NPS Form 10-900
OMB No. 1024-00 18

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

335

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: Dulwich Manor

Other names/site number: Dulwich Farm, Dulwich House, Amherst Academy, VDHR # 163-5020

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: 550 Richmond Highway

City or town: Amherst State: Virginia 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Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: N/A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 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:

___A ___B X C ___D

Deputy Director 4/4/2013

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**

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:) _____

for Edson H. Beall 5-28-13

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:	X
Public – Local	
Public – State	
Public – Federal	

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s)	X
District	
Site	
Structure	
Object	

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	2	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
2	0	objects
4	2	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 = House
DOMESTIC/secondary structure = Shed
LANDSCAPE/street furniture = Gateposts

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
DOMESTIC/single dwelling = House
DOMESTIC/secondary structure = Shed
LANDSCAPE/street furniture = Gateposts
DOMESTIC/secondary structure = Gazebo

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)
LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Neo-Classical Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK; WOOD; STONE

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

Dulwich Manor occupies a 5-acre parcel on a slight knoll between U.S. Route 60 (Richmond Highway) to the north, State Route 659 (Union Hill Road) to the south, and State Route 606 (Dulwich Drive) to the east. The façade of the brick Neoclassical mansion is dominated by a two-story portico supported by Doric columns, and several secondary resources, including a small brick shed, stone gateposts, and two non-historic buildings also occupy the site. Dulwich Manor retains integrity in the areas of location, setting, design, materials, and workmanship.

Narrative Description

Site Description
While Dulwich Manor lies within the corporate limits of the Town of Amherst, the home's setting is rural, and the property is surrounded by dense second-growth forest. The former site of the Amherst Train Depot is 2,600 feet to the northwest, and the Amherst County Courthouse (in the center of the Town of Amherst) is 4,800 feet to the northwest. Both Rutledge Creek and the main line of the Norfolk Southern Railroad lie just to the west of the property.

To the north of the house, across U.S. 60 (a two-lane highway), is the Brockman Business Park, which contains two corporate office facilities. To the east lie two small apartment complexes along with "Hunting Tower," (005-0141) an early-mid-19th century frame dwelling. Across Dulwich Drive from these buildings are Central Elementary School and a complex of sports fields. Non-historic age homes line both sides of Union Hill Road to the south of Dulwich Manor along with the Bonney House (005-0122), which was constructed circa 1910 for H.L. Page's daughter Hulda and her husband Jesse T. Bonney. To the west, clustered around the intersection of the Norfolk Southern Railroad tracks, Union Hill Road, and Rutledge Creek, are the remnants of the hamlet known as Dearborn. Despite the development encircling Dulwich Manor, the house is largely buffered by its surrounding woodland, and is barely visible from any surrounding roads.

Two pairs of stone gateposts, one 2,000 feet to the northwest and the other 1,600 feet to the southeast of the house, mark Dulwich's former main and service entrances, respectively. The main entrance gateposts are on the north side of Union Hill Road, while the service entrance gateposts are on the west side of Dulwich Drive. Both pairs of gateposts now lie on separate parcels from today's Dulwich Manor tract.

A third pair of gateposts separated the manor house's domestic curtilage from the surrounding farm fields, and indicated to visitors approaching the house via the main entrance road that they were about to arrive at the house. These quartz gateposts are approximately 270 feet southwest of the house, and are on the parcel being nominated.

Today, Dulwich Manor is accessed via a winding gravel driveway on the south side of U.S. 60 (Richmond Highway). This section of U.S. 60, which spans between Dulwich Drive and the Traffic Circle in the Town of Amherst, was constructed in the mid-1930s.

Most of the 5-acre property consists of grassy yard surrounded by patches of transitional tall grass at the edges of the woodland that encircles the house. The remains of a formal garden with boxwoods, other shrubs, and specimen trees can be found on the south side (front) of the house. A concrete foundation marking the location of a small classroom building associated with Amherst Academy (which used the property in the 1970s) is approximately 100 feet west of the house, while a simple pole barn that housed canoes during the property's tenure as a bed and breakfast inn lies 140 feet to the north of the house. A small brick shed is sited approximately 35 feet north of the house, while a non-historic gazebo lies 60 feet to the east.

Inventory of Resources

The following is a list of resources located within the boundaries of the nominated property. All resources have been evaluated as either contributing or non-contributing based upon the area of significance identified under Criterion C: Architecture, and based upon the period of significance spanning the period 1909 to 1915. All non-contributing resources have been so noted for being less than fifty years old or for having been significantly altered so that they no longer reflect their historic appearance or character.

