

VLR 9/11/02
NR 11/22/02

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

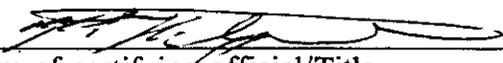
historic name Wall Brook Farm
other names/site number VDHR file no. 069-0011

2. Location

street & number 967 Longs Road (SR 615) N/A not for publication
city or town Luray X vicinity
state Virginia code VA county Page code 139 zip code 22835

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally ___ statewide X locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)


Signature of certifying official/Title _____ 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/Title _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and Bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is: Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
___ 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): _____

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

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
5	2	buildings
1	0	sites
1	1	structures
0	0	objects
7	3	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Category

Subcategory

- DOMESTIC single dwelling
- DOMESTIC secondary structure
- AGRICULTURE storage
- AGRICULTURE animal facility
- FUNERARY cemetery

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Category

Subcategory

- DOMESTIC single dwelling
- DOMESTIC secondary structure
- AGRICULTURE storage
- AGRICULTURE animal facility
- FUNERARY cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Federal

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation Stone
- walls Brick
- Wood
- roof Metal
- other

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.
X 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.)

Property is:

- 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 fifty years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

Ca. 1824-1952

Significant Dates

Ca. 1824

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

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:

- X State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

Name of repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property approximately 88 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone Easting	Northing	Zone Easting	Northing
1	17 713150	4278900	3	17 714170 4278200
2	17 713470	4279070	4	17 713940 4277840

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	<u>J. Daniel Pezzoni</u>	date	<u>May 24, 2002</u>
organization	<u>Landmark Preservation Associates</u>	telephone	<u>(540) 464-5315</u>
street & number	<u>6 Houston St.</u>	zip code	<u>24450</u>
city or town	<u>Lexington</u> state <u>VA</u>		

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	<u>Elsye L. Long (contact), Jill Long & Robin Lou Ashauer</u>		
street & number	<u>967 Longs Road</u>	telephone	<u>(540) 743-3459</u>
city or town	<u>Luray</u> state <u>VA</u>	zip code	<u>22835</u>

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

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Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1

**Wall Brook Farm
Page Co., Va.**

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Summary

Wall Brook Farm is located in the west central section of Page County, Virginia. The core parcel of the farm--an approximately eighty-eight-acre strip of land that has changed little in form since the mid-nineteenth century and possibly the mid-eighteenth century--extends from the South Fork of the Shenandoah River on the southeast end to a property line beyond Massanutten Creek (also known as Big Run), a tributary of the river, on the northwest end. The farm's topography is relatively level at an elevation of approximately 750 feet above mean sea level, and the acreage is used for cattle pasture.

The Wall Brook farmhouse, built about 1824, is a two-story Federal-style residence sited on the edge of a terrace overlooking Massanutten Creek. The six-bay center-passage-plan house is constructed of Flemish-bond brick on a coursed limestone rubble foundation and has diapering and other decorative brickwork, a metal-sheathed gable roof, one-story front and rear porches, and a story-with-garret frame addition of ca. 1900 on the west gable end. The addition links to a gambrel-roofed garage that occupies the upper level of a stone structure that may originally have served as a detached kitchen but was later used as an icehouse. Notable interior features include painted borders of flowers and swags in a front parlor, finely crafted Federal mantels, a basement cooking fireplace, and an unusually wide center passage said to have been used for worship services. Typical interior features include plaster-and-lath walls and ceilings, wood board floors, and six- and four-panel doors.

Inventory

1. Wall Brook. Ca. 1824; ca. 1900. Contributing building.
2. Brubaker Cemetery. 19th c. Contributing site.
3. Meathouse/wash house. Ca. 1890. Contributing building.
4. Wall and foot bridge. 18th c.?; 1920s. Contributing structure.
5. Barn. Early 19th c.; 1870s; 2nd half 20th c. Contributing building.
6. Dairy barn and milkhouse. Ca. 1950. Contributing building.
7. Shed. Ca. 1950. Contributing building.
8. Chickenhouse and machinery shed. Mid-20th c. Noncontributing building.
9. Outbuilding. Late 20th c. Noncontributing building.
10. Grain storage bins. Late 20th c. Noncontributing structure.

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Wall Brook Farm
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Description (continued)

House Exterior

The brickwork of the Wall Brook farmhouse has a number of notable characteristics. Vitrified light blue-gray header bricks are used to decorative effect on the front elevation and in the two gables. Across the front in the space below the second-story window sills runs a checkered band created by substituting vitrified headers in place of the standard headers of the Flemish bond. In the west gable are three lozenge designs, the top one in the apex of the gable in outline form and those below, flanking a louvered vent, filled in with vitrified headers. The east gable is filled with a lattice-like diapered pattern. Other brickwork details include front and back cornices formed by molded bricks, round arches over the two front and one rear entries, jack arches over windows, and pencilling of mortar joints.

The full-facade one-story front porch stands on tapered square-section wood columns linked by a balustrade of three square-section wood rails set on edge (diamond-shaped in section). It has a basement level with brick, stone, and hewn piers, lattice infill between the piers, a dirt floor, and the exposed hewn beams of the porch floor above. Other details include a ceiling formed of beaded slats, a dentil cornice, and wood steps. The one-story back porch, which shelters only the east half of the facade, has square-section wood columns, a mid-twentieth-century slate floor with a brick border, and a concrete dry sink above a thirty-foot-deep hand-dug well.

