

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: Dameron Cottage

Other names/site number: VDHR# 163-5014

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: 462 South Main Street

City or town: Amherst State: VA County: Amherst

Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: N/A

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

I hereby certify that this 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 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 local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

Virginia Department of Historic Resources

Julie E. Langston

4-30-2023

Signature of certifying official/Title:

Date

Virginia Department of Historic Resources

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official:

Date

Title :

State or Federal agency/bureau
or Tribal Government

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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
- Structure
- Object

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Rustic

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: STONE; WOOD: Log, Weatherboard; METAL;
CONCRETE

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

Dameron Cottage is an evolved log house with historic additions of both log and frame construction, culminating in a rare example of a Rustic type dwelling in Amherst County. The 1.06-acre property is located on the western side of South Main Street (U. S. Route 29 Business) and is about one mile south of the courthouse in the Town of Amherst, the county seat. The house was originally constructed as a single-pen log cabin around 1890. The owners/builders were African American brothers Archey and William C. Bibby. They sold the property to George L. Dameron in 1912 and it remained in the Dameron family until 2021. The family enlarged the building in three phases dating from c.1912, c.1939, and 1969. The c. 1912 addition expanded the dwelling to a double-pen form and the c. 1939 rear addition and improvements to the earlier sections emphasized the house's Rustic type of construction. The 1969 rear addition is astylistic and its simplicity makes it sympathetic to the house's rustic character. At this time, a decision was made to add cedar siding to cover the exposed logs on the exterior except for a small section of an exterior side wall that are sheltered beneath a porch roof. The dwelling's interior still features exposed log walls, batten doors with rustic hardware, simple trim around the doors and windows, and a simple stair rail.¹ There are two non-contributing sheds in the northwest backyard, both of which blend well with the wooded lot's setting.

¹ Lois T. Dameron (1937-2021) was the last of the Dameron family to own the house. She lived there from 1956 until 1988. Much of the oral history is from various conversations the current owner had with her. She stated that the exterior siding was placed on the walls with the intention that it could easily be removed without damaging the logs.

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Narrative Description

Setting

Dameron Cottage is partially hidden from South Main Street (US Route 20 Business) by a triple rail wood fence and mature shrubs and boxwoods. The dwelling's location is at the highest point on the parcel, with the land sloping west toward an intermittent creek. The surrounding yard contains mature hardwoods and pines. A magnolia at the northwest corner of the house is of note because it was cultivated from a seed by former owner Lois Dameron. A gravel driveway leads to a small parking area next to the north side of the house.

Exterior

The earliest section of Dameron Cottage was constructed by Archey and William C. Bibby c. 1890, and the house subsequently was enlarged over time. The Dameron family erected log additions c. 1912 and c. 1939 and a frame rear addition in 1969, all of which were sympathetic to the single-pen log house's original construction methods and materials. Today, the house has an I-shaped footprint. Its overall design retains the austere character of its modest origin as a single-pen house and eschews applied ornamentation from any subsequent period. The integrity of the exterior's design, materials, and workmanship, therefore, is retained. The exterior walls of the house were made to look uniform in appearance with the application of cedar weatherboard siding and parging of the uncoursed stone foundation after the frame addition was completed in 1969. The wall of the north porch is the only wall of which the logs remain exposed. When constructed, the house had a shake roof that was replaced with metal in 1949 due to a fire. The multiple gable roofs are all currently sheathed with standing-seam metal. The house has an interior chimney in the earliest portion (it was originally exposed when the first pen was constructed) and two exterior chimneys on the south side. The interior chimney, above the roofline, is parged and has a parged cover. The chimney on the south elevation features a distinctive Rustic design composed of irregular fieldstones laid in rough courses with thick mortar joints. The chimney stack that extends above the roofline is brick laid in common bond with the lower portions featuring heavily reworked mortar joints while a corbeled cap has not been altered. The newest, shouldered chimney is constructed entirely of brick. Most of the windows have 6/6 double-hung sashes with exception to several in the 1969 rear section of the house and the two smaller windows of the bathrooms on the south side of the c. 1912 section.²

The principal elevation faces east and has three asymmetrically placed bays across the main elevation and three closely symmetrical dormers at the half-story. The single-leaf entry and a window are on the north side of the elevation, and a single window is on the south. The entry has a six-panel door. There is a three-bay porch that shelters the entry and is symmetrically placed across the elevation. The porch floor is soapstone over a concrete slab. The flat asphalt-shingled roof is supported by four simple square wooden columns. The front porch was added around

² Alterations to the house are dated according to documented information of land tax records, deeds, and oral history. *Fire Calls 1949*, Amherst Fire Department Archives.

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1939, when it had log supports and a shed roof. This porch was enlarged and changed to its current state in 1969.³

The north (side) elevation of the eastern section of the house has a single window near the gable end, and the south elevation has a single window at the main floor. The north elevation of the rear ell, built c. 1939, has a single-leaf entry and has exposed logs exposed within the porch area. The three-bay porch shelters the entry. This entry has a door with nine lights over two solid panels. The porch has a poured concrete floor and a concrete stair of four risers. The standing-seam metal roof is supported by four simple wood posts. There is a six-panel single-leaf door from the 1969 rear addition on the east elevation that opens onto the porch. The north elevation of the rear addition has a single window near the northeast corner and access to the basement. There is a concrete stairwell leading to a single-leaf entry. Below the window there is a small window which is a fixed sash aluminum 1/1 storm window.

The west elevation has three smaller 6/6 double-hung sash windows at the basement level. The main level has a small 4/4 double-hung sash window adjacent to a typical window almost symmetrically placed. There are two symmetrically placed dormers in the half-story that resemble the basement windows.

The south elevation of the rear addition has a basement window and main level window aligned on the west side of the brick, shouldered chimney. Flanking the chimney near the gable end are two small 4/4 double-hung sash windows. The east elevation of the rear addition does not have any openings. The south elevation of the c. 1939 rear ell has a single window, the aforementioned stone-and-brick chimney and part of the c. 1969 screened porch, which extends to the southeastern corner of the house. This porch has a concrete slab floor and a flat roof sheathed with standing-seam metal. There is a single-leaf door with nine lights over two panels that opens onto the porch from the eastern section of the house. There is a four-light swinging sash window to the west of the door and beneath the porch roof. Above the porch, in the eastern section, there is a small window with a fixed-sash aluminum 1/1 double-hung sash near the southwest corner and a 6/6 double-hung sash window near the gable.

Interior

The interior retains character-defining, albeit subdued, features of the Rustic style. These include the exposed-log walls and knee walls, batten doors and rustic hardware, dark-stained wood boards covering the spandrel and complemented by the adjacent horizontally-braced vertical-board door to the basement, the simple square newel posts and balusters of the upper staircase rail, and simple door and window trim. Most of the house retains its original wood flooring. The log section of the house was built in three phases and consists of three adjoined pens. The original section is the living room which was constructed around 1890 and had a fireplace and exterior rock chimney. The second pen, c. 1912 was woven into the south wall of

³ *Amherst County Heritage Book : Volume II*, (Amherst, VA.: Amherst County Heritage Book Committee, 2004.), 132-133.

