

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

VIR: 06/15/94 NRHP: 08/16/94

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 an 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 La Riviere

other names/site number William Ingles House (VDHR File No. 126-8)

2. Location

street & number 5 Ingles Street N/A not for publication

city or town Radford N/A vicinity

state Virginia code VA county Radford (city) code 750 zip code 24143

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

W. C. Miller
Signature of certifying official/Title

6/24/94
Date

Virginia Department of Historic Resources

State of 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 certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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: _____)

La Riviere
Name of Property

Radford, Va.
County and State

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	
4	0	buildings
0	1	sites
2	0	structures
0	0	objects
6	1	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)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
DOMESTIC/secondary structure

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
DOMESTIC/secondary structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Queen Anne

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE: Limestone
walls BRICK
STUCCO
roof STONE: Slate
other WOOD
METAL

Narrative Description

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

La Riviere
Name of Property

Radford, Va.
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMERCE

Period of Significance

1892-1920

Significant Dates

1892

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Ingles, William

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Ingles, William

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

La Riviere
Name of Property

Radford, Va.
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 19.9 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	7
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5	3	5	8	5	0
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4	1	0	7	7	5	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone Easting Northing

3

1	7
---	---

5	3	6	2	5	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	1	0	7	7	5	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone Easting Northing

2

1	7
---	---

5	3	6	2	5	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	1	0	7	7	5	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

4

1	7
---	---

5	3	6	0	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	1	0	7	4	0	0
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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 J. Daniel Pezzoni

organization Preservation Technologies, Inc. date January 3, 1994

street & number PO Box 7825 telephone (703) 375-3128

city or town Roanoke state VA zip code 24019-0825

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 SHPO or FPO.)

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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 time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Radford, Va.Section number 7 Page 1

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Summary

La Riviere is picturesquely sited beside the New River in the city of Radford, Virginia. The house stands on a level terrace at the center of a 13.937-acre tract of hay fields and wood lots. Constructed in 1892-1893 by railroad engineer and local businessman William Ingles, La Riviere is an imaginative and important local example of the Queen Anne style. The north-facing, two-story house has a brick first story, a stuccoed frame second story, a slate-sheathed hip roof, and distinctive exterior features such as a three-story battlemented tower, a conservatory, and a curving wraparound porch. The interior features stained glass windows, mantels with overmantel mirrors and varied styling, and a front hall with a grand stair, an inglenook, and paneling. Near the house are several outbuildings, including a 1-1/2-story frame cook's house, a garage, and a concrete icehouse.

Inventory

1. La Riviere. 1892-1893. Contributing building.
2. Cook's House. Late 19th century. Contributing building.
3. Garage. Ca. 1920. Contributing building.
4. Icehouse. Ca. 1893. Contributing building.
5. Chimney Ruin. Noncontributing site.
6. Drive. 19th century. Contributing structure.
7. Wall and Gate. Ca. 1893. Contributing structure.

House: Exterior

La Riviere is a large house with an asymmetrical form in keeping with its Queen Anne styling. The foundation is constructed of rock-faced limestone blocks capped by a bevelled brownstone water table. The basement windows and entries have red brick jack-arched heads. The first story is constructed of buff-colored brick laid in stretcher bond with flush mortar joints and rose-colored pencilling. The windows and entries of the first story typically have buff-colored brick jack-arched heads, and the windows have brownstone sills. The frame walls of the second and attic stories are rendered in roughly textured, buff-colored stucco. The second-story windows have plain wood surrounds. The hip roof is sheathed in alternating bands of square and octagonal imbricated slate shingles. The exterior woodwork of all stories of the house is generally painted a dark green color.

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The dominant exterior feature of the house is the three-story tower on the north elevation. The first story of the tower is constructed of the same buff-colored brick used for the first story of the rest of the house. Cutting across the boundary of the brick and the stucco above are two tall windows containing stained glass in shades of yellow and amber. The top of the tower is crowned with square battlements.

Another important exterior feature is the one-story, hip-roofed porch that curves around the west or river front of the house. This porch is supported by slender, turned, white-painted, wooden colonnettes that rise from limestone piers. (The pier and colonnette at the northwest corner of the porch is a modern reconstruction). Linking the piers is a balustrade with turned balusters and molded upper and lower rails. The porch is floored with tongue-and-groove boards painted gray. The ceiling is sheathed in beaded tongue-and-groove boards painted light blue and studded with hooks for former porch swings and piping for former carbide light fixtures.

The northeast end of the porch terminates in an arched open-air vestibule constructed of the buff-colored brick. The arches have corbeled springers and brownstone keystones, one of which is inscribed with the date "1892." Brownstone steps flanked by cast concrete urns lead up to the vestibule from a walkway. The vestibule floor is paved with red, black, and buff-colored encaustic tiles. The vestibule shelters the front entry of the house, which is hung with a Dutch door faced by vertical tongue-and-groove strips. The door has elaborate curling strap hinges and other ornamental hardware including a metal knocker in the shape of a human hand.

On the south side of the house is another feature of note. The conservatory, an irregular three-sided wing added between 1893 and 1906, is constructed of buff brick that is lighter and more evenly colored than the brick of the main body of the house. The conservatory sits on a red brick base and has tall narrow windows hung with 4/4- and 6/6-sash and surmounted by fixed transoms, and a hipped roof covered in asphalt. The conservatory replaces an earlier feature with a semicircular plan, possibly a small porch.

At the northwest and southwest corners of the second story of the house are porches, now glassed in, that combine stuccoed wall surfaces, colonnettes like those of the wraparound porch, and horizontally sliding windows. The north porch functioned as a sleeping porch; the south porch was used to hang laundry.

The roof displays the same level of complexity that characterizes the house underneath it. The hipped central section rises to a hipped ventilation monitor with narrow louvered vents. Branching off of the roof are two gables. The west gable features a Palladian attic window with

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an arched center opening. The east gable has a jerkinhead form, flared eaves, and cornice returns with remnants of wood-shingle roofing. A third projection of the roof reaches out to cover a two-story polygonal bay on the south elevation. Rising above the roof are three chimney stacks of buff-colored brick. Two of these have recently had their caps replaced with red brick; the third retains decorative terra-cotta tile panels.