The three entries have half-round fanlights with radiating muntins, wood arch trim with molded keystones and punch-and-gouge decoration, and narrow pilasters with triple bullnose moldings suggestive of fluting. The six-panel doors have had their upper four panels replaced with glass panes. The windows have molded trim and are nine-over-six on the first story and six-over-six on the second. In each gable is a square louvered vent, and on the front basement elevation are vents with wood bars set vertically and batten doors (the vents and doors have traces of red paint that contrast with the whitewashed stone of the surrounding wall surfaces). At the corners of the stone foundation are large quoin blocks (a detail also found on the meathouse).

The frame addition has novelty weatherboard siding and a steep shed-hip roof. An entry is sheltered under a small porch with replacement wood posts, and the north end has a row of windows overlooking the creek. The windowed north end replaced a screened porch in the mid-twentieth century. A low windowed hyphen (containing the "freezer room") connects to the gambrel-roofed one-car garage which has a modern vinyl and glass garage door surrounded by T1-11 siding. The garage occupies the upper level (of which only several feet of stone wall survives) of a formerly detached structure that was formerly used as a kitchen and later an ice

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**Wall Brook Farm
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Description (continued)

house. According to a 1936 WPA survey the building pre-dates the brick house and it originally served as a slave dwelling (see section 8). The lower level, which is partially below grade, has two window or vent openings on the north elevation. The openings--one with a louvered vent, the other filled in with stone--have three-part lintels formed of keystones flanked by long stones with scorings to suggest the voussoirs of a jack arch.

House Interior

The wide first-floor center passage is flanked by a pair of rooms on each side. In a back corner of the passage rises a two-run stair, the lower run open, the upper run enclosed about 1900 with stud wall and a four-panel door. The lower run has an original round-section hand rail with a turned end and ramping at the landing, an original tapered square-section newel, and 1920s or 1930s replacement square-section balusters. Under the ends of the treads are simple scrolled brackets, and under the landing is a small closet with a two-panel door (the closet was used to store wine in the early twentieth century). The passage has a paneled wainscot and a stove flue. The flue's detail suggests it is early (perhaps original), and it may have been associated with the use of the space for worship services in the nineteenth century. The four doorways leading into the adjacent rooms have paneled embrasures. Most of the embrasure panels are plain; those of the doorway leading into the southwest room (the present television room) are molded, suggesting the possibility that the doorway is later than the other three.

The first-floor southeast parlor features decorative painting. Along the top of the wainscot and around the edges of the door and window surrounds runs a light olive drab border decorated with dark green tendrils, red roses with pink and white highlights to define the petals, and red rose buds. Along the top of the room runs a repeating frieze of red swags or draperies with a wide fringe of tiny black or dark blue lozenges (perhaps meant to evoke openings in lace) and small gold tassels, and, suspended by gold cords from gold rosettes at the gatherings of the swags, double gold tassels with brown highlights to create the appearance of dimensionality. The swags have mottled coloration that may have been intended to create an appearance of folds in velvet. The painting stands out against the white of the walls and ceilings, and it is in good condition except at places along the exterior wall where the underlying plaster has cracked or where, as above the windows, changes in temperature or humidity have caused deterioration.

The same room contains the most intricate mantel in the house. The mantel has a conventional three-part Federal form with triple bullnose moldings on the faces of the pilasters (similar to the exterior entry surround treatment). Above the pilasters are frieze tablets with recessed panels

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Wall Brook Farm
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Description (continued)

containing scalloped detail. The center frieze panel has an elliptical patera with radiating concave fanfolds and a ridged center button. The flanking panels have elliptical paterae with radiating convex fanfolds and center punched holes. Above, at the base of stacked bed moldings, runs a band of repeating H-form carving. The three other first-floor mantels are similar in their three-part form but less ornate. That in the northwest room (the present and apparently original dining room) has pilasters with concave faces, a center frieze panel with a half-ellipse patera, and reeded detail. That in the southeast room has reeding on the faces of the pilasters, arranged in a chevron pattern on the faces of the tablets above the pilasters and as a band running across the top of the frieze, and in a cross-pattern design in the center frieze panel. That in the southwest room (the crudest of the four) has beaded pilasters, a band of punched dots above the frieze, and a center frieze panel formed by strips of reeding.

The second-floor originally mirrored the plan of the first, but about 1900 (possibly closer to 1910) partitions were added to create two rooms and a hallway out of the center passage. The partitions were curved so they would not obstruct the doors leading into the two east rooms (in plan the hallway between the partitions has the flaring form of a trumpet bell). The second-floor mantels are smaller and less ornate than those on the first floor. They have two-part forms with blank friezes flanked by projecting tablets above architrave fireplace surrounds. Variation in ornament is mainly restricted to the tablets which feature reeding, triple bullnose moldings, recessed panels, and reeded half-colonnettes. Several bedrooms have modern closets, and in the mid-twentieth century the southwest room was divided into a bathroom with two-tone green tilework and a kitchen with knotty pine cabinetry. Instead of wainscots the second-floor rooms have beaded chairrails.

Directly above the first/second-floor stair is the stair to the attic, which retains original slender rectangular-section balusters. A batten door at the top of the stair opens into an attic divided into two sections by a board partition. The straight-sawn common rafters are mortise-and-tenoned and pegged at the top. Every other rafter couple is joined by a collar beam that is lapped and pegged to the rafters. The east gable vent has a one-panel shutter with small wrought strap hinges and a wrought latch attached with hand-headed nails.