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the original section, enclosed the rock chimney, and a half-story was added. In 1939, the third pen was built and the c. 1912 pen was slightly reconfigured. Most of the Rustic detailing throughout the house dates from the c. 1939 period. The last major alteration occurred in 1969 when a frame addition was added onto the third pen on the western end of the house.

The living room was the original room of the 1890 cabin. It measures 14 x 16 feet. It retains its medium-gauge wood flooring and the soapstone hearth. In 1969, the exposed log walls were sheetrocked, and the firebox was made smaller. At this time, a late-nineteenth-century mantelpiece replaced whatever had decorated the fireplace. This mantelpiece was salvaged from another house. It has spindles on plinths, fluted legs, and a raised panel header. It is also likely that the exposed floor joists for the half-story were replaced when the half-story was added around 1912 because there is no evidence of loft access from the main floor and, according to oral tradition, the original cabin had a loft above the main room.⁴

The second pen and half-story were added c. 1912. The log addition was woven into the south wall of the original section. It is thought that this area was the same size as the original pen, 14 x 16 feet, due to the roofline of the half story. It may have been a single room on the lower floor, and two rooms were created upstairs. It is unknown where the main level's access to the half-story originally was located because this area was enlarged and divided by the c. 1939 construction. Today, the first-floor area has been divided into a kitchen, bathroom, and stair hall. This section measures 16 x 16 feet.

The third log pen is the dining room and it formed a rear ell perpendicular to the earlier log sections. The third pen measures 14 x 15 feet. This section is woven into part of the second pen on its south wall. The second pen was altered and the original west wall was replaced with a new wall that was two feet west of the original. This extra width was added because the interior divisions of the second pen required more space. A center log wall created two rooms, and the north wall of the addition abutted onto the original south wall of the house and was held in place with iron ties. Another dividing wall was woven into the center wall to create the bathroom and support the stair landing and bathroom above it. It was also woven into the new western wall. The entire half-story was redone as well. Two rooms were created using shiplap and plaster for the upper section of the wall. The gable end windows and the trim on the interior of the east bedroom door feature bullseye corner blocks and bevel-shaped molding like the dining room window. Access to the south bedroom is a short run of steps from the stair landing leading into the room. This run may not have been originally planned because the stair cuts into the living room wall. Beneath the dining room there is a poured concrete cellar accessed from the stair hall via a crude stair from the main floor, having just wood plank steps and open risers.

In 1969, a frame addition was added onto the western wall of the dining room. This addition included a basement, and like the other additions it was a story-and-a-half in height. Each level has access from the main house and its own stairwell. The entries to the frame addition from the main block and half-story were originally windows on the western end of the c. 1939 addition.

⁴ Information concerning the mantelpiece came from various conversations between Lois Dameron and the current owners.

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The dog-leg stair to the half-story has a deep alcove in the landing. The basement has a large brick fireplace with a brick hearth and a simple wood mantelshelf. This area is stylistically different from the earlier sections due to its simple finishes such as sheetrock and painted wood trim; it has a bedroom and bath on the main floor and a single room at the half-story.

Shed 1-Constructed ca. 1990- Non-contributing

This shed is located on the northwest side of the house. It has frame construction and measures approximately 10 x 6 feet. It sits on piers of various materials including concrete block and brick. The walls have vertical board siding and the gable roof is sheathed in tarpaper. There is a single-leaf, five-vertical-panel door on the south gable wall, and on the remaining sides, there is a single six light sliding window. The shed is in fair condition.

Shed 2- Constructed 2021-Non-contributing

This shed is sited northwest of the house and south of shed 1. It measures approximately 12 x 28 feet and rests on concrete block piers. It has vertical board siding and a standing-seam metal gable roof. The main elevation faces east and has a wooden ramp and metal garage door. There is a solid, single-leaf door on the north side of the building. It was prefabricated and placed on the property in 2021.

Integrity Statement

The Dameron Cottage possesses integrity of location, setting, association and feeling. The house was originally built in a cleared area alongside the adjacent road and was surrounded by woods. The property's 1.06-acre parcel continues to be largely wooded. Across the road, a much more recent development has altered the greater setting, but a fence and landscaping along the roadside of the nominated parcel screens it from view. Despite the Town of Amherst's corporate limits having expanded into the area, the property's setting, still on the outskirts of town, and its feeling as a late-nineteenth-to-early-twentieth-century rural dwelling are maintained. The house itself retains a high degree of integrity of materials, workmanship, and design to c. 1939, when it was remodeled into a cohesive Rustic style; and its well-preserved Rustic appearance is due in large part to the careful consideration with which the Dameron family undertook additions and renovations to the dwelling. Both the exterior and interior have been well maintained and preserved. The exterior log walls now are covered with weatherboard siding, but according to the Dameron family, the siding was applied in a way that it could be removed without damage to the original logs. The interior c. 1890, c. 1912, and c. 1939 spaces retain key Rustic characteristics, most notably exposed log walls and knee walls, vertical-board doors with horizontal braces and historic metal hardware, narrow, wood flooring, dark-stained wood boards covering the staircase spandrel and complemented by the adjacent horizontally-braced vertical-board door to the basement, original wood flooring, and the simple square newel posts and balusters of the upper

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staircase rails. On the first floor, interior doors on log walls have painted trim with rabbeted joints, while upper-level door trim has mitered or butt joints. The sheetrocked walls in the living room have door trim with mitered corners, while the cased opening from the dining room has wider trim than found elsewhere in the house. Finishes in the 1969 addition are simpler and astylistic, clearly conveying it later period of construction compared to the original and 1939 sections.

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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

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE/CRAFTSMANSHIP

Period of Significance

C. 1890-c.1939

Significant Dates

C. 1912

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Bibby, Archey

Bibby, William Cullen

Dameron, George, L.

Dameron, Joyner T., Sr.

Dameron, Joyner T., Jr.

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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.)

