

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

VLR: 07/02/97  
NRHP: 08/16/94

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 Halwyck

other names/site number James Hoge Tyler House (VDHR File No. 126-79)

2. Location

street & number 915 Tyler Avenue N/A  not for publication

city or town Rafford N/A  vicinity

state Virginia code VA county Rafford (city) code 750 rip code 24141

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.)

[Signature] 7/18/97  
Signature of certifying official/Title 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

- 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:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date or Action

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Halwyck  
Name of Property

Radford, Virginia  
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	
1	2	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	2	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)

LATE VICTORIAN/ Queen Anne

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE/ limestone  
walls BRICK  
WOOD/ shingle  
roof STONE/ slate  
other METAL/ cast iron

**Narrative Description**

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

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### 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)

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

ARCHITECTURE

#### Period of Significance

1892-1925

#### Significant Dates

1892

#### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

James Hoge Tyler

#### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

#### Architect/Builder

unknown

#### Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Virginia Department of Historic Resources

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**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property one acre

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 17 540060 4109390  
Zone Easting Northing

3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing

2 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_

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 Gibson Worsham, Architect

organization Gibson Worsham, Architect date December 5, 1995

Yellow Sulphur Springs  
street & number 3145 Yellow Sulphur Road telephone (540) 552-4730

city or town Christiansburg, Virginia 24073 state Virginia zip code 24073

**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 Richard T. and Patricia Cleary Jackson

street & number 915 Tyler Avenue telephone (540) 731-0288

city or town Radford state Virginia zip code 24141

**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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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Halwyck  
Radford, Virginia

## Summary Description

Halwyck, a large, brick, two-story dwelling, is located on a wooded bluff-top lot overlooking bottomland along the New River in the city of Radford, Virginia. The ornate building includes materials and details characteristic of the Queen Anne architectural style. Two noncontributing buildings, a frame garage and a concrete block dwelling, stand on the tract to the southeast.

## Narrative

Halwyck is a brick, two-story, central-passage, T-plan dwelling with a hipped roof, an inset central cast iron porch, and a much-altered rear wing. The three-bay principal facade of the house faces northeast and downhill on a steeply sloping hillside. The sloping site results in the basement being fully underground on the rear (southwest) and fully above ground on the northeast, so that it gives the impression of a three-story house on the front. The front and side walls are detailed with brick quoins incorporating quarter-round molded bricks at the corners. The slate roof, topped by ornamental cast iron cresting, rests on a cornice built up from several deeply cut moldings and a delicate dentil course. The same cornice is employed on the original bay windows and the one-story elements on the southwest facade. The one-over-one, double-hung sash windows incorporate wooden sills and molded wooden cornices. Original louvered blinds, visible in historic photographs, are missing.<sup>1</sup>

The northeast or front facade is the most carefully detailed. The central bay on each of the three floors contains a door with sidelights and transoms. The partially inset, central entry bay on all three floors is provided with a door with transom and sidelights and is protected by a three-story, cast-iron porch. The delicate ironwork incorporates Renaissance tendril forms in both the frieze and railing. The section of the house to the west of the porch projects beyond the main body of the facade. The central entry is inset under the main roof. To each side of the central bay are identical stacked window elements. The basement level features triple one-over-one double-hung sash windows. Above these on the first floor level are two polygonal bay windows with

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panelled sides supported on scrolled brackets. The brick wing walls flanking each bay window rise into the second floor with wooden shingles placed on either side of paired, one-over-one, double-hung sash windows. A central pediment tops each stack of window elements. The pediments contain two casements in an ornamental, wood-shingled wall surface. A hip-roofed dormer pierces the roof above the porch.

The southeast side of the house features a central window on each floor of the hip-roofed element at the northeast end. The area toward the rear of the house is a two-story, shed-roofed, infill element constructed of mid-twentieth-century brick. It includes a small porch near the center of the east facade. The northwest side facade includes a projecting, hip-roofed element to the south incorporating a bay window on the first floor and paired windows on the second floor, below a central shingled pediment at the roof level. The bay window is like the bays on the northeast facade. The north half of the facade features a central, slightly projecting, ornamental chimney stack with random ornamental inset stones and a fluted stack, flanked by windows on each floor to the north and doors on each floor to the south. A partially rebuilt porch provides a platform outside the first floor doorway while the second-floor door, which now opens onto a void, was added in the mid-twentieth century in the position of a window. Historic photographs indicate that both floors held windows and that the porch is not original.<sup>2</sup>

The southwest or rear facade is balanced around a central ell or wing projecting from the main body of the house. A two-story bay fills the center of the southwest end of the ell. The shallow re-entrant angle between the west side of the ell and the main body of the house contains a one-story foyer created early in the building's history by enclosing a small porch. Apparently at the same time a one-story porch was added across the rear, wrapping around the ell. The area to the southeast side of the ell was infilled in the mid-twentieth century with a two-story shed-roofed section. The southwest front of the addition features brick that matches the early brick of the original building. The southwest front of the addition includes a one-story section balancing the foyer addition on the west side of the ell. An entry door with sidelights is located under the porch roof.