Other exterior features include a dining room window under an elliptical arch, bordered by ornamental trim, and with stained glass transoms of yellow and blue/purple panes with red and green faceted "gems" at the intersections of the came; a porch on the east elevation sheltering the kitchen door with a combination hip/shed roof, pressed metal roofing, and a partly screened, partly vertical tongue-and-groove enclosure; cellar steps at the northeast corner of the house sheltered by a shed roof (this roof replaces an earlier one); and a concrete cistern just off the south corner of the kitchen porch with a "Boss" hand pump in a round-topped metal casing.

House: Interior

The floor plan of La Riviere is essentially cruciform, with a dominant north-south axis off of which extend east and west wings. The wings--the arms of the cross--are off-set; the east wing, containing the dining room, is shifted northward, and a warren of auxiliary rooms--the pantries, kitchen, passages, and stairs--fills the southeast corner of the house mass (see Exhibit D first-story floor plan). The rooms of the house are characterized by wooden floors (most with carpeting from various periods), plastered and wallpapered wall surfaces and ceilings, and darkly grained, wooden door and window trim that is sometimes fluted and sometimes decorated with turned appliques. The mantels in the main rooms of the house are mostly factory-made; they feature mirrored overmantels, allusions to various architectural styles, and hearths and fireplace surrounds set with glazed tiles of a variety of hues and embossed patterns. Except for the room known to the Ingles family as the "front hall," which will be described at length below, the other main rooms of the first story--the "library," "parlor," and "dining room"--have paneled wainscots, molded baseboards, and picture rails. These rooms communicate with the front hall--the main circulatory space of the house--through wide doorways fitted with paneled pocket doors. Some of the woodwork in the house was made from cherry cut on the Ingles farm. The house is heated by ornamental cast metal radiators. The ends of pipes for former carbide light fixtures project from the ceilings of several rooms.

The Dutch door that forms the main entrance to La Riviere opens into the front hall, the walls and ceiling of which are paneled with dark-stained oak. At the north end of the hall is a broad two-run stair that rises in the curved space of the battlemented tower and is lit by soft amber

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light from two stained glass windows. The stair has square newels, turned balusters, and a closed stringer, and the stair soffit is paneled. A fireplace with a paneled mantel is tucked against the stair so that its flue passes under the landing and into the outer wall of the battlemented tower. Next to the fireplace, in the space under the upper run of the stair, are a bookcase and upholstered seat forming an inglenook. The patterned wine-colored carpeting in the hall (and also the library and parlor) was put down after a flood in 1939. An arched opening on the east side of the hall leads to a passageway.

The library, entered from the south end of the front hall, has a mantel with Romanesque-inspired colonnettes. The mirror over the mantel has an imperfection of the silver backing in the form of a woman's profile, believed by members of the Ingles family to represent a lightning "photograph" of a one-time resident of the house--"Aunt Nanny" Bass--made while she passed in front of the mirror during a thunderstorm. The library originally had dark green burlap wall coverings; these were replaced with celadon-colored wallpaper during the 1920s or 1930s in order to brighten the room.

The parlor, entered from the west side of the front hall, features a corner fireplace and mantel with attenuated colonnettes, delicate applied ornament in the form of tendrils and ribbons, and an overmantel mirror with a Rococo-inspired frame. The windows have louvered and paneled, three-tier, interior shutters that retract into pockets under the sills. (Similar shutters are found in one of the upstairs bedrooms.) The burlap wallcovering, painted dark green, is original.

On the opposite side of the front hall from the parlor is the dining room, entered through a portiere. The present fabric of this portiere--gold damask--was hung by Sallie Harris Ingles to replace the original thin green fabric. The dining room also has dark green burlap wallcoverings. Its mantel is more classical in inspiration than the other downstairs mantels, with fluted Doric and Ionic colonnettes. The dining room buffet and table are original; the latter has a button mounted on it that connected to a buzzer in the kitchen used for calling servants. (Another button is located in the parlor and two are located in upstairs bedrooms.) In the southeast corner of the dining room are a pair of cabinet-like doors above the chair rail that communicate with a pantry. Next to these pantry doors is a two-way swinging door with glass panels that were added after 1920 as a safety feature.

The dining room swinging door opens onto a passageway that communicates with the kitchen, two pantries, the basement stair, the back stair to the second story, and other passageways that lead to the east elevation porch and back to the front hall. The kitchen is a relatively utilitarian space with a fireplace and modern counter tops. One of the pantries--the one that communicates

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with the dining room--has early shelves and cabinets and a dry sink. The other has a tall cabinet that was used for storing bacon, and bins for flour and corn meal. The basement and back stairs have winders. From the passage that leads back to the front hall another passage branches off and runs parallel to the east side of the library. This passage has archways at each end and terminates at a doorway with sidelights and an arched transom. Through this doorway steps lead down into the conservatory, an unheated space with a concrete floor and bare brick walls.

The stair in the front hall rises to a second-story hall that provides access to the upstairs bedrooms. This hall has a curved balustrade that overlooks the stair, and on its floor is a figured green carpet that originally covered the floor of the first-story parlor. The bedrooms have old carpeting and wallpapering. The bedroom mantels are typically more delicate than those on the first story, but they too have overmantel mirrors and varied ornamentation. William Ingles's office was located on the second story.

From an off-shoot of the second-story hall, a stair leads to the attic, which has a finished lower level and an unfinished upper level. The lower level features plaster and lath walls, some painted in pastel colors, and unpainted four-panel doors. One or more of the attic rooms may have been used as servants quarters prior to the 1920s. In an attic closet is located a pressurized tank that formerly held carbide gas for lighting. The tank is stamped "Detroit Heating and Lighting Co., Detroit, Mich., Expansion Tank No. 2." In the same closet is a lead-lined wooden water tank that formerly supplied running water to the house.

The basement of La Riviere has a number of features worth noting. The outer walls are whitewashed stone; inner pillars and chimney bases are constructed of red brick. The area under the library was partitioned off from the rest of the basement and made into a concrete-floored playroom during the 1920s. The playroom partition is formed from beaded tongue-and-groove panels that were used prior to the 1920s to make a winter-time enclosure or vestibule outside the front entry of the house. Also in the basement is a wooden mount for a former motor and a pump stamped "Seneca Falls, NY" that together were used to pump water from the house's cistern to the water tank in the attic. The basement once had a stove used for boiling laundry.