The Dameron Cottage is significant at the local level under Criterion C in the area of Architecture/Craftsmanship. Its period of significance spans from c. 1890 to c. 1939, beginning with construction of the original, traditional log house, and concluding with completion of a remodeling in a cohesive Rustic style, including a c. 1912 log addition that closely referenced the original, c. 1890 part of the house and its traditional log construction. In its c. 1939 expanded and remodeled state, the house was, and continues to be a locally rare example of the Rustic style/type of construction. The c. 1912 addition was built with inexpensive, vernacular techniques used locally in construction of tobacco barns of the region well into the twentieth century. By c. 1939 the building had coalesced into a prime example of the nationally popular Rustic architecture movement as expressed in Amherst County. The Rustic movement of the early twentieth century was inspired by buildings constructed in national parks, as well as the Adirondack-style craftsmanship used in many vacation homes and camps in the northeastern U.S. The Dameron Cottage is one of only four known examples of the Rustic type used for a dwelling, and one of only eight known twentieth-century Rustic log buildings in all of Amherst County. The builders of the original log dwelling were Archey Bibby and William Cullen Bibby. Although biographical information about the Bibbys is limited, the house itself retains the integrity of vernacular materials and workmanship completed by them. George L. Dameron acquired the property c. 1912 and constructed the house's second log pen using the traditional regional elements of round log construction. Joyner T. Dameron Sr. renovated the double-pen log house c. 1939 and incorporated tenets of the Rustic movement popular at the time. The 1969 frame addition on the dwelling is essentially astylistic, but in its simplicity it is sympathetic to the earlier Rustic treatments.

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

The Dameron Cottage is a rare example of the Rustic type of construction in Amherst County. Amherst County has a long tradition of log construction from the eighteenth century into the early twentieth century. Some of the early examples were incorporated into larger homes and covered with weatherboard siding, such as Clover Dale (VDHR # 005- 0159). Many other log cabins are seen along the roadside, and some were included in the 2009-2010 Architectural Survey of Amherst County. Log construction of many farm outbuildings such as tobacco barns, barns and corn cribs are also known, and some are recorded in the survey. The early pens of the Dameron Cottage reflect this tradition.

The Rustic movement is dated by the National Park Service as 1916 to 1942. This movement arose out of the late-nineteenth-century Romantic movement revering the beauty of nature in the American West and the Adirondack movement out of New York. The American Craftsman style of architecture also influenced buildings that were constructed in national parks, used in

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construction of New Deal-era Civilian Conservation Corps works and in many privately owned resorts, vacation homes and camps.

The Dameron Cottage was remodeled into a cohesive Rustic (or Rustic Revival) style around 1939 by Joyner T. Dameron, Sr. His familiarity with Rustic architectural designs may reflect his exposure to them while working out west, where he worked to create water and electric power plants.⁵

As of this writing, there are at least eight known examples of the Rustic type of construction found in Amherst County used in buildings other than tobacco barns. Round logs were easier and less expensive to construct with than using hewn logs. Less chinking was required between the rounded logs which was also a time and cost saving measure. Three of the eight buildings are stores that were built along the Buffalo Springs Turnpike: 2846 Buffalo Springs Turnpike (VDHR # 005-5266), Pleasant View Grocery (VDHR # 005-5271), and a store located at 128 Danny's Lane. The fourth commercial building is Ardeevin Lodge, the headquarters for the Old Virginia Brick manufacturing company (VDHR# 005-5001). Ardeevin Lodge was recommended eligible for the NRHP by Department of Historic Resources staff in 1991, but has not been nominated. The remaining four examples are dwellings. These include: Hanshill (NRHP 2011; VDHR # 005-5329) which was a retreat and later a camp. Designed in 1925 by Lynchburg architects Pendleton S. Clark and Walter S. Crow, Hanshill functioned as a seasonal vacation lodge for the Suhling family for over 85 years. The building features such character-defining Rustic element as custom-designed iron hardware, balustrades of sticks and logs, and stained vertical board and batten on both exterior and interior walls. Other known Rustic dwellings in Amherst County are a house that is partial log and cord wood used as a camp on Little Piney Road (VDHR # 005-5056); a possible hunting cabin on Glade Road (VDHR # 005-5123); and Dameron Cottage, the only dwelling inhabited on a daily basis.⁶

According to the architectural style guide *Classic Commonwealth: Virginia Architecture from the Colonial Era to 1940*, the Rustic Revival style peaked in popularity in Virginia between 1900-1940. This is a type of construction seen used in tobacco barns of the region and has been found in other housing, since much of the round logs were covered with siding, there are surely additional buildings using this type of construction yet unfound in the county. Its national

⁵ Joyner Dameron, Sr., worked out west for a time as noted in various documents. He himself mentions a legacy to his family in his will that was acquired while he was working out west. The house has been treasured by the family but there are no existing diaries, all we have is a scant oral history from the family and the eldest member of the family has passed since this nomination was written.. "Clover Dale (VDHR #005-0159), Virginia Department of Historic Resources Archives, Richmond, VA; HistoryTech and Landmark Preservation Associates, *Amherst County Historic Resources Survey Report*, July 2010, Amherst County Museum and Historical Society Archives, Amherst, VA; National Park Service, "Rustic Architecture: 1916-1942," accessed November 16, 2022, https://www.nps.gov/parkhistory/online_books/rusticharch/introduction.htm; *Amherst County Will Book 38*, p. 204; and *Amherst County Heritage Book : Volume II*, 132-133.

⁶ *Amherst County Historic Resources Survey Report*; and W. Scott Smith, "National Register of Historic Places Registration Form," *Hanshill*, 2011, accessed November 16, 2022, https://www.dhr.virginia.gov/VLR_to_transfer/PDFNoms/005-5329_Hanshill_2011_FINAL_NR_nomination.pdf.

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antecedents, however, extend back to the mid-nineteenth century work of Andrew Jackson Downing in which building designs were to be harmonized with their natural settings. By the late nineteenth century, Rustic was linked to the rapidly shrinking American frontier and the first national parks, Yellowstone, Yosemite, and Sequoia. The grandeur of the American West's landscapes captured popular imagination and the rugged character of these places were idealized as a way to counter the stultifying influences of Victorian-era culture. Many aspects of Rustic are sympathetic to the contemporaneous Arts and Crafts movement, although the Rustic emphasized use of materials as close as possible to their natural, highly textured state. Later significant influences on Rustic included the summer camp movement of the early twentieth century, made famous by those in the Adirondack Mountains of New York State, as well as the architectural type developed by the National Park Service during the 1920s-1930s for buildings in national parks across the country; the Park Service was careful to customize rustic designs to the vernacular materials and methods of the region where the park was located. In the American Southwest, therefore, adobe buildings were constructed whereas in areas that historically were dominated by temperate forests, including Virginia, log buildings were the norm. Minimally finished natural materials and organic forms were utilized extensively and building and structures were situated in a way that they appeared to emerge organic from their landscapes. Vacation rental cabins and park lodges often featured almost raw materials, such as unpeeled logs as support columns and thatch and bark roofing, as well as furnishings designed to match the rustic character of their associated buildings. For year-round dwellings, such as the Dameron Cottage, materials could be more refined and, where available at the time of construction, necessities of modern life, including electricity, heating, air conditioning, and indoor plumbing, were included in the design of the buildings. Light and plumbing fixtures often echoed the rusticity of the dwellings, as did elements such as multiple-paned window sash, interior trim, and aged wood flooring.⁷