The frame addition contains the principal kitchen, which has wood paneling and a paper tile ceiling, a bathroom, and a stair to a storage garret. The garret formerly contained a large tank, filled with rain water from downspouts, that supplied water to the bathroom below. The basement is divided into three rooms by brick partitions and has a concrete floor and a plaster-and-lath ceiling. In the east room is a large cooking fireplace with a timber lintel, and one of the

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Description (continued)

chimney foundations in the west room has a stove pipe thimble (hog butchering was once carried out in the basement and it is possible food preparation occurred there as well). All three batten doors, which open onto the space under the front porch, are hung on wrought strap hinges with rounded ends and pintels with delicate spade ends that attach to the door frames. A Delco generator operated in the basement until the property was electrified about 1928. The basement room under the garage contains a wall niche and a door reused from the kitchen.

Outbuildings and Landscape Features

Off the southwest corner of the house past a concrete cistern cap stands the meathouse, a one-story building of coursed limestone construction with a metal-sheathed gable roof, a two-leaf door with four panels in each leaf, and vents on each side covered by reused panels from louvered shutters. The interior has a concrete floor, parged walls, wood shelves, and ceiling joists above a mesh screen. The sugar-cure method of meat preservation was used in the building in the twentieth century. Attached to the rear gable end is a wash house of weatherboarded mortise-and-tenon frame construction with a metal-sheathed gable roof and a south gable-end chimney with a stone firebox and a brick stack (repaired in the 1970s). The wash house has a pair of six-over-six windows on the west side and a small addition with one-over-one windows on the east side. Inside are exposed ceiling joists, floor boards nailed down with cut nails, a raised brick hearth, and a simple stair to a storage loft. The section of the wash house adjoining the meathouse may be a hyphen addition or an infilled breezeway.

Adjoining the meathouse and wash house on the west side is the small Brubaker Cemetery. The cemetery contains a few limestone fieldstones (possibly marking the graves of some of the eighteenth-century Brubakers who lived at the site) but is mostly filled with carved nineteenth-century tombstones of limestone and white marble. Three of the marble markers have lancet tops; two of these have circular recesses that contain conventional bas-relief emblems such as a hand with heavenward-pointing finger and a cross raised on a stone pedestal. The tombstone of Martha "consort of Peter Brubaker" (1822-1852) has a segmental top. A small white marble headstone-footstone pair with illegible inscription has a characteristic three-lobed early-nineteenth-century top. Bordering the cemetery on the south side is a section of the decorative twisted-wire fencing that once entirely enclosed the plot, and in the 1920s a privy stood nearby.

In front of the house and forming the south bank of Massanutten Creek is a long stone retaining wall. The east and west ends of the wall are constructed with sandstone and appear to date to the early twentieth century. The middle section is coursed limestone rubble and is said to represent

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Description (continued)

a portion of the foundation of an earlier dwelling on the property (see section 8). A concrete foot bridge constructed in the 1920s crosses the creek roughly on axis with the main house entry. The bridge incorporates two sections of railroad rail in its span and has concrete steps at its north end. At the south end is a section of concrete walkway inscribed with the date June 10, 1908 and the names of Long family members (then owners of the property). A swinging bridge formerly spanned the creek to the west of the concrete bridge. To the east of the concrete bridge the stone retaining wall angles southward away from the creek along the course of a former farm lane.

The principal farm building on the property is the frame bank barn located southeast of the house. According to the 1936 WPA survey, the barn stands on the finely crafted stone foundation of an earlier log barn that stood until 1870 (the earlier building may have burned). The barn has weatherboard siding attached with cut and wire nails, a metal-sheathed gable roof, an east elevation forebay on cantilevered hewn joists, and more recent frame loafing sheds attached to the south gable end and the basement level of the east elevation. At the southwest corner stand two concrete stave silos built without roofs. One dates to about 1950, the other is slightly later. A wooden stave silo, probably built in the early twentieth century, formerly stood near the northwest corner. The east elevation has eaves vents and, at the basement level, multiple batten doors (one-leaf and Dutch) hung on wrought strap hinges. The barn is constructed of mortise-and-tenoned and pegged hewn and circular-sawn framing members.

The dairy barn and milkhouse is constructed out of cinder blocks in two contemporaneous sections. The one-story building has a low-pitched metal-sheathed gable roof that replaces an original gable roof of steeper pitch. Other features include metal casement windows, rounded corner blocks at window openings, vinyl doors, a cinder block flue, and a raised concrete cow walkway to the barn. The one-story shed located to the east dates to the same period and has cinder block construction, a metal-sheathed gable roof, metal-framed windows, and a metal-sided loafing shed addition on the east gable end.

Noncontributing resources include the chickenhouse and machinery shed, a composite frame and pole building of one story height with weatherboard and metal siding and a metal-sheathed gable roof. The earliest section is the east end, a small outbuilding of light circular-sawn cut-nailed frame construction suggesting a date of construction in the late nineteenth century. A long 1950s pole shelter extends westward from this and another, later in date, extends to the south creating an overall T form. Near the west end stands a separate shed-roofed frame outbuilding that appears to be a chickenhouse dating to the 1920s or 1930s. Nearby stands a pair of prefabricated cylindrical steel grain storage bins, one manufactured by ZBar, the other by CSI. To the north

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Description (continued)

of the barn stands a prefabricated metal building with sloping sides.

Integrity Statement

Wall Brook Farm possesses excellent integrity from the period of significance. The main houses retains most of its historic character-defining exterior and interior features. The survival of an early nineteenth-century decorative painting scheme in one room, albeit only a remnant of formerly more extensive painting, contributes to the integrity. Likewise the property's surviving historic outbuildings and landscape features possess good integrity. The setting remains largely agricultural with few modern intrusions.

