DHR No. (to be completed by DHR staff) _________________________

Purpose of Evaluation
Please use the following space to explain briefly why you are seeking an evaluation of this property.

The 100th anniversary of Shenvale is coming up in a few years and we would like to restore the Lodge building back to its former state (or as close as possible).

Are you interested in applying for State and/or Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credits? Yes X No ______
Are you interested in receiving more information about DHR's easement program? Yes X No ______

1. General Property Information
Property name: Shenvalee Golf Resort (Shenvalee Lodge, Inc.)

Property address: 9660 Fairway Drive (PO Box 930)
City or Town: New Market
Zip code: 22844

Name of the Independent City or County where the property is located: Town of New Market

Category of Property (choose only one of the following):
Building X Site ______ Structure ______ Object ______

2. Physical Aspects
Acreage: ~267

Setting (choose only one of the following):
Urban _____ Suburban _____ Town X Village _____ Hamlet _____ Rural _____

Briefly describe the property’s overall setting, including any notable landscape features:

The Shenvalee Lodge sits on approximately 267 acres of land, which includes a 27-hole golf course. Parts of the golf course border Smith Creek and Route 11, and part of the course borders residential neighborhoods. We have a view of the Massanutten mountain range to the East of the Shenvalee. Route 11, or Lee Highway, runs parallel to part of the original front nine holes (now named the Olde Course).
3. Architectural Description

Architectural Style(s): **Virginia Colonial**

If the property was designed by an architect, landscape architect, engineer, or other professional, please list here: R.B. Cridland – landscape architect from Philadelphia, PA, Phinehas V. Stephens – President, American Industries Engineering Company of New York, Dwight James Baum – New York architect

If the builder is known, please list here: Planned by Mims Speake & Company (from Luray) and the general contractor was Broadway Hardwood Company (from Broadway)

Date of construction (can be approximate): The original farmhouse is thought to have been built in the early 1920s. The additions made after Roland G. Hill purchased the property were completed in 1926.

**Narrative Description:**

In the space below, briefly describe the general characteristics of the entire property, such as its current use (and historic use if different), as well as the primary building or structure on the property (such as a house, store, mill, factory, depot, bridge, etc.). Include the architectural style, materials and method(s) of construction, physical appearance and condition (exterior and interior), and any additions, remodelings, or other alterations.

The land where the current-day Shenvalee Golf Resort sits was purchased in 1926 by Roland G. Hill with the intent to turn the existing farm house into a club house, as well as build a hotel and 18-hole golf course. The original farmhouse was remodeled to include a basement for the men’s locker room and pro shop. A new wing was added on the north side to provide a dining room with hardwood floors to serve as a ballroom floor for dances. The main dining room also had a balcony for guests to sit or for a band to play from. A second floor was also added. The original plans, according to an article in the Front Royal Record from January 21, 1927, were to build the club house in the old Virginia Colonial style and suggested the roof would be slate and the outside finish was to be cream-colored stucco with white wood trim, green roof and blinds. The first nine holes were completed near the end of June 1927. In January of 1930, a fire destroyed part of the clubhouse, and when it was restored, the dining room was enclosed and 18 more hotel rooms were added, including rooms on a third floor.

The golf course is now up to 27 holes and is still in use year round. The main clubhouse is currently used for motel check in and administrative offices. The kitchen and dining rooms are no longer in regular use for breakfast during peak golf season, holiday buffets, dinners or large functions, e.g. weddings, reunions, etc. The clubhouse (or Lodge) is red brick with white trim, a red tin roof, wood floors and wood front porch. The exterior of the Lodge is still in relatively good condition with some areas that need attention. The roof will be replaced in 2022. The interior needs some updating and refurbishing.

Briefly describe any outbuildings or secondary resources (such as barns, sheds, dam and mill pond, storage tanks, scales, railroad spurs, etc.), including their condition and their estimated construction dates.