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The interior layout of the basement story consists of a pair of on-grade rooms flanking a shallow foyer on the north front and a range of unfinished subterranean rooms to the rear. The east room on the northeast front has been modernized in recent years, including removal of a fireplace and addition of a lavatory in one corner. The north room contains recently restored, original, wood trim and the original mantel with mirrored overmantel. The foyer, entered from the cast iron porch, is furnished with a regionally unusual Minton polychrome tile floor similar to one at La Riviere, a house built by the Ingles family at the opposite end of Radford in the same decade (survey no. 126-8, listed in the National Register in 1994). Access to the upper floors is provided by an-open stringer stair at the rear of the foyer. As the stair rises to the first floor it enters a plainly detailed enclosure under the principal stair to the second floor. All basement wall and ceiling finishes have been replaced or concealed by gypsum wallboard in recent years, but original trim matching that on the first floor has been preserved and reinstalled.

The first-floor plan consists of a central passage flanked by a pair of rooms, apparently parlors, on the northwest and what was apparently originally a dining room on the southeast. Finishes throughout the unaltered parts of all floors in the house consist of plaster walls and ceilings, high molded baseboards, four-panel doors with ornamental cast hardware, and ornate window and door surrounds. At each door and window, grooved trim features reeded base blocks topped by a pair of small inset paterae and bull's eye corner blocks that end in three pointed, leaf-form crenellations. The parlors on the west are connected by wide, hinged, double doors. The bays in the parlors are detailed with shallow arches with panelled reveals supported on panelled impostes. The haunches of each arch are infilled with applied panels that have low-relief quatrefoil ornament. The dining room bay is detailed more simply: sawn side brackets support the ceiling and the area around the windows is infilled with alternating panels of diagonal and horizontal tongue-and-groove boards.

Ornate mantels in each room surround coal grates and incorporate shelves supported by colonnettes and surmounted by mirrored overmantels. The mantel in the south parlor is placed in the center of the south wall while that in the north parlor is on the

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west wall. Both mantels have been recently stripped of added paint, revealing inset composition ornamental detail apparently intended to resemble ivory. Both have tile hearths and tile grate surrounds. The parlors have ornamental plaster medallions. Wooden crown molding was added in the late twentieth century throughout the first floor.

The passage contains an open-stringer stair with a square, chamfered newel featuring an applied sunflower medallion on each face immediately below an urn finial, separated from the body of the shaft below by a band of smaller incised sunflowers. There are two turned balusters per step, an applied scroll ornament on the stringer at the end of each tread, and a panelled skirt. The stair rises, not from the formal front of the house, on the north, but from the south, in order to accommodate the constricted space available for the stair from the basement. The basement stair is concealed behind a modestly detailed doorway under the stair. Original doors to adjacent rooms incorporate transoms. A low door at the rear (south) of the passage without a transom (and possibly dating from the early twentieth century) leads to a small room now fitted as a bathroom. A small door, now infilled, once gave access from it to the added section to the east or to an earlier porch in the same location.

Beyond the bathroom (said by the owner to have served as a butler's pantry in the past) is located a small room at the south end of the rear wing or ell. The trim around the bay in this room and its other detailing, including built-in bookshelves, suggests they were added to the house, but at an early date. It is possible that the passage originally or in the original plans extended to the rear of the house, while the exterior doorway was removed soon after, the bay window added, and the room enclosed. Doors in the northwest wall of the office and in the southeast wall of the south parlor open into a small vestibule on the southwest side of the ell. The vestibule was formerly a small porch and the original brick wall remains exposed on the interior. Cornices with dentil moldings surmount both original exterior doors.

The dining room, located in the northeast corner, retains finishes, including the mantel on the southwest wall, similar to those in the rest of the first floor on the south wall. An added swinging door



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on the east side of the chimney now gives access to the kitchen, while an early press is located to the chimney's west side. The added section along the southeast side of the ell contains a kitchen adjacent to the dining room. A stair rises to the second floor at the southwest end, just inside a door from the porch across the rear of the house. The owners apparently added a door at the same time between the present kitchen and the passage. All the openings added at this time throughout the house have plain square wood trim. Most of the flooring in the first floor was covered with narrow hardwood flooring at approximately the same time.

The second floor contains a central passage above the passage on the first floor. Three bedrooms line the northwest side of the passage, over the twin parlors, while a single bedroom is located over the dining room. A closet is located at the southwest end of the passage. A small bedroom is located beyond in the end of the ell. The room is accessible through the rear bedroom on the southwest side of the passage. The trim and finishes on the second floor are similar to those on the first floor, while the floor retains the original, narrow, tongue-and-groove surface. Only the rear room on the southwest has a mantel and fireplace. The northeast corner room contains no fireplace but the chimney carries a shelf in the location of a mantel.

The shed addition along the east side of the ell contains a back passage extending from the main passage to the back stairs in the rear (south) end of the addition. A bathroom and laundry are located along the east side of the back passage. The owners later added a door between the bath and the northeast bedroom. A door (added with the shed addition) and window (originally open to the exterior) open from the back passage into a smaller passage in the ell which gives alternate access to the room at the end of the ell. Entry to the unfinished attic is by means of a stair from this passage. The stair dates from the mid-twentieth century, but appears to be in approximately the same location as a steeper original stair, the underside of which still projects into the rear wall of the main passage.

The site slopes sharply to the northeast. Two terraces across the northeast front appear to be associated with an early driveway

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that gave access to the basement entry door. They are connected by the traces of a narrow carriage drive which winds up the slope from Howe Street below. For many years a circular drive provided vehicular access to the rear or southwest porch. The site today is wooded, with the exception of lawns to the sides and rear of the house. The present drive curves through the wooded portion of the lot to the west of the house after it leaves the main road. A garage and concrete block cottage were added in the mid-twentieth century to the southeast of the house.

