

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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DATE ENTERED

**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
Shack Mountain
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 2 miles NNW of Charlottesville; .3 mile E of Ivy Creek; .4 mile N of State Route 657; 1 mile NNW of intersection of State Routes 657 and 743.

__ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN Charlottesville
STATE Virginia

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT Seventh (J. Kenneth Robinson)

VICINITY OF

CODE 51 COUNTY Albemarle CODE 003

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 type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Mr. and Mrs. W. Bedford Moore, III

STREET & NUMBER Shack Mountain, Route 5

CITY, TOWN Charlottesville STATE Virginia 22901

__ VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Albemarle County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Charlottesville, STATE Virginia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey

DATE 1976

__ FEDERAL STATE __ COUNTY __ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, 221 Governor Street

CITY, TOWN Richmond STATE Virginia 23219

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The small house Fiske Kimball designed and built to be his retirement home at Shack Mountain is a pure example of Jeffersonian Classicism, so carefully detailed that it might easily be mistaken as a work by Jefferson himself. Inspired primarily by Jefferson's design for Farmington, the house is a one-story, T-shaped dwelling with the front section in the form of an elongated octagon. Dominating the composition is a pedimented Tuscan portico with paired stuccoed columns. The portico's entablature is carried around the octagonal section, but only a cornice caps the rear wing. The walls are brick laid in Flemish bond, and the front section is covered by a shallow hipped roof sheathed in standing-seam sheet metal. The windows in the front section have triple-hung sash framed with dark green shutters; features characteristic of Jeffersonian work. The windows in the rear wing are double-hung. A kitchen entrance on the south side of the rear wing has a Chinese lattice railing.

The main entrance to the house, located under the portico, is a paneled door topped by a traceried transom and framed by louvred blinds. The door opens into an unexpected quarter-round alcove through which one enters directly into the parlor which occupies the northern end of the octagon. A corresponding quarter-round alcove, leading into the rear-wing center passage, is in the southeast corner of the parlor. The parlor thus has convex-curved corners on its south wall, curves that frame the doorway into the dining room occupying the southern end of the octagon. Both the parlor and the dining room have full Tuscan entablatures corresponding in size with the exterior entablature. These entablatures provide the rooms with a very monumental aspect in spite of their relatively small size. The only fireplace in the house is on the east wall of the parlor. Its mantel is based on Jefferson designs at the University of Virginia. The rear wing contains the kitchen, two bedrooms, and a small study, none of which has any outstanding architectural decoration. Service areas are located in the basement beneath the rear wing.

Kimball took special pains with the siting of the house. He located it at the end of a long, narrow ridge, and had the approach road follow up the ridge through the woods from the south. The house was positioned so that the facade faces west towards a wooded downslope. A circular drive was placed on the incline in front. Contrasting with the forest on the south side of the house is a broad open field on the north. Slots are cut through the trees framing the field in order to open up views of the countryside and distant mountains. While the field is fairly level, the land to the east of the house drops off sharply so that panoramic views are obtained of the nearer fields and wooded hills, as well as sections of the Rivanna River. Much of the rear slope has been terraced by the present owners; the terraces are planted with flowers, fruits, and vegetables. A platform for the house itself is provided by the paved terraces at either end of the octagon. Immediately in front of the house is a level grassy area fronted by a low retaining wall broken in the center by brick steps. Except for the addition of the terraced gardens, a small swimming pool, and a garden house, Shack Mountain and its adjacent lands have changed little since Kimball's death.

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/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1935-36

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Fiske Kimball

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Shack Mountain is regarded as the finest architectural work of Sidney Fiske Kimball (1881-1955), the most noted of America's first generation of architectural scholars. The gem-like, Jeffersonian-style pavilion was built 1935-36 and was intended to be Kimball's retirement home.

Kimball is best remembered for his nurturing a scholarly interest in American architecture, a subject hitherto rarely given serious consideration. His two major books, Thomas Jefferson, Architect (1916) and Domestic Architecture of the American Colonies and of the Early Republic (1922), are landmark works in the field and remain standard references today. In the former, he focused attention on one of the most important facets of Jefferson's many-sided genius and marked Jefferson as one of America's most original architects. In the latter, he provided the first significant general study of early American buildings in terms of architectural history. Although these works, along with many other books and articles, established Kimball as a distinguished architectural historian, he excelled in other areas. As an art historian and museum specialist he, during his many years as director of the Philadelphia Museum, made that institution one of the leading art galleries in the world. As an educator he founded the University of Virginia School of Architecture and later served as chairman of Fine Arts at New York University. As an architect he is remembered for the prodigious Memorial Gymnasium at the University of Virginia and for his own Shack Mountain. Kimball's interest in American architecture also led him to become a pioneer in the field of historic preservation. He emphasized the importance of retaining historic landmarks and restoring them with scholarly accuracy. During his career he was involved with such notable preservation projects as Monticello, Colonial Williamsburg, Stratford Hall, Gunston Hall, and a number of landmarks in the National Park system.