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**Wall Brook Farm
Page Co., Va.**

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Summary

Wall Brook Farm is located in Page County, Virginia's early Massanutton Settlement. A Brubaker house at the site was attacked by Indians in 1758. The present house, a two-story Federal-style brick residence, was built by John Brubaker Sr. about 1824 and is notable for its diapering and other decorative brickwork, interior painted borders of flowers and swags, and a number of finely crafted mantels. The center passage is unusually wide and is said to have been used for religious services. Extending from the house is a stone icehouse that may originally have formed the basement level of a detached kitchen or slave dwelling and that appears to be older than the main house. Nearby stands a stone meathouse with a wash house addition, a family cemetery, an 1870s frame bank barn, and a ca. 1950 dairy barn and milkhouse. The property passed to the Long family, who in the mid-twentieth century engaged in dairy farming and Page County's active tourist trade. Wall Brook Farm takes its name from the stone walls, possibly remnants of the eighteenth-century house, that line Massanutten Creek in front of the present house.

Applicable Criteria

Wall Brook Farm meets Criterion C and is eligible in the architecture area of significance for the variety and quality of the architecture of the house and other resources. The period of significance extends from the date of construction of the house ca. 1824 until 1952, embracing the construction of twentieth-century farm buildings. Wall Brook is eligible at the local level of significance. Information in support of designation appears throughout the historic context.

Acknowledgments

A number of individuals and organizations assisted in the preparation of this report. Foremost among these were the owners of the property, Miss Elsy Lucille Long, Jill Long, and Robin Lou Ashauer. Others who provided assistance included Leslie Giles and Chet Taylor, and David Edwards, June Ellis, Quatro Hubbard, Trent Park, and Marc Wagner of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. This project is an outgrowth of the 1997-1998 Page County Historic Resources Survey, sponsored by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Page County, and the Page County Heritage Association, and conducted by Landmark Preservation Associates.

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Statement of Significance (continued)

Historic Context

Wall Brook Farm is located in the midst of the Massanutton (or Massanutten) Settlement, begun in the 1720s by settlers of German and Swiss descent who were attracted to the level fertile land along the South Fork of the Shenandoah River in central Page County. In 1735 Hans (or John) Brubaker of Pennsylvania purchased two tracts totalling 500 acres in the settlement. In 1747 Brubaker sold the tracts to his son Abraham Brubaker (1723-ca. 1805), who married Barbara Long in or about 1757. By the following year Abraham and Barbara had settled at the site of the present house where, according to historian Jennie A. Kerkhoff, "there was a stone house with a fort and a wall along the creek. The house was built as was the custom in many homes of the day, with a separate kitchen and dining room." The period of the Brubaker settlement coincided with the French and Indian War, and in 1758 the Massanutton settlement was raided by Indians. According to early Shenandoah Valley chronicler Samuel Kercheval and later Page County historian Harry M. Strickler, Barbara Long was in the house when the attack began and she escaped across the nearby river. The Indians plundered the house and attempted to set fire to it but were unsuccessful.¹

In 1936 Works Progress Administration researcher Vivian Black interviewed Brubaker descendants about the early history of the property. Her informants described two dwellings to her. "It is believed that the first home Abraham Brubaker built was a log one," Black wrote, "which was put up hurriedly, the chimney of which was made of logs, lined with clay, to keep it from burning out." By the date of the Indian raid in 1758 Brubaker is believed to have built a more substantial house that stood in front of the present dwelling:

He erected a house of limestone rock. It was a two story structure, with four rooms, two on each floor. There was only one entrance, which was on the first floor, which faced the east. The door was divided in two sections, one upper and one lower, with the hinges the full width of the door. It had three windows on each floor, and these had iron bars built in them at the time the house was built. The cellar was not a "Fort" cellar, but was strongly built of limestone rock on a solid rock foundation. It had an inside and outside

¹ Giles and Pezzoni, "Page County Historic Resources Survey Report," 10; Kerkhoff, *Old Homes*, 197-199; Smith and Smith, *Family of John Long and Sarah Catherine Shirley* (no pagination); Kercheval, *History of the Valley of Virginia*, 84-85; and Strickler, *Massanutten*, 86. Some accounts state that the maiden name of Abraham's wife Barbara was Miller.

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Statement of Significance (continued)

entrance. In the northwest corner was a narrow passage running west about 100 feet to the meat house, where a flight of stairs led up into the meat house. This was also a rock building with a heavy door and iron bars across the window. The passage ran along the creek and, even today, (1936), can be seen the rock wall which formed the outside wall of the house and underground passage. Evidently, there was a spring or well in the cellar, as it is said they could have withstood the Indians a week at a time.

Later, another rock building was built for the slaves about twenty five feet south of the home. This was a story and a half building, and later used as a kitchen for the brick house. Originally there was a space between the two buildings, with steps leading down from the brick house to the stone kitchen. The slave quarters are now used as a garage and storage room.

Black was told the stone house was later used as a private school by the Brubaker family before it was torn down in the late 1880s. The cellar and underground passage were filled in and stones from the walls were used in the building of the meat house.²

Abraham and Barbara's son John Brubaker (1766-1844; sometimes referred to as John II or John Sr.) married Barbara Mauck (1774-1841) and acquired the property from his father by will dated 1804. Shenandoah County tax records for the early 1820s list John Brubaker as the owner of a 300-acre tract located on the Shenandoah River with a building or buildings valued at \$800. (Brubaker's total landholding during the period numbered over 1,000 acres.) In 1824 the value of buildings on the tract jumped to \$2,300, explained by the marginal note: "\$1500 added for a new house." Samuel Kercheval, in his *History of the Valley of Virginia* (1833), noted that John Brubaker "has erected a large and elegant brick house on the spot where the Indians plundered his father's dwelling."³

² Black, "Ruben [sic] Long or Old Brubaker Home." The WPA form states that stones from the eighteenth-century house were used to build the wash house, but this is apparently incorrect, or the reference is to the meat house which by then was joined to the wash house. Elsy Long was told by her mother that the stones went into the building of the meat house.