House History

The original pen of the house was constructed around 1890 by two African American brothers, Archey (1840-bef. 1912) and William Cullen (1858-bef. 1945) Bibby. It is uncertain as to whether or not these men were born free or enslaved. There is no documentation on them until 1870; some men in the vicinity with the Bibby name were known to have been enslaved. There is also evidence that other members of the Bibby family were mixed race through intermarriage with Monacan tribal members and, therefore, may have been free. Archey and William Cullen Bibby's father, in 1870, was said to own 30 acres near Samuel Meredith Garland of Kenmore (NRHP 2014; VDHR #005-0023), which is near the land bought by these brothers. They erected a single pen log building with a random stone fireplace. Their use of this building remains unknown; it may have been a dwelling for one or both of them, or for others. The building was erected on a small piece of land that had been cleared for some time according to various plats. The house was surrounded on three sides by a wooded area and sat next to a well-traveled road leading to Lynchburg and Waugh's Ferry, and was outside the Town of Amherst proper at the time. It is suspected that the building may have been intended for some commercial use due to an

⁷ Chris Novelli et al., *Classic Commonwealth: Virginia Architecture from the Colonial Era to 1940* (Richmond, VA: Department of Historic Resources, 2015), p. 117-118.

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unusual covenant that was included in the deed of sale, which stated that “at no time shall there be established, erected, or carried on the said lot any grocery, bar room, or house for the sale of ardent spirits or any public house whatsoever.” The covenant was included by the children of Judge Samuel Hugh Henry (1824-1884) because they knew he was an ardent supporter of temperance, and they may have suspected the use intended for the property by the brothers could include alcohol in some way. This was the only property Archey and William Cullen Bibby are known to have owned, and by 1900, both men were no longer in the county. Archey Bibby died before 1912, and his heirs, along with William Cullen Bibbey, sold the property to George L. Dameron.⁸

George L. Dameron (1884-1923) bought the house because it was close to his family farm. The property adjoins the Dameron farm on the west side of the property. He was a contractor and builder. George Dameron added the second pen onto the southern end of the original log house. It is unknown how long George occupied the house before he moved to Washington, D.C. In 1923, he was he was struck by a car jumping a curb and was killed.⁹

Joyner T. Dameron, Sr. (1886-1956) purchased the house from his brother’s estate in 1928. He also eventually purchased his siblings’ share of the family farm. In the early twentieth century, Joyner Dameron lived and worked in the American West and was influenced by his experience. He returned home after his mother’s death, bought his brother’s house, and eventually acquired the family farm. When Joyner remodeled and enlarged his brother’s log cabin, he chose to use the Rustic type of construction that was currently popular in the West and, famously, in the national parks of that region. Joyner Dameron spent time working with electrification of areas and with water-power plants and, therefore, may have been familiar with the style as it was used by the Civilian Conservation Corps on building projects. Joyner improved the log dwelling, but never lived in it. Instead, he used it for rental property, and one of the tenants was a young pharmacist, Hope Tunstall (1920-1997), and his wife. They moved into the house sometime after their 1945 wedding. On October 9, 1949, the fire department quickly doused a fire on the wood shingle roof that was caused by a spark from the chimney. The shingle roof was replaced with a standing-seam metal roof. The last renter moved out in 1956.¹⁰

⁸ Lynn Rainville, *Invisible Founders: How Two Centuries of African American Families Transformed a Plantation into a College*, (New York: Berghahn, 2019), 101; 1870 Non-Population Census, ancestry.com; *Amherst County Deed Books EE*, p. 129; *PP*, p. 169, *RR*, p. 403, 68, p.283; “Judge Henry,” *Alexandria Gazette*. April 24, 1875, 2, accessed April 10, 2022, newspapers.com; “Judge Samuel H. Henry,” *Richmond Dispatch*, June 27, 1884. accessed April 10, 2022, newspapers.com; and U.S. Federal Census Records 1870-1940, Ancestry.com.

⁹ *Amherst County Heritage Book : Volume II*, 132-133; “G. L. Dameron, Victim of Accident, Buried,” *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, June 25, 1923. accessed April 10, 2022. newspapers.com; Lois Dameron, various conversations.

¹⁰ There is only the oral family history, the clues in documentation, and his will that speaks to his exposure to and influence by the Rustic construction he used to enlarge the house in 1939. *Amherst County Deed Book 88*, p. 19; 97, p. 546; *Amherst County Heritage Book : Volume II*, 132-133; Lois Dameron, various conversations; *Fire Calls 1949*, Amherst Fire Department Archives; and Albert H. Good, *Park and Recreation Structures*, (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Dept. of Interior, NPS, 1938), archive.org. 76; *Amherst County Will Book 38*, p. 204; *Amherst County Heritage Book : Volume II*, 132-133; and Various databases available from ancestry.com.

Dameron Cottage
Name of Property

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Joyner T. Dameron, Jr. (1934-2015) and his wife, Lois Tyree Dameron (1937-2021), moved their young family into the house soon after the last tenant left. Joyner Dameron, Jr. enlarged the house in 1969 with a frame addition. He installed sheetrock on the living room walls, installed the wood mantelpiece, and updated the electrical wiring and likely the kitchen. He also installed the exterior weatherboard siding that protects the log walls, created the south porch and enlarged and remodeled the entry porch. The Damerons occupied the house until 1988 when they moved to the family farm on the western edge of the property. The house again became rental property until Lois Dameron's health began to fail and she and the family decided to sell the house. Lois was so sentimentally attached to the house that she would interview prospective buyers about preservation of the house. She requested the current owners write an essay about how they would care for the house. Robert Villwock, Sr. and Elizabeth Villwock bought the house in 2021.¹¹

¹¹*Amherst County Heritage Book : Volume II*, 132-133; Lois Dameron, various conversations; and *Amherst County Deed Books 209*, p. 299, Instrument No. 210002206.

Dameron Cottage
Name of Property

Amherst County, Virginia
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Amherst County Deed Books. Various Dates. Amherst County Courthouse.

Amherst County Land Tax Records 1885-1926. Library of Virginia, various microfilm reels.

Amherst County Land Tax Records 1927-1984. Amherst County Courthouse.

Amherst County Will Books. Various Dates. Amherst County Courthouse.

Amherst County Heritage Book : Volume II. Amherst, VA.: Amherst County Heritage Book Committee. 2004. 132-133.

“Clover Dale (VDHR # 005-0159),” Virginia Department of Historic Resources Archives, Richmond, VA.

Dameron, Lois T. Various Conversations with Robert E. Villwock, Sr.

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“G. L. Dameron, Victim of Accident, Buried.” *Richmond Times-Dispatch*. June 25, 1923. Accessed April 10, 2022. newspapers.com.