Outbuildings and Landscape Features

A number of historic outbuildings and landscape features are associated with La Riviere. To the east of the house, facing the kitchen door from the other side of a fenced yard, is a 1-1/2-story building known as the cook's house (inventory no. 2) because it formerly served as a residence for the household cook. This weatherboarded frame dwelling measures approximately 20' by

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16' in plan and has a metal-sheathed gable roof, cornice returns, 6/6-sash windows, a four-panel front door, and evidence for a former chimney on the north gable end. The exterior paint scheme consists of green weatherboards, white trim, and black roofing and window muntins. The one-room interior features flush-board sheathing and exposed ceiling joists on the first floor (all painted dark green), beaded tongue-and-groove sheathing in the upstairs garret, and an enclosed corner stair with chamfered and beaded corner posts and newels. The architectural features of the cook's house suggest that it was built in the late nineteenth century, possibly as late as the early 1890s but just as likely earlier. It may appear in a photograph of the original house known as La Riviere, in which case it may have been moved to its current location behind the present house during the early 1890s. To the north side of the cook's house is a two-bay, weatherboarded, frame garage (no. 3) with a gable roof and a shed side addition. The garage was probably built in the early twentieth century.

The terrace on which La Riviere stands extends to the south of the house. This terrace was the location of a two-story frame house that was also known as La Riviere. Associated with this earlier house--and possibly associated with even earlier development on the property--is the coursed limestone rubble base of a chimney (no. 5). This chimney ruin, of which only the portion below the hearth remains, may have served a former kitchen or other outbuilding that was apparently no longer in existence in the 1890s.

Near the chimney ruin, built into a bank that forms the south end of the terrace, is an icehouse (no. 4). The icehouse is in the form of a square poured concrete pit, the top of which projects approximately three feet above grade (about the level of an ice wagon bed). A hip roof with a north-facing dormer entry and a pyramidal-roofed cupola with a terminal wood spike formerly covered the icehouse pit. On the south side of the icehouse is a small, shed-roofed, poured concrete wing with an exterior entry and window. Melt water from the icehouse collected in a trough in this wing and was used for cooling milk and butter.

La Riviere is approached by a drive (no. 6) on a slightly raised bed that extends from Ingles Street south along the flank of the terrace, passes to the west side of the house, and curves up onto the terrace to the south of the house. It is possible that this drive dates to before the construction of the present La Riviere, since it leads also to the site of the earlier house on the property. Lining the drive for a short distance is a low stone wall that is punctuated by two limestone gate pillars with pointed cap stones (no. 7). The gate pillars flank the entrance to a walkway that leads to the main entrance of the house. A fence formerly followed the wall to the north of the gate.

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The walkway mentioned above is one of a number of traces of early landscaping that survive on the property. This short walkway intersects with another one, much longer, that leads from the main entry of the house to Ingles Street. Both walkways, which are now mostly hidden under turf, are concrete. The walkway to the gate pillars passes through a line of large boxwoods. A gazebo formerly stood off of this walkway. The walkway to Ingles Street is lined with daffodils, and it is flanked by two cast-concrete urns where it ends at the house porch. These urns once stood on the front porch of the original La Riviere, and they were planted with selaginella in the early twentieth century. On the north side of the porch are the remains of a flower bed with a hound's tooth brick border. The bed and its border appear in early-twentieth-century photographs of the house. Flowers planted in this bed and others in the early twentieth century included spiderwort, iris, phlox, peonies, golden glow, and lily of the valley. A thick growth of Virginia creeper clung to the tower on the north side of the house during the early twentieth century.

The level terrace between the main house and the icehouse was formerly the location of many buildings (see Exhibit C). Principal among these was the original La Riviere, mentioned above. Prior to 1892, a row of outbuildings stood behind (to the east side of) this house, including a well shelter, a weatherboarded frame apple house used to store apples, and a small one-story frame or log building of unknown function. This linear arrangement was perpetuated after the present La Riviere was built, although the individual outbuildings were replaced over time. The well shelter, for example, was replaced by a weatherboarded frame well house that stood until it was damaged by Hurricane Hugo in 1989. The cook's house and garage are the two last remaining elements of this linear outbuilding grouping.

The remainder of the La Riviere property is occupied by hay fields and clumps and lines of deciduous trees. The east side of the property, which rises to the bed of the Norfolk Southern railroad, was formerly occupied by an apple and pear orchard (some trees remain). The flat or gently rolling topography drops off abruptly at the steep bank of the New River. A swale in the bank, located west of the icehouse, was formerly the location of a spring; the slightly lower ground inland from this swale is marshy in wet weather. A barn and a corncrib formerly stood along the southern property line. The barn was a two-story, gable-roofed, frame building with a hay mow above and animal stalls, granaries, and a carriage garage below. The corncrib had two slatted units divided by a central drive-through.

Integrity Statement

La Riviere displays a high level of architectural integrity. The house retains its original exterior

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form and interior room arrangement, as well as early and original detailing and finishes. The principal change to the exterior was the substitution of a stucco finish for the original wood shingle sheathing above the first story, possibly a consequence of damage to the shingles from climbing plants. This change was made before 1920 and therefore falls within the period of significance for the property. The only significant change on the interior has been the modernization of bathrooms and the kitchen; otherwise the rooms have their historic appearance, some even with original wallcoverings and furnishings. The immediate surroundings of the house are little changed from the historic period, with the exception of the loss of several turn-of-the-twentieth-century outbuildings. The mixed agricultural, residential, and industrial uses of the parcels surrounding La Riviere are consistent with the historic character of the area.

Architectural Analysis

La Riviere is a sophisticated house with many notable architectural features. In one sense, the house is typical of the large Queen Anne-style residences built by prosperous businessmen in Radford, Roanoke, and the other boom towns of late-nineteenth-century Southwest Virginia. In other ways, La Riviere is the idiosyncratic product of its imaginative designer and occupant, William Ingles. The battlemented tower, the strongly fortified aspect of the front door, the baronial character of the front hall--it is as though Ingles meant to give literal expression to the adage "a man's home is his castle." Ingles family tradition does not record the actual thinking behind the medieval imagery, although it may be associated with the Scottish and Scotch-Irish origins of William Ingles's ancestors, the Lewises and the McClanahans.

Another characteristic of the house is the functional and perhaps symbolic differentiation of its four elevations. Unlike the original La Riviere, oriented westward to the New River, the 1892-1893 house was inflected northward towards the emergent city of Radford, the source of new opportunities for the family. The west front was devoted to the capacious sitting porch with its views of the river and surrounding hills. On the south elevation were placed the conservatory and the two-story bay window, both designed to catch light, which left the east elevation as the utilitarian "back" of the house, the location of the kitchen porch, water pump, and outbuildings.

