

VLR- 1/16/73 NRHP- 4/11/73

128-10

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Virginia
COUNTY:	Roanoke
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Benjamin Deyerle Place (or Winsmere)

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Lone Oaks

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
3402 Grandin Road Extension, SW

CITY OR TOWN:
Roanoke vicinity (Sixth District Congressman Richard H. Poff)

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Virginia	51	Roanoke	167

3. CLASSIFICATION

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

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mr. and Mrs. Alan M. Fink

STREET AND NUMBER:
7772 Pender Court

CITY OR TOWN:
Roanoke La Costa, Calif. 92008

STATE:	CODE
Virginia	51

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Roanoke County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Salem

STATE	CODE
Virginia	51

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

DATE OF SURVEY: 1958 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE:	CODE
D.C.	11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Virginia

COUNTY: Roanoke

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

In the early 1850's, Benjamin Deyerle, then the leading builder in the Roanoke County area, constructed Lone Oaks to house his family. Like most of the dwellings he built, it is a sturdy brick Classical Revival structure with a three-bay entrance facade. The brick is laid with three rows of stretchers alternating with one row of Flemish bond except on the entrance facade which has all stretchers above the floor level of the first story. The western, main entrance to the house is up a horseshoe-shaped stairway with simple iron railings. These stairs were built in the twentieth century; previously, a steep row of straight, wooden steps led into the house.

The Doric, single-bay, one-story entrance portico rests on brick piers through which a basement entrance can be reached. The portico itself is pedimented. Supporting the pedimented entablature are two paired groups of outside pillar and inside column. These pillars and columns have thin and flattened echini contrasting with the somewhat overbold abaci. The pillars, and their corresponding pilasters, are plain while the attenuated columns, which have an exaggerated entasis, are fluted. Columns, pillars, and pilasters stand on squat, squared pedestals. Between the columns and pillars and the pillars and pilasters which flank the doorway are simple rails with a molded handrail and unmolded base.

The door itself is flanked by paneled pilasters supporting a plain frieze beneath a molded cornice. The slender sidelights consist of four panes on either side of the doorway; they in turn are flanked by taller pilasters which support a plain frieze surmounted by a cyma-recta molding. Beneath this frieze is the transom with four, almost square, lights. The door reveal, as well as the portico soffit, has unmolded paneling.

Flanking the porticoed entranceway are six-over-six sash windows; on the second floor and at the basement level three windows symmetrically correspond to the bay openings of the first floor. All the facade windows are of the same width; however, the panes of the second story are shorter than those of the first and the basement lights are still further diminished in height. The window caps of the first and second stories are dog-eared wooden lintels while those of the basement are simple, straight lintels.

A slightly peculiar effect is achieved by the tight grouping of these bay openings which leaves an unusually large blank area between the side windows and the giant pilasters at the corners of the building. The corner pilasters, which were often used by Deyerle, stand on projecting pedestals which extend from the raised first floor level to the ground. The pedestals are capped by simple two-row brick projections which are in turn surmounted by two more single, graduated rows of brick which achieve the effect of moldings.

The heavy entablature, which caps all facades of the house, consists of a strongly projecting molded cornice above a frieze which is separated from the narrow architrave by graduated fillets. This entablature has an especially weighty appearance because of the extremely low hip of the tin roof which, combined with the slope of the land, makes the roof appear to be flat.

The three brick chimneys, set at each side of the house and at the rear of the ell, are interior; thus, it is not too surprising that the northern facade and the rear wall of the ell are blank walls. The south

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Virginia
COUNTY	Roanoke
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7. facade, however, has a window to the east of the chimney and, as there is no break articulating the beginning of the ell, this facade continues with a window flanking either side of a twentieth-century frame addition. The two doors on the basement level of the southern facade are also twentieth-century additions.

On both the first floor and basement levels, a screened porch runs the length of the eastern facade of the main block and the northern facade of the ell. From the porch, doors lead into the first floor parlour (north room of the main section), central hall, and main ell bedroom. The symmetry of the main facade is not carried out in the rear. Although the two second-story windows of the eastern facade line up with their corresponding western facade openings, the eastern window of the parlour is considerably displaced to the north and the two doors, from the porch to the parlour and to the hall, are placed with no relationship to the openings of the western facade.

On the porch there are exterior steps leading to the basement level. On the first floor, interior service stairs next to the small ell bedroom (once possible a nursery or an office) lead both upstairs and downstairs. In the central front hall, a curving stairway leads to the second floor. Under the straight run of the stairs is vertical paneling. As the stairway begins to curve, it becomes freestanding. The step ends are simple - a raised strip follows the lines of the risers and the treads. The stairway has plain, slender columnar shafts with entasis, a newel consisting of an exceptionally graceful colonette resting on a square pedestal, and a handrail with an unadorned, flattened curve. As the walls of the upper hall follow the sweep of the stairway, the upper hall window, with its curve, is particularly interesting.