Good, Albert H. *Park and Recreation Structures*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Dept. of Interior, NPS. 1938. archive.org. 76.

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“Judge Henry.” *Alexandria Gazette*. April 24, 1875. 2. Accessed April 10, 2022. newspapers.com.

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Dameron Cottage
Name of Property

Amherst County, Virginia
County and State

Novelli, Chris, Melina Bezirdjian, Calder Loth, and Lena McDonald. "Classic Commonwealth: Virginia Architecture from the Colonial Era to 1940." 2015. Accessed November 16, 2022. https://www.dhr.virginia.gov/pdf_files/Classic_Commonwealth_Style_Guide.pdf. 121-123.

Olinger, Mary Frances and Leona Wilkins, ed. *Amherst, Virginia : From Amherst Courthouse to Town of Amherst : A Pictorial History*. Amherst, VA.: Amherst County Museum And Historical Society, Central Virginia Printing. 2010. 13.

"Remembering Lois Tyree Dameron." tharpfuneralhome.com. Accessed April 10, 2022. <https://tharpfuneralhome.com/funeralpress/lois-dameron/5234/>.

Smith, W. Scott. "National Register of Historic Places Registration Form." *Hanshill*. 2011. Accessed November 16, 2022. https://www.dhr.virginia.gov/VLR_to_transfer/PDFNoms/005-5329_Hanshill_2011_FINAL_NR_nomination.pdf.

Various Databases including U. S. Federal Census Records, Birth and Death Databases. ancestry.com.

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: Amherst County Museum and Historical Society,
Virginia Dept. of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): DHR No. 163-5014

Dameron Cottage
Name of Property

Amherst County, Virginia
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.06 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 37 344100 N | Longitude: 79 032768 W |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

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

The historic boundary of this property is coterminous with the boundary as described in Amherst County Tax Map # 95 A 54. This map is available from the Amherst County Courthouse and online at <https://amherstgis.timmons.com>. The true and correct historic boundary is shown on the attached Tax Parcel Map and on the attached Aerial View, which has a scale of 1" = 94'.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The historic boundary encloses the same parcel as described in Amherst County Deed 210001216 and Amherst County Plat Book 4, p. 38. The boundary include the contributing house and noncontributing buildings as well as the historic setting; this plot of land has been historically associated with the dwelling since 1886, as recorded in Amherst Deed Book RR, p. 403.

Dameron Cottage
Name of Property

Amherst County, Virginia
County and State

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Sandra F. Esposito
organization: _____
street & number: 140 Cradon Hill Ln
city or town: Amherst state: VA zip code: 24521
e-mail: sandiesposito@icloud.com
telephone: 540-529-0205
date: June 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.
- **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: Dameron Cottage

City or Vicinity: Town of Amherst

County: Amherst

State: VA

Photographer: Sandra F. Esposito

Date Photographed: June 2022

Dameron Cottage
Name of Property

Amherst County, Virginia
County and State

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

1 of 18: VA_AmherstCounty_DameronCottage_0001

View: East Elevation, camera facing west

2 of 18: VA_AmherstCounty_DameronCottage_0002

View: North Elevation, camera facing southeast

3 of 18: VA_AmherstCounty_DameronCottage_0003

View: West and South Elevations, camera facing northeast

4 of 18: VA_AmherstCounty_DameronCottage_0004

View: Surrounding Landscape, camera facing south

5 of 18: VA_AmherstCounty_DameronCottage_0005

View: Non-Contributing Outbuildings, camera facing northwest

6 of 18: VA_AmherstCounty_DameronCottage_0006

View: Interior, Living Room, camera facing southwest

7 of 18: VA_AmherstCounty_DameronCottage_0007

View: Interior, Stair Hall, camera facing southwest

8 of 18: VA_AmherstCounty_DameronCottage_0008

View: Interior, Stair detail, camera facing southeast

9 of 18: VA_AmherstCounty_DameronCottage_0009

View: Interior, Stair Hall, wall detail, camera facing north

10 of 18: VA_AmherstCounty_DameronCottage_0010

View: Interior, Dining Room, door detail, camera facing north

11 of 18: VA_AmherstCounty_DameronCottage_0011

View: Interior, Dining Room, camera facing southwest

12 of 18: VA_AmherstCounty_DameronCottage_0012

View: Interior, Dining Room, camera facing northeast

13 of 18: VA_AmherstCounty_DameronCottage_0013

View: Interior, Half-story Hall Stair detail, camera facing north

Dameron Cottage
Name of Property

Amherst County, Virginia
County and State

14 of 18: VA_AmherstCounty_DameronCottage_00014
View: Interior, North Bedroom, camera facing southwest

15 of 18: VA_AmherstCounty_DameronCottage_00015
View: Interior, South Bedroom, camera facing west

16 of 18: VA_AmherstCounty_DameronCottage_00016
View: Interior, South Bedroom, camera facing southeast

17 of 18: VA_AmherstCounty_DameronCottage_00017
View: Interior, West Bedroom, camera facing northeast

18 of 18: VA_AmherstCounty_DameronCottage_00018
View: Interior, Basement, camera facing south