Notes

1. Halwyck, Radford, Virginia, historic photographs, J. Hoge Tyler Collection, Special Collections Dept., Newman Library, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia.
2. Halwyck, Radford, Virginia, historic photographs.

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Statement of Significance

Halwyck is significant under Criteria B and C. The house merits significance under Criterion B as the principal residence of Governor James Hoge Tyler and his wife, Susan Hammet Tyler, from its construction in 1892 until their deaths in the 1920s. Its importance under Criterion C is derived from the relative scale and elaboration of the Queen Anne-style house's ornamental character, which confirm the local importance of the Tyler and Hammet families in the early development of the city of Radford as a railway hub and industrial boom town in the late nineteenth century. The well-preserved house retains most features from the Tyler family occupancy. Additions and changes indicate the way the family maintained the house and adapted it to changing circumstances and mores over a period of ninety years.

Historical Background

James Hoge Tyler was born in Caroline County, Virginia, in 1846, but after his mother's death when he was two weeks old, he came to live with his grandparents, General James Hoge and Eleanor Howe Hoge at their Pulaski County farm, Hayfield, later known as Belle-Hampton Farm (listed in the National Register). In 1861, General Hoge left the farm to his grandson, passing over his sons, to whom he left other land. Tyler attended school in Albemarle County after 1861, served as a private in the Confederate Army, and was married to Susan Hammet in 1868.<sup>1</sup> When he had an inclusive survey made in 1872 of his holdings on Back Creek in Pulaski County, they totalled 1,071 acres.

Tyler, who was active in post-war agricultural organization in Southwest Virginia, augmented his already considerable fortune by the exploitation of a coal seam that ran through the mountains at the back of his farm. The city of Radford developed in the late nineteenth century where a new railway line joined the coal fields of West Virginia with the older Atlantic, Mississippi, and Ohio Railroad. Tyler constructed a private rail line from his mine to the new railroad at Belspring. The profitable mines were sold in 1902 to the New York-based Belle-Hampton mining company.

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In 1877, known as "the farmer's friend," James Hoge Tyler was elected to the Virginia State Senate, but lost his seat two years later due to his vote against readjustment of the state's debt. During the period of Readjuster control of the state from 1879 to 1883, Tyler occupied himself with his farming and business interests and enlarged and remodelled his house. In 1889 he failed in a bid for the Democratic Party's nomination for governor, but his influence among farmers caused him to be offered the post of lieutenant governor, to which he was elected in 1890.<sup>2</sup> With the rise of his political career and the increased economic importance of the burgeoning town of Radford, the Tyler family moved from the farm to a new house near Sue Tyler's family home, relegating the Pulaski farm to use a summer home. In Radford he was active in land development.

In 1893 Tyler again ran for his party's nomination for governor, boldly declaring his support for free silver, a popular issue in the depression following the panic of 1893. Although he lost at the Democratic convention, growing interest in free silver and its espousal by the state Democratic party in 1896 increased his popularity so that he was nominated by acclamation at the party's convention in 1897.<sup>3</sup> He was elected and served as governor from 1898-1902. Tyler hosted William Jennings Bryan at Halwyck during at least one of his unsuccessful campaigns for the presidency. A historic photograph of Bryan with members of the Tyler family was probably taken during the presidential campaign of 1898, when Tyler's advocacy of the free silver platform espoused by Bryan had recently helped in his own nomination for governor. It may, however, have been taken during the presidential campaigns of 1902 or 1908, when Bryan also was a candidate. In 1899, Tyler, angered by the corrupt Democratic political machine controlled by U.S. Senator Thomas S. Martin, ran a poorly organized and unsuccessful campaign for the party's nomination for his senate seat.

Following his largely uneventful and ineffectual term as governor, Tyler, having sold the mineral rights at Belle-Hampton, centered his energies on Radford, where he lived at Halwyck until his death in 1925. He continued to have political ambitions, in particular for the federal senate seat which he had failed to win in 1899, but his opposition to the Martin organization made that impossible. Historian Thomas E. Gay Jr. summed up Tyler's political career:

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Viewed within the context of his times, James Hoge Tyler was an estimable man with excellent personal qualities who lacked the organizational skills and conscienceless determination necessary for sustained success in Virginia politics. Although popular with the rural masses, he was strangely out of place in an era dominated by political rings, railroad money, and chicanery at the polls. . . . Tyler was ambitious, but never ruthless--at a time when only ruthlessness could have produced lasting results.<sup>5</sup>

The city of Radford was founded on the bottomlands of the New River and the low bluffs overlooking them. The city began in the antebellum era as Central Depot, a stop on the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad. In 1883, completion of a spur line up the New River from Central Depot caused rapid growth and speculation in lands around the depot and an influx of industries and residents. The population grew from 300 in 1880 to nearly 3,000 in 1890. By 1885 the community was incorporated as the town of Central City and in 1892 it received a charter as the city of Radford.<sup>6</sup> Its important location on the railroad helped it survive the panic of 1893 and the ensuing depression, which destroyed the efforts to "boom" so many new industrial towns in western Virginia, but the city's growth slowed dramatically.