³ Ibid.; Kerkhoff, *Old Homes*, 199; Smith and Smith, *Family of John Long and Sarah Catherine Shirley*; and Kercheval, *History of the Valley of Virginia*, 84.

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Statement of Significance (continued)

John Brubaker bequeathed a half interest in his "plantation" to his son Peter Brubaker (1816-1878) and the other half to his grandchildren George Thomas and Sarah Elizabeth Brubaker at the time of his death in 1844. The inventory and sale of Brubaker's estate provides information on the property and its buildings. The only specific references to the main house are to carpeting in the "north" and "east" rooms, which may denote the first-floor northeast room (the painted parlor) and the southeast room behind it. Mention of a "sellar" may refer to the basement under the house or a separate structure. There are references to a barn (where hemp was stored), a shed (where corn shucks, hay and fodder were stored), a blacksmith shop, and a coal house (where coal, presumably for the blacksmith shop, was stored). The blacksmith shop was manned by a slave blacksmith named Isaac, one of fifteen slaves listed in the inventory. Crops and animals raised on the farm included corn, wheat, rye, oats, hay, hemp, timothy seed, potatoes, cattle, swine, sheep, geese, turkeys, and horses.⁴

A dispute over the division of the farm made after John Brubaker's death resulted in action in chancery court and the taking of depositions that shed light on the existence and value of buildings and other features. Philip Long, deposed in April 1845, was the most informative in his statements. Of the main house he said: "I heard John Brubaker once say that for a time he kept an account of the expense of building the house until it amounted to \$4000 & that he then quit keeping the account." Long's deposition also refers to "two kitchens, [a] smoke house and other improvements" of stone construction and a "negro house." Long believed the slave dwelling to have been too finely constructed for, as he noted, "one of much less cost would have answered." Other deponents noted the existence of the graveyard, walls, fences, and an orchard.⁵

Peter Brubaker married Martha Aleshire (1822-1852) in 1844 and the couple appear to have had six children by the time of Martha's death. Brubaker appears to have had two more children by his second wife Lucretia (the 1860 federal census lists eight children total). Brubaker's occupation is listed as farmer in the 1850, 1860 and 1870 censuses and by the time of the latter enumeration his sons Abraham, John, Jacob and Charles assisted him with the farming (two older sons, Joseph and Peter, had left the household). Listed as residents of the household in 1860

⁴ Page County Will Book C, pp. 13, 57, 64.

⁵ Page County chancery cause Brubaker vs. Brubaker (1845). The stone smokehouse described by Philip Long was apparently not the same building as the present stone meat house, which family tradition dates to about 1890 (Elsye L. Long personal communication).

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Wall Brook Farm
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Statement of Significance (continued)

were a free black man named Roderick Jasper and a white woman named Julia Shenk, and in 1870 the family was joined by two domestic servants, a white woman and a black girl. Peter Brubaker served in the Confederate army during the Civil War.⁶

In 1871 and 1872 294.5 acres including the house were transferred from Peter and Lucretia Brubaker to Philip Long as part of the settlement of the 1840s chancery case. The Brubakers moved to a farm north of Luray, but after Peter's death in January 1878 he was buried in the "family cemetery on 'the Old Home Place' near Massanutton," according to his obituary. Philip Long and his wife Mary Catherine Smith Long moved to the farm with several sons and daughters including John William Long (1853-1930), the grandfather of the present owner, who eventually acquired the property. John W. Long and his wife Sarah Catharine Shirley Long (1852-1918) had a daughter, Susan (Sudie) Margaret Long (1890-1979), who married Reuben Benjamin Long (1890-1939) in 1909. Reuben moved into the house and with Sudie assisted his in-laws with their farming operations.⁷

Elsye Lucille Long (b. 1919), the daughter of Sudie and Benjamin Long, recalls many aspects of life on the farm during her childhood in the 1920s and 1930s. The family was assisted by black farm hands from the Salem community, which was located at the intersection of US 211 and Longs Road (SR 615). The hands dined with the family but at a separate table. Occasionally black boys and girls came to work for the family and they lodged in the second-story southwest room that was later converted into a kitchen. In 1928 Reuben Long and his brother-in-law Carl Shaffer opened the Forest Camp Service Station on US 211 where it ascends the east side of Massanutten Mountain (presently the location of Sager's Family Restaurant). The development included a restaurant, tourist cabin, and souvenir shop in addition to the service station. Wall Brook Farm supplied milk to the family restaurant and to two other roadside restaurants on the mountain (including the present Dan's Steak House).⁸

⁶ Smith and Smith, *Family of John Long and Sarah Catherine Shirley*; Owens and Cyphert, *Page News and Courier*, 83.

⁷ Elsy L. Long personal communication; Page County Deed Book P, p. 258, Deed Book Q, p. 60; and Owens and Cyphert, *Page News and Courier*, 83.

⁸ Elsy L. Long personal communication.