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

Dameron Cottage

Town of Amherst

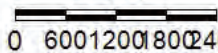
Amherst County, VA

DHR No. 163-5014

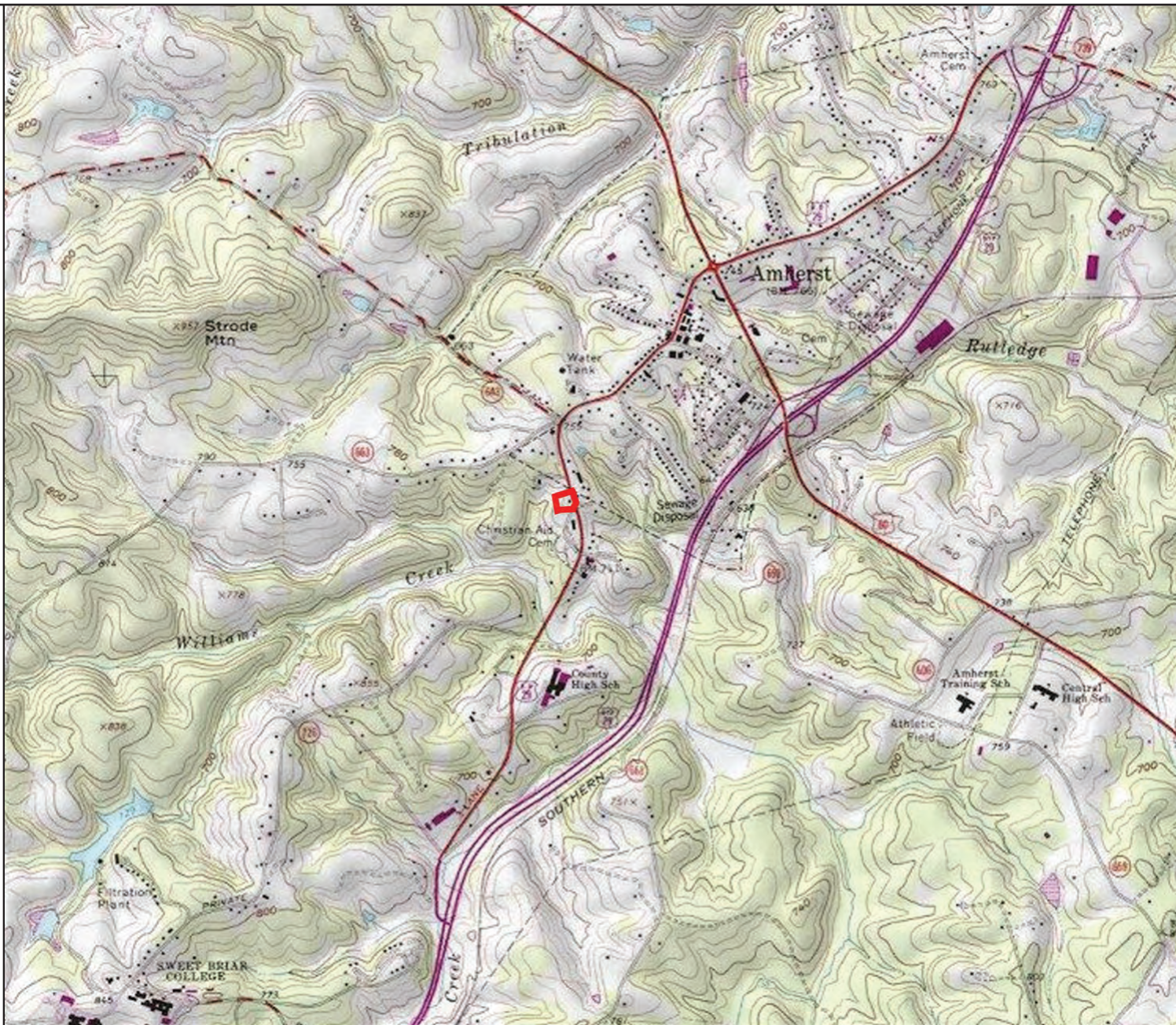
 Historic Boundary



Feet



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



Title:

Date: 6/23/2023

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

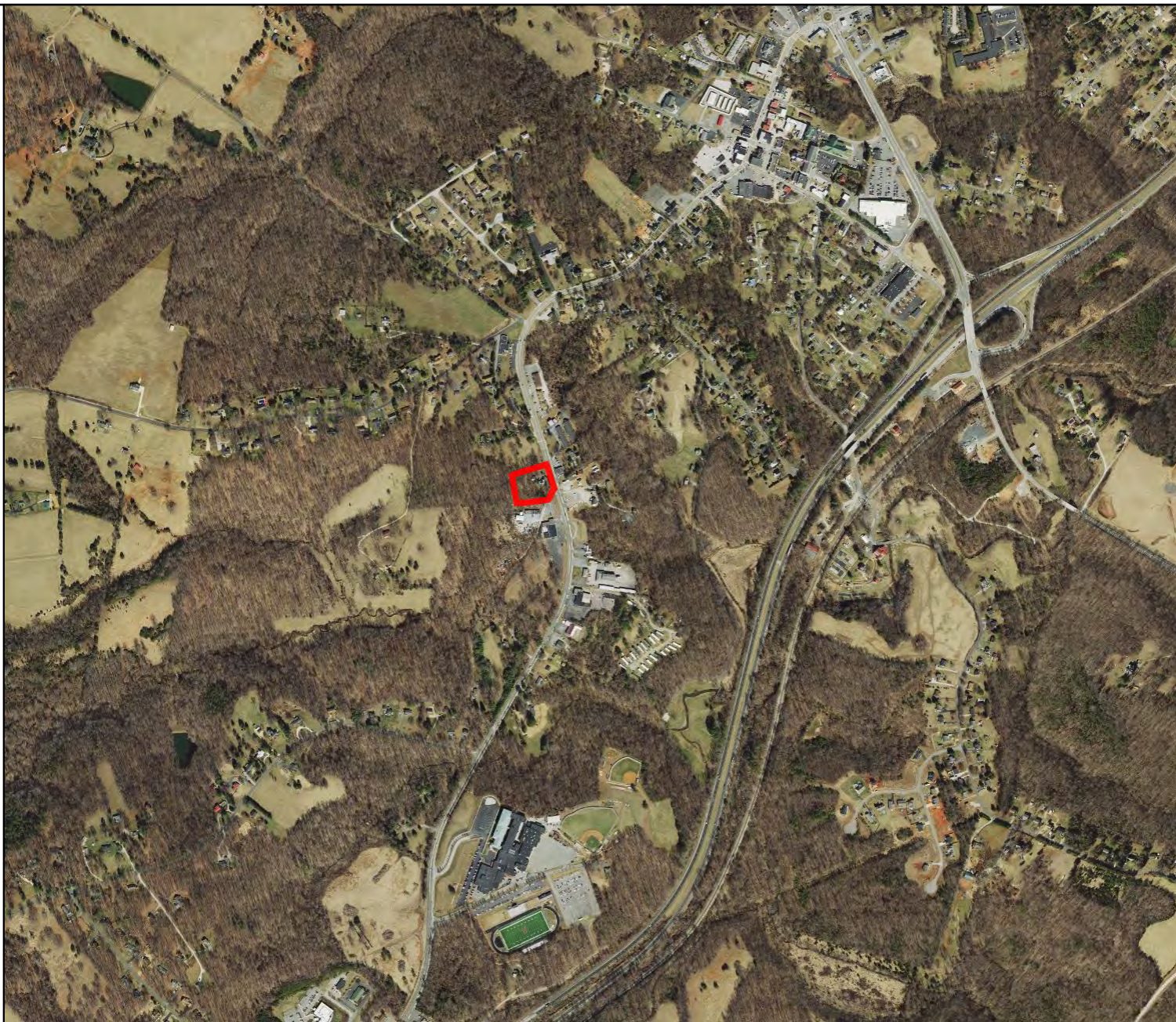
AERIAL VIEW - VICINITY

Dameron Cottage

Town of Amherst

Amherst County, VA

DHR No. 163-5014



Historic Boundary



Feet

0 500 1000 1500 2000

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

Title:

Date: 6/23/2023

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Legend

County Boundaries

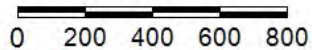
STREET MAP

Dameron Cottage
Town of Amherst
Amherst County, VA
DHR No. 163-5014

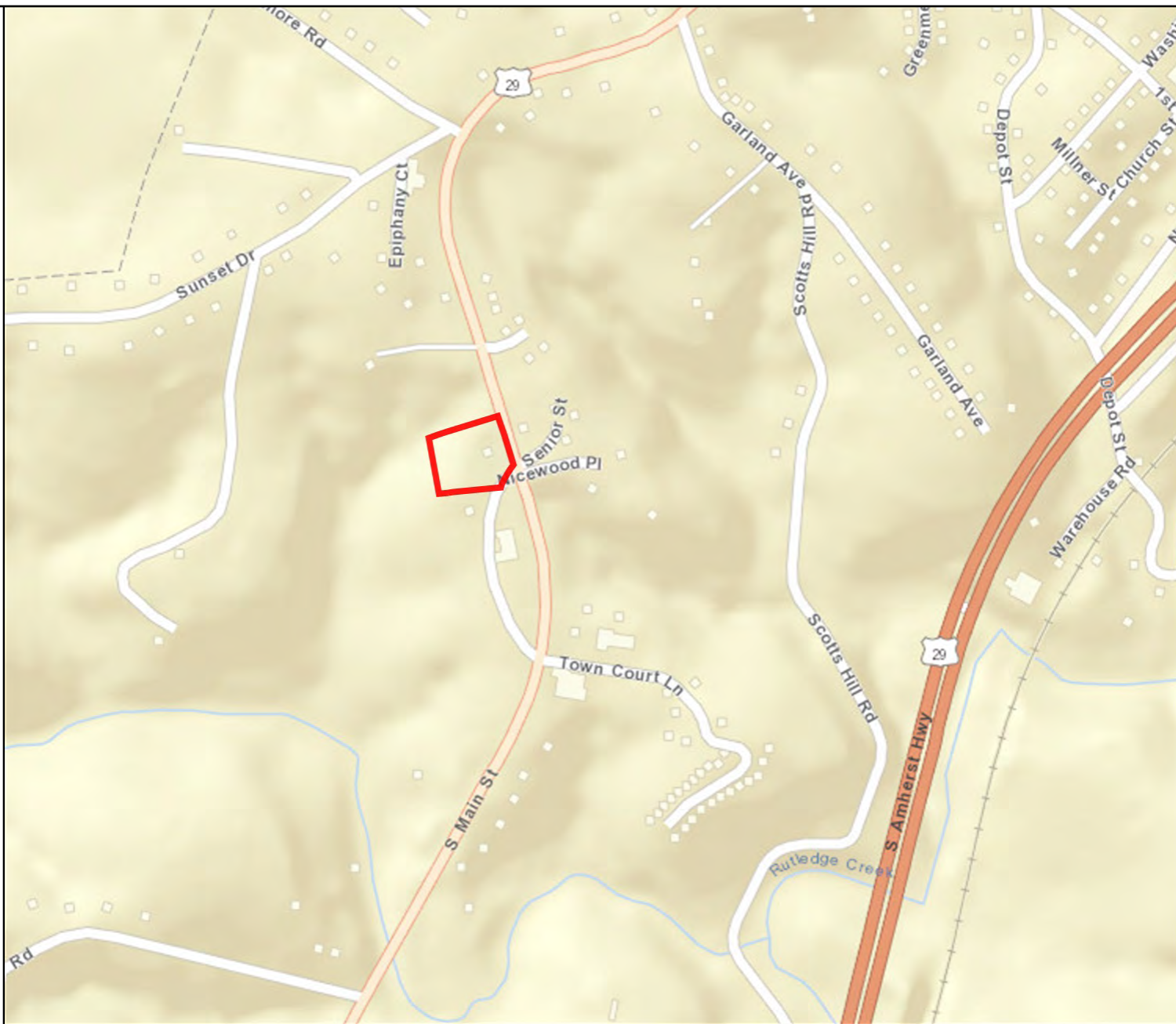
Historic Boundary



Feet



1:9,028 / 1"=752 Feet



Title:

Date: 6/23/2023

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.

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LOCATION MAP

Dameron Cottage, Amherst County, VA; DHR No. 163-5014

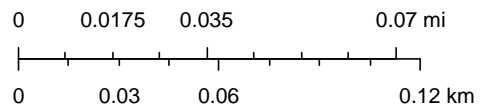


January 4, 2023

Dameron Cottage
Amherst County, VA
VDHR # 163-5014
Latitude: 37 344100 N
Longitude: 79 032768 W
Amherst County GIS Mapping



1:2,257





Legend

 County Boundaries

AERIAL VIEW

Dameron Cottage

Town of Amherst

Amherst County, VA

DHR No. 163-5014



 **Historic Boundary**



Feet



1:1,128 / 1"=94 Feet

Title:

Date: 6/23/2023

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 to 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.

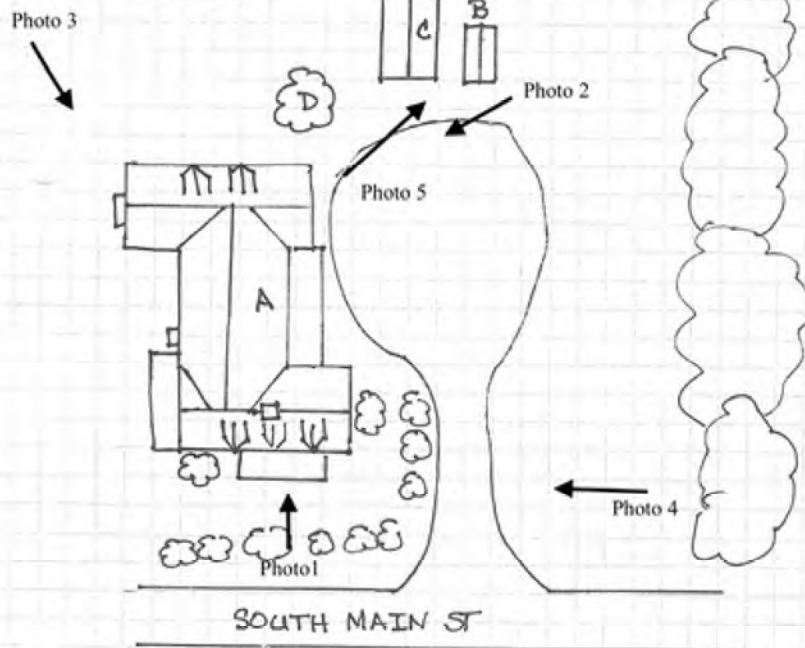
SKETCH MAP/ PHOTO KEY (1 of 2)
Dameron Cottage, Amherst County, VA
DHR No. 163-5014