The frames of the first floor doorways which lead into the parlour and the living room (south room of the main block) from the front hall, consist of molded pedestals, paneled pilasters, and molded capitals supporting a plain frieze under a molded cornice. The door frames leading out of the parlour and living room have unmolded bases, molded backbands, crossettes, and sharply projecting cornices. Doors are quite varied at Lone Oaks but all have four panels except for the one-panel entrance door. It is interesting to note that on the exterior of this door, the jamb had to be cut back because the door knob was placed too close to it. Some of the doors have no molded panels while others have molded panels on one side. The doors and doorframes of the second floor are generally simpler than those of the first although some doorframes have molded backbands and crossettes. Others have very plain post-and-lintel frames while a few have lintels with a central rising. The basement doors are similar to the plain ones on the second floor but the frames are different from those of the other floors-but the backbands are much wider and have quite different moldings. On this lower floor alone are the chair rails which form the sills of the windows original. As is fairly frequent, old forms have been maintained in the less pretentious areas of a dwelling. In some rooms of the upper floors, the present owner has added chair rails and cornices. However, the baseboards throughout appear to be original. Window reveals are unpaneled on the basement and second floors; only on the first floor are

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7. they paneled.

There is a strong similarity in all the mantels at Lone Oaks. All are Classical Revival with pilasters supporting an entablature. All the pilasters have pedestals and molded capitals but the moldings of the capitals vary considerably from room to room as do the moldings of the cornice section of the mantels.

A number of outbuildings survive. The quarters to the northeast in the rear, have the same bond as the rear facades of the house - three stretchers alternating with a row of Flemish bond - and have the same simple wooden lintels over the openings as those used on parts of the house. The quarters are divided into two rooms on each floor; presumably the west room of the first floor was used as an outside kitchen. The store building to the east also has wooden lintels over the openings but the bond is varied by having four rows of stretchers. In the rear of the storehouse is a ramp which leads to the second floor level. To the southeast stands a brick building used as a kiln. It has a fine molded brick cornice. Finally, the brick springhouse to the northwest is similar to the other outbuildings in its brick bond and Classical Revival lintels. Although somewhat muddied, the little stream still runs in the basement of the springhouse.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) c. 1852

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Lone Oaks is the home on Mud Lick Creek, between Roanoke and Cave Spring, which Benjamin Deyerle (1806-1883) constructed for his family. Grandson of one of the earliest settlers of the Roanoke Valley, Deyerle was orphaned at an early age but in spite of his inauspicious beginnings and a lack of extensive formal education, he soon rose to be the most important Roanoke County area contractor and builder of the mid-nineteenth century, as well as a country entrepreneur of importance. A large-scale farmer with considerable tracts of land in both Roanoke and Franklin Counties, he raised mostly corn, wheat, tobacco, and cattle. He had, as well, a prosperous mill, a distillery, and a general store.

Most important of all, the numerous houses and churches which he contracted and built form the backbone of the Classical Revival style in the Roanoke area. They include Monterey and Intervale in Salem, Bell-Air on Craven's Creek Pleasant Grove at Glenvar, and Hunter's Home in southwest Roanoke. He also seems to have constructed the Italianate section of the Deyerle Place on Blackwater in Franklin County. In addition, he is reputed builder of two churches in Franklin County: Fairmont Baptist Church and Piedmont Presbyterian Church in Callaway. Deyerle's buildings have a grace and architectural sophistication which, in spite of the availability of handbooks, are quite surprising. It is perhaps fair to say that Lone Oaks in particular is the most handsome and finely crafted of the Deyerle buildings which in themselves are considered by some to be the finest structures in the Roanoke Valley.

Lone Oaks remained in the Deyerle family until the twentieth century when it was purchased by the John Hatcher Fergusons and later sold to its present owners the Alan M. Finks.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CHEEK, ELIZABETH, "Benjamin Deyerle, Builder: 1806-1883," - A Thesis Presented to the Art Department of Hollins College, Hollins, Virginia, May 4, 1971.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		37 ° 14 ' 56 "	80 ° 00 ' 19 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 2.9 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission DATE: December 1972

STREET AND NUMBER: Room 1116 Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond STATE: Virginia CODE: 51

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

J.R. Fishburne, Director
Virginia Historic
Landmarks Commission

Title _____

Date _____

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

U.S.G.S. 7½' quadrangle (scale:1:24,000)
Bent Mountain, Va. 1963

BENJAMIN DEYERLE PLACE

latitude
37°14'56"

longitude
80°00'19"

BENT MOUNTAIN QUADRANGLE
VIRGINIA
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
NE/4 ELLISTON 15' QUADRANGLE

505B IV SW
(ROANOKE)

