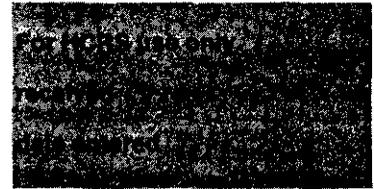


VLR - 9-15-81
 NRHP - 11-24-82

**United States Department of the Interior
 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
 Inventory—Nomination Form**



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
 Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Oakdene

and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number 605 East Beverley Street

N/A
 not for publication

city, town Staunton N/A vicinity of 6th congressional district (M. Caldwell Butler)

state Virginia code 51 county XXXXX (in City) code 790

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<u>N/A</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<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:

4. Owner of Property

name Harriet Echols Hanger

street & number 605 East Beverley Street

city, town Staunton N/A vicinity of state Virginia 24401

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. City Hall; Office of the Clerk of Circuit Court

street & number 109-113-East Beverley Street

city, town Staunton state Virginia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic Staunton Foundation Architectural Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date April 1976 federal state county local

depository for survey records Historic Staunton Foundation Office

city, town Staunton state Virginia

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Clearly Staunton's finest example of the Queen Anne style, Oakdene is situated on a sloping, landscaped lot on the north side of East Beverley Street. Its irregular plan, multiple roofs, and great variety of textures and materials simultaneously confuse and delight the eye. So well does the structure relate to its surroundings that it almost seems to grow out of its site.

The irregularity of the two-and-a-half-story facade makes delineation of the bays somewhat difficult. Oakdene's front elevation faces south and has three main sections: the recessed west side with its one-story porch (the roof is missing) and carved entrance porch; the central turret with a chimney up the middle which bears a plaque with 1893, the date of construction, in intricate numbers; and the gabled section on the east that includes the two sun porches.

Oakdene's main roof is of slate and is composed of both hipped and gabled elements interrupted by several tall chimneys with elaborately corbelled caps and decorative brickwork. There are simple brackets, treated as though they were rafter ends, under parts of the eaves. The hipped roof on the west originally had a dormer which has been removed. The conical roof on the turret flares out at the bottom. The turret is topped by an open cupola with an owl finial; the owl's eyes are wired so that they can be lighted at night.

Materials employed include: a foundation of coursed limestone; pressed brick on part of the chimneys and first floor; patterned shingles on the turret's upper floor; painted coursed stone on part of the turret and the chimneys; and half-timbered stucco in the upper story.

The varied fenestration includes such diverse window shapes as simple rectangles, segmental arched, round arched, triangular, and even the uncharacteristic Gothic-arched openings. Most of the windows are double-hung sash with 1/1 lights. In the areas of pressed brick, the windows are topped by flat jack arches. The round-headed window in the turret is surrounded by voussoirs.

The rear and side elevations are nearly as complex as the facade and feature several small, covered porches opening off both the first and second floors.

To the northwest of the main house is a garage built into the hillside; it features a revolving metal disc used to turn an automobile around before driving out. The terraced rear garden is crisscrossed with stone paths and retaining walls and is simply landscaped. A small private garden is located to the east of the house and can be reached through the sun porch that wraps around the east front and side of the first floor.

Stone steps lead up to the main entrance which is recessed under a porch to the left of the turret. A modified Tudor-arched opening frames a set of heavy double doors with two panels below the beveled-glass panes, each with the Tudor-arched shape. These doors lead into a small antechamber with a tiled floor in shades of rose, grey, and white with a fleur-de-lis design. Inset into another modified Tudor arch is the inner doorway which consists of a single, pointed-arched door flanked by small, pointed-arched sidelights.

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below							
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion				
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science				
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture				
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/				
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater				
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation				
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)				

Specific dates 1893 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This visually arresting house represents the late 19th-century Queen Anne Style at its freest and most imaginative. It skillful, but yet unidentified, architect borrowed forms and motifs from 16th- and 17th-century European precedents and combined them into a unique composition employing outstanding craftsmanship and notably fine materials. Oakdene was built in 1893 for Edward Echols, who served as lieutenant governor of Virginia from 1898-1902 and was president of the local National Valley Bank.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Honorable Edward Echols was the son of Gen. John Echols, founder of the National Valley Bank.¹ Edward Echols served many terms in both houses of the Virginia legislature and as lieutenant governor under J. Hoge Tyler. Locally, Echols was president of National Valley Bank from 1905-1915 and remained active in civic affairs throughout his lifetime. His daughter, Harriet Echols Hanger, still owns the house that he built in 1893.

