

United States Department of the Interior  
 National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Shenvalee Golf Resort

Other names/site number: Shenandoah Estates, Shenvalee Hotel, Shenvalee Hotel and Golf Course, Shenvalee Club, Shenvalee Lodge, Shenvalee Lodge and Golf Course, Shenvalee, Shen-va-lee; VDHR Site No. 269-5003

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

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

## 2. Location

Street & number: 9660 Fairway Drive

City or town: New Market State: VA County: Shenandoah

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_ national      \_\_\_ statewide      X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A      \_\_\_ B      \_\_\_ C      \_\_\_ D

<p>_____  <b>Signature of certifying official/Title:</b>  <u>Virginia Department of Historic Resources</u>  <b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b></p>	<p>_____  <b>Date</b></p>
--	-------------------------------

Shenvalee Golf Resort  
Name of Property

Shenandoah Co., Virginia  
County and State

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
<hr/>	
<b>Signature of commenting official:</b>	<b>Date</b>
<hr/>	
<b>Title :</b>	<b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b>

---

#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- \_\_\_ entered in the National Register
- \_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register
- \_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register
- \_\_\_ removed from the National Register
- \_\_\_ other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

---

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

---

#### 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

Shenvalee Golf Resort  
Name of Property

Shenandoah Co., Virginia  
County and State

Structure

Object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>8</u>	<u>4</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

---

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE: sports facility

DOMESTIC: hotel

DOMESTIC: single-dwelling

DOMESTIC: secondary structure

COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE: sports facility

DOMESTIC: hotel

DOMESTIC: single-dwelling

DOMESTIC: secondary structure

COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Shenvalee Golf Resort  
Name of Property

Shenandoah Co., Virginia  
County and State

---

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Colonial Revival

Modernist

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Earth, Wood, Brick, Metal, Asphalt

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

---

### Summary Paragraph

Shenvalee Golf Resort, located at 9660 Fairway Drive in the Town of New Market, Shenandoah County, Virginia, consists of a golf course, lodge/clubhouse, motel, and other buildings dating primarily from 1926 to 1972. The Shenvalee Golf Course has the standard elements of tees, fairways, greens, roughs and hazards. The Shenvalee Lodge, which incorporates parts of a nineteenth-century dwelling, is a brick-veneered Colonial Revival building dating largely to 1926-27. The two-story building features a monumental Doric portico, a porte cochere, a metal-sheathed side-gable roof with habitable attic, and rear additions. Next to the lodge is the 1959-60 Poolside Motel, also Colonial Revival in style, with interconnected one-story brick-veneered wings arranged around a swimming pool. The two-story Golfside Motel, built in 1968-69 and enlarged in 1972, is Modernist in design. The nominated area of approximately 145 acres lies between 1,000 and 1,100 feet in elevation. Its rolling topography is watered by branches draining into Smith Creek, a tributary of the Shenandoah and Potomac Rivers. Some of the branches are dammed to form ponds. US Highway 11, also known as Lee Highway or South Congress Street, bounds a part of the area on the west side, and from it Fairway Drive provides access to the core area of the resort. Nineteenth- and early twentieth-century residential areas on the south end of New Market adjoin the area, and mid-twentieth-century and later residential areas inspired by the

Shenvalee Golf Resort

Name of Property

Shenandoah Co., Virginia

County and State

presence of the golf course bound it on the south. Massanutten Mountain, a ridge of the Blue Ridge with local elevations rising to over 2,900 feet, is prominent just to the east.

---

## Narrative Description

### *Inventory*

1. Shenvalee Golf Course. 1926-27; 1960-61. Contributing site.
2. Shenvalee Lodge. Late 19<sup>th</sup> c.; 1926-27. Contributing building.
3. Poolside Motel. 1959-60. Contributing building.
4. Golfside Motel. 1968-69; 1972. Contributing building.
5. Swimming pool. 1961. Contributing structure.
6. Fairway House. Ca. 1930. Contributing building.
7. Fairway House garage. 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter/mid-20<sup>th</sup> c. Contributing building.
8. Pro Shop and Miller Grille. 1965; 2005. Non-contributing building.
9. Cart Barn. 2003. Non-contributing building.
10. Maintenance Building (current). 1986. Non-contributing building.
11. Maintenance Building (former). Mid-20<sup>th</sup> c. Contributing building.
12. Shenvalee Sign. Ca. 1954; ca. 1990. Non-contributing structure.

### *Shenvalee Golf Course*

The **Shenvalee Golf Course** (inventory no. 1) consists of two parts: an original course known as the front nine or Olde Course, built in 1926-27, and an extension known as the back nine built in 1960-61. Both parts have standard golf course features such as tees, fairways, and greens surrounded by roughs. Hazards include sand traps, ponds, and trees, the latter a mix of deciduous and evergreen species. A system of asphalt-paved golfcart paths weaves through the course. Some of the paths cross watercourses over small metal-railed bridges. Near the tees are slender granite sign posts that identify the tee by number and par and illustrate the fairway form with hazards indicated. The sign posts have painted accents in green, blue, red, white, and black, and they display a golfer and mountain logo that came into use in the resort's promotional materials about 1990. The back nine includes a small, pyramidal-roofed, post-supported rain shelter dating to 1965 or later. The east end of the nominated area includes a few golf features associated with the construction of the eastern golf course extension after the end of the period of significance.

### *Shenvalee Lodge Exterior*

The **Shenvalee Lodge** (no. 2) is a two-story Colonial Revival building facing west toward Lee Highway and the front holes of the original golf course. The building is constructed with brick veneer laid with header-stretcher courses every four courses of stretchers. The stretchers are red in color and the headers are purplish gray. The metal roofing was in the process of replacement in kind during survey in December 2022. The roof features an interior chimney; various historic and modern vents and equipment; and small gabled dormers with round-arched windows with radial muntins. The back part of the roof has a gambrel-like appearance with vinyl siding and

Shenvalee Golf Resort

Name of Property

Shenandoah Co., Virginia

County and State

pairs of six-over-six wooden-sash windows. This part of the roof engages a long second-story porch with posts on paneled pedestals and modern one-over-one-pattern window infill.

The symmetrical front of the lodge is dominated by a two-story, three-bay portico with monumental smooth Doric columns and half-column pilasters. The portico's entablature steps out and has recessed panels in the soffits between the column capitals. The portico is crowned by a Chinese Chippendale balustrade which is a modern replacement modeled on the original. Inside the portico, centered on the façade, is an entrance with double-leaf doors with multi-pane glazing above panels. The entrance has a robustly proportioned surround consisting of smooth Doric half-column pilasters, a heavy entablature and cornice that step out over the columns, urn finials positioned over the columns, and, between the urns, a center panel with concave sides that rises to the sill of a second-story window.

To the right and left of the portico are secondary entries surmounted by round relieving arch motives. The left (north) entry retains its two-leaf doors, similar to the main entry doors, whereas the right (south) entry has been converted to a window. The platform on which the portico stands has centered steps flanked by brick cheek walls and, to either side of the steps, a brick foundation with small diamond-shaped honeycomb vents. The platform is extended to left and right by a terrace with the same vented foundation. The platform and terrace have a metal balustrade with intermittent decorative scrolls that is a mid- to late-twentieth-century replacement of the original Chinese Chippendale wooden balustrade.

The terrace connects to a one-story porch on the right (south) end with smooth Doric columns and half-column pilasters and a replacement Chinese Chippendale roof balustrade. The porch shelters a night check in window and the current main entrance, which has a partly glazed door with a transom and single sidelight. The porch is accessed by a short concrete wheelchair ramp. On the left (north) end the terrace connects to a porte cochere with smooth Doric columns and half-column pilasters, an outermost row of fluted cylindrical metal replacement columns on brick pedestals, steps down to the drive-through pavement, and a replacement Chinese Chippendale roof balustrade. The porte cochere shelters double-leaf partly glazed doors and engages the bottom part of a metal fire escape stair enclosed in a glass block enclosure. In 1984 a one-story flat-roofed dining room was added to the rear. The addition has the same brick veneer bond as the original building but with more color variation in the stretchers including pinkish and tan tones. Other features of the lodge include replacement vinyl sashes in most windows; an engaged north-elevation back porch with fluted cylindrical metal replacement columns; small, one-story, flat-roofed additions to the south elevation; and an exterior brick boiler flue on the south rear elevation. By the access road in front of the lodge is a brick sign with lantern light fixtures and arrows pointing to the motel check in, Miller Grille, and Pro Shop.

### *Shenvalee Lodge Interior*

The lodge interior is characterized by plaster wall and ceiling finishes; simple molded door and window surrounds; and floors with historic-period wood boards either exposed or covered or replaced with carpeting or tile. Most doorways retain their original or early panel doors, some

Shenvalee Golf Resort

Name of Property

Shenandoah Co., Virginia

County and State

with stack-panel configurations, others with single panels. Many doors retain door knobs with bronze-finish Art Deco escutcheons.

The lodge's front first floor is largely occupied by lobby-related rooms including (from south to north) a lobby reception area, a short hall connecting to the stair, a lobby sitting area, a second sitting room used for overflow dining known as the Miller Room, and a foyer opening to the porte cochere now used for storage. The lobby reception and sitting areas have narrow modern dentil cornices, and the reception area has a reception counter with a paneled front. The lobby sitting area has wall and wainscot panels defined by moldings, and in the larger wall panels are golfing scenes painted by artist Nathalie Vogel sometime after 1990. On the south wall of this room is a chimney breast with a Victorian mantel with tapered chamfered pilasters, a frieze with concave sides and a peaked lower edge with three round cutouts, a heavy shelf molding, and a shelf with an undulating edge. Over the mantel is a Nathalie Vogel painting based on a photo of golf pro Bobby Jones playing the Shenvalee course in 1927. Double French doors communicate between the lobby sitting area and the Miller Room, the latter with a French door leading to a rear dining room, a doorway to a rear hall, a doorway to the porte cochere vestibule, and basement stairs with a wooden balustrade with square newels with beaded accents and square newels.