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Statement of Significance (continued)

After World War II Sudie Long provided accommodations to tourists in the house (Forest Camp had closed during the Depression). According to Elsy, her mother offered "three meals a day for three dollars," and she named the property Wall Brook in part to promote her lodgings business. Elsy's brother Richard B. Long (1921-1988) graduated with a degree in Animal Science from Virginia Tech in the late 1940s and revamped the farm for commercial dairy production, building up a herd of eighty cows and erecting the cinder block dairy barn and milking parlor and the two concrete stave silos. Long's dairy business remained in the dairy business until the early 1970s when he switched to cattle farming and real estate. Wall Brook Farm continues as a cattle farming operation.⁹

Architectural Analysis

Wall Brook Farm is at once typical and atypical of the substantial brick farmhouses built in Page County during the first two-thirds of the nineteenth century. In overall appearance it is similar to the two-story one-room-deep center-passage-plan houses that were normative among the landed gentry of the county and other sections of Virginia, but there the similarity stops. Whereas most such houses have symmetrical three or five-bay facades with center entries, Wall Brook Farm has a six-bay elevation with an approximately centered entry (into the center passage) and a second entry at the west end of the facade. Also, Wall Brook Farm is two rooms deep, as betrayed by the dual chimneys on each gable end. Its bank-side setting, with the first story a full story above the ground on the front but at grade level on the rear, is reminiscent of the bank siting of certain eighteenth-century dwellings in the region (Page County's ca. 1769 Fort Stover is an example).¹⁰

The dual front entries may relate to Wall Brook Farm's unusually wide center passage. According to tradition the space was used for worship services, a tradition recorded by Vivian Black in 1936. (Architectural historian Jennie Kerkhoff notes that John and Barbara Brubaker were Primitive Baptists). Some early nave-form churches of the region have dual front entries, an arrangement popularly attributed to gender-segregated ingress, egress, and seating. Other explanations are possible. The northwest room, the one served by the second entry, presently and

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Giles and Pezzoni, "Page County Historic Resources Survey Report," 32; Loth, *Virginia Landmarks Register*, 370.

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Page Co., Va.

Statement of Significance (continued)

historically functioned as a dining room; perhaps the entry was used for bringing food in from the formerly detached kitchen. Or perhaps the room was used as an office or other function that required keeping visitors separate from the family quarters.¹¹

Wall Brook Farm formerly contained more extensive decorative painting than it does now. According to Vivian Black: "Originally all the walls on the first floor were painted a very pale pink with a border of pineapple[s] stencilled around the doors and windows. The ceilings were frescoed." Black added that the woodwork was stained a natural wood color in 1936; Elsy Long recalls that the doors were grained. The trim in the first-floor northeast room, however, was painted white in 1936. In *A Short History of Page County* (1952), Harry M. Strickler makes several comments about Wall Brook Farm's architectural characteristics. He lists the house and three others with decorative painting and states, "An Italian painter, itinerant probably, we are advised, did the decorating in all four of these homes." The three other properties noted by Strickler are Massanutton Heights, the Dovel-Long House, and the Charles D. Price House at Fort Long. The decorative painting in the Price House (erected in 1856, according to Jennie Kerkhoff) is much more refined than that in Massanutton Heights and Wall Brook and was clearly done by a different artist.¹²

In the National Register nomination for Massanutton Heights, architectural historian Dell T. Upton posits a different explanation for the painted decorations in that house, and by extension in Wall Brook. Upton notes that the painting was "an attempt to imitate the border papers common in fine Federal houses of the early nineteenth century." Upton is of the opinion that the painting relates to local artistic tradition, and he notes that a relative of Massanutton Height's builder, one Johannes Spitler (1774-1837), "was known for his artistic talents, as a number of pieces of painted furniture (some formerly located at Massanutton Heights) attest." The design of the swags and tassels and the repeat in the flower garlands around the windows and doors in

¹¹ Cherry Hills (069-0085), a Federal-style brick house believed to date to 1816, is another Page County house with (formerly) dual front entries.

¹² Strickler, *Short History of Page County*, 62; Black, "Ruben [sic] Long or Old Brubaker Home;" and Kerkhoff, *Old Homes of Page County*, 10-11. Strickler also said of Wall Brook's decorative painting, "The decorations mentioned have been removed. There was a border of pine cones around the windows." His description of pine cones appears to have been a misreading of the pineapples in Vivian Black's report.

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Wall Brook Farm
Page Co., Va.

Statement of Significance (continued)

Massanutton Heights and Wall Brook are virtually identical. The coloration is slightly different; for example, the flower border background in Massanutton Heights is yellow (according to Upton) or beige (according to Kerkhoff), rather than green.¹³

As the above account indicates, the name of the painter is unknown. Likewise the name of Wall Brook's builder is unknown, although a possible clue comes from the inventory of John Brubaker's estate. Among the debts owed to Brubaker in 1844 was one of \$20 from Adam Rinehart, "payable in carpenters work." The item raises the possibility that Rinehart was involved in construction work at the farm previously. (The 1850 federal census lists Rinehart, age sixty-two, as a farmer.) Or it may simply be that Rinehart had a slave who was skilled in carpentry and could be hired out, just as Brubaker owned a slave blacksmith.¹⁴

One of Wall Brook's more enigmatic features is the formerly detached stone wing off its west end. Vivian Black wrote that the stone building was built to serve as a slave dwelling prior to the construction of the ca. 1824 brick house. Its stonework, especially the scored stone window lintels, differs markedly from that of the brick house and appears older in character. The building later served as a kitchen for the brick house; presumably it was converted before 1845 when the property was described as having two detached kitchens. It may be that the building functioned as a slave dwelling and kitchen at the same time. Black's description suggests that the kitchen was on the basement level and the slave quarters above, and it was not unusual for slave cooks to live in or over the kitchens in which they worked.¹⁵

¹³ Upton, "Massanutton Heights;" Kerkhoff, *Old Homes of Page County*, 66-67.

