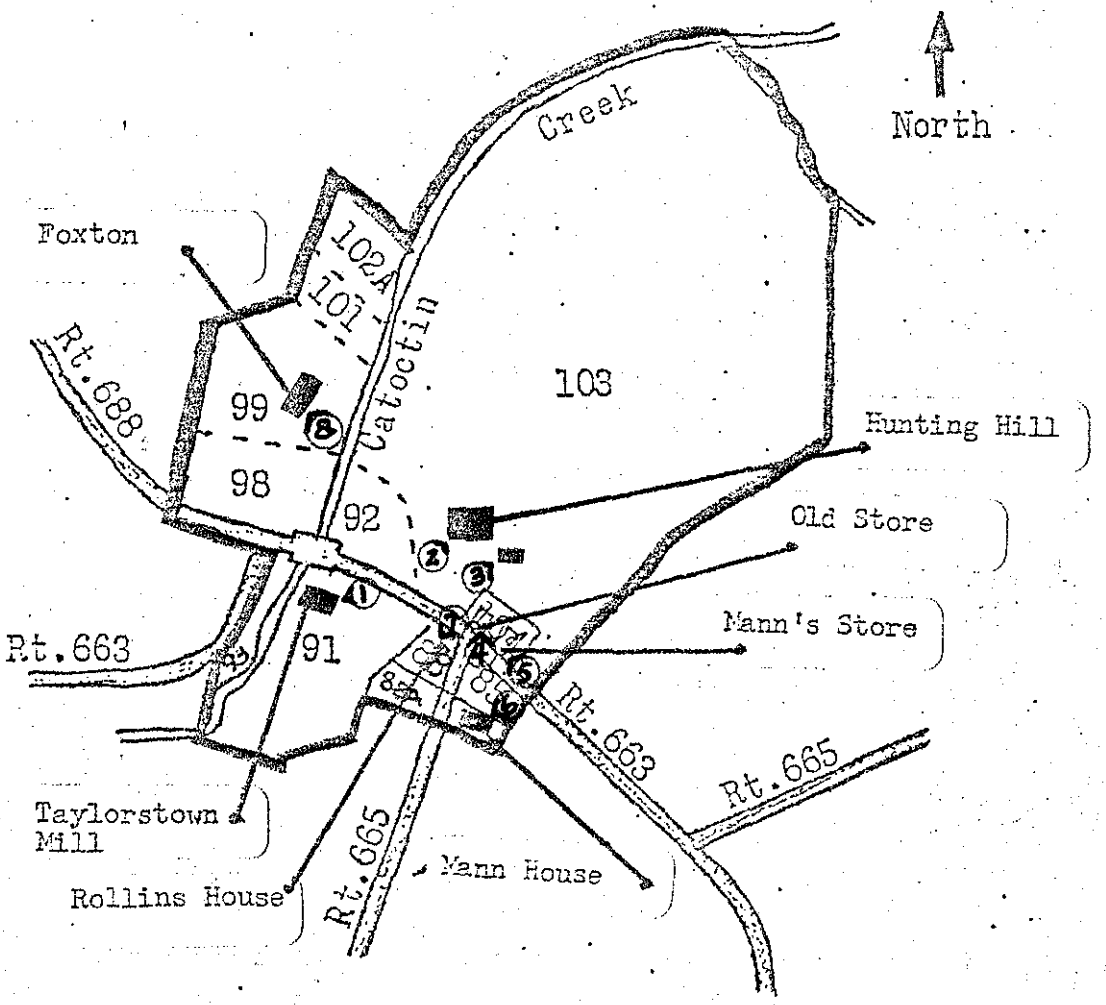
SIGNIFICANCE

as Foxton is a quaint example of Loudoun's early vernacular. Likewise, the ca. 1800 town store, although much altered, is a rare example of village commercial architecture of its period and an important element in the mill complex. The 1904 Mann's Store is an interesting specimen of early concrete construction with decorative surface treatment. The Mann and Rollins houses are both typical and well-preserved examples of late-Victorian vernacular dwellings. Their white walls and fancy sawn-work porches add a festive note to the now sleepy village. Intertwined among all these buildings are well-tended, old-fashioned landscaped yards which, with the beautiful pastoral scenery surrounding the community, contribute to make Taylorstown a rural historic district of exceptional visual quality.