The bluff-top site of Halwyck overlooks rich, rolling bottomlands of the New River east of downtown Radford, known in the early to mid-nineteenth century as the Taylor and Trigg places. Abram Trigg acquired much of the present site of Radford in the late eighteenth century, but sold the Lovely Mount tract to John Haven and the Racepaths section of his lands, which he had bought from John Taylor, to James Craig in 1795.<sup>7</sup> The Lovely Mount tract was eventually developed as the central part of Radford by the family of Dr. John Radford and his wife Elizabeth Taylor Radford. In his will, probated in 1834, James Craig left "the Trigg and Taylor old places" to his daughters Elmira and Clementina.<sup>8</sup>

Clementina married Edward Hammet, who, by the time of his death in 1871, was owner of a store in Central Depot and sole owner of the Craig lands on New River. He left the tracts, comprising about 500 acres and now known as Norwood Farm, including his "mansion house," to his daughter Isabella, wife of Stockton Heth, reserving use of the rooms in the "old part" of the house for his widow.<sup>9</sup> The Heths lived at Norwood Farm and began laying out streets and selling lots

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when Radford began to develop rapidly in the late 1880s. Hammet's other daughter, Susan, wife of James Hoge Tyler, and his son, John Radford Hammet, received properties in the area as well, while James Hoge Tyler served as executor. A later deed referred to below, would seem to indicate that the Tylers retained an interest in the Norwood Farm tract when the estate was settled.

The 1890 tax records list Stockton Heth as the owner of many small lots in the area of the Norwood Farm tract. In that year neither J. Hoge nor Susan H. Tyler were listed as taxpayers on any land in the town of Radford, although Sue H. Tyler possessed the nearby Haven farm of 712 acres on Plum Creek, formerly her father's property, and another 305 acres "near Radford."<sup>10</sup> The newly established Radford Development Company, a Heth and Tyler family business, of which James Hoge Tyler was president, purchased the Norwood Farm property for \$90,000 from the Heths and Tylers in 1890.<sup>11</sup> In that year the Tylers paid taxes on a number of empty lots and Sue H. Tyler purchased, for \$750, the site of Halwyck, identified as section fifty-one of the Radford Development Company's plat, overlooking the lands of Norwood Farm and the distant New River.

The separation of Susan Hammet Tyler's property from that of her husband's at Belle-Hampton in Pulaski County may have been part of the settlement of her father's estate. It was possibly associated with the nineteenth-century practice, among wealthy landowners in the region, of the provision of a dwelling for a newly married woman as a dowry by her father. As at Avenel, in Bedford County, at Kentland and Walnut Spring in Montgomery County (all listed in the National Register), and at Arnheim, in Radford, the land and even the dwelling were provided by the bride's father. Custom dictated that a widow receive her "home place" as part of her dower estate. Supporting this thesis is the fact that the land on which Halwyck was built was part of Sue Tyler's family farm.

In 1891 the property was valued at \$4,000, an inflated price. In 1895, by which date the house had been constructed and the building boom in Radford was over, the property was assessed at \$500 and the house at \$2,000. Comparison with other properties in the list shows that Halwyck was one of the most valuable houses in the city. Only Norwood, the Heth's dwelling, and several houses in the West Radford section, were of equal or higher value. Of these, the William Ingles property at La Riviere

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(DHR survey no. 126-8, listed in the National Register in 1994) was valued at \$5,000, Norwood at \$3,000, and the Oscar Laughon and Gabriel Wharton houses each at \$2,000.<sup>12</sup>

Family tradition indicates that the house was built in 1892, the same year the La Riviere was built by William Ingles, whose farmland were being developed at the opposite end of the city.<sup>13</sup> The completion of Commerce Street (now Tyler Avenue) may have rendered access from below the bluff unnecessary at an early date, because the winding carriage drive from Howe Street was abandoned. The southwest, or rear, facade adapted for use as a main entrance to the house and a circular drive to the southeast was reached from Tyler Avenue. Madison Avenue, which was extremely steep, was abandoned at some point in the early years of the twentieth century, although a deep road cut survives up the hill. The municipally maintained section of Howe Street ends before it crosses the bottom of the Halwyck property and survives only as a narrow sloping track. Similarly, the city abandoned an alley shown subdividing the small lots along the bluff to the northwest of the house when Sue Tyler added those eight lots to the Halwyck tract.

The house was designed to present an imposing, nearly symmetrical three-story facade to the developing bottomlands below. The house incorporates ornamental features, such as the decorative inset stonework in the chimney on the southwest side, the bracketed bays, decorative shingles, and crested roofline, as well as substantial and expensive materials, such as slate roofing, encaustic tile flooring, and delicately detailed mantels. Many of the elements are characteristic of fashionable late-nineteenth-century domestic architecture related to some Queen Anne-style houses then being built in the area, such as La Riviere. The house incorporates a variation of a floor plan identified by some architectural historians as the T-plan, a regionally popular arrangement related to the center-passage plan, in which a central passage gives access to two or more flanking rooms. The T-plan appeared in the late nineteenth century in the region and provided owners with more privacy and a more fashionable, asymmetrical outline than the conventional central-passage plan.

The plan of Halwyck seems to have been conventional and related to antebellum planning traditions: a pair of linked parlors and a bedroom flanked a central passage. The use of the northeast room (the present dining room) as an bedroom at an earlier date is

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confirmed by the press beside the fireplace, added kitchen door dating from the second quarter of the twentieth century, and the birth in that room, in the early twentieth century, of a family member, Mrs. Ambrose Wilson. There is no clear indication that the kitchen and dining room were originally located in the basement, although the two basement rooms on the north front may well have served that purpose and it was in keeping with regional tradition.<sup>14</sup> The kitchen may, however, have been in an outbuilding. The early kitchen seems to have been replaced by a kitchen on the southwest side of the ell. This frame kitchen wing was later enclosed in brick veneer.