¹⁴ Page County Will Book C, p. 57.

¹⁵ Black, "Ruben [sic] Long or Old Brubaker Home;" Page County chancery cause Brubaker vs. Brubaker.

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**Wall Brook Farm
Page Co., Va.**

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated parcel is comprised of Page County Tax Map parcels 49-(A)-22, 49-(A)-23, and 49-(A)-23A.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the nominated parcel correspond to the present tax parcels on which the Wall Brook Farm farmhouse and associated resources are located.

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**Wall Brook Farm
Page Co., Va.**

PHOTOGRAPHS

1. 1. Subject: Wall Brook Farm (same for all photos)
2. Location: Page Co., Va. (same for all photos)
3. Photographer: J. Daniel Pezzoni (same for all photos)
4. Photo date: February 2002 (same for all photos)
5. Original negative (VDHR # 19633) archived at the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond (same for all photos)
6. Description of view: House with wall and foot bridge to left, meathouse/wash house and Brubaker Cemetery to right, and barn beyond. View looking east.
7. Photograph number appears at beginning of entry (same for all photos)
2. 6. House, rear (south) elevation. View looking west.
3. 6. First-floor northeast room.
4. 6. First-floor center passage.
5. 6. Farm buildings. View looking northwest.

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Wall Brook Farm