Ingles was well acquainted with late Victorian concepts of architectural composition and domesticity. In England during the 1860s and 1870s, architects such as W. E. Nesfield and R. N. Shaw resurrected and refined traditional English domestic features such as the great hall and the chimney corner/inglenook in their designs for country houses.¹ American architects and publicists adopted the English mores. In the 1880s, pattern book publishers and authors such as W. T. Compton, A. J. Bicknell, and R. W. Shoppell showcased architectural compositions

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that combined halls, staircases, and inglenooks.² It seems probable that William Ingles was familiar with these designs, or that he had visited a modern house that inspired him to juxtapose a stair and inglenook in the front hall of La Riviere. The portieres that formerly hung between the front hall and the other downstairs rooms (now reduced to the one between the hall and dining room) were another mainstay of period pattern books.

La Riviere is filled with conveniences and labor-saving devices. As one would expect of an engineer, a systematic approach was taken to the problem of lighting. Ingles's solution--carbide lights for the interior and for the porch--was a common alternative of the day. It is not known why Ingles did not electrify the house originally, although it is likely he installed electric lights within a few years of the house's construction.³

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NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Summary

La Riviere is an imaginative and important local example of the Queen Anne style in the city of Radford, Virginia. The rambling brick and stucco residence was designed by railroad engineer William Ingles and built for him by a local contractor in 1892-1893. Among La Riviere's many notable features are a battlemented tower, a capacious wraparound porch with views of the New River, and a paneled front hall with a grand stair and inglenook. William Ingles (1846-1920) was involved in the design and construction of railroads throughout Virginia and the Southeastern United States during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Ingles was prominent in local affairs, serving as an officer or board member of many business and civic enterprises in Radford during the early years of the city's urbanization.

Justification of Criteria

La Riviere is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under criteria B and C. Under Criterion B, the property is significant for its association with William Ingles, one of the pillars of the Radford business community at the turn of the twentieth century. Under Criterion C, the property is eligible for the architectural character of the house known as La Riviere, an imaginative and important local example of the Queen Anne style in the city of Radford, Virginia. The period of significance for the property extends from 1892, the initial year of the construction of La Riviere, through 1920, the year of the death of William Ingles. La Riviere is locally significant.

Historical Background

La Riviere is located on land that has been held by the Ingles family since the eighteenth century. The Ingleses ranked among the first European settlers of the New River Valley of Virginia. One of their members, Mary Draper Ingles, whose home stood to the south of La Riviere, is famous as a survivor of the Drapers Meadow Massacre of 1755 and subsequent Indian captivity. The earliest known Ingles occupation of the La Riviere property occurred in the 1840s, when Thomas Ingles built a dwelling near the site of the present house.⁴ This dwelling was replaced during the third quarter of the nineteenth century by the first house to be known as La Riviere, a two-story, single-pile, weatherboarded frame house with a hip roof and interior brick chimneys.⁵

The La Riviere property was acquired in the 1870s and 1880s by William ("Captain Billy") Ingles

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(1846-1920), a son of Thomas Ingles.⁶ William Ingles served the Confederate Army during the Civil War in Company E of the 25th Virginia Cavalry.⁷ Later he attended Washington College in Lexington, Virginia (now Washington and Lee University), where he received an education in civil engineering.⁸ Ingles embarked on a successful career as a railroad engineer during the 1880s, and at the end of the decade he married Minnie Snow (1856-1926), niece of Asiel Snow, the Massachusetts-born founder of the nearby mill village of Snowville. In 1892, the couple set about to replace the original La Riviere with a more imposing dwelling.⁹ Ingles designed and built a two-story, brick, Queen Anne-style house with a round tower and a wraparound porch overlooking the New River.¹⁰ The house is said to have boasted silver doorknobs and cherry woodwork.¹¹ The night before the Ingles planned to move into their new home, a fire destroyed the house. "Brokenhearted and discouraged, Capt. Billy presented the plans of the first house to a contractor and told him to duplicate the home."¹² The present La Riviere was begun on the foundations of the burned house and completed in 1893. According to family tradition, the roofing slates were supplied by a company in Pennsylvania.¹³

At the time of the construction of La Riviere, William Ingles was well established as a railroad engineer and Radford businessman. One of Ingles's better known works of engineering was the curved bridge of the Norfolk and Western Railroad, built over the New River at Radford in 1888. Ingles was also involved in the construction of the Virginia-Carolina Railway (later known as the Virginia Creeper Line) from Abingdon to Damascus, Virginia, in 1900.¹⁴ Outside of Virginia, Ingles worked in the states of North Carolina, South Carolina, and West Virginia; the tiny community of Ingleside, a siding along the Norfolk and Western Railroad in Mercer County, West Virginia, is said to have been named for him.¹⁵ In 1903, William Ingles practiced with another engineer named Simpkins, and in 1909, he was described in the local press as "one of the leading civil engineers of the Southwest [ie., Southwest Virginia], and [a] successful railroad contractor."¹⁶ Ingles's design talents were not confined to railroad engineering. In 1909, he designed and built a stone obelisk as a monument to Mary Draper Ingles that stands today near the intersection of Pendleton and Fifth streets in Radford.¹⁷ It is likely that he was also involved in the design and construction of the Presbyterian Church of Radford, of which he and his wife were members.¹⁸

William Ingles acted as a pillar of the Radford business community during the flush years of the city's commercial and industrial development. Radford experienced substantial growth in the 1880s as the point of connection for the Norfolk and Western Railroad's trunk line and its branch to the Virginia/West Virginia coal fields, and in 1892 the community was incorporated as a city. The city's principal developer, the Radford Land and Improvement Company, purchased the majority of William Ingles's lands (see Exhibit B), thus providing him the funds to build La

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Riviere and seed money for his involvement in numerous business enterprises. In 1890, Ingles and a group of businessmen and railroad officers joined to form the Radford and Little River Railroad Company, with the object of building a rail line south from Radford to the copper and iron deposits of Floyd County, Virginia.¹⁹ The same year, Ingles was involved in the incorporation of the Radford School of Mines, "a school for the instruction of young men in mining and engineering."²⁰ The Radford Street Railway Company, incorporated in 1892, counted Ingles as a director, as did the Montgomery Club of Radford, established "for the promotion of social intercourse and for the purpose of maintaining a library and reading room."²¹ Ingles served as the president of the Radford Lot Company, incorporated in 1897 as a real estate firm; as president of the First National Bank of Radford; as vice-president of the Radford Industrial Works, incorporated in 1897 for the "manufacture and building of wagons, carriages, and other wheeled vehicles"; and as a director of the Radford Woolen Mills Company, incorporated in 1899 for the manufacturing of woolen goods, with a general store in Radford as a sideline.²²