Radford and other regional industrial boom towns of the early 1890s were the scene of activity of many prominent architects based in northern and even midwestern cities. These architects, who designed a hospital, a hotel, a foundry, churches, a market building, and several private residences, included Cope and Stewartson, Frank Day, Mantle Fielding, and Thomas Roney Williamson, of Philadelphia and Warren Hays, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, as well as H. H. Huggins, of Roanoke, Virginia, and Walter P. Tinsley, of Lynchburg, Virginia. No architect has been traditionally associated with the house or is mentioned in trade publications of the period.<sup>15</sup>

The plan of the house and the repetitive manner in which the elements of the facades are organized suggest that the designer of this house preferred traditional functional arrangements and was uninterested in the complex, asymmetrical forms associated with most popular late-nineteenth-century architectural styles. It is possible that the Tylers were strongly involved in the design of the house. It does not resemble the more academic houses being erected on some lots in Radford and in Pulaski, another industrial boom town to the southwest.<sup>16</sup> It does share some features with the double-pile, central-passage-plan Allen House at 1511 Downey Street in East Radford.<sup>17</sup> Iron porches are rare in the region. One other house, the older, central-passage-plan Haven Howe House (DHR survey no. 77-47) in nearby Pulaski County has a delicate, one-story, iron porch across its symmetrical, traditional facade.<sup>18</sup>

Perhaps because access from the northeast was impractical, the northeast front probably was rarely seen by visitors. Alterations were made to the southwest facade to make it appropriate for use as a principal entry were before a visit by William Jennings Bryan to Radford, when a photograph was taken of the three-time presidential



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candidate with the Tyler family (see exhibit no. 1). An original porch at the west end of the rear wall was infilled to form a small vestibule and a wide, wrap-around porch added. The house has its current appearance in the photograph, except that the porch appears to continue around the southeast side of the ell. The choice of the southwest facade for the photograph indicates that it was considered a principal front for the house at an early date. One early photograph does show the northeast front, appearing as it does today (see exhibit no. 2). Another photograph, taken soon after construction and showing the northwest side indicate that the doors and porch opening off in the central bay replaced original windows. The same image confirms the addition of the southwest porch and shows no sign of the bay window at the end of the ell (see exhibit no. 3).<sup>19</sup>

At his death in 1925 J. Hoge Tyler left his Pulaski and other lands to two daughters, Sue Tyler Jopling and Belle Tyler McConnell and his sons, Henry C. Tyler, S. Heth Tyler, and E. H. Tyler. A third, widowed daughter, Lily Tyler Wilson, was to receive Halwyck and other lands belonging to his wife in her will, and was otherwise unprovided for. The will of Sue H. Tyler, probated in 1927, provided for their youngest daughter as her husband had indicated. At her death the property passed to the Lily Norwood Wilson trust, set up to support Lily Tyler Wilson's daughter. The trust conveyed the tract in 1981 to Frank N. and Trishia B. Osborne, who sold it to the present owners, Richard T. and Patricia Cleary Jackson, in 1986.

## Notes

1. Montgomery County Records, Marriage Register 1, p. 25.
2. Thomas E. Gay Jr., "James Hoge Tyler: Rebellious Regular," in Edward Younger, ed., The Governors of Virginia, 1860-1978 (Charlottesville, VA: UP of Virginia, 1982) 149-150.
3. Gay 151.
4. Halwyck, Radford, Virginia, historic photographs, J. Hoge Tyler Collection, Special Collections, Newman Library, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia.

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5. Gay 157.
6. Elmer D Johnson, ed., Radford Then and Then: A Pictorial History (Radford, VA: American Revolution Bicentennial Commission of Radford, Virginia, 1976) 20-21.
7. Mary B. Kegley and F. B. Kegley. Early Adventurers on the Western Waters. Vol. 1 (Orange, Virginia: Green Pub., 1980) 276.
8. Montgomery County Records, Circuit Court Clerk's Office, Montgomery County Court House, Christiansburg, Virginia, Will Book 5, p. 218.
9. Montgomery County Records, Will Book 10, p. 492.
10. Montgomery County Records, Land Book, 1890-91.
11. Montgomery County Records, Deed Book 31, p. 307.
12. Radford City Records, Circuit Clerk's Office, Radford Municipal Building, Radford, Virginia, Land Book, 1895. It is difficult to distinguish commercial from domestic property in the land books, except by location and supplementary historical information.
13. La Riviere, Radford, Virginia, National Register form, National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, Washington, DC.
14. Basement dining rooms and kitchens are found in Wytheville, Virginia, at several houses dating from the late nineteenth century, including the Blair House (VDHR survey number 139-23).
15. John E. Wells and Robert E. Dalton, The Virginia Architects, 1820-1955: A Bibliographical Dictionary (Memphis, TN: New South Architectural Publications, forthcoming).
16. Pulaski Historic Residential District, Pulaski, Virginia, National Register form, National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, Washington, DC.

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17. VDHR Historic Site Survey 126-0061. The house was built in the 1890s for the brothers M.A. and J.T. Allen. The unusual dwelling, which consists of two gable-fronted sections united by a shed-roofed central passage element, contains woodwork similar to Halwyck and may share the same architect or builder.

18. Haven Howe House, Pulaski County survey form no. 77-47, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia.

19. Halwyck, Radford, Virginia, historic photographs.

## 9. Major Bibliographic Sources

Anderson, Annie Sue. "The History of Radford." 1924. Typescript in files of the Radford Public Library, Radford, Virginia.

