

VLR-5/16/72 NRHP-6/30/72

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: VIRGINIA	
COUNTY: LOUISA	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
GREEN SPRINGS

AND/OR HISTORIC:
GREEN SPRINGS

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
.2 mi. S of Rt. 617, 1.5 mi. SW of intersection with Rt. 640.

CITY OR TOWN:
Trevilians vicinity (Wm. Lloyd Scott, Eighth District Congressman)

STATE VIRGINIA	CODE 51	COUNTY: LOUISA	CODE 109
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mrs. Audette Kimball

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Gordonsville

STATE: Virginia	CODE 51
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Louisa County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:
Court Square

CITY OR TOWN:
Louisa

STATE: Virginia	CODE 51
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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: D.C.	CODE 11
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: VIRGINIA	COUNTY: LOUISA	ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Green Springs House is a frame, two-story structure with gable roof and four exterior end chimneys. The residence is constructed on a four-room plan with the stair chamber occupying the space between the two rear rooms. This plan is reflected on the exterior in the twin entranceways on the main (north) front leading to the two front rooms. These entrances form the centre bay of five-bay front, in contrast with the three-bay rear front, now resting behind a shed-roofed, one-story addition with porch extension. Exterior features alluding to the building's eighteenth century origin exist in the paneled doors, Flemish bond brick foundation and grilled basement openings, as well as the architrave window trim and the nine-over-nine and six-over-nine sash. A two-story frame wing has been added on the west.

The rear lawn is framed by three frame outbuildings which have been renovated as guesthouses and apartments.

The treatment of the interior woodwork both on the first and second floor is consistent in detail with the only variation being the mantle in the southeastern room on the first floor. Other than this mantel, which uses a centre reeded panel and end blocks in the frieze to support the deep molded shelf, all mantels conform to a basic format: two broad vertical boards and a horizontal board frame a plaster fireplace surround and form the basis for applied molded strips which give an appearance of architraves; a molded cornice shelf rests at the top of the framing. The paneled wainscoting consists of three molded rails, the wider top and bottom ones forming the chair rail and baseboard respectively with a narrower rail midway between the two. Stiles are placed at junctures with openings and corners and, in most rooms, stiles occur at regular points between these junctures. Plain, unraised panels are set between the framing. The stair has rectangular balusters set into a closed stringer with a heavy rail and square newels. The landing of the stair is approached from both the old north portion and the later addition to the south. It is into this addition that the southeast room is extended making it the largest room in the house.

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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)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Situated amidst the rolling fields of Green Springs Valley and near the famous spring of that name from whence it derives its name, the Green Springs house survives virtually intact as a significant late-eighteenth century farm dwelling. Besides being distinguished for its interior panelling and trim, the house contains a compact four-room plan, a deviation from the standard Virginia central hall plan. Probably built by Colonel Richard Morris, the house was closely associated with the well-known Morris family, descendants of William Morris, of Taylor's Creek, Hanover County, many of whose members settled and developed this section of Louisa.

Descendants of William Morris (died 1745) were among the early settlers of Louisa County. William and his son Sylvanus (died 1745 or 1746) acquired extensive real property in Hanover County by patent and purchase. Much, if not all, of the son's holdings were in the Green Springs section of Louisa (formed from Hanover in 1740).

Two of Sylvanus's three sons, William (c. 1735-1820) and Richard (c. 1740-1821) lived to enjoy the legacy provided them by their father and grandfather, completing the division of their inheritance by means of a suit in chancery (1771-73). It would appear, from the record of these proceedings, that: Sylvanus was living at the Green Springs when he died; Richard was established there by 1771-73; and William's portion of the Louisa lands were not yet in production.

William stayed in Hanover County at Taylor's Creek, the plantation of his grandfather, and it was his son, William, Jr. (died 1830-31) who developed the 2,500 + acre tract, adjacent to Green Springs, which came to his father in the division of the estate. The remaining 1,746 acres, at and near the spring were established as the seat of Richard Morris.