The dining room behind the Miller Room, known as the Colonial Room, has a wainscot, two paneled square columns, and a modern drop ceiling. A large opening with an accordion partition allows the room to be combined with the dining room known as the Massanutten Room located in the 1984 rear addition. A pair of doors with painted-over glass uppers communicates with the kitchen, and attached to the ceiling in front of the doors is a sign with numerals 1 through 10 that lit up to indicate dining tables. The kitchen has a mix of finishes and equipment dating to different periods including early crockery shelves.

The stair to the second floor curves and the walls at its foot curve outward (the continuation of the stair to the attic also curves). The second floor consists mainly of former lodging rooms connected by a hallway. Some of these retain early bathroom fixtures. A conference room occupies the space above the Colonial Room dining room and was created when a floor was inserted into that originally two-story space. The attic contains more lodging rooms, several with early character including stack-panel doors, exposed floor boards, porcelain in-room sinks, and bathroom sinks and tubs. The attic lodging rooms are contained in the gambrel-like rear portion of the roof. The front of the roof has an unfinished attic in which are visible circular-sawn rafters that join at a ridge board. Examination of exposed floor structure failed to reveal pre-1920s fabric.

The principal space in the basement, which is reached by the stairs in the Miller Room, is a bar known as the Sand Trap Tavern. The current bar finishes postdate a late 1980s fire and include light-tone wood wall paneling, a bar and square columns of the same material, and a drop ceiling. The hallway outside the bar entrance has a complex concrete bulwark on which is mounted a round painting of a convivial friar holding up a glass of wine. The painting originally hung in the bar and was unscathed by the 1980s fire. Next to the bulwark at the top of a few steps

Shenvalee Golf Resort

Name of Property

Shenandoah Co., Virginia

County and State

is a doorway leading to a stone basement which survives from the nineteenth-century dwelling incorporated into the lodge. The cellar walls are hewn limestone with traces of whitewash, a walled-up vent, the base of the chimney which rises through the lobby sitting area, and straight-sawn lintels over the doorway and vent. Overhead are pine log joists hewn on top and bottom and rounded on the sides with fragments of bark. Several cut nails are hammered into the joists. Part of the basement has been made into a tech room serving the resort's communications needs. The basement also has restrooms with early tongue-and-groove toilet stall doors. A sign over the basement stairs in the Miller Room reads "Hospitality Room," apparently a former or alternate name for the bar.

### *Motel Complex*

The motel complex consists of two buildings—the 1959-60 **Poolside Motel** (no. 3) and the **Golfside Motel** (no. 4), consisting of an original 1968-69 north section to which was added a 1972 south section—and a 1961 **swimming pool** (no. 5). The Poolside Motel consists of three one-story linear room blocks forming three sides of a trapezoid or semi-hexagon opening westward toward Fairway Drive. The center block contains eight rooms and the flanking blocks six rooms each. The blocks are covered by asphalt-shingled side-gable roofs that engage front porches that connect to form a continuous covered porchway. The porchway has modern metal columns of fluted cylindrical form in place of the original columns. The porchway makes two turns; at the north turn it connects to a covered sitting area between the north and middle room blocks; at the south turn it passes in front of a laundry and boiler room between the middle and south room blocks. The brickwork on the front of this room appears slightly darker than the brickwork on the adjacent room blocks, however this does not appear to be an indication the room was an addition since there is no such variation on the rear elevation and the room appears in a 1960s photo. The space is indicated above by a brick boiler flue, a slightly lower roofline, and metal roofing on the rear roof planes. At the center of the porch in front of the middle room block is a slight gable-fronted projection supported by paired columns.

Each guest room front features a doorway with modern metal door, a window with operable replacement vinyl sashes flanking a fixed center vinyl sash, and an air-conditioning grate below the window. On the rear elevation each guest room has a single vinyl-sash window and a larger air-conditioning grate. The guest room interiors, which have been continually remodeled over the years (most recently in 2020), have plaster wall and ceiling finishes, paneled wainscots on some walls, carpeted bedroom floors, and rear bathrooms with mixes of original/early and later features including original/early wall tiles in pale yellow and pale blue. Some bathrooms also have beige and gray tiles which may be later. The motel swimming pool has a triangular east shallow end and a narrower west deep end which give the pool a chemistry flask form. The pool is lined with blue-painted concrete with a black tile border at the top. On its south side is a small kiddie pool and at its southwest corner is a flat-roofed, bunker-like, concrete-block boiler room and chlorination building with perforated block vents.

The Golfside Motel is a Modernist two-story building of mixed brick-veneer and vertical wood-sided construction under an asphalt-shingled side-gable roof. The veneer is stretcher bond with



Shenvalee Golf Resort

Name of Property

Shenandoah Co., Virginia

County and State

variegated red and grayish coloration (more red bricks than all or partly gray bricks). A passthrough stairwell separates the original north section from the added south section. The west side of the north-south-aligned building faces a parking area and features a second-story balcony cantilevered on concrete beams. The balcony, which has a simple metal railing, is sheltered by an extension of the roof, and it in turn shelters the concrete sidewalk that provides access to the first-story rooms. The west side has mostly vertical wood siding into which are set the room entrances (with replacement metal doors) and high bathroom windows.

The east side faces the back nine holes of the golf course (hence the motel's name) and has recessed room balconies divided vertically by brick wall sections and horizontally by the projecting concrete floor structure of the second-story rooms. The room balconies have simple metal railings and sliding glass doors. Air-conditioning grills are set into the brick next to the doors and globe lights are affixed to the wall sections (similar lights light other exterior areas). At each end of the building are exposed steel stairs. The twenty-two guest rooms are simply detailed on the interior, those on the second floor with exposed wood purlins that support insulated roof panels. At the south end of the motel stands a memorial bench of black granite dedicated by Pete and Betty Snow.

#### *Other Resources*

Just south of the Poolside Motel is the **Fairway House** (no. 6) at 9696 Fairway Drive, a one-and-three-quarter-story Tudor Revival-influenced house which was not originally part of the resort but is today one of its earliest buildings. The house has white-painted brick veneer, an asphalt-shingled side-gable roof, and windows with replacement vinyl sashes and vinyl false shutters. The Tudor Revival influence is seen in an off-center front entry projection with a steep front-gable roof, in the apex of which is a deeply recessed accent window with a trapezoidal head. The entry with replacement metal door and a small window are sheltered by an aluminum awning supported by decorative metal supports. Similar awnings shade the west-facing upper and lower windows next to the entry projection, the upper window with a dormer-like projection above the front roof eaves. A one-story hip-roofed sitting porch with Craftsman-style square wood columns on brick pedestals was made into an enclosed sunroom in the late twentieth century by vinyl window and siding infill. On the north gable end, opening onto a patio, is a secondary entry with a replacement metal door sheltered by a gablet on wood scroll brackets. Other exterior features include an exterior brick chimney on the south gable end, a hip-roofed one-story rear projection, two upper-story rear windows with the dormer-like treatment, and a modern back deck. The interior has plain door and window surrounds; a Craftsman-style textured-brick mantel (painted) with decorative brick patterning, corbeling, and a segmental-arched fireplace opening; a modernized kitchen; one door with a crystal knob and Art Deco escutcheon; and a mix of plaster and modern paneled wall finishes. Behind the Fairway House is the **Fairway House garage** (no. 7), a gable-fronted frame building with asphalt-shingle roofing, a mix of wide weatherboard or Masonite siding and novelty vinyl siding, remnant tongue-and-groove doors, and a poured concrete foundation. The number 3 mounted on a front door jamb may relate to a former resort building numbering system. Next to the garage are three portable modern sheds. The Fairway

Shenvalee Golf Resort

Name of Property

Shenandoah Co., Virginia

County and State

House was the residence of Charles P. (Charlie) and Maggie Knight in the mid-twentieth century. The house was purchased by Shenvalee in 1997.

Behind the lodge is the **Pro Shop and Miller Grille** (no. 8.), the original section of which is the 1965 pro shop to which the restaurant was added in 2005. The pro shop is a one-story pre-engineered metal building with a low-pitched metal-sheathed front-gable roof and a mix of metal panel and stretcher brick veneer siding. The roof extends on the front north end to create a porch with steel I-beam supports at each end. The porch shelters an entry and a row of windows, and both the porch and windows wrap around to the east side. In the front gable is an illuminated stained-glass sign reading “The Shenvalee/Est. 1924.” The pro shop interior has mostly modern replacement finishes but includes a section with reused hewn beams and circular-sawn ceiling boards which may date to earlier in the building’s evolution. The restaurant, added to the south end of the pro shop, is of simple Modernist brick-veneered construction with a polygonal footprint, a flat roof, aluminum-framed plate glass doors and large plate glass windows, variegated brick, and Miller Grille signage of various sorts.

The **Cart Barn** (no. 9), located between the pro shop/grille and the Golfside Motel, is a linear one-story building with variegated stretcher brick veneer, an asphalt-shingled side-gable roof, four vinyl garage doors on the east side and four on the west side, and a garage door, pedestrian entry, and window on the north gable end. The current **Maintenance Building** (no. 10) is a large one-story pre-engineered metal building with a low-pitched metal-sheathed front-gable roof, metal panel siding, a stretcher brick-veneer wainscot-like treatment on the west-facing front, a concrete-block wainscot-like treatment on other elevations, and vinyl garage doors. The building is situated at the west end of a former tennis court. Portable prefab metal vehicle shelters line its rear side. Downhill and to the north of the current maintenance building is the former **Maintenance Building** (no. 11). The one-story building has wood-post construction with metal siding, a low-pitched corrugated-metal-sheathed side-gable roof, open vehicle/storage bays on the south side, and an interior concrete block flue probably associated with a workshop in the west end, at which there are track-mounted garage doors. The west gable end has a pair of windows with rounded corners.