Belle-Hampton, Pulaski County, Virginia. National Register form. National Register of Historic Places. National Park Service, Washington, DC.

Gay, Thomas E., Jr. "James Hoge Tyler: Rebellious Regular." in Edward Younger, ed. The Governors of Virginia, 1860-1978. Charlottesville, VA: UP of Virginia, 1982.

Halwyck, Radford, Virginia. Historic Photographs. J. Hoge Tyler Collection, Special Collections Dept., Newman Library, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia.

Johnson, Elmer D. Radford Then and Now: A Pictorial History. Radford, Virginia: The American Revolution Bicentennial Commission of Radford, Virginia, 1976.

Kegley, Mary B. and F. B. Kegley. Early Adventurers on the Western Waters. Vol. 1. Orange, Virginia: Green Pub., 1980, 276.

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La Riviere, Radford, Virginia. National Register form. National Register of Historic Places. National Park Service, Washington, DC.

Montgomery County Deed, Land, and Will Books and Marriage Registers, Circuit Court Clerk's Office, Montgomery County Court House, Christiansburg, Virginia.

Pulaski Historic Residential District, Pulaski, Virginia. National Register form. National Register of Historic Places. National Park Service, Washington, DC.

Radford City Deed, Land, Plat, and Will Books, Radford City Circuit Court Clerk's Office, Radford, Virginia.

Tyler, James Hoge. Correspondence relating to Halwyck, Radford, Virginia. J. Hoge Tyler papers, Box 26, folder 4, Special Collections Dept., Newman Library, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia.

Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia. Survey files.

Wells, John E. and Robert E. Dalton. The Virginia Architects, 1820-1955: A Bibliographical Dictionary. Memphis TN: New South Architectural Publications, forthcoming.

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Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated boundaries include lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, and 12 in section 50, a vacated alley between lots 1 to 4 and 9-12, a vacated section of Madison Street along their southeastern edge, and an un-numbered lot adjoining section 50 on the southeast side of that section as recorded in Radford Plat Book 3, p. 26.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the Halwyck nominated property correspond to the present boundaries and include all historic resources associated with the property.

Photographs

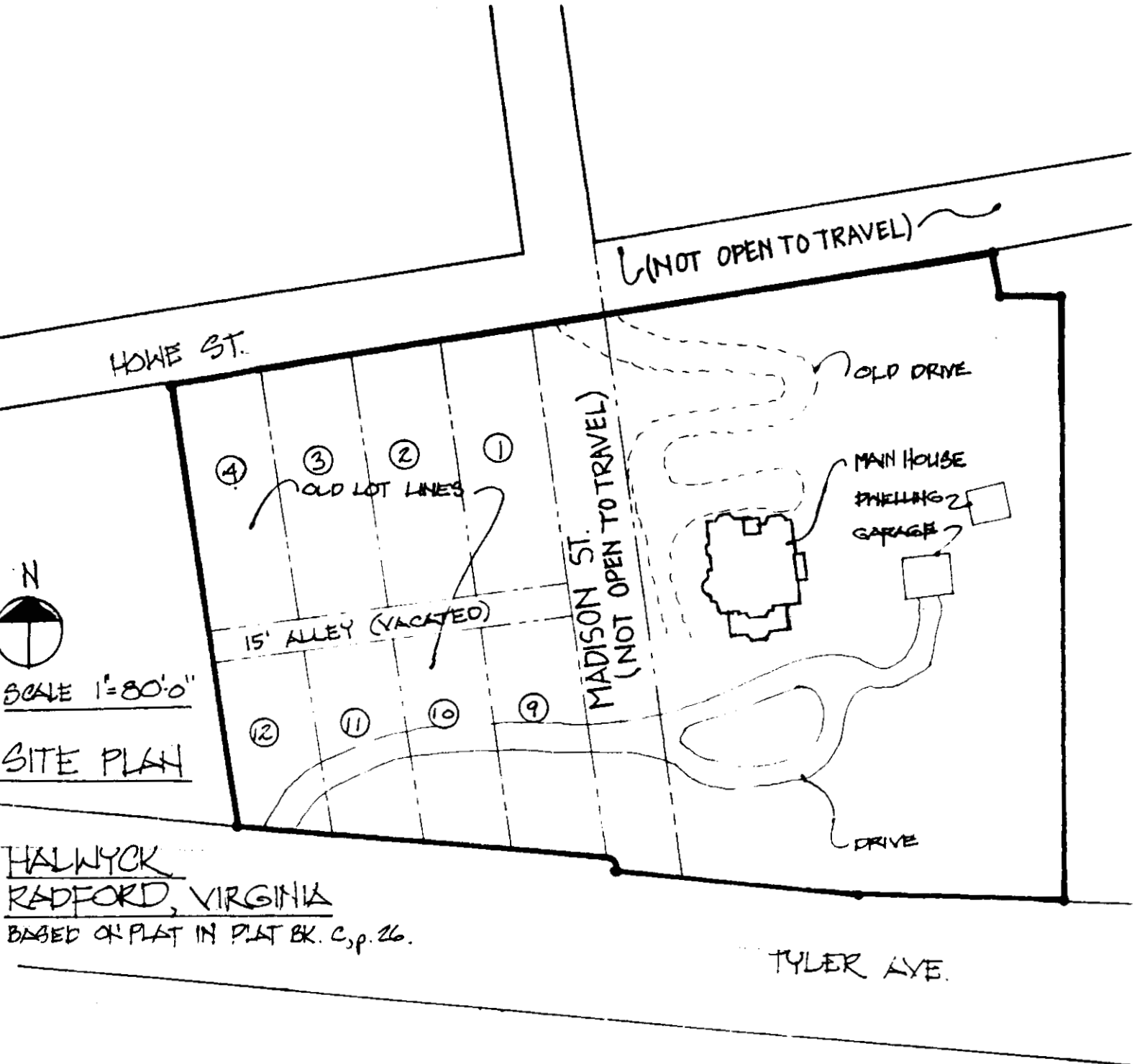
1. 1. Halwyck  
2. Radford (City), VA (same for all photos).  
3. Photographer: Gibson Worsham (same for all photos).  
4. Negative number: 14130 (same for all photos).  
5. Date of photographs: Jan. 1996 (same for all photos).  
6. Location of negative: Library of Virginia, Richmond,  
(Same for all photos).  
7. View of the NW and SW facades of the house from the west.  
8. The photograph number appears at the top of each heading.
2. 1. View of the NE front of the house from the northeast.
3. 1. View of SE and SW facades of the house from the south.
4. 1. View of NW facades of the garage and secondary dwelling.
5. 1. View of the stair in the passage from southwest.
6. 1. View of western bay in the north parlor from the south.
7. 1. View of mantel in the north parlor from the northeast.
8. 1. View of east bay in the dining room from the southwest.
9. 1. View of the encaustic tile floor in the basement passage.