The Radford School of Mines and the Montgomery Club were two examples of Ingles's participation in the social life of his city and state. In 1896, he served on the Radford city council.²³ In 1899, Ingles was elected to the board of trustees of his alma mater, Washington and Lee University, and he served on the boards of Stonewall Jackson College and the Harris Mountain School.²⁴ Minnie Snow Ingles also involved herself in civic activities, partly, according to family tradition, to assuage the loneliness occasioned by her husband's many business trips. Mrs. Ingles was one of the presidents of the Radford Current Events Club, organized in 1896.²⁵

The Federal census of 1900 provides a glimpse of domestic life at La Riviere. William and Minnie, who were childless, lived in the house with two relations: "Aunt Nannie" Bass, eighty-four years old in 1900, and Fannie Booker, aged fifty, a dressmaker. William Fuqua, a young doctor at a foundry in Radford, and his wife Virginia also boarded with the Ingleses. The Fuquas, like the Ingleses, were members of the Presbyterian Church of Radford. The household servants included Zilla Davis, the cook, and Mattie (?) Davis, the "house girl." Accompanying the Davises, who were black, was Mary Davis, aged seven. Later, in the 1910s and early 1920s, Annie Meadow Casey was employed as the family cook. Miss Casey lived in the cook's house.²⁶

Upon William Ingles's death in 1920, La Riviere passed to Minnie Snow Ingles. Upon Mrs. Ingles's death in 1926, the property passed to William Ingles (sometimes "Jr."), the son of Capt. Billy's twin brother, Andrew Lewis Ingles. The second William Ingles (1877-1966) of La

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Riviere was also a leader in the Radford business community, serving variously as vice-president, president, and chairman of the board of his uncle's bank, The First National Bank of Radford, and The First and Merchants National Bank. The second William Ingles served on the Radford city council (1912-1920), and he was a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and the Kiwanis Club of Radford.²⁷ With his wife Sallie Harris Ingles, originally of Amherst County, Virginia, the second William raised a family at La Riviere. The present occupant and part owner of the house, Roberta Ingles Steele, is the daughter of William and Sallie Ingles.

Endnotes

1. Girouard, *Victorian Country House*, pp. 71-79.
2. Clark, *American Family Home*, pp. 43, 114-117; Compton, *Modern Architectural Designs and Details*.
3. The Radford Water and Light Company was incorporated in February 1892. Considering the number of civic betterment projects Ingles was involved in during the period, it is also curious that he was not an original director of the light company. *Acts . . . During The Session of 1891-'92*, p.477.
4. Giles and Steele, "La Riviere," pp. 3-4.
5. Several photographs of this house survive in the Ingles papers.
6. Montgomery County Deed Book U, p. 234; Deed Book Y, p. 63; and will of Fannie Ingles, Will Book 11.
7. "Captain Billy," William Ingles's nickname, does not refer to his rank in the CSA, but was instead a title of respect conferred upon him during his later career as a railroad engineer (Steele).
8. Giles and Steele, p. 4.
9. The original La Riviere burned in the 1890s (Simpkins, "Stately Mansion").
10. A photograph in the Ingles papers shows this house under construction.

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11. Simpkins.
12. Ibid.
13. Steele.
14. Correspondence in the Ingles papers chronicles William Ingles's work for the Virginia-Carolina Railroad. Striplin, *Norfolk and Western*, p. 101.
15. Steele. The records of the Norfolk Southern Railroad at Newman Library, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, were not examined for this report, but it is likely they contain information on William Ingles and his work for the Norfolk and Western Railroad.
16. October 2, 1909 newspaper clipping in the Ingles papers.
17. Ibid. Steele.
18. Steele.
19. *Acts . . . During The Session of 1889-'90*, p. 941. This rail line was begun but never completed.
20. Ibid., p. 367. It is unclear whether this school was ever established.
21. *Acts . . . During The Session of 1891-'92*, pp. 247 and 858. Johnson, *Radford Then and Now*, p. 23.
22. City of Radford Charter Book No. 1, pp. 54, 63, and 75; Steele.
23. Hill, *Virginia State Gazetteer . . . 1897-'98*, p. 776.
24. "Memorial of Capt William Ingles . . . 1920."
25. Steele.
26. Steele.
27. Giles and Steele, pp. 4-5.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundaries of the La Riviere nominated parcel are shown on the 1:200-scale map that accompanies this report (Exhibit A).

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries of the La Riviere nominated parcel correspond to present property boundaries and include all standing historic resources associated with the property. The boundaries also correspond to natural and man-made features such as the New River, the bed of the Norfolk Southern railroad, and Ingles Street.

PHOTOGRAPHS

1. 1. La Riviere (same for all photos).
 2. Radford (City), Va. (same for all photos).
 3. Photographer: J. Daniel Pezzoni (same for all photos).
 4. Date of photo: December 1993.
 5. Location of negative: Virginia State Library, Richmond (same for all photos).
 6. North and west elevations of house. Direction of view: southeastward.
 7. The photograph number appears at the top of each heading.
-
2. 6. View from left to right of the drive, wall and gates, La Riviere, and cook's house.
Direction of view: eastward.
-
3. 6. The New River as viewed from the porch. Direction of view: westward.
-
4. 6. View of front hall showing stair and inglenook.
-
5. 6. Dining room mantel.