CCL

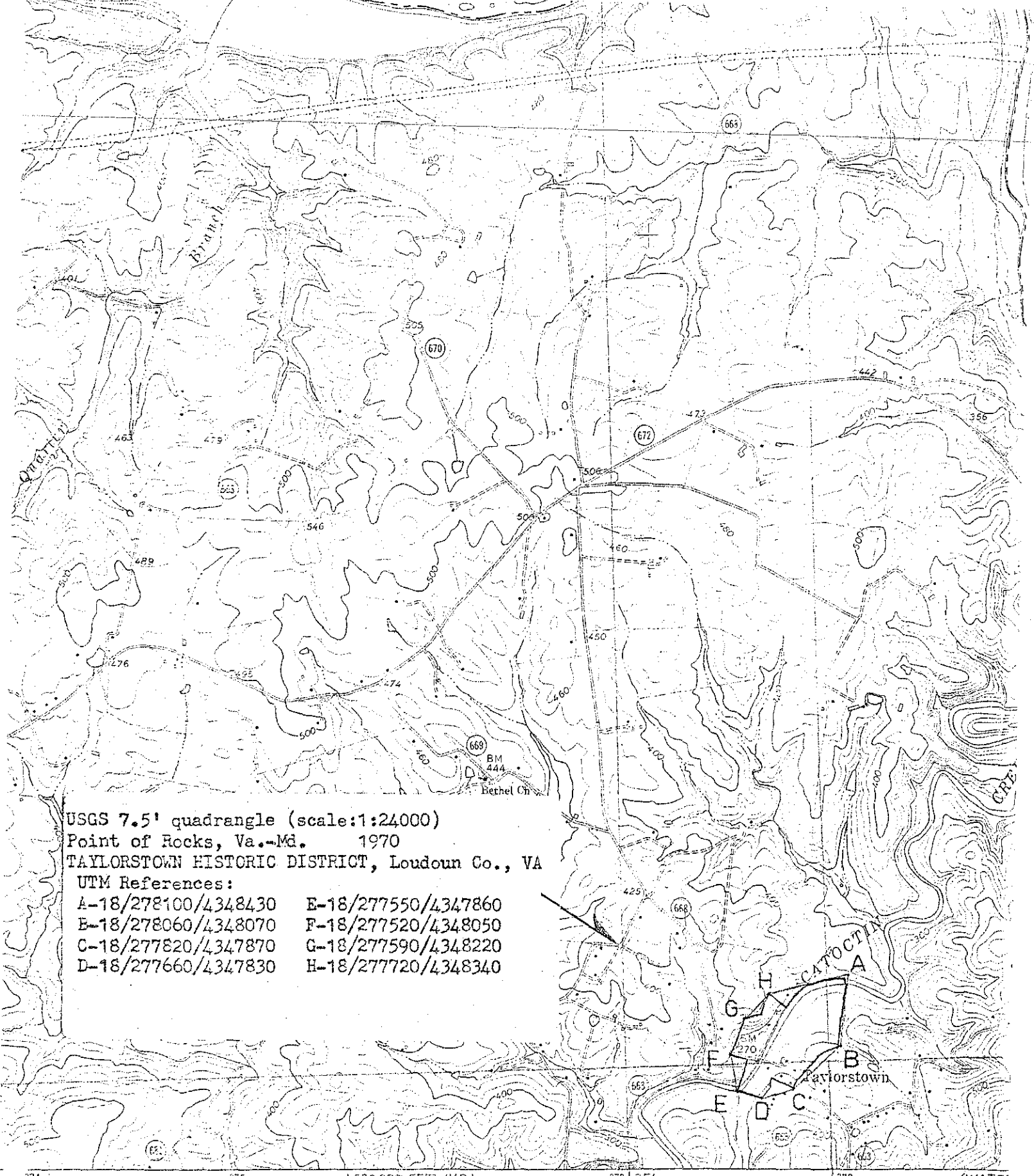
GPO 892 455



TAYLORSTOWN, VIRGINIA
HISTORIC PRESERVATION AREA DISTRICT

Loudoun County Tax Map Section 11
June 1975
SCALE 1" = 600'
61 Acres

TAYLORSTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT
Loudoun County, Virginia
Sketch Map and Guide to
Photographic Views
Red Circled Numbers Indicate Directions from which the Photos for the Nomination Report Were Taken; The Numbers Correspond to Those Assigned to Both the 8x10 Glossies and the Xeroxed Pictures Included with the Report.



USGS 7.5' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)
Point of Rocks, Va.-Md. 1970
TAYLORSTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT, Loudoun Co., VA
UTM References:

A-18/278100/4348430	E-18/277550/4347860
B-18/278060/4348070	F-18/277520/4348050
C-18/277820/4347870	G-18/277590/4348220
D-18/277660/4347830	H-18/277720/4348340

ited, and published by the Geological Survey
on with Commonwealth of Virginia agencies
GS and USC&GS
y photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
nd 1969. Field checked 1970
rmy Map Service map dated 1955

MN GN
7° 124 MILS 1°37' 29 MILS

CONTOUR INTE
DOTTED LINES REPRESE