Among Kimball's many achievements, Shack Mountain stands out as the most personal expression of his taste and ideas. Above all, it reflects his love for the simple charm and dignity of Jeffersonian Classicism, a love achieved through his meticulous study of Jefferson's architecture early in his career. Kimball even went about creating Shack Mountain in much the same manner as Jefferson did with Monticello. He sought a site that would afford commanding views of the rolling Albemarle countryside, selecting the end of a low mountain northwest of Charlottesville. Like Jefferson, he served as his own client (a happy situation for any architect) and evolved a design for the house that would both harmonize and contrast with its natural setting.

*See Continuation Sheet #1

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Kimball, Fiske. Thomas Jefferson, Architect. Reprint. New York: DeCapo Press, 1968.
- O'Neal, William B. Architectural Drawing in Virginia 1819-1969. Charlottesville, VA.: University of Virginia, 1969.
- Roberts, George, and Mary Roberts. Triumph on Fairmount. New York: J.B. Lippincott Co., 1959.
- Stevens, William T., Ed. Virginia House Tour. Charlottesville, Va: Stevenpost Publication, 1962.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 100.9 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,7	7	1,9	2,1	0	4,2	1,9	4,5	0	B	1,7	7	1,9	2,4	0	4,2	1,8	2,8	0
	ZONE		EASTING				NORTH NG				ZONE		EASTING				NORTHING		
C	1,7	7	1,8	6,3	0	4,2	1,8	2,7	0	D	1,7	7	1,8	6,0	0	4,2	1,9	4,5	0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION The acres comprising the Shack Mountain property are bounded by a line beginning on the north side of State Route 657, 2,200 feet due W of Ivy Creek; thence extending 900 feet northeastward paralleling the approach road; thence extending 300 feet east; thence extending approximately 1,500 feet northeast and then north, basically following the 580-foot contour line; thence extending 200 feet northwest; thence descending the hill 1,000 feet north then 700 feet northwest (the latter following the pipeline); thence extending approximately 5,000 feet southwest (See Continuation Sheet #2)

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE

June 1976

STREET & NUMBER

221 Governor Street

TELEPHONE

(804) 786-3144

CITY OR TOWN

Richmond

STATE

Virginia 23219

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL X

STATE X

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

Junius R. Fishburne, Jr., Executive Director
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE

JUN 15 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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CONTINUATION SHEET #1

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 3

8. SIGNIFICANCE

In his choice of a purely Jeffersonian format for Shack Mountain, Kimball wanted not only to indulge his fascination with the style but to demonstrate that regional architectural traditions could remain viable. Although he was sympathetic with modern artistic expression, he was convinced that a local idiom should be maintained for the sake of an area's identity. Shack Mountain is, therefore, an amalgam of features he admired in Jefferson's oeuvre, interpreted in an amazingly convincing manner. The most obvious source for the plan and elevation is Farmington, an elongated octagon fronted by a Tuscan portico. The shape of the parlor, with its curved corners, is a somewhat free adaptation of the classroom of Pavilion IX at the University of Virginia. The order within and without is based on the Tuscan that Jefferson employed for the colonnades at the University. All of the detailing, the mantel, the moldings, windows, etc., can be traced to Jefferson sources as well.

However beholden Shack Mountain is to Jefferson's works, the house exhibits a refinement often lacking in authentic specimens. In his domestic exercises, Jefferson was often prone to overloading his exteriors with favorite motifs so that his houses sometimes appear slightly finicky with their balustrades, Chinese railings, cornices, lunettes and the like. Kimball, on the other hand, acting with restrained professionalism, distilled the Jefferson format so that Shack Mountain, though diminutive, is a bold and solid composition.

Kimball and his wife Marie (a distinguished scholar in her own right), occupied Shack Mountain only during Christmases and for a fortnight each June. Though intended to be their retirement home, it never served as such, for both Kimball and his wife died with five months of each other in 1955, before they were able to take up permanent residence in Virginia. Kimball was even unsuccessful in giving the property the name of his choice. He wanted it to be known as Tusculum, but it continued to be known by its original name derived from the Shackelford family, its early owners. Shack Mountain was willed by Kimball to the Philadelphia Museum. Having no particular need for the property, the museum sold it the same year to Henderson Heyward, a Charlottesville architect. Heyward sold it the next year to Mr. and Mrs. W. Bedford Moore who maintain it as their permanent residence.