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Radford, Virginia

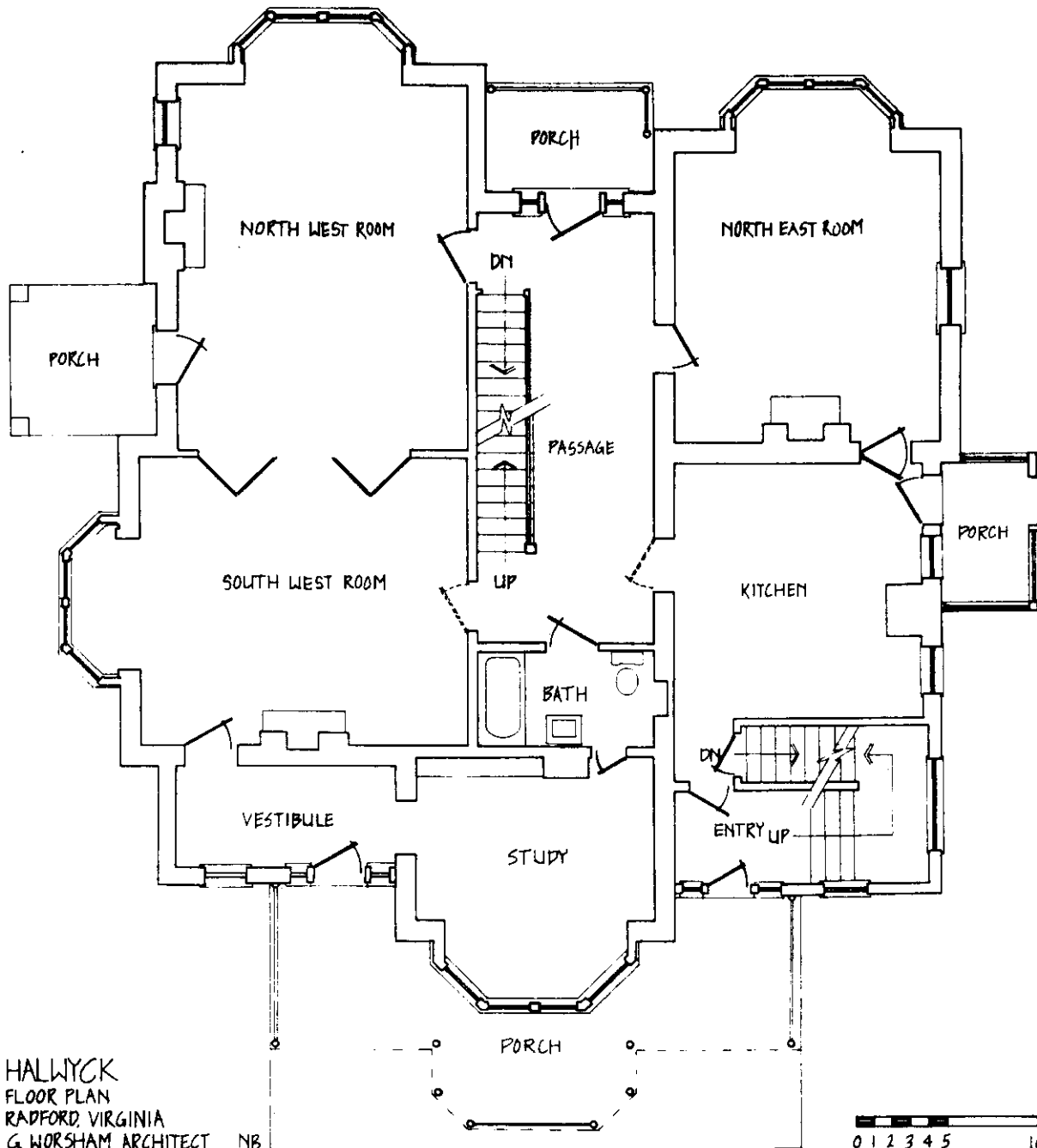


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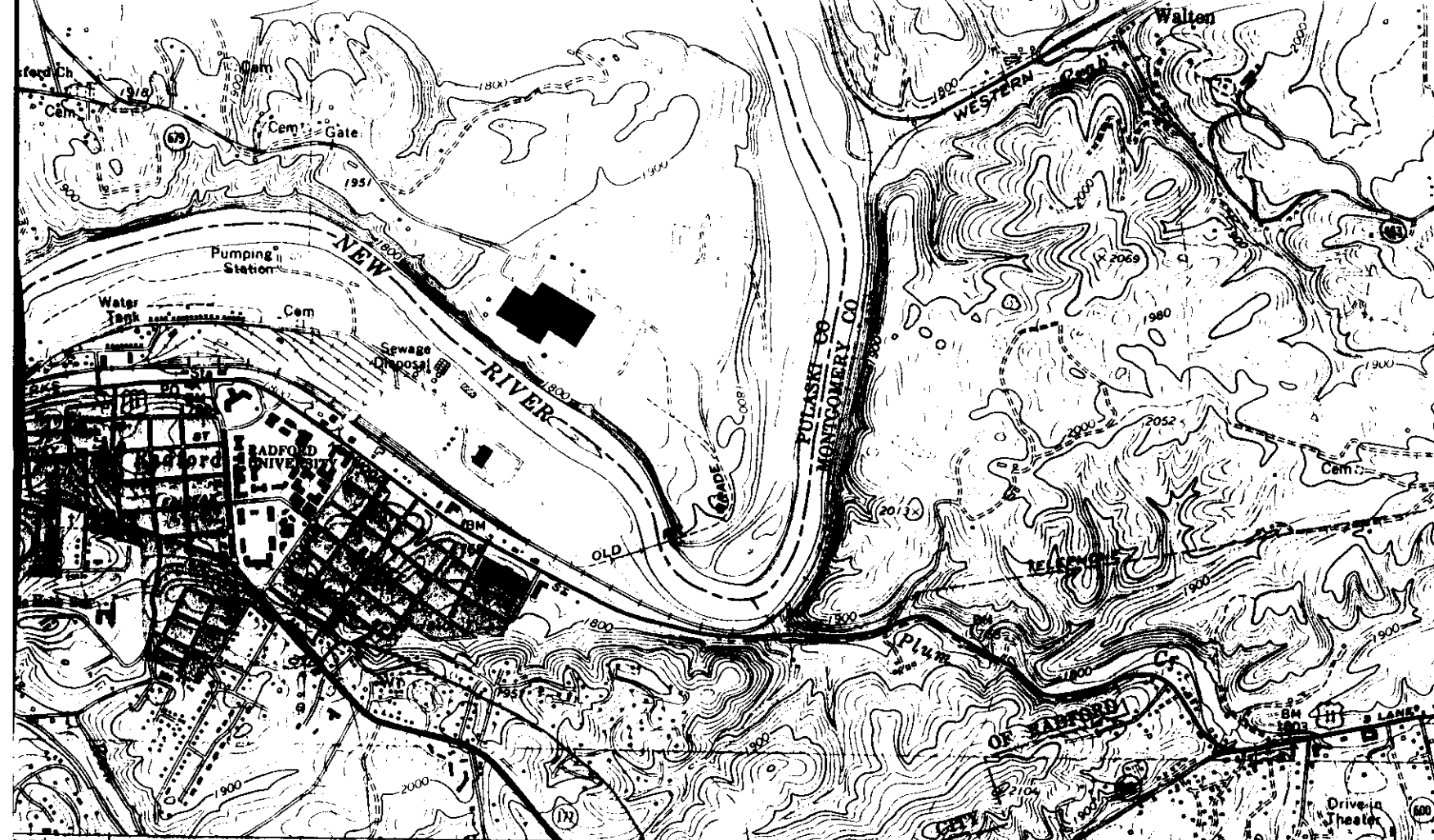
Section number Exhibits Page 19

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Radford, Virginia



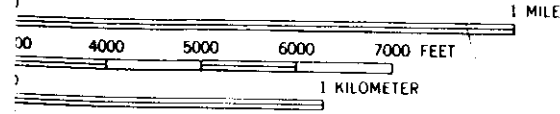
HALWYCK  
FLOOR PLAN  
RADFORD, VIRGINIA  
G. WORSHAM ARCHITECT NB

0 1 2 3 4 5 10 FEET

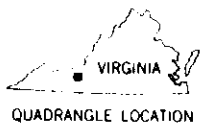


1:24 000  
 SOUTH 11 SE  
 1540 32'30" 1541  
 4109000 N  
 37° 07' 30" 80° 30'

HALWYCK  
 RADFORD, VA UTM REFERENCE  
 17/540069/410930



RVAL 20 FEET  
 RTICAL DATUM OF 1929



Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled in cooperation with Commonwealth of Virginia agencies from aerial photographs taken 1982 and other sources This information not field checked. Map edited 1984

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty		Light-duty	
Medium-duty		Unimproved dirt	
	U. S. Route		State Route

**RADFORD NORTH, VA.**  
 NE/4 RADFORD 15' QUADRANGLE  
 37080-B5-TF-024

1965  
 PHOTOREVISED 1984  
 DMA 4858 II NE - SERIES V834

4112  
 4111  
 CHRISTIANSBURG (U.S. 460) 5 MI.  
 ROANOKE 34 MI.  
 4109000 N  
 37° 07' 30" 80° 30'  
 (RIVER) SW  
 4928 11 SW