The **Shenvalee Sign** (no. 12), located at the entrance to the resort on US Highway 11, dates largely to ca. 1990, though it includes a smaller sign in the form of a liveried eighteenth-century footman dating to ca. 1954 or before, and it may incorporate internal structural elements from a sign of more Colonial Revival design erected ca. 1954. The sign features an interior-illuminated metal-framed sign above a tall vertical wood-sided support structure. The illuminated sign reads “Shenvalee Golf Resort” and pictures a golfer with a mountain beyond. According to research by Shenvalee’s Katie Walthall, the golfer/mountain logo appears to have come into use ca. 1990 or in the early 1990s, and hence the sign in its present form appears to date to that period. The support structure has two sign components: an illuminated sign with letter racks for changeable messages, and above it plastic letters reading “Open to the public/Golf/Lodging/Miller Grille.” Next to the sign is a smaller sign in the form of a liveried eighteenth-century footman with the word “Welcome” under him.

Shenvalee Golf Resort  
Name of Property

Shenandoah Co., Virginia  
County and State

*Integrity Analysis*

Shenvalee Golf Resort retains good overall integrity. The buildings are in their original locations and represent an intact and relatively unaltered collection of resort-related resources from the late 1920s to early 1970s period. The setting includes natural features like the wooded slopes of Massanutten Mountain, a feature of the Shenandoah Valley topography that was a factor in the creation of the resort, and residential development much of which dates to the period of significance (1926 to 1972). US Highway 11, a two-lane highway prominent along the property's western border, was another factor in the resort's creation. The majority of the approximately 145-acre nominated area is occupied by the tees, fairways, greens, and roughs of the golf course laid out in 1926-27 and 1960-61. The majority of buildings date to the period of significance and possess exterior integrity of design in that they retain their historic design, materials, and workmanship. The nominated area as a whole conveys a sense of the particular period of time during which it was developed and gained its historic associations. The nominated area possesses integrity of association in that it is directly linked to the historical developments that formed it.

Shenvalee Golf Resort  
Name of Property

Shenandoah Co., Virginia  
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.)

- 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Shenvalee Golf Resort  
Name of Property

Shenandoah Co., Virginia  
County and State

**Areas of Significance** (Enter categories from instructions.)

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1926-72

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

1926

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Stephens, Phinehas V. (master planner)

Baum, Dwight James (architect)

Mims, Speake & Company (architects)

Broadway Hardwood Company (contractor)

Findlay, Frederick Augustus McPherson (golf course designer)

Ault & Jamison (golf course designer)

Cridland, Robert B. (landscape architect)

Wenger, Clarence Windom (architect)

Lantz Construction (contractor)

Thorington Construction Company (contractor)

Driver, Harold (contractor)

Davis, D'Earcy P. Jr. (architect, probable)

Shenvalee Golf Resort  
Name of Property

Shenandoah Co., Virginia  
County and State

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Shenvalee Golf Resort, located on the outskirts of New Market, Shenandoah County, Virginia, began in 1926-27 as a nine-hole golf course and clubhouse/lodge, the brainchild of businessman Roland G. Hill and other developers. Hill tapped engineer Phinehas V. Stephens to oversee the construction of the resort, and Stephens assembled a team of design professionals including golf course designer Fred Findlay; architects Mims, Speake & Company and Dwight James Baum; and landscape architect Robert B. Cridland. A 200-room hotel, lake, and other amenities were originally contemplated, but financial realities curtailed development by 1930. In 1943-44 the Colonial Revival clubhouse/lodge, known as Shenvalee Lodge, was used to house Italian diplomatic internees. Development resumed in 1959-60 with the construction of the Colonial Revival Poolside Motel, followed by the Modernist Golfside Motel and other buildings later in the 1960s and early 1970s. As the resort nears its hundredth birthday it continues to provide recreational opportunities to the Shenandoah Valley and beyond. Shenvalee Golf Resort is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A in the Entertainment/Recreation area of significance as an intact historic golf course/clubhouse/motel complex. The period of significance begins 1926, the year development of the resort commenced, and ends 1972 with the construction of the Golfside Motel addition. Shenvalee Golf Resort is eligible at the local level of significance.

---

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

*Historic Context and Criterion A Entertainment/Recreation Area of Significance Discussion*

Shenvalee histories and period accounts identify businessman Roland G. Hill as the driving force behind the establishment of the resort. A biographical profile in the July 8, 1927, *Shenandoah Herald* listed cinemas, milling interests, and real estate investments in Virginia and the Carolinas among Hill's business enterprises before he moved to New Market in 1925. The profile noted:

Even before coming to New Market [Hill] had conceived the idea that there must be eventually a great resort playground in Shenandoah Valley to answer already existing demands and needs. After analyzing and surveying the entire Valley situation he decided that New Market had the logical location and from that moment until today his energies and money have been devoted entirely to the creation of Shenvalee.

On June 2, 1926, Hill purchased from the Pence family a 199-acre tract plus other acreage near New Market for the realization of his plans, and on October 1, with his wife, Lottie H. Hill, he transferred the acreage to Shenandoah Valley Estates, Incorporated, thereafter the developer of the project. As the corporation's president Hill was assisted by vice-president Carl J. Balliett, a

Shenvalee Golf Resort

Name of Property

Shenandoah Co., Virginia

County and State

Greensboro, North Carolina, businessman with extensive experience in the development of golf courses/resorts, and several Shenandoah County-area businessmen.<sup>1</sup>

In early October 1926 the corporation ran a large promotional advertisement in the *Shenandoah Herald* under the headline “This is the Plan of the Great Resort Just Launched at New Market.” The corporation invited locals to try out a temporary nine-hole golf course and to view the projected locations of a 200-room hotel, clubhouse, lake, and “600-acre residential park.” The advertisement included an aerial perspective drawing to assist the public in visualizing the promoters’ plans. A golf course is indicated at the location of the front nine course which would develop in permanent fashion by mid-1927, and on the rise above it the “Shenandoah Valley Golf Club” is shown at the location of the current Shenvalee Lodge. This original clubhouse concept differed from the clubhouse as built in that the long axis of the two-story gabled building was oriented east-west rather than north-south, and the concept also featured a curved portico or possibly dining room overlooking the golf course. Despite these differences, enough is shown to indicate a Colonial Revival clubhouse was envisioned from the beginning. A much larger columned building titled “Shenandoah Hotel” was depicted to the east of the clubhouse. The resort garnered attention beyond the Shenandoah Valley. On September 11, 1926, the *Baltimore Sun* reported “The Va. Corp. Comm. has granted a charter to [Shenandoah Valley Estates, Inc.], for the purpose of developing a big all-year resort at the southern edge of New Market, Va.” The September 30, 1926, *Manufacturers’ Record* reported Shenandoah Valley Estates, Inc., capitalized at \$1.5 million, had been chartered to build a resort “the important features of which will be a 200-room hotel, lake and 18-hole golf course. The company is conferring with architects relative to plans for the hotel, which will be called the Royal Shenandoah, and is working out details for the creation of Lake Shenandoah by damming Smith’s Creek.”<sup>2</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Shenandoah County Deed Book 97, p. 471, and Deed Book 100, p. 104; *Shenandoah Herald*, July 8, 1927. The property was known at various times in its history as Shenandoah Estates, Shenvalee Hotel, Shenvalee Hotel and Golf Course, Shenvalee Club, Shenvalee Lodge, Shenvalee Lodge and Golf Course, or simply Shenvalee or its alternate spelling, Shen-va-lee. Shenvalee combines Shen (for Shenandoah), Va (for Virginia), and Lee (for US Highway 11, the Lee Highway, named for Robert E. Lee). According to one source, drawing on period newspaper accounts, the name was suggested by schoolteacher Kizzie Hays and chosen in a contest (Pirtle, “Shenvalee Golf Resort,” 3). Numerous individuals contributed to the preparation and review of this report, foremost among them Shenvalee’s President and General Manager Willy Pirtle and Director of Marketing Katie Walthall. Walthall conducted historical research on behalf of the project. Other Shenvalee employees who assisted included Operations Manager Cindy Salyards and food services employee Donna Aremtrout. Assistance was also provided by longtime Shenvalee board member and historian Allen Johnson; board member and former General Manager Tim Proctor; board member Dick Moore; architectural historian Debra McClane; librarian Zach Hottel with the Shenandoah County Library; and Aubrey Von Lindern and Lena Sweeten McDonald with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources.

<sup>2</sup> *Shenandoah Herald*, October 8, 1926. The residential areas adjoining Shenvalee are descended from the resort’s original residential development aspect. The Fairway House, approximately dated ca. 1930 on stylistic grounds, could conceivably date as early as 1926-27 and may be associated with the resort’s original residential development aspect.

Shenvalee Golf Resort

Name of Property

Shenandoah Co., Virginia

County and State

As built, the 1926-27 Shenvalee Lodge clubhouse incorporated portions of a preexisting postbellum frame farmhouse, as noted in the January 21, 1927, *Front Royal Record*: “The old Pence homestead, robbed of its front porch, is the nucleus of what will be one of the most attractive club buildings in this part of Virginia.” Vestiges of the preexisting house include a limestone foundation, log floor joists, and cut-nailed construction in the basement. The fancy Victorian mantel in the lobby sitting area probably relates to this dwelling. Interestingly the outmoded mantel was retained rather than replaced during the Colonial Revival conversion. Court records and other historical sources indicate that the farmhouse and surrounding acreage belonged to Benjamin P. Newman in the 1890s and possibly earlier. Newman owned the property but may not have lived there. An 1891 tax record lists a building or buildings valued at \$300 on the tract. In 1927, the first year the property was listed under Hill’s ownership for tax purposes, \$1,000 in building value was listed, an amount that increased to \$3,000 on the 199-acre parcel in 1928. Photos from the 1920s show a tall brick outbuilding to the south of the clubhouse. The building’s form and proportions suggest it was a nineteenth-century smokehouse, though Shenvalee historian Allen Johnson believes it may have been a water tower. The north end of the Poolside Motel occupies its approximate former location.<sup>3</sup>

To realize its ambitious plans, Shenvalee’s management turned to Phinehas V. Stephens, president of the New York City/Charlotte-based American Industries Engineering Company. Stephens was well-acquainted with the area. The Town of Woodstock engaged his company to study its water supply situation in early 1925, and later the same year New Market’s citizens voted in favor of constructing a water and sewer system based on another study by the company. The company was also involved with the design of the illumination system at Endless Caverns, located a few miles from New Market, in 1920. Following Stephens’ death in December 1927, the *Strasburg News* identified him as a resident of New Market and noted, “Within the past year he completed the engineering work preparatory to the \$1,000,000 resort development at Shenvalee, and at the time of his death was working on the financing of its hotel, the Royal Shenandoah. Two years ago he developed Waleka, Fla.” Stephens was credited with efforts “to secure a chain of airports [for the Shenandoah Valley], to hurry the widening and straightening of the Valley Pike [US Highway 11], and to increase the tourist business of the Valley.” The *Rockbridge County News* reported in December 1927 that Stephens had been living at Shenvalee at the time of his death.<sup>4</sup>

---

<sup>3</sup> *Front Royal Record*, January 21, 1927; Shenandoah County Deed Book 33, p. 196, and land books; “Historic Atlas of Shenandoah and Page Counties;” *Baltimore Sun*, September 11, 1926, reported in *Poor’s 1926 Cumulative*, 419; *Manufacturers’ Record*, September 30, 1926; Allen Johnson, personal communication with the author, December 2022.