CCL

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CONTINUATION SHEET #2

ITEM NUMBER 10

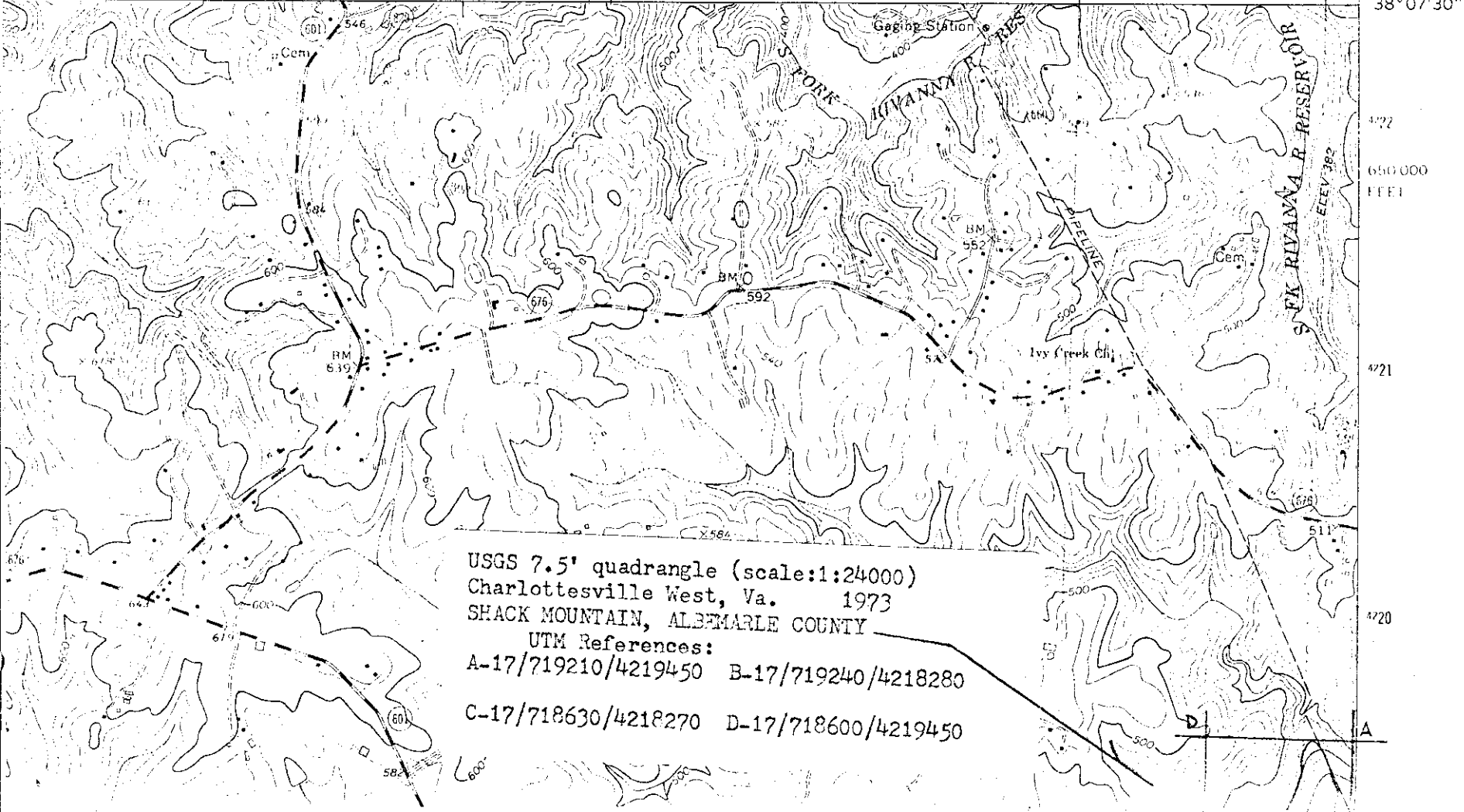
PAGE 1

#10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

along the 400-foot contour, basically paralleling the east bank of Ivy Creek then curving south then southeast along west side of treeline to north side of Route 657, across the approach road and to point of origin. The boundaries delineate the 100.9-acre tract on which Shack Mountain is set and encompass a sloping wooded property that rightly complements the landmark.

5360 III NW
(EARLYSVILLE)

0 11 NE
UNION) 714 FREE UNION 2.5 MI. 715 32'30" 716 1 990 000 FEET 717 718 719 78° 30' 38° 07' 30"



USGS 7.5' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)
Charlottesville West, Va. 1973
SHACK MOUNTAIN, ALBEMARLE COUNTY
UTM References:
A-17/719210/4219450 B-17/719240/4218280
C-17/718630/4218270 D-17/718600/4219450

D | A