Oakdene, built during the height of Staunton's "boomtown" period of development, is clearly the most exuberant Queen Anne structure in the area. It displays the irregularity of massing and plan, the assortment of window treatments, and the variety of forms, textures, and materials so characteristic of the style. It exemplifies late Victorian eclecticism taken to the extreme by an architect² who breaks all the rules. In fact, Oakdene is a perfect example of the late 19th-century freedom of expression that led to the reversal of public tastes toward the more subdued Colonial Revival style of the early 20th century.

Fortunately, the exterior of the house is almost entirely intact, lacking only the roof on the front porch and a roof dormer. In addition, the landscaped garden, with its fine stone walls³, has been maintained through the years. Today, Oakdene is painted in shades of neutral greys, but old photographs reveal that the original paint scheme was polychromatic, as more properly befits the building's style.

Elizabeth Bray

¹National Valley Bank is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Refer to the nomination form for more information on the bank.

²Although there is no documentation as to the identity of the architect(s), family tradition maintains that the firm was the largest one in Philadelphia at the time. The firm of Goforth & Yarnall of 14 South Broad Street, Philadelphia, was working in Staunton about 1893.

³Stonework for this residence was carried out by Lerner & Smith, noted local masons.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Staunton Deed and Tax Records. City Hall; Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Staunton.

Staunton - The Queen City, 1761-1906. The Dispatch and News (Historical and Industrial Number). Staunton: Augusta Printing Corporation, 1906.

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property Irregular lot averages 218' x 315'

Quadrangle name Staunton, Va.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	<u>1</u> <u>7</u>	<u>6</u> <u>6</u> <u>9</u> <u>5</u> <u>1</u> <u>4</u> <u>10</u>	<u>4</u> <u>2</u> <u>2</u> <u>1</u> <u>4</u> <u>10</u>	B					
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing		
C				D					
E				F					
G				H					

Verbal boundary description and justification The register bounds coincide with those of the city lot on which Oakdene is situated, recorded on Staunton City Assessor's Map #343, Lot D-12. Beginning on NW side of E. Beverley St., about 110' NE of the NE corner of the intersection of E. Beverley St. and the access road to the Va. School for the Deaf (See Continuation

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries Sheet # 1)

state	N/A	code	county	N/A	code
state	N/A	code	county	N/A	code

11. Form Prepared By

(1) Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, 221 Governor Street, Richmond, Va.
 name/title Elizabeth A. Bray, Administrative Assistant 23219 (804)786-3144

organization Historic Staunton Foundation date June 1981

street & number P. O. Box 2534 telephone (703) 885-7676

city or town Staunton state Virginia 24401

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *H. Bryan Mitchell*

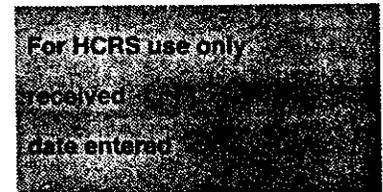
H. Bryan Mitchell, Executive Director
 title Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission date MAY 10 1982

For HCRS use only
 I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Keeper of the National Register
 Attest: _____ date _____
 Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



OAKDENE, 605 East Beverley Street, Staunton, VA

Continuation sheet # 1

Item number 7, 10

Page 1

7. DESCRIPTION

All have leaded diamond panes and the door has three pointed-arched panels below the glass. Both sets of doors have heavy molded metal door handles with foliage motifs.

The entrance hall is L-shaped and features a coffered ceiling and wainscoting carved with narrow, Gothic arches throughout; this wainscoting is repeated up the staircase wall. Dominating the hall is an enormous Gothic-arched window with three intersecting divisions, also Gothic arched. The newel posts and balustrade also employ Gothic motifs. The banister, stair treads, and flooring are all natural oak. There is a mantel in the hall with a black-veined marble surround.

To the left of the hall is a large opening leading into the dining room. This room features a heavy crown molding; a recessed, round-headed niche; and a baseboard, chair rail, and door molding that are treated as one continuous piece. A Colonial Revival mantel, possibly from another house, has double fluted colonettes, beading, reeding, and an urn in the raised central tablet. Through the door to the rear of the room are the former butler's pantry and the modern kitchen.

On the right side of the hall, the doorway leads into the parlor which also has heavy crown molding, a chair rail with double molding, and an Adamesque mantel with black-veined marble surround. The right wall is curved, reflecting the rounded shape of the turret bay on the exterior. The parlor leads into a sun room with Gothic-arched openings. Behind the sun porch is a small library paneled in dark-stained oak. The library opens onto a narrow hall across which is a bedroom and bath. This hallway leads back into the main entrance hall.

Upstairs there is a wide, open landing with the same Gothic balustrade as is used on the stair. The landing gives access to a sitting room in the turret bay, a small office, and three bedrooms, one with a modern dressing room. These upper rooms have simple mantels with tiled surrounds. Several of the rooms have open, covered porches overlooking the garden. The third story is used only for storage.