<sup>4</sup> *Shenandoah Herald*, March 20, 1925; Graves and Crim, *Around New Market*, 87; Kastning, *Natural Bridge*, 104; *Strasburg News*, December 19, 1927; *Rockbridge County News*, December 22, 1927. Stephens was assisted in his work at Shenvalee by “resident engineer” H. B. Hayes and an assistant, A. B. Lail. Marine engineer William T. Donnelley was engaged to design Lake Shenandoah, which was never built. A New Market citizen hostile to New Market’s water and sewer initiative mocked the “New York experts” who studied the area on behalf of the American Industries Engineering Company.



Shenvalee Golf Resort

Name of Property

Shenandoah Co., Virginia

County and State

On January 21, 1927, the *Front Royal Record* ran a detailed article on the conversion of the Pence farmhouse into the Shenvalee clubhouse/lodge. Mims, Speake & Company of Luray, of which James Raymond Mims was a principal, served as the architect and the Broadway Hardwood Company of Broadway was the contractor. The architectural description of the clubhouse agrees in some ways with the building as built but diverges in other ways. The porte cochere—the building’s principal point of entry in the early years—the front portico and terrace, and the two-story rear wing with its “large airy dining-room with colonial windows” were realized, but plans to finish the exterior in cream-colored stucco with white trim were not carried out. The article described the succession of rooms from the porte cochere southward as an entrance hall, lounge, a lobby with a clerk’s desk and large fireplace, a writing room, and a card room with a fireplace (the writing room may have been the current lobby reception area and the card room may not have been built or may have been in a rearward wing). The basement was to contain “[men’s] lockers, shower-baths and golf professional shop” with access to the rooms above, and the second floor was to contain the women’s showers, lockers, and lounge, and rooms for “card parties or other social functions.” The focus of social life at Shenvalee was to be the dining room, which also served as a ballroom. “One of the most attractive features of the room,” wrote the *Front Royal Record*, “is a balcony or mezzanine extending along the south end. Here the dancers may promenade or sit and watch the affair from above. The music may be placed either on the balcony or on the floor below.” A historic photo of the room suggests the balcony was actually situated on the west side of the space, adjacent to the building’s other second floor spaces.<sup>5</sup>

In February 1927 the *Front Royal Record* reported: “The topography survey is under way and plans are being drawn for [the] hotel by Dwight James Baum, a prominent New York architect, who is also superintending the construction of the golf club house now under way.” Why management switched from Mims, Speake & Company to Baum is unexplained. Dwight James Baum has been described as an architect “famous for his unique and successful designs of club houses and hotels,” “a noted designer of fashionable houses for wealthy society figures,” and an “architect of national vogue and reputation, the youngest man to win the gold medal of the architects’ league of New York, the highest honor available to any American architect.” His works include the Venetian-style Ringling mansion in Sarasota, Florida, known as the Ca’ d’Zan, and St. Petersburg, Florida’s Pasadena Country Club. Baum’s role at Shenvalee was more particularly described as the supervision of “the completion, the exterior finish and the interior decoration of our club house now under way and of any other company buildings that may be required.” Baum is quoted as stating that “old Virginia colonial architecture is the finest type of the Georgian period and should be preserved in public buildings erected hereafter in Virginia.”<sup>6</sup>

For landscape design services, management tapped Philadelphia landscape architect Robert B. Cridland, who visited the nascent resort in February 1927 to identify tentative locations for Lake Shenandoah, the Royal Shenandoah Hotel, the eighteen-hole golf course, and “Lee Memorial Boulevard and the other main roads and drives of the new resort, Shenvalee.” In this work

<sup>5</sup> *Front Royal Record*, January 21, 1927.

<sup>6</sup> *Front Royal Record*, February 11, 18, and 25, 1927; Wells and Dalton, *Virginia Architects*, 26; *Strasburg News*, February 7, 1927; Pirtle, “Shenvalee Golf Resort.”

Shenvalee Golf Resort

Name of Property

Shenandoah Co., Virginia

County and State

Cridland, who was described at the time as having done “notable things in the South,” was to collaborate with Stephens. The two men fed the press glowing descriptions of the property’s “large number of high commanding locations for home sites” and a site for the projected hotel on “a bold ridge running parallel to both the Pike and Massanutten Mountain.” In its article on Cridland’s visit, the *Strasburg News* reported, “Plans for the hotel are being drawn in the extended colonial style of old Virginia with colonnades to fit the ridge.”<sup>7</sup>

Though Cridland played a role in the location of the permanent golf course, the task of laying it out was given to golf course designer Frederick Augustus McPherson Findlay. The Scottish-born Findlay designed golf courses in Australia around the turn of the twentieth century, and upon moving to Virginia in the early 1920s he continued his career in his new country. Research by architectural historian Debra McClane and landscape historian Keyes Williamson has documented thirty Virginia courses designed by Findlay, individually or in collaboration, during the period 1925 to 1965.<sup>8</sup>

Shenvalee appears to be the first golf course in Shenandoah County, which currently possesses two courses (the other, at the Bryce Resort, may date to the 1960s or later). Shenvalee’s course is among the oldest in the Shenandoah Valley, but it is not the oldest course in western Virginia. That honor appears to belong to Bath County’s Virginia Hot Springs Golf & Tennis Club, organized in 1896, followed by the 1901 Roanoke Country Club. Shenvalee is contemporary with another Shenandoah Valley course, Staunton’s Ingleside Resort & Country Club, originally known as the Stonewall Jackson Country Club, established in 1925. Ingleside’s Findlay-designed golf course is dated 1926. The 1928 Colonial Revival clubhouse at Ingleside, which burned in 1971, was similar in design to Shenvalee Lodge. Shenvalee, though privately owned, was operated as a public golf course, and as such it was unusual among the region’s private courses, many of which were closed to non-members. One of the area’s few truly public courses from the pre-World War II era is the Front Royal Golf Club, a municipal course built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1938.<sup>9</sup>

On June 24, 1927, the *Shenandoah Herald* announced preparations for Shenvalee’s grand opening early the following month and noted a preview would be hosted for New Market area residents. A “jollification” including dining, skits, golfing, and dancing to the music of the Shenvaleers band was planned. In its July 1 issue the *Herald* ran a photo of the clubhouse showing the front portico and porte cochere with their rooftop balustrades, and an architect’s rendering in the same issue showed tall round-arched windows on the side of the original rear dining room. Over 3,000 invitations were sent out for the dedication ceremonies on July 7, which were to include “an exhibition golf match by nationally famous amateurs” followed by a dinner

<sup>7</sup> *Strasburg News*, February 11, 1927; *Front Royal Record*, February 18, 1927.

<sup>8</sup> McClane and Williamson, “McIntire Golf Course,” 14-15, 43.

<sup>9</sup> “Virginia Golf Course Map and Guide;” *Suffolk News-Herald*, February 4, 1966; Sutphen, *Official Golf Guide*, 323, 324; Brumfield, “Hotel burns;” Shenandoah County Library Truban Archives collection; “History of the Front Royal Golf Course.” Findlay’s first middle name may have been spelled Augustas. The Shenandoah Valley Golf Club, another public course in Front Royal, was established in 1966 (Shenandoah Valley Golf Club website).

Shenvalee Golf Resort

Name of Property

Shenandoah Co., Virginia

County and State

and ball in the clubhouse's "grand dining room." President Hill announced, "We intend to make Shenvalee Club the social headquarters for the entire Shenandoah Valley." The resort management assured visitors that "an ample paved parking space" would be available at the clubhouse. Resort advertisements of the period were enlivened with catchy mottos like "Come with me to Shenvalee" and "Dance with me at Shenvalee."<sup>10</sup>

Shenvalee attracted golfers of regional, national, and international reputation. Charles Voight and Roland Mackenzie, "two of the most sensational crack amateurs of the year" were expected to take part in the resort's kickoff July 7 exhibition golf match. Golf superstar Bobby Jones played the course on September 8, 1927; a photo shows him teeing off from the No. 5 tee in front of the clubhouse. A fall 1927 tournament at Shenvalee was managed by Ray Granger, golf pro with Washington, D.C.'s Belle Haven Country Club. The Australian golf prodigy Joe Kirkwood also played the Shenvalee course during the period. Shenvalee also hosted grand social events during its inaugural year, such as the debut ball held for Gertrude Waltho Balliett in December 1927. The dining room/ballroom "was beautifully decorated with Christmas greens, flowers and colored balloons" for the occasion. The resort offered space for more intimate activities like card parties, private dinners, and bridge luncheons. In 1927 these activities were coordinated by Shenvalee's hostess, Effie Moore.<sup>11</sup>

Despite optimistic beginnings, the resort soon experienced financial difficulties, and in May 1929 it was announced that the "Colonial Club House, nine-hole golf course and 199 acres of projected residential sites at Shenvalee" were to be auctioned. A second blow occurred in 1930 when the clubhouse was severely damaged in a fire. The most affected area seems to have been the rear dining wing which was subsequently converted to two floors with a dining room on the first floor and a conference room above. The post-fire renovations also added additional lodging rooms to the building. According to Allen Johnson, Shenandoah Valley Estates went into bankruptcy in the early 1930s and was purchased at auction by Dr. Casper Otto Miller in 1935, beginning a longtime association with the Miller family and in particular Dr. Miller's son John G. Miller, who headed the operation from the 1930s to the mid-1950s. Miller, a 1925 Cornell University graduate, was profiled in the April 1939 issue of *The Cornell Countryman* which described him as the manager of the Shenvalee Hotel, publisher of New Market's *Shenandoah Valley* newspaper, secretary of the New Market Chamber of Commerce, and member of the local school board.<sup>12</sup>

---

<sup>10</sup> *Shenandoah Herald*, June 24 and July 1, 1927. A longer version of one of the mottos, from 1931, reads: "Come with me to Shenvalee, the Home of Hospitality" (*Virginia Highway Historical Markers*, p. 60).