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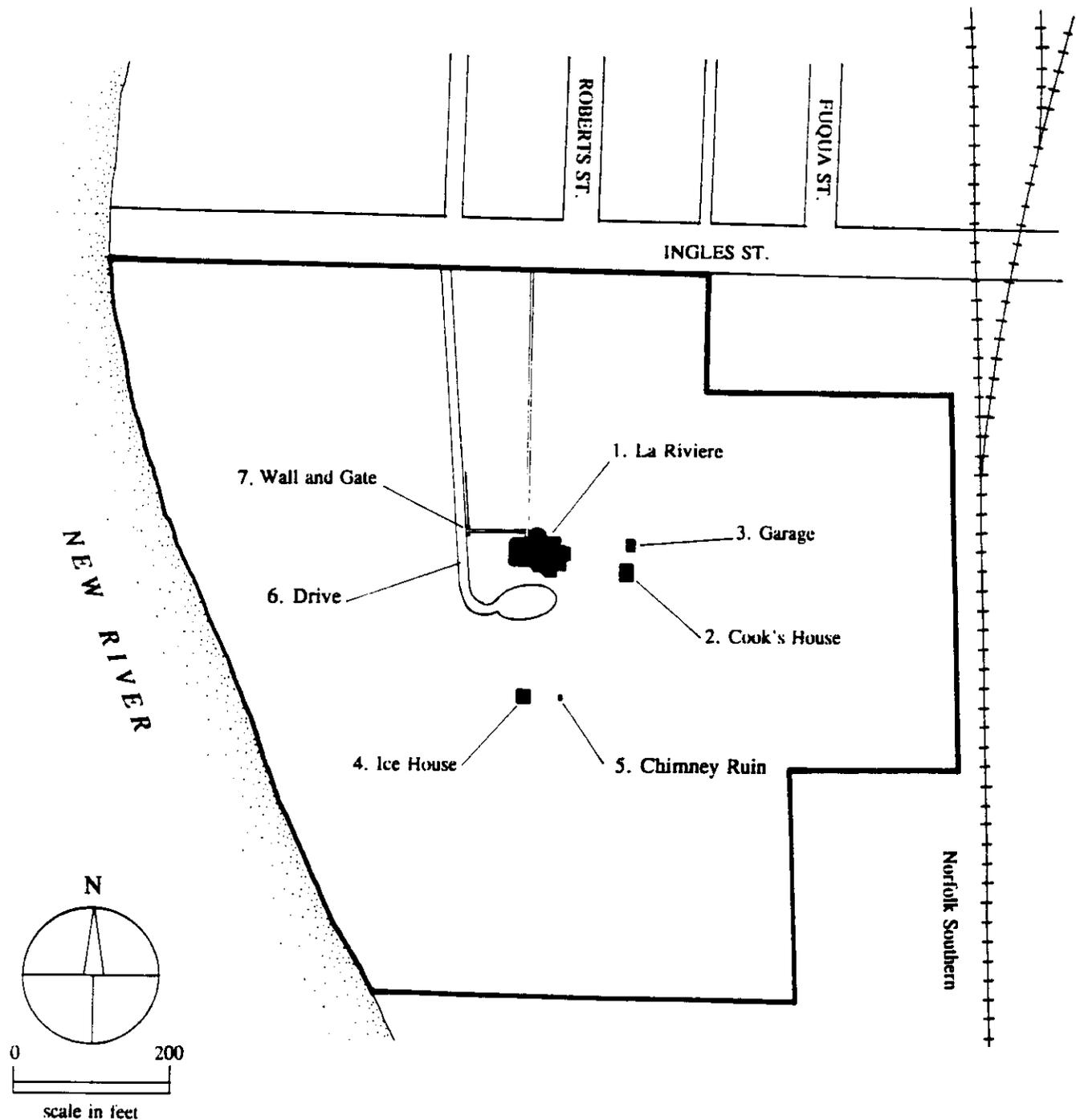
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Exhibit A. La Riviere. Boundaries of nominated area shown as heavy line. Features 1 through 7 correspond to inventory in description section. Location of features approximate.

Scale: 1" = 200'.



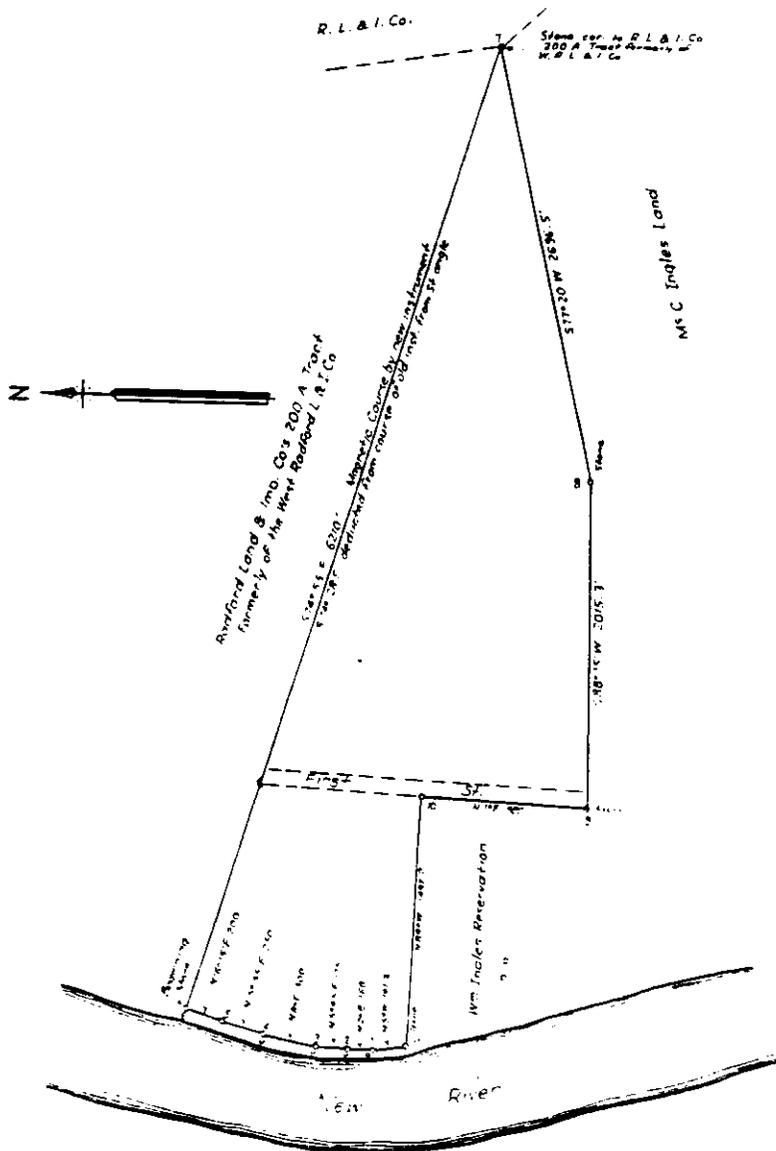
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Exhibit B. "Map of Wm. Ingles 150 A. Tract of Land . . ." 1890. From City of Radford Deed Book 42, p. 34. Not to scale.