The poolside motel was built first in 1959 and has 20 rooms; the in-ground pool was added in 1961. The current golf shop was built in 1965 and is mostly original. The first 10 rooms of the golf-side motel were built in 1969 and the second half was built in 1972 (total of 22 rooms). The motels have remained the same; they’ve had new roofs put on and were painted in 2020. The golf course maintenance building was built in 1986 on top of the old tennis courts. The golf cart barn was built in 2003, the Miller Grille was built in 2006. The Fairway House was built in the 1930s or 1940s, but was purchased by Shenvalee in 1997. Other structures on the golf course include an old chicken house, the Hildreth barn, and the maintenance pump house.
4. Property’s History and Significance

In the space below, briefly describe the history of the property, such as significant events, persons, and/or families associated with the property. Please list all sources of information used to research the history of the property. (It is not necessary to attach lengthy articles or family genealogies to this form.)

If the property is important for its architecture, engineering, landscape architecture, or other aspects of design, please include a brief explanation of this aspect.

According to our history book, put together by one of our longest-standing Board members, Lord Thomas Fairfax granted 398 acres of land to Valentine Sevier in 1749. Valentine sold the land to his son, John Sevier, in 1765. John Sevier later became a general for the Washington District of the territory south of Ohio, and was the first governor of Tennessee. The land was sold multiple times afterward until eventually Roland G. Hill bought 190 acres of land from C.A. and Edith Pence on October 1, 1926, which included a farm house that Mr. Hill later turned into the club house of the resort.

Roland G. Hill brought in engineers and architects from the North to help realize his goal of building a resort in the Shenandoah Valley. The Front Royal Record reported much of the progress in the months leading up to the resort’s grand opening on July 7, 1927, and even reported a contest to name the resort. The contest was won by a local school teacher named, Kizzie Hays, who suggested the name to incorporate the words “Shenandoah”, “Virginia”, and “Lee Highway” and submitted an essay to support it. In the first few months since opening, Shenvalee was visited by multiple amateur golfers, including George Voigt of Washington DC who came for the grand opening, Bobby Jones, one of the most well-known amateurs and the first to complete golf’s Grand Slam, and Joe Kirkwood, first Australian PGA tour winner and trick shot performer.

In the winter of 1944 during WWII, a small group of Italian diplomat POWs were transferred from Ingleside Hotel in Staunton, VA to Shenvalee, where they stayed for 14 months pending repatriation. Shenvalee was closed to the public in early October of 1944 and did not reopen until March of 1945.

(Sources: Allen Johnson, Shenvalee Board of Director, articles from the Front Royal Record, Rockbridge County News, and the Warren Sentinel obtained through vrginiachronicle.com, and phcemontreat.org for the Presbyterian Heritage Center.)
5. Property Ownership  (Check as many categories as apply):  

Private:  ___  Public\Local _____  Public\State _____  Public\Federal _____

Current Legal Owner(s) of the Property (If the property has more than one owner, please list each below or on an additional sheet.)

name/title:  Shenvalee stockholders  
organization:  Shenvalee Lodge, Inc.  
street & number:  9660 Fairway Drive or PO Box 930  
city or town:  New Market  state:  VA  zip code:  22844  
e-mail:  

Legal Owner's Signature:  

Date:  8/19/22  

**Signature required for processing all applications.**

In the event of corporate ownership you must provide the name and title of the appropriate contact person.

Contact person:  Willy Pirtle  
Daytime Telephone:  540-335-3001

Applicant Information (Individual completing form if other than legal owner of property)

name/title:  Willy Pirtle/President  
organization:  Shenvalee Golf Resort  
street & number:  9660 Fairway Drive  
city or town:  New Market  state:  Virginia  zip code:  22844  
e-mail:  willypirtle32@gmail.com

6. Notification

In some circumstances, it may be necessary for DHR to confer with or notify local officials of proposed listings of properties within their jurisdiction. In the following space, please provide the contact information for the local County Administrator, City Manager, and/or Town Manager.

name/title:  Todd Walters, Town Manager  
locality:  Town Office  
street & number:  9418 John Sevier Road  
city or town:  New Market  state:  Virginia  zip code:  22844  

telephone:  540-740-3850
Copitaly
Pocm
This is a non-smoking room.