<sup>11</sup> *Shenandoah Herald*, July 1 and 8, 1927; Shenandoah County Library Truban Archives collection; *Evening Star*, September 13 and December 7, 1927; Johnson, "History of Shenvalee Lodge," 1; Pirtle, "Shenvalee Golf Resort," 3. Some early golfing photos show a sign reading Shenvalee Hotel on the ridge of the clubhouse roof. The sign does not appear in the earliest photos from 1927. Shenvalee Lodge was also for many years the meeting place of the New Market Rotary Club, formed in 1927.

<sup>12</sup> *Evening Star*, May 9, 1929; Pirtle, "Shenvalee Golf Resort," 2; Johnson, "History of Shenvalee Lodge," 2; *Cornell Countryman*, 36:7 (April 1939): 119.

Shenvalee Golf Resort

Name of Property

Shenandoah Co., Virginia

County and State

During World War II, Shenvalee welcomed an unusual class of guests: Axis diplomats whom the US government considered a potential threat to national security. The government had established a program of housing the internees at resort hotels, often at considerable expense, and by 1943 was seeking more affordable alternatives. Shenvalee was found to be one such low-cost option, and in late September 1943 a proposal was made to relocate to Shenvalee a group of Vichy French diplomats, including the Vichy ambassador to the United States, Gaston Henry-Haye. The diplomats objected, however, and the plan was dropped. At the time Shenvalee Lodge was described as “a small hotel [containing] twenty-three rooms and fourteen baths.” Shortly afterward, in October 1943, nineteen Italian diplomats were transferred from the Ingleside resort in Staunton to Shenvalee. During the transfer the lodge was again described as containing twenty-three rooms and fourteen baths, plus a “fair sized lobby, a large dining room and a large recreation room in the basement . . . The hotel is not elaborate but is comfortable. It is noted for its meals in the usual plain southern style.” The Italians were permitted supervised trips into New Market for shopping and movies and could partake in a recreation/fitness program involving golf, tennis, and mountain hikes. They stayed at Shenvalee until December 1944.<sup>13</sup>

Little construction occurred at the resort between the initial phase of development in the late 1920s and the resort’s re-incorporation as Shenvalee Lodge, Inc., in 1955. Allen Johnson, associated with the resort beginning in 1954, dates the steel fire escape and its glass-block enclosure to before that year. The former maintenance building likewise may have been standing in 1954. Johnson believes the sign on the highway was erected in its original form in 1954 or possibly 1955. Re-incorporation led to a comprehensive plan of improvements as detailed in the corporation’s minute books, which start with the first meeting of incorporators and stockholders on October 31, 1955.<sup>14</sup>

The newly instituted Shenvalee Lodge, Inc., board of directors focused on two major construction initiatives: a golf course expansion and a motel. The motel, known at least since 1970 as the “pool side motel,” would allow the resort to better compete with the plethora of motorist-friendly motels springing up along Route 11 during the period. These included the nearby Return Motel Resort, which advertised a “beautiful 9 hole golf course just minutes away,” a reference to the Shenvalee course that suggests an arrangement between the two entities. Plans for the twenty-unit Poolside Motel were underway in early 1957, and by mid-1959 Harrisonburg architect Clarence Windom Wenger had prepared drawings for the building. The Thornton Construction Company, with offices in New Market and Richmond, was awarded the contract for construction, which was supervised by the company’s local manager Harold Driver and construction superintendent Leon Green. Work began in July 1959 and the motel opened in

---

<sup>13</sup> Dunn and Ryan, *Axis Diplomats in American Custody*, 128-129, 138, 142. In 1941 the resort’s culinary specialties included chicken, steak, and ham (Barrett, *Best Places to Eat*, p. 508). An undated but presumably late 1950s or 1960s menu listed these items plus perch with tartar sauce (\$1.00), sandwiches including the Shenvalee Club (\$1.00), soups, salads, and desserts, and daily specials in an insert including tomato stuffed with chicken salad, French fries, rolls, beverage, and dessert (also a \$1.00 meal) (Shenandoah County Library Truban Archives collection).

<sup>14</sup> Allen Johnson, personal communication with the author, December 2022; Johnson, “History of Shenvalee Lodge,” 4-5; Shenvalee Golf Resort Board of Directors Minutes.

Shenvalee Golf Resort

Name of Property

Shenandoah Co., Virginia

County and State

early March 1960. A March 1960 newspaper article provided details on the thinking behind the motel design:

The addition was done in red brick with white columns to match the colonial architecture of the Shenvalee Lodge building nearby. A covered porchway runs the entire length of the building. Facilities for easy access to soft drinks, candies and cigarettes are arranged. A very commodious covered area between the north wing and the central section is expected to provide a cool spot even during hot days.

Other individuals and firms associated with the building's construction were Mount Jackson plumber Clayton Zerkel, Mt. Jackson Building & Supply (millwork), the Trumbo Electric Company of Broadway, Owen Simmons and Sons of Harrisonburg (plasterwork), Buddy's Carpetland (carpeting), Leggett's of Harrisonburg (drapes and bedspreads), and Miles Music Company of Harrisonburg (television sets). The motel did not have a separate office; instead, the no. 6 guest room in the lodge was converted to a lobby and reception desk serving both the hotel and lodge. In March 1963 the resort announced (somewhat belatedly) "a de luxe motel addition to Shenvalee Lodge, New Market, Va. 20 units—large, roomy, elegantly furnished, superbly engineered. Individual room thermostats, telephones and TV." The motel's swimming pool was built by Thorington in 1961.<sup>15</sup>

In 1959 management and board members met with golf course consultants including the National Golf Foundation's Harry C. Eckhoff, author of *Guidelines for Planning and Building a Golf Course*, and by early 1960 had selected the Washington, D.C., golf course design firm of Ault and Jamison to lay out the back nine holes. "The extra holes will be located on ideal golf course terrain to the east of the present course," the *Shenandoah Valley* reported in March 1960. "The holes will be longer and more varied and the greens will be constructed larger and to meet the demands for increased play on the Shenvalee course." The extra nine holes were ready for play in the summer of 1961.<sup>16</sup>

Completion of the back nine holes created an additional focus for the resort, and this led to the construction of the Golfside Motel, a Modernist two-story block of rooms facing onto the first tee and ninth hole of the new section. Lantz Construction built the original 1968 north end of the motel block and Harold Driver, Thorington's local manager in 1959-60, built its 1972 south end extension. Allen Johnson writes that an architect was employed to design the building, or an original version of the building, in 1962. The architect may have been D'Earcy P. "Red" Davis Jr. of the Harrisonburg architectural firm Davis & Associates, AIA. Management originally intended to build the new motel in one go, but by March 1968 the decision was made to phase construction with completion postponed to 1972. Whereas the Poolside Motel was oriented to the

---

<sup>15</sup> Allen Johnson, personal communication with the author, December 2022; Johnson, "History of Shenvalee Lodge," 5, 8; Shenvalee Golf Resort Board of Directors Minutes; *Shenandoah Valley*, March 17, 1960; *Evening Star*, March 13, 1960. Wenger's drawings for the motel, titled "Shenvalee Lodge Motel," are at the Library of Virginia ("Guide to the Clarence Windom Wenger Architectural Drawings").

<sup>16</sup> Johnson, "History of Shenvalee Lodge," 8; Shenvalee Golf Resort Board of Directors Minutes; *Shenandoah Valley*, March 17, 1960. One source located Ault and Jamison in Wheaton, Md.

Shenvalee Golf Resort  
Name of Property

Shenandoah Co., Virginia  
County and State

automobile, the Golfside Motel was oriented to golfcarts as well as cars. Guests in the first-floor rooms could drive their golfcarts right up to their patios.<sup>17</sup>

The construction phase beginning with the 1959-60 Poolside Motel and concluding with the 1972 Golfside Motel addition resulted gave Shenvalee its current basic appearance. Construction activity after 1972 was more spread out and tended to focus more exclusively on the back areas of core building complex. The golf course was expanded again in the late twentieth century and now totals twenty-seven holes.<sup>18</sup>

---

<sup>17</sup> Allen Johnson, personal communication with the author, December 2022 and January 2023; Tim Proctor information, January 2023; Johnson, "History of Shenvalee Lodge," 8-13; Shenvalee Golf Resort Board of Directors Minutes.

<sup>18</sup> Pirtle, "Shenvalee Golf Resort," 2.

Shenvalee Golf Resort  
Name of Property

Shenandoah Co., Virginia  
County and State

---

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

*Baltimore Sun* (Baltimore, Md.).

Barrett, Carl A. *Best Places to Eat from Coast to Coast, from Canada to the Gulf*. Chicago: Vacation Land, Inc., 1941.

Brumfield, Dale M. "Hotel burns three times in 1971." *News Leader*, July 10, 2016.