Colonel Richard Morris -sometime Commissary for the Commonwealth, member of the House of Delegates (1788), and unsuccessful candidate for a seat in the Virginia Convention of 1788- married the sister of Colonel John Overton of Louisa. She bore him seven children: four daughters Martha (Patsy), Elizabeth, Clara, and Maria; and three sons, two of whom, Overton and William, died before their father.

There is a detailed inventory of the structures at Green Springs during Richard Morris's time. The dwelling house, two stories with a full cellar was 36 X 34' (approximately the dimensions of the present house). The complex included: a large barn and stable, five substantial outbuildings; a quarter, oven and henhouses. Somewhat removed from the main house were: the overseer's house, seven Negro houses, and additional outbuildings.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

(see continuation page)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	VIRGINIA	
COUNTY	LOUISA	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	

(Number all entries)

8. In addition to his activities as a planter Morris was the proprietor of a resort "at the Springs." Service buildings here included an ice house; two houses (12 X 16') "at the bath"; a blacksmith's shop, servant's quarters, kitchen; smoke, corn, and storehouses and two ovens.

Morris's son and heir, James Maury Morris, abandoned the extensive complex "at the Springs." By 1835, some of the spacious guest houses had "been consumed by fire." While others, Joseph Martin observed, "have fallen down, and only a few houses in a state of rapid decay remain."

James Maury Morris left a greater estate than he inherited in spite (a contemporary kinsman wrote) of his addiction to frivolous pursuits including regular and extended visits to Richmond and the fashionable resorts. Green Springs Plantation prospered under an indifferent master due to the remarkable fertility of its soil - and, one supposes, through the efforts of a competent overseer.

In spite of two additions, the Green Springs house survives in a remarkable state of preservation. The south addition appears to be almost contemporary with the original building date, the expansion of the southeast room into that wing being accomplished without awkward adjustments; the western addition has served to remove many of the incompatible functions from the original rooms.

The Green Springs neighborhood, that has given this fine residence its present name, also has provided the building with an unusually beautiful and tranquil setting, a compatible co-habitation of man and nature typical of this unique region.

HPP

9. Isobel Baylor Woodson, "The Morris Family," in The Virginia Genealogist, XI (1967): 51-60, 108-15.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Calendar of Virginia State Papers, Richmond, 1881, II: 397, 491; VIII: 214.
 John Blair Dabney, "Sketches and Reminiscences of the Dabney and Morris Families,"
 M S, 1850. Copy at Virginia Historical Society.
 Hanover County Court (Chancery), MSS records of division of Green Spring's
 property between Richard and William Morris, May 2, 1771, May 6, 1774.
 (includes plot, description of improvements, etc.) photostat copies at VHLC.
 Joseph Martin, Gazateer of Virginia, 1836, p. 217.
 Earl Greg Swem & John W. Williams, A Register of the General Assembly of
 Virginia: 1776-1916, Richmond 1918.

(see continuation page)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	38° 00' 47"	78° 11' 25"		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	38° 00' 47"	78° 10' 17"				
SE	37° 59' 50"	78° 10' 17"				
SW	37° 59' 50"	78° 11' 25"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 640 acres

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

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission DATE: May, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:
 Room 1116 Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond, STATE: Virginia CODE: 51

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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: James W. Moody, Jr.
 Title: Director