Map of
Wm Ingles 150 A. Tract of Land
Purchased by
The Radford Land & Imp. Co.
Feb. 18. 1890.

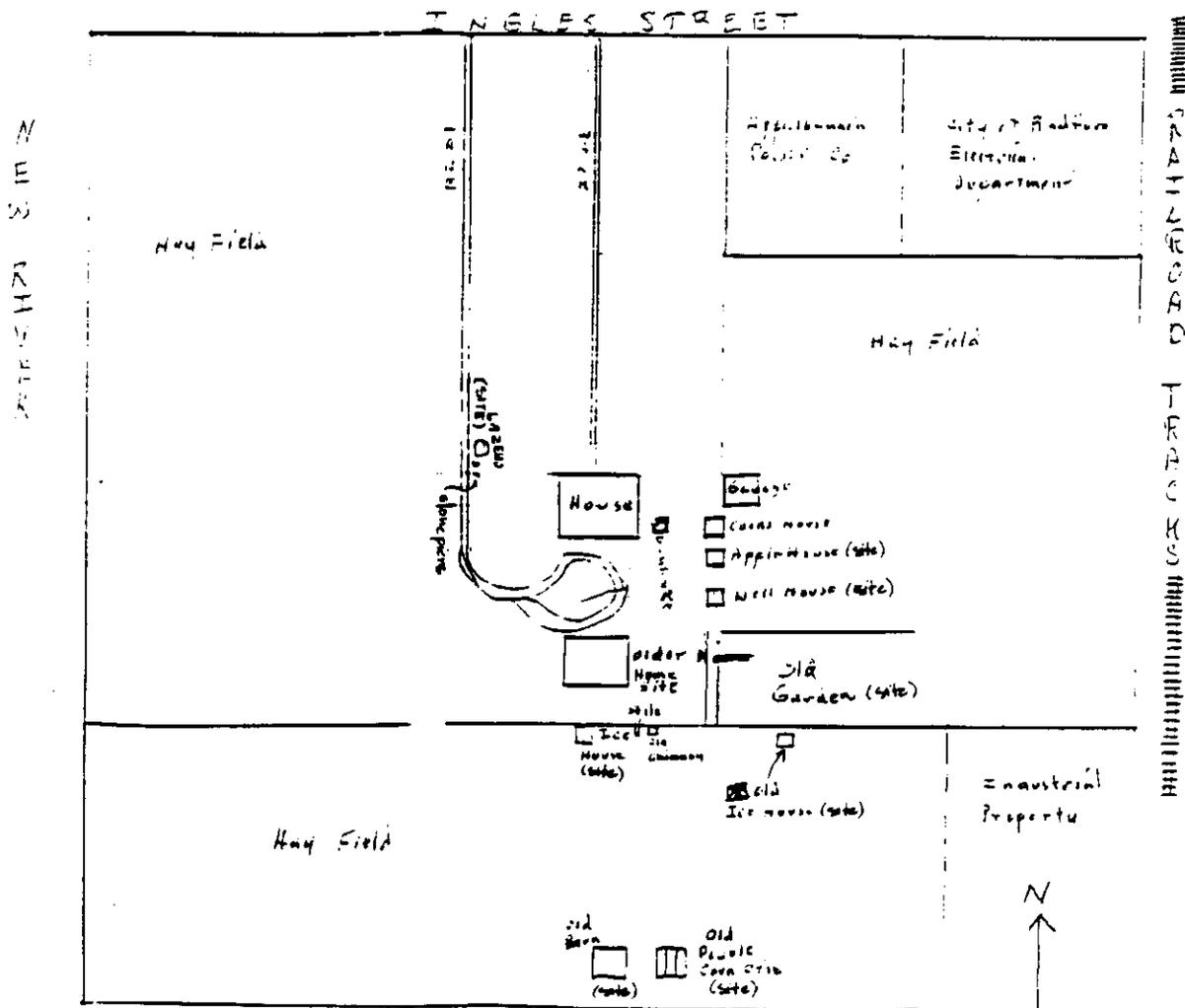
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Exhibit C. Map of the La Riviere property by Roberta Ingles Steele, 1993, showing the location of former outbuildings and landscape features. Not to scale.



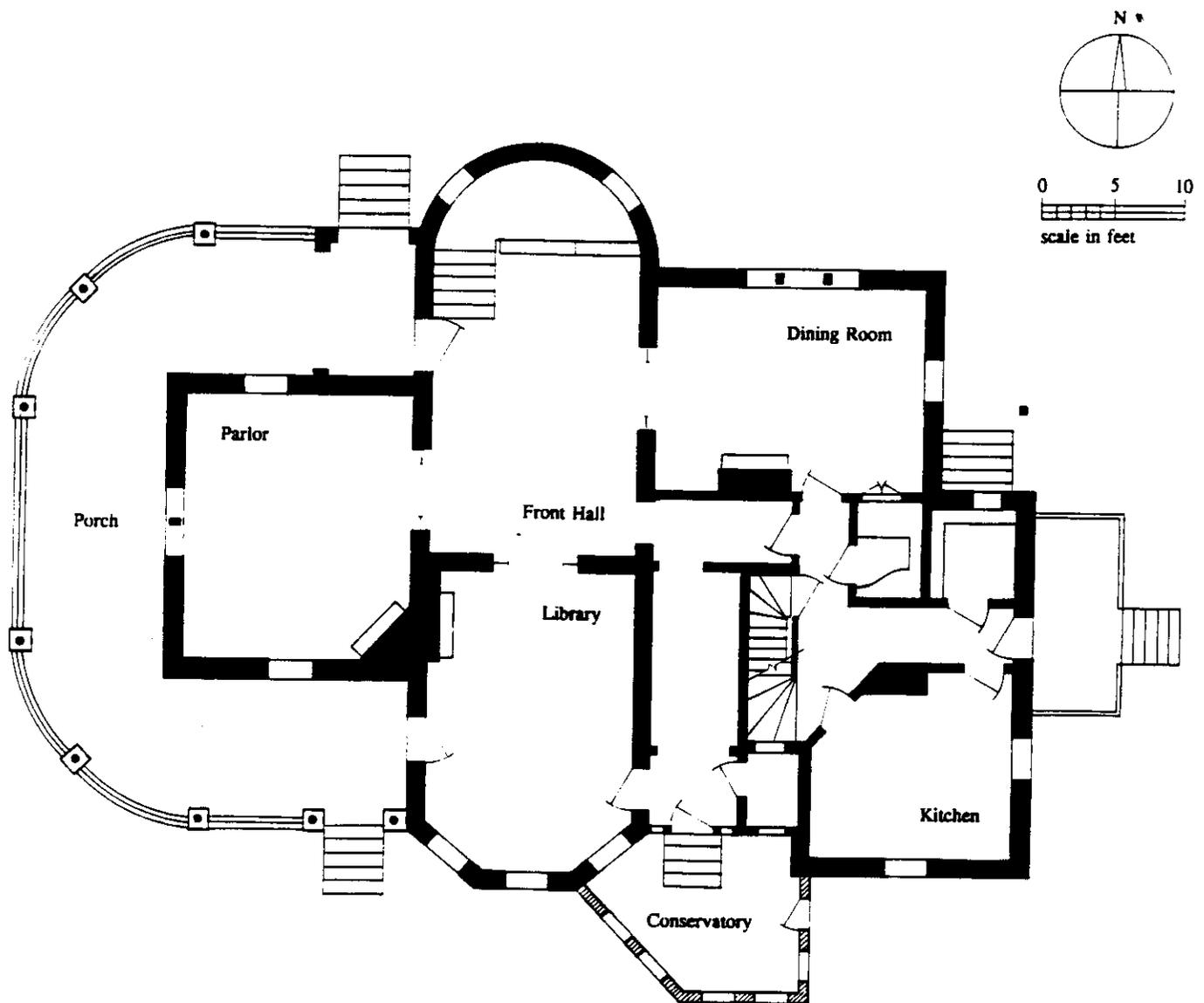
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Exhibit D. La Riviere. First-story floor plan. Hatched walls indicate conservatory addition. The room names are those used by the Ingles family. Measurements by Paul W. Steele and J. Daniel Pezzoni. Drawing by J. Daniel Pezzoni.