*The Cornell Countryman* (Ithaca, N.Y.).

Dunn, Landon Alfriend, and Timothy J. Ryan. *Axis Diplomats in American Custody: The Housing of Enemy Representatives and Their Exchange for American Counterparts, 1941-1945*. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland & Company, 2016.

*Evening Star* (Washington, D.C.).

*Front Royal Record* (Front Royal, Va.).

Graves, James R., and John D. Crim. *Around New Market*. Charleston, S.C.: Arcadia, 2007.

"A Guide to the Clarence Windom Wenger Architectural Drawings, 1940-1981." University of Virginia Library website.

Herb Parker Collection. Shenandoah County Library Truban Archives. Edinburg, Va.

"Historic Atlas of Shenandoah and Page Counties, Virginia." Woodstock, Va.: Shenandoah County Historical Society, 2009 (compilation and reprint of 1878 Gray's Atlas and 1885 Lake's Atlas).

"History of the Front Royal Golf Course." Front Royal Golf Club website.

Johnson, Allen. "A History of Shenvalee Lodge, Inc." Report, 2018.

\_\_\_\_\_. Personal communication with the author, December 2022.

Kastning, Ernst H. *Natural Bridge*. Charleston, S.C.: Arcadia, 2014.

*Manufacturers' Record* (Baltimore, Md.).

McClane, Debra A., and Keyes Williamson. "McIntire Golf Course." Historic American

Shenvalee Golf Resort  
Name of Property

Shenandoah Co., Virginia  
County and State

Landscapes Survey Report, 2012.

New Market Library Collection. Shenandoah County Library Truban Archives. Edinburg, Va.

*News Leader* (Staunton, Va.).

Pirtle, Willy. "Shenvalee Golf Resort (Shenvalee Lodge, Inc.)." Virginia Department of Historic Resources Preliminary Information Form, 2022.

*Poor's 1926 Cumulative*. Vol. 3. New York: Poor's Publishing Company, 1926.

R. W. Smith & Associates. "The Shenvalee Golf Resort, New Market, Virginia: Golf Course and Subdivision Layout." Survey, ca. 1990.

*Rockbridge County News* (Lexington, Va.).

Shenandoah County chancery, deed, and land book (real property tax) records. Shenandoah County Clerk of Court, Woodstock, Va., and online.

Shenandoah County Library Truban Archives. Edinburg, Va.

*Shenandoah Herald* (Woodstock, Va.).

*Shenandoah Valley* (New Market, Va.).

Shenandoah Valley Golf Club website.

*Shenvaleader* (Shenvalee newsletter, New Market, Va.).

"The Shenvalee." Brochure, ca. 2020.

Shenvalee Golf Resort Board of Directors Minutes. Shenvalee Golf Resort Collection, New Market, Va.

Shenvalee Golf Resort Collection. Shenvalee Golf Resort Collection, New Market, Va.

*Strasburg News* (Strasburg, Va.).

*Suffolk News-Herald* (Suffolk, Va.).

Sutphen, Van Tassel. *The Official Golf Guide, 1902*. New York: Grafton Press, 1902.

"Virginia Golf Course Map and Guide." GolfVirginia website.



Shenvalee Golf Resort  
Name of Property

Shenandoah Co., Virginia  
County and State

*Virginia Highway Historical Markers*. Strasburg, Va.: Shenandoah Publishing House, 1931.

Wayland, John W. *A History of Shenandoah County, Virginia*. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company, 1998 (reprint of amended 1927 edition).

Wells, John E., and Dalton, *The Virginia Architects, 1835-1955*. Richmond, Va.: New South Architectural Press, 1997.

---

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**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, Richmond, Virginia

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** VDHR Site No. 269-5003

---

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreege of Property** approximately 145 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Shenvalee Golf Resort  
Name of Property

Shenandoah Co., Virginia  
County and State

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 38.645540 Longitude: -78.674740
2. Latitude: 38.637030 Longitude: -78.661260
3. Latitude: 38.630760 Longitude: -78.668950
4. Latitude: 38.637900 Longitude: -78.680400

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The nominated area consists of Shenandoah County tax parcels 103 A108, 103 A 109, 103 A 110, 103 A 113, and 103 A 113A as reflected in local government records.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated area encompasses the core historic area of the resort and excludes areas in resort ownership to the east that developed after the period of significance. The property's historic setting and all known associated historic resources have been included within the historic boundary.

---

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: J. Daniel Pezzoni  
organization: Landmark Preservation Associates  
street & number: 6 Houston St.  
city or town: Lexington state: Virginia zip code: 24450  
e-mail: gilespezzoni@rockbridge.net  
telephone: (540) 464-5315  
date: January 20, 2023

---

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

Shenvalee Golf Resort  
Name of Property

Shenandoah Co., Virginia  
County and State

- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

### Photo Log

Name of Property: Shenvalee Golf Resort

City or Vicinity: New Market County: Shenandoah State: Virginia

Photographer: J. Daniel Pezzoni (same for all)

Date Photographed: December 2022 (same for all)

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of 16

Front nine golf course with Shenvalee Lodge and Massanutten Mountain in distance. View looking northeast.

2 of 16

Shenvalee Lodge front (west) elevation. View looking east.

3 of 16

Shenvalee Lodge north and west elevations with porte cochere. View looking southeast.

4 of 16

Shenvalee Lodge lobby sitting area.

5 of 16

Shenvalee Lodge Colonial Room dining room.

6 of 16

Shenvalee Lodge attic guest room.

7 of 16

Shenvalee Golf Resort  
Name of Property

Shenandoah Co., Virginia  
County and State

Poolside Motel and swimming pool. View looking northeast.

8 of 16

Poolside Motel with back of Shenvalee Lodge in distance. View looking northwest.

9 of 16

Golfside Motel. View looking northwest.

10 of 16

Golfside Motel second-floor guest room.

11 of 16

Back nine golf course as viewed from near Golfside Motel with Massanutten Mountain in the distance. View looking east.

12 of 16

Back nine golf course with adjacent mid-twentieth-century residential development. View looking southeast.

13 of 16

Front nine golf course in front of Shenvalee Lodge. View looking northeast.

14 of 16

Fairway House. View looking southeast.

15 of 16

Pro Shop and Miller Grille with back of Shenvalee Lodge to right. View looking south.

16 of 16

Entrance sign on US Highway 11. View looking north.

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for nominations 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.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

Tier 1 – 60-100 hours  
Tier 2 – 120 hours  
Tier 3 – 230 hours  
Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.





**Legend**

County Boundaries

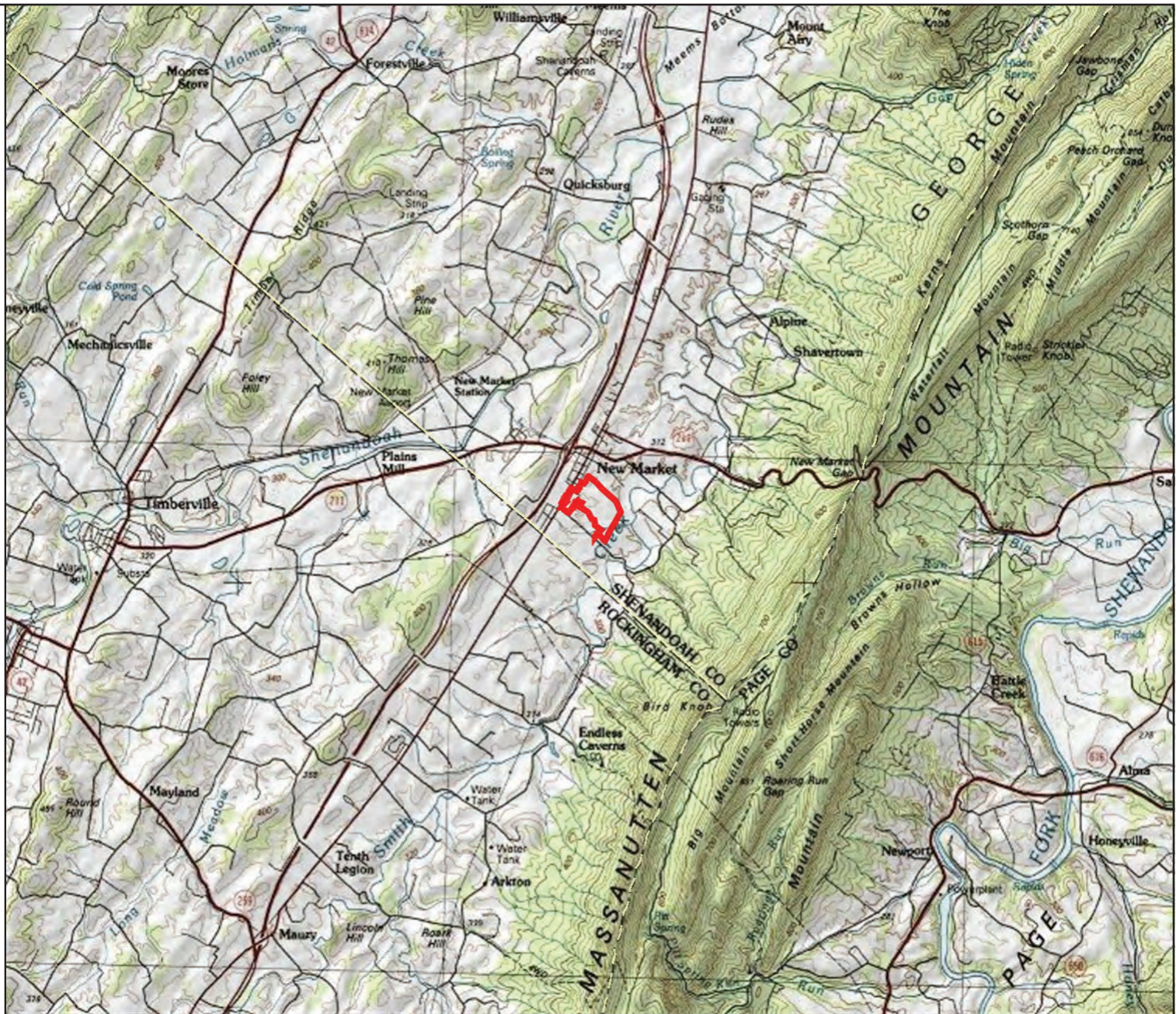
**TOPOGRAPHIC MAP**

**Shenvalee Golf Resort**

**Town of New Market**

**Shenandoah County, VA**

**DHR No. 269-5003**



Historic Boundary



Miles



1:144,448 / 1"=2 Miles

**Title:**

**Date: 5/18/2023**

*DISCLAIMER: Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years from a variety of sources and the representation depicted is a cumulative view of field observations over time and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general information purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses. Map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". More information is available in the DHR Archives located at DHR's Richmond office.*