Date: MAY 16 1972

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

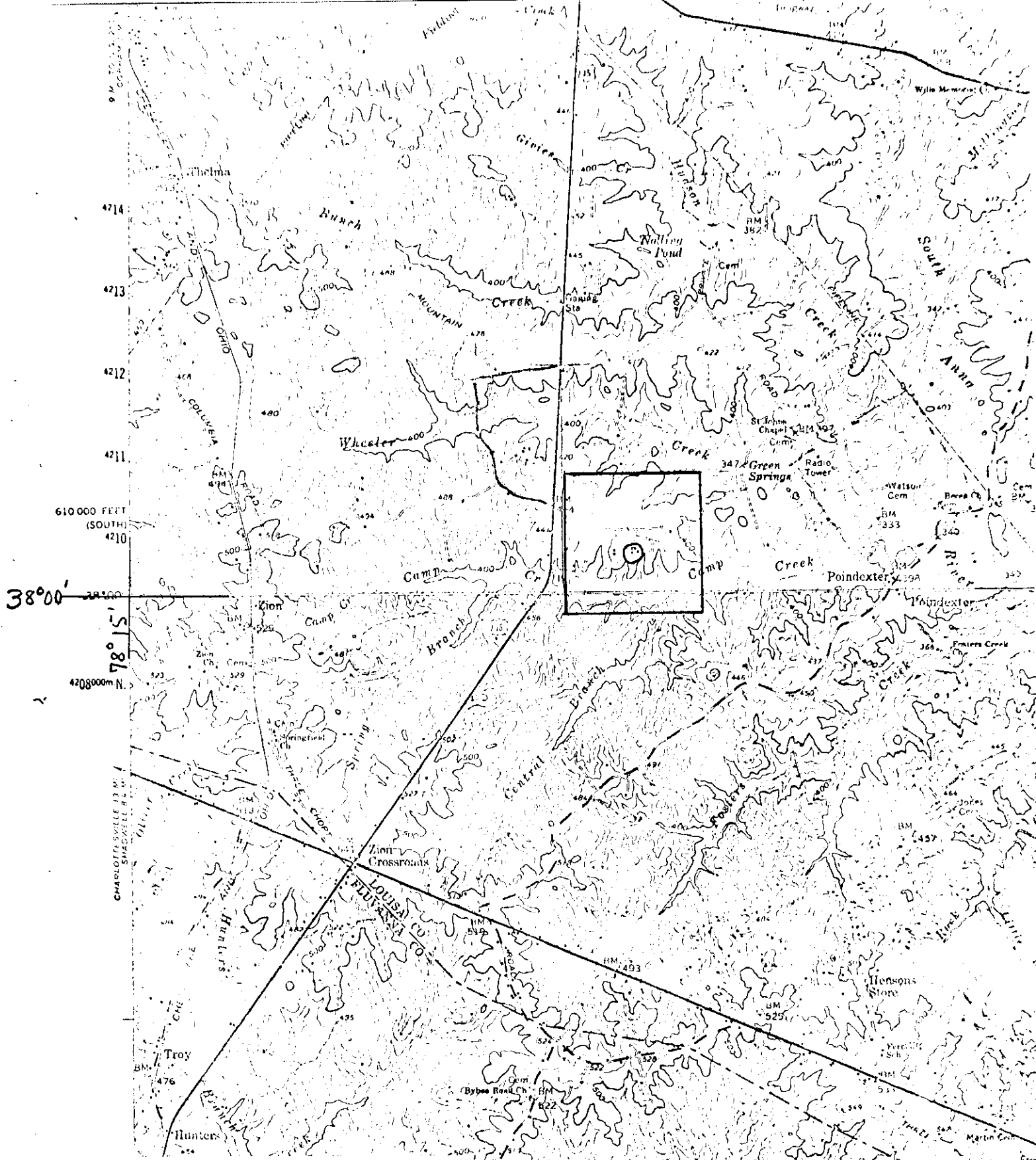
Date _____

ATTEST:

 Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



U.S.G.S. 15' quadrangles (scale:1:62500)
 Gordonsville, Va. 1961
 Columbia, Va. 1960

GREEN SPRINGS
 latitude longitude
 NW38°00'47" 78°11'25"
 NE38°00'47" 78°10'17"
 SE37°59'50" 78°10'17"
 SW37°59'50" 78°11'25"