→ N
NOT TO SCALE

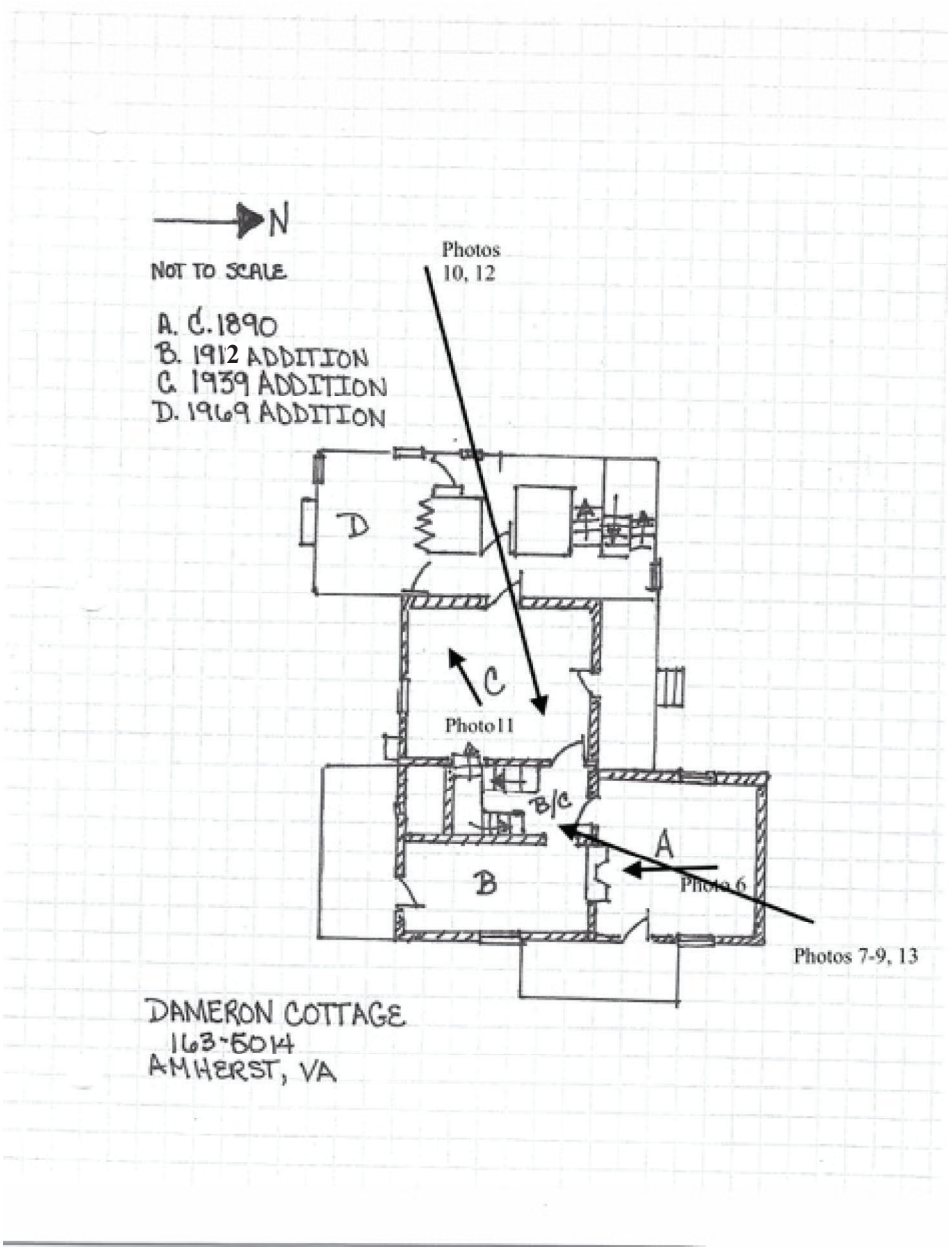
DAMERON COTTAGE
163-5014
AMHERST, VA

- A. MAIN HOUSE
- B. SMALL OUTBUILDING
- C. LARGE OUTBUILDING
- D. MAGNOLIA

SKETCH MAP

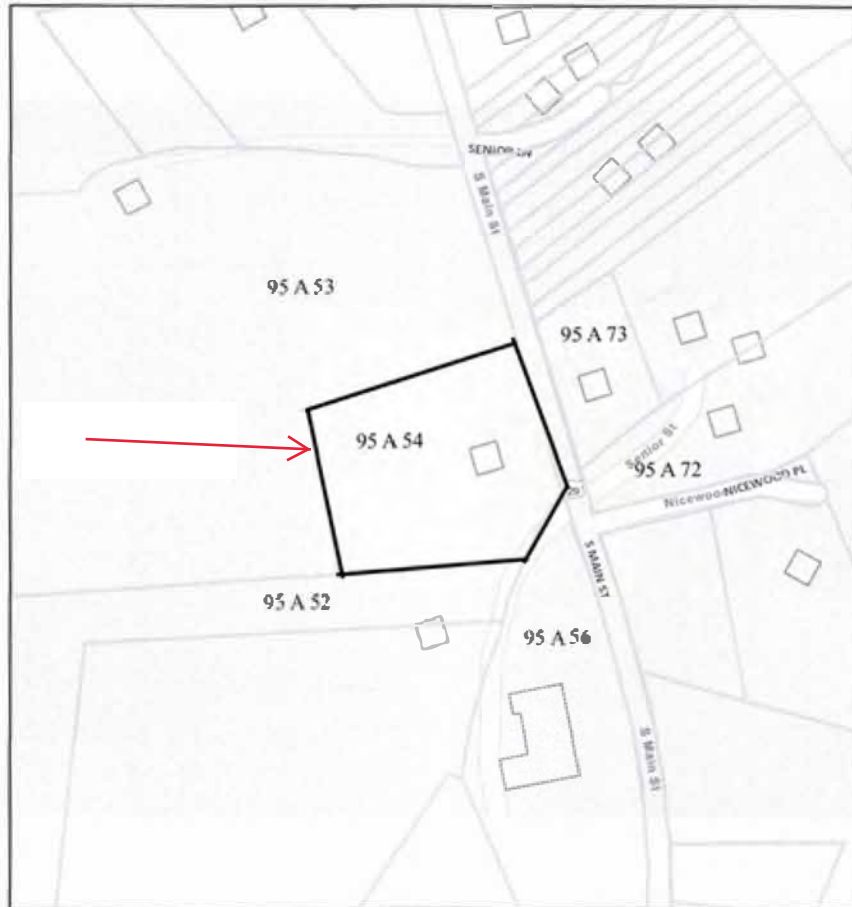


SKETCH MAP/ PHOTO KEY (2 of 2)
Dameron Cottage, Amherst County, VA
DHR No. 163-5014



TAX PARCEL MAP

Dameron Cottage, Amherst County, VA; DHR No. 163-5014



January 4, 2023

Amherst County
Tax Map Parcel 95
Dameron Cottage Parcel 95 A 54
Amherst County, VA
VDHR # 163-5014

 Historic Boundary



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