*Notice if AE sites: Locations of archaeological sites may be sensitive the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) and Code of Virginia §2.2-3705.7 (10). Release of precise locations may threaten archaeological sites and historic resources.*



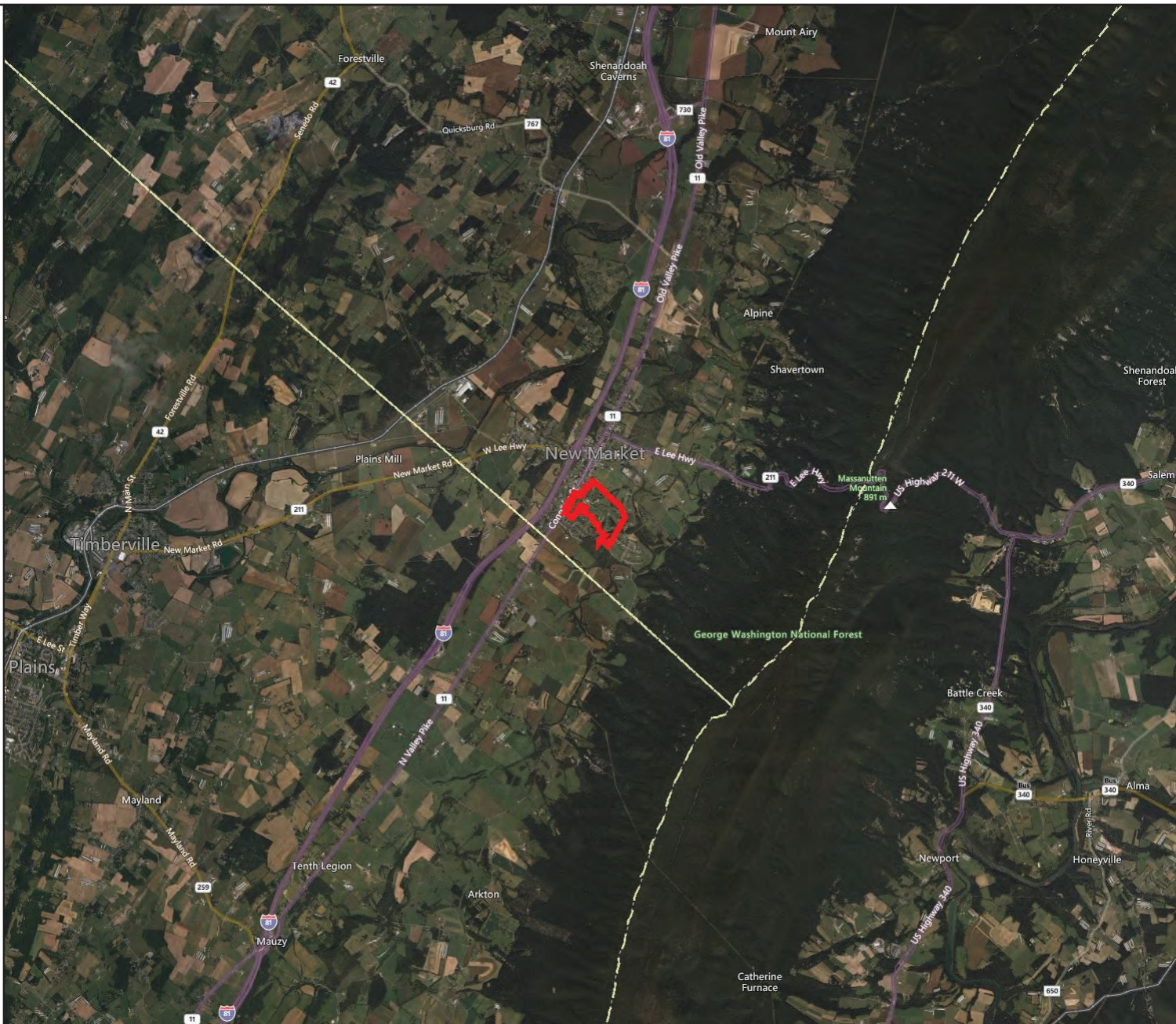


**Legend**

County Boundaries

**AERIAL VIEW -  
VICINITY**

**Shenvalee Golf Resort  
Town of New Market  
Shenandoah County, VA  
DHR No. 269-5003**



**Historic Boundary**



Miles



1:144,448 / 1"=2 Miles

**Title:**

**Date: 5/18/2023**

*DISCLAIMER: Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years from a variety of sources and the representation depicted is a cumulative view of field observations over time and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general information purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses. Map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". More information is available in the DHR Archives located at DHR's Richmond office.*

*Notice if AE sites: Locations of archaeological sites may be sensitive the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) and Code of Virginia §2.2-3705.7 (10). Release of precise locations may threaten archaeological sites and historic resources.*





**Legend**

County Boundaries

**ROAD MAP**

**Shenvalee Golf Resort  
Shenandoah County, VA  
DHR No. 269-5003**

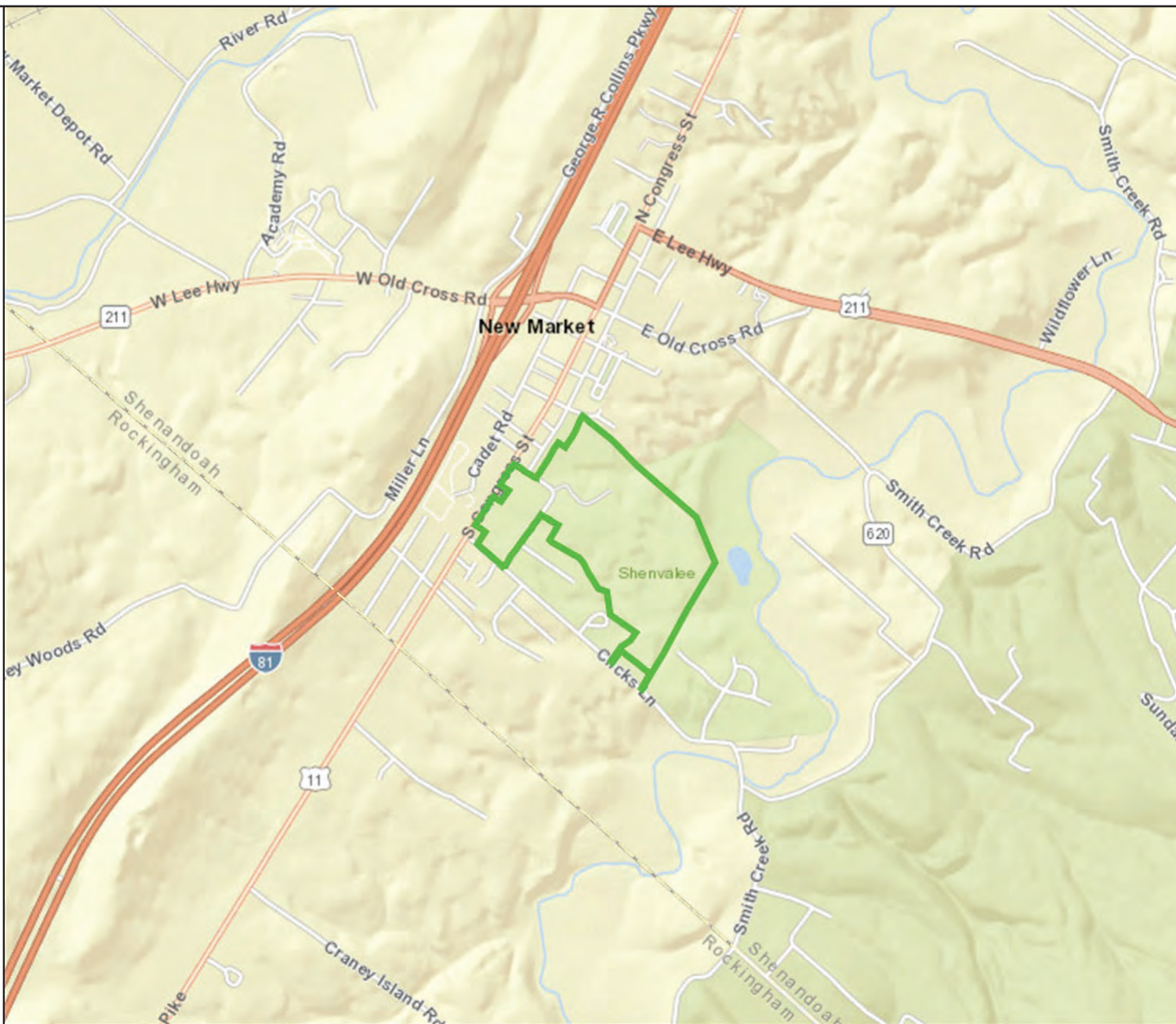
**Resort Location**



Feet

0 600 1200 1800 2400

1:36,112 / 1"=3,009 Feet



**Title:**

**Date: 4/28/2023**

*DISCLAIMER: Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years from a variety of sources and the representation depicted is a cumulative view of field observations over time and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general information purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses. Map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". More information is available in the DHR Archives located at DHR's Richmond office.*