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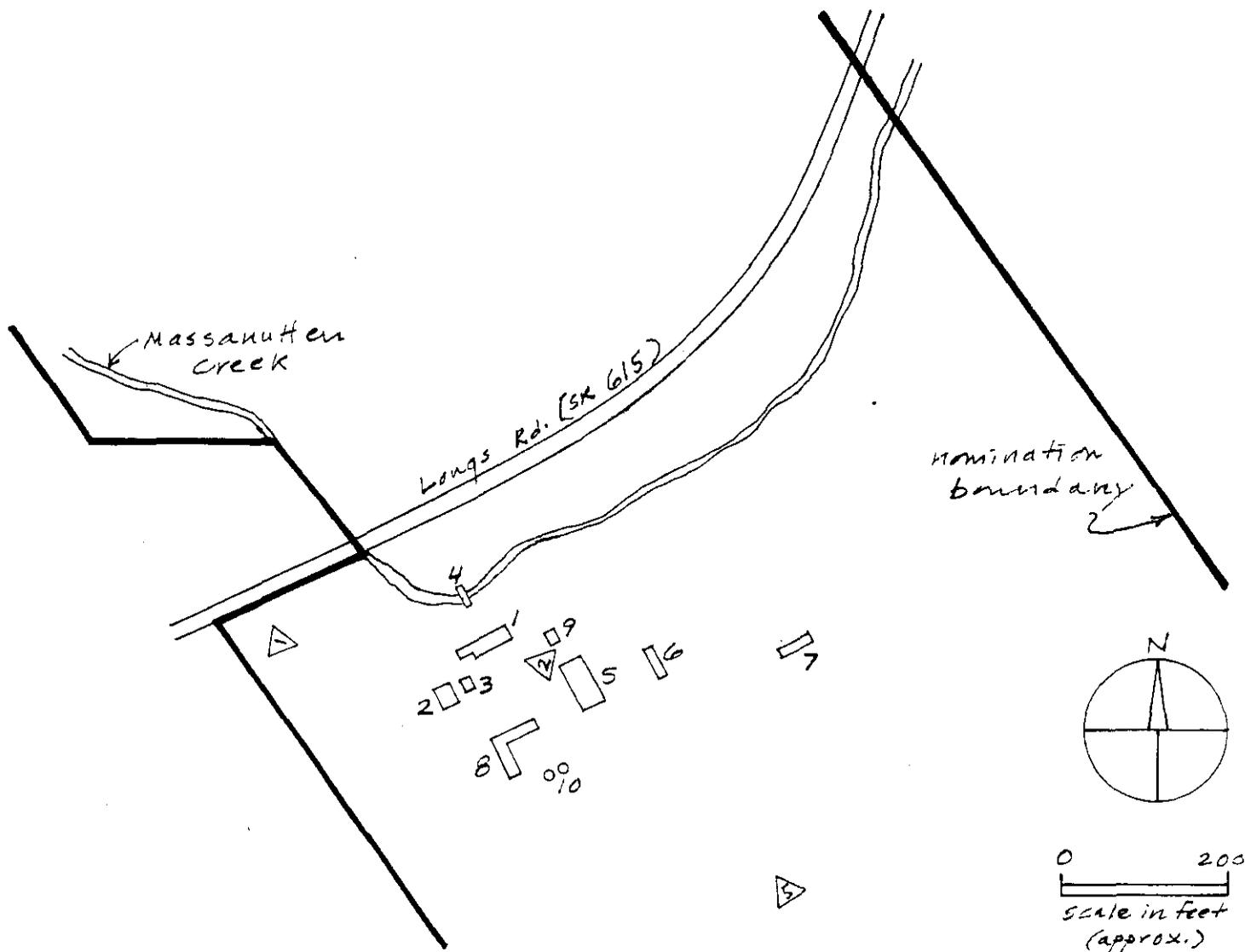
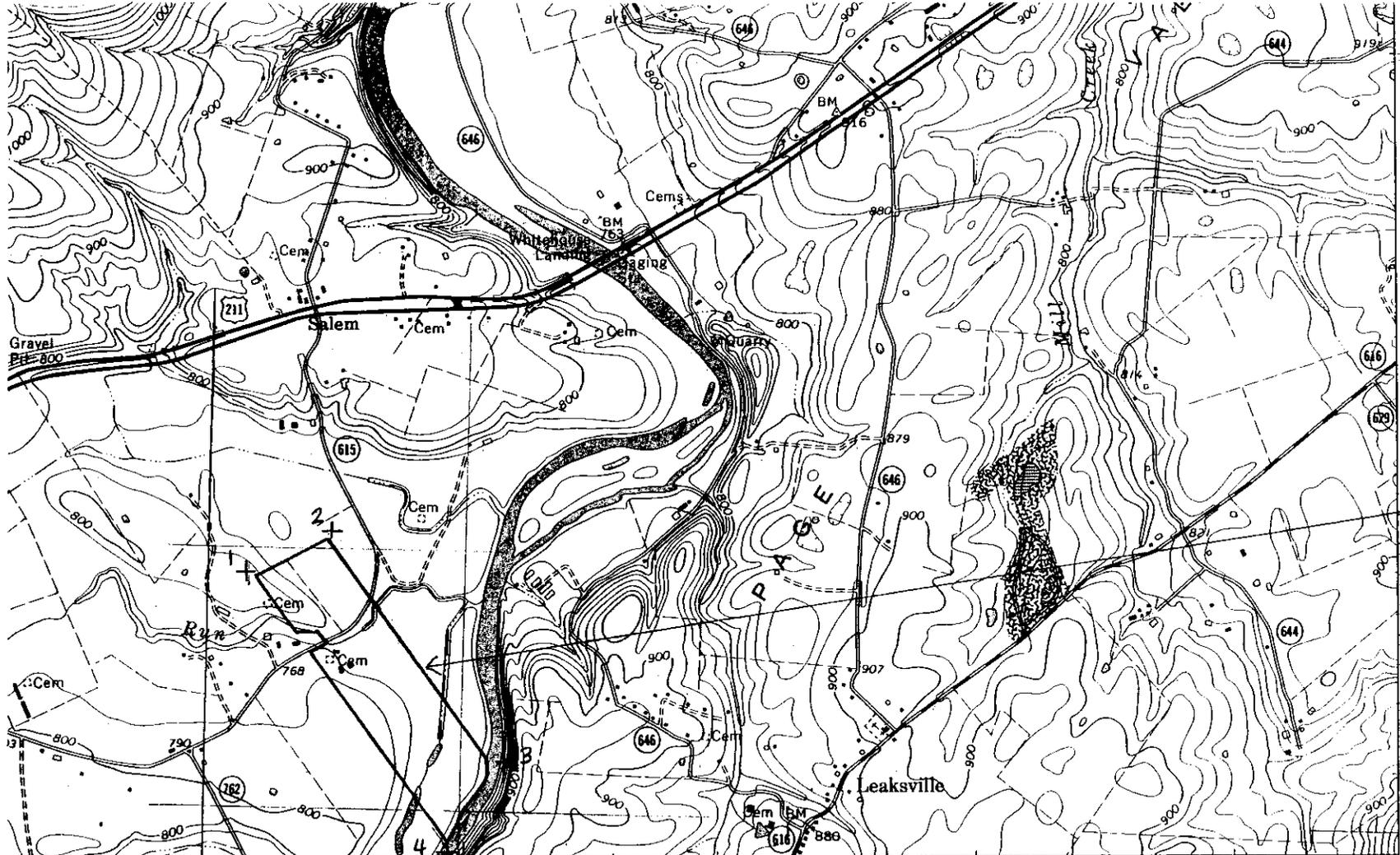
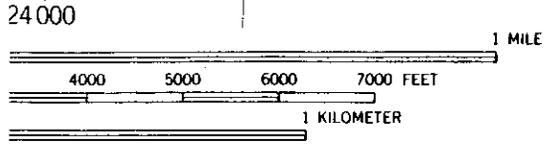


Exhibit A: A detail of the Wall Brook Farm nominated parcel. Scale: 1 inch equals approx. 200 feet. Resource size and location approximate. Number and direction of view of exterior photographs indicated by triangular markers. Key: 1) Wall Brook; 2) Brubaker Cemetery; 3) Meathouse/wash house; 4) Wall and foot bridge; 5) Barn; 6) Dairy barn and milkhouse; 7) Shed; 8) Chickenhouse and machinery shed; 9) Outbuilding; and 10) Grain storage bins.

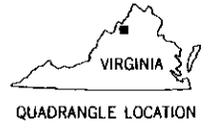


Wall Brook Farm
 Page Co., Va.
 UTM ref.s (zone 17)
 1. E 713150 N 4278900
 2. E 713470 N 4279070
 3. E 714170 N 4278200
 4. E 713940 N 4277840

713 32'30" 715 ALMA 3 MI. 716 INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1966 717000m E. 78° 30' 4278000m N. 38° 37' 30"



SCALE 20 FEET
 DATUM OF 1929



MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
 DENVER, COLORADO 80225,
 VIRGINIA 22092
 CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22903
 AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, all weather, hard surface	Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface	Unimproved road, fair or dry weather

U. S. Route State Route

HAMBURG, VA.

N3837.5—W7830/7.5
 PHOTOINSPECTED 1984
 1967
 PHOTOREVISED 1978
 AMS 5261 II NE—SERIES V834

(BIG MEADOWS)
 5361 III SW