Elizabeth Bray

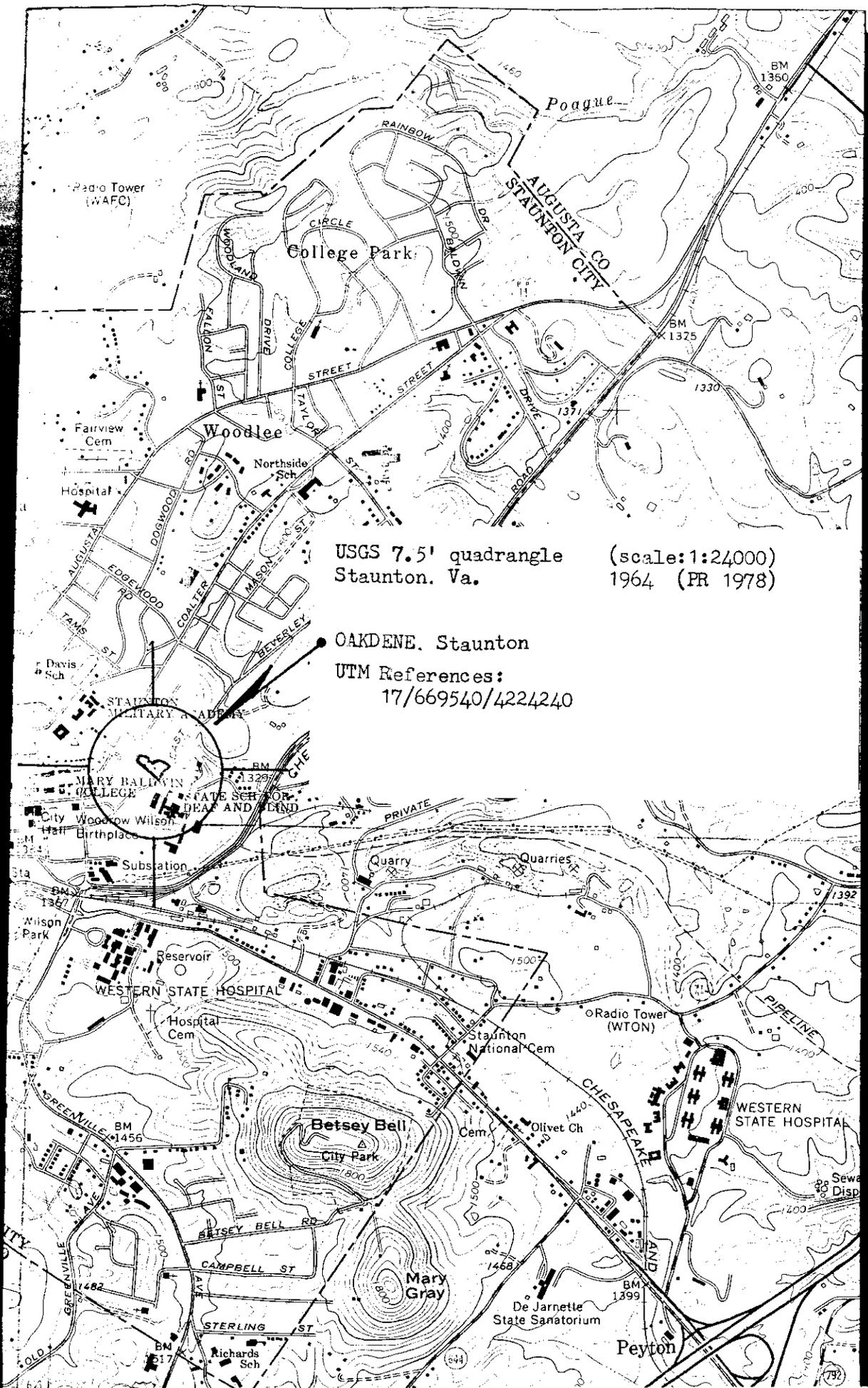
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

and Blind; thence extending about 410' NW, then about 75' NE, then about 85' SE, then about 25' SW, then about 30' SE, then about 100' ENE, then about 70' E to SW side of private drive; thence following said side about 240' SE to NW side of E. Beverley St.; thence about 220' SW along said side to point of origin.

Boundary Justification

The nomination boundaries have been drawn to follow those of Lot D-12 on Staunton Assessor's Map #343. This acreage includes the main house, garage, and associated gardens.



USGS 7.5' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)
 Staunton, Va. 1964 (PR 1978)

OAKDENE, Staunton
 UTM References:
 17/669540/4224240