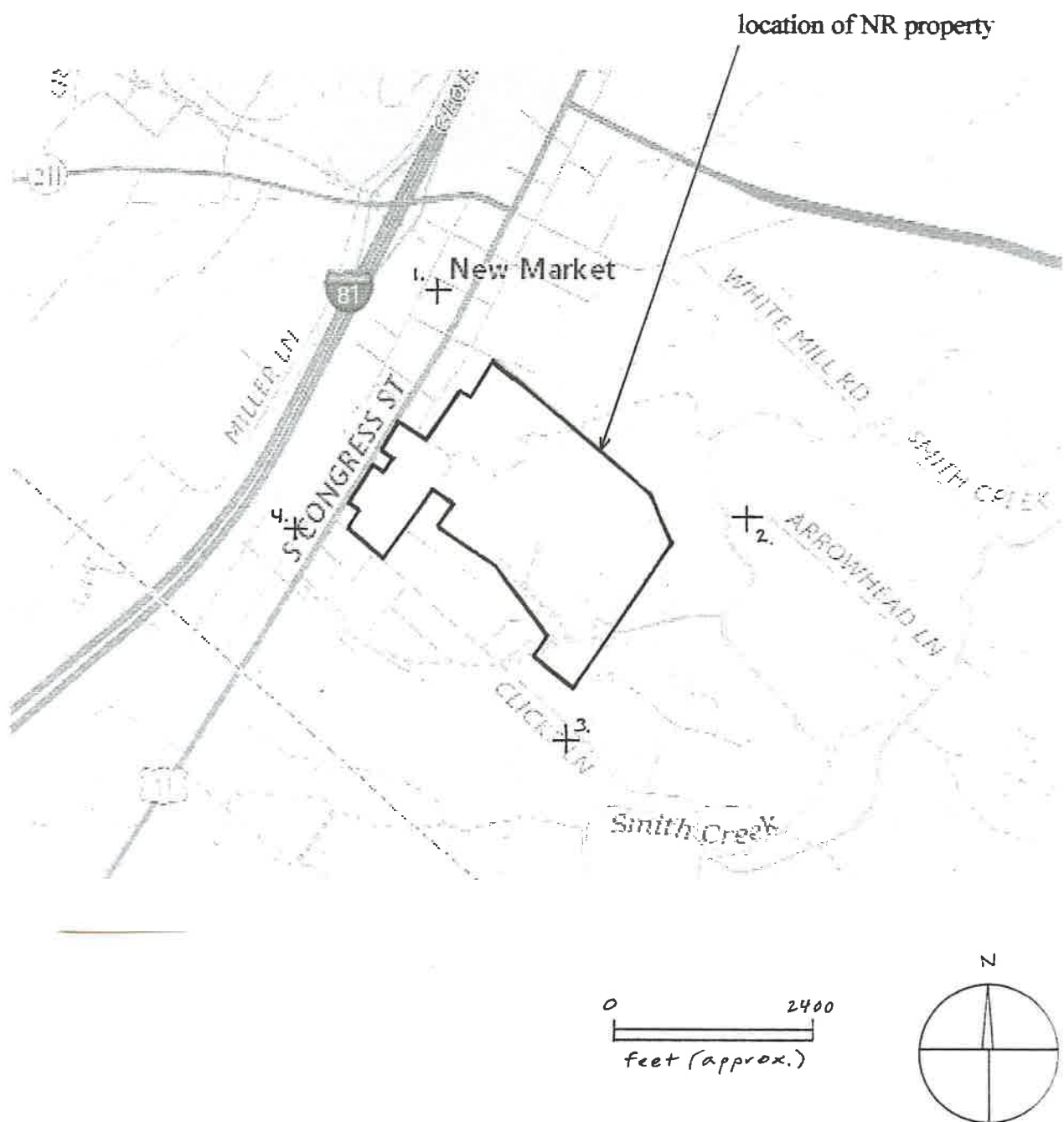
*Notice if AE sites: Locations of archaeological sites may be sensitive the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) and Code of Virginia §2.2-3705.7 (10). Release of precise locations may threaten archaeological sites and historic resources.*

# Shenvalee Golf Resort

9660 Fairway Drive, Shenandoah County, Virginia, DHR ID# 269-5003

## National Register of Historic Places Location Map

1. Latitude: 38.645540 Longitude: -78.674740
2. Latitude: 38.637030 Longitude: -78.661260
3. Latitude: 38.630760 Longitude: -78.668950
4. Latitude: 38.637900 Longitude: -78.680400







**Legend**

 County Boundaries

**AERIAL VIEW**

**Shenvalee Golf Resort**

**Town of New Market**

**Shenandoah County, VA**

**DHR No. 269-5003**



 **Historic Boundary**



Feet

0 500 1000 1500 2000

1:18,056 / 1"=1,505 Feet

**Title:**

**Date: 5/18/2023**

*DISCLAIMER: Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years from a variety of sources and the representation depicted is a cumulative view of field observations over time and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general information purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses. Map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". More information is available in the DHR Archives located at DHR's Richmond office.*

*Notice if AE sites: Locations of archaeological sites may be sensitive the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) and Code of Virginia §2.2-3705.7 (10). Release of precise locations may threaten archaeological sites and historic resources.*

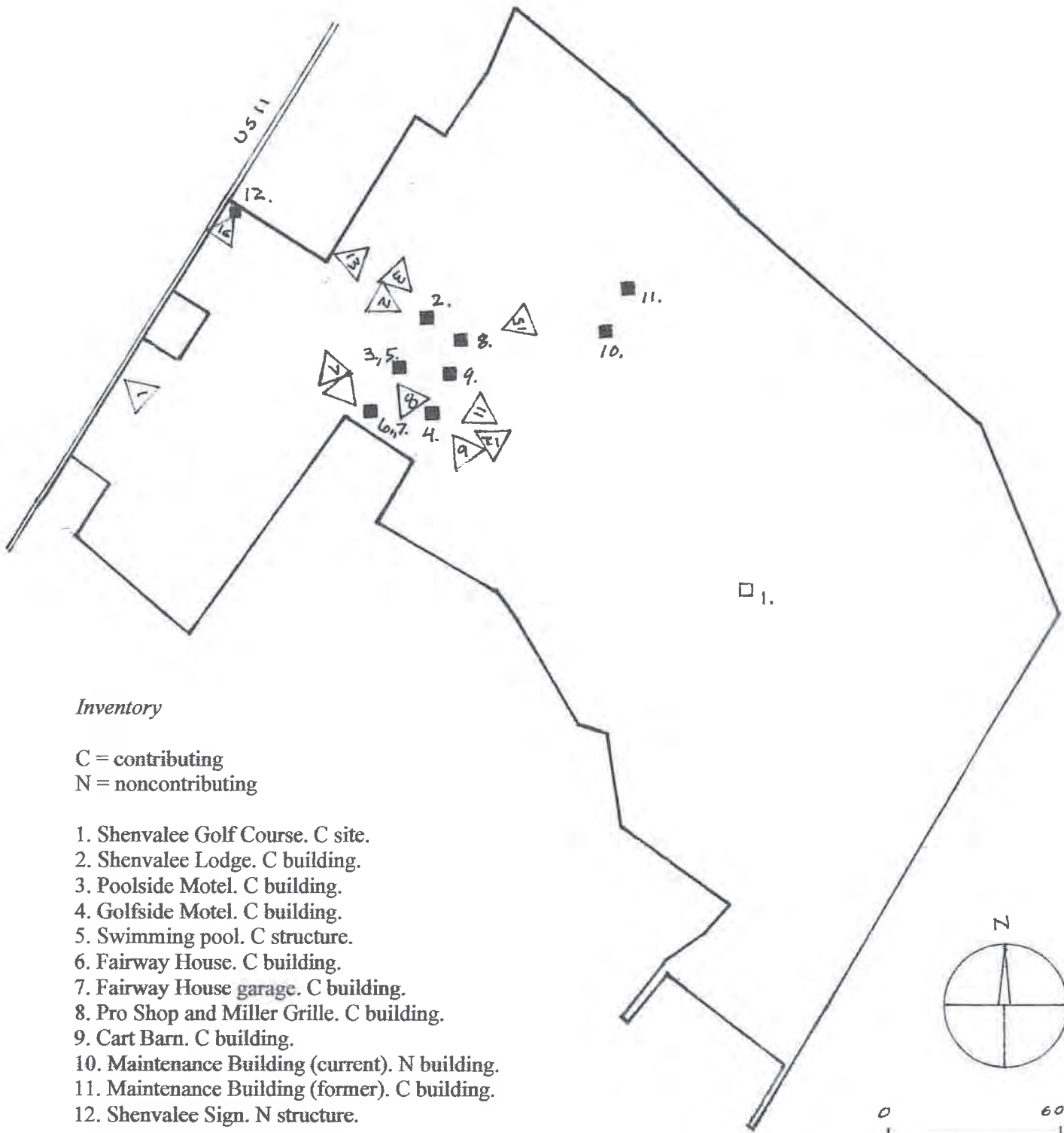


# Shenvalee Golf Resort

9660 Fairway Drive, Shenandoah County, Virginia, DHR ID# 269-5003

## National Register of Historic Places Boundary Map, Sketch Map/Photo Key (exterior views)

Triangular markers indicate number and direction of view of nomination photos and are keyed to the photo log in the report. Squares indicate resources and are keyed to the inventory.



### Inventory

C = contributing  
N = noncontributing

- 1. Shenvalee Golf Course. C site.
- 2. Shenvalee Lodge. C building.
- 3. Poolside Motel. C building.
- 4. Golfside Motel. C building.
- 5. Swimming pool. C structure.
- 6. Fairway House. C building.
- 7. Fairway House garage. C building.
- 8. Pro Shop and Miller Grille. C building.
- 9. Cart Barn. C building.
- 10. Maintenance Building (current). N building.
- 11. Maintenance Building (former). C building.
- 12. Shenvalee Sign. N structure.























































6









  
**Shenvalee**  
GOLF RESORT

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

GOLF  
LODGING  
MILLER GRILLE

TEAM TRIVIA  
12/8 6-8PM  
AT MILLER GRILLE



  
*Welcome*