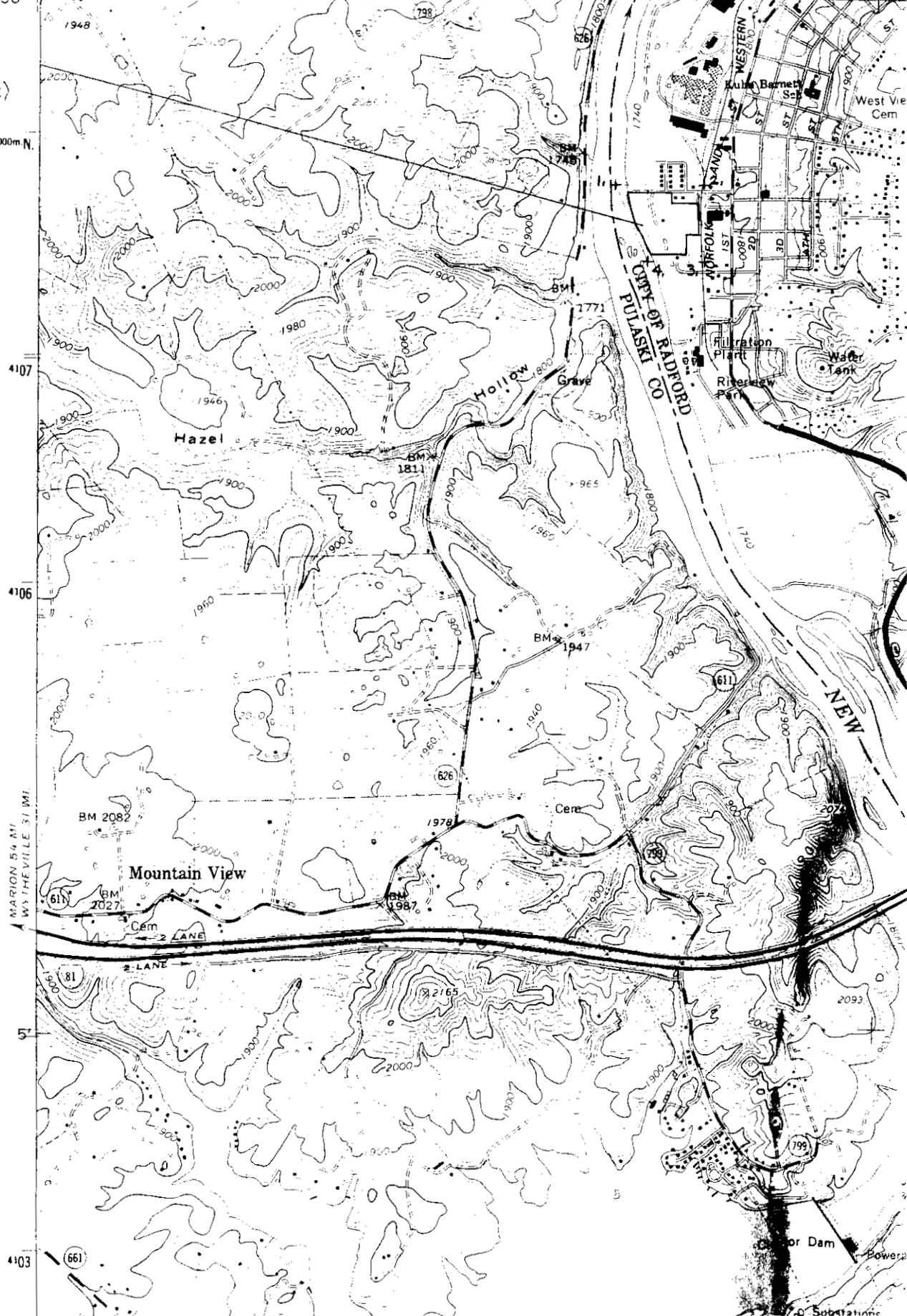


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(STAFFORDSVILLE)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

80° 37' 30" 534000m E 535 1.5 MI. TO U.S. 11 35'

LA RIVIERE
(WILLIAM INGLES HOUSE)
RADFORD, VIRGINIA
UTM references (Zone 17) 4108000m N.
1. E 535850
N 4107750
2. E 536250
N 4107750
3. E 536250
N 4107400
4. E 536000
N 4107400



MARION 5.4 MI.
WYTHEVILLE 3.1 MI.

4103

70 Substation