Dulwich Manor	1909	Contributing Building
Shed	1909	Contributing Building
Stone Gateposts (one pair)	1909	Contributing Objects
Gazebo	ca. 1995	Non-Contributing Building
Pole Barn	ca. 1995	Non-Contributing Building

Dulwich Manor

Facing south, Dulwich Manor is a large two-and-a-half-story house constructed of brick laid in Flemish bond. The five-bay façade is fenestrated by four nine-over-one double-hung sash windows on the second floor in the outer bays, with a tripartite nine-over-one double-hung sash window assembly in the central bay. On the first floor, the double-leaf entry is flanked by a pair of glazed sidelights and capped by an arched glazed transom with tracery. Above the transom is an arch of simulated rubbed brick with diorite (similar to granite) keystones. Immediately inside the entry is a second entryway with a single-leaf door, which is surrounded by diamond-pane sidelights topped by a rectangular transom. This "air lock" feature is not typically found on rural houses in Amherst County, and is more common in urban areas like Lynchburg and Richmond. The left and right-most two bays on the first floor of the façade are each occupied by a double-width window capped by an arched fanlight and brick arch similar to that of the doorway. Currently, these windows are glazed with a single, large pane of glass, but were likely originally tripartite windows like the set found in the central bay of the second floor. All windows on the façade have diorite stone sills, and the corners of the house are trimmed by brick quoining.

The façade is dominated by a large, two-story portico capped by a pediment formed by a cross-gable roof with a small tripartite Palladian window in the tympanum, which is clad in slate shingles. The one-bay portico is supported by a pair of wooden Ionic columns with a pair of Doric pilasters against the house. The central bay of the house, which is sheltered by the portico, projects out from the plane of the façade by approximately one foot. The roof of the portico features an ornately-modillioned cornice, and a set of wide stone steps lead from grade onto the surface of the porch. While only covered by a roof in the central bay, the porch floor itself extends the full width of the house, and is constructed of poured concrete (originally, the porch had a wooden floor). A wooden balustrade, which was added in the 1990s to replace an earlier faux wrought iron rail, skirts the perimeter of the porch. The appearance of the original balustrade (if any) is not known.

The house is covered by a steeply-pitched hipped roof of slate shingles, and has numerous gable-front dormers with six-over-one double-hung sash windows. A narrow stairway leads from the third level of the house to a flat platform on the roof, which, according to local oral history, was used as a cooling location by individuals attending dances in the "ballroom" immediately below.

The right, or east, elevation faces the historic service entrance to the property (accessed from Dulwich Drive) as well as the current primary entrance. The primary features of this elevation are a two-story polygonal bay that is topped by a gabled pediment roof along with a small second-story frame oriel window that forms a reading nook in the interior of the house. A single-leaf glazed service entrance flanked by a pair of fluted pilasters and topped with a pediment with

slate shingles in the tympanum provides access to the rear ell of the house. A one-story porch, which appears to have stretched along the entire side of the house, is no longer present, and has been replaced by a small, low deck.

The left, or west, elevation is similar to the east side, except that the polygonal bay is instead a simple rectangular projection. A one-story brick addition (laid in Flemish bond) occupies the rear corner of the house, and is covered by a very shallow shed roof. This area of the home features a walk-out basement due to a lower grade than what is found in the front of the house. On the rear elevation, a metal fire escape provides ingress and egress to the main level of the one-story addition. The cellar of the original portion of the house is also accessed from the rear elevation via a single-leaf door constructed of vertical boards.

The main entrance of the house provides access to a large central hall, which features a wide double dog-leg staircase with an unusual built-in bench at its base. Pairs of glazed pocket doors lead to parlors on both the left and right sides of the hallway. The left-hand parlor features a carved mantel with a built-in mirror that exhibits French stylistic influences. The fireplace surround is tiled. The fireplace in the right parlor is un-tiled, and is trimmed with a simple mantel of Federal or Georgian style with dentil moulding. Another pair of glazed pocket doors leads from this parlor into a dining room, which contains the added space created by the polygonal bay on the house's east elevation. The dining room is connected to the kitchen in the rear ell and the central hallway by two single-leaf doorways. A fourth space in the main house, a small parlor, was formerly accessed via a doorway leading to the west from the main hall, but this access has been reconfigured and is now gained through the one-story addition in the rear of the house.

The second floor contains five bedrooms, and a narrow servants' staircase leads from the rear of the hallway down to the kitchen on the first floor. Next to this staircase is a fine built-in linen cabinet with glazed double doors atop a pair of paneled doors. A number of bathrooms have been added to this floor level to accommodate the home's function as a bed and breakfast inn in the late 20th and early 21st centuries, but the modifications were performed in a manner so as not to significantly impede with the open spaces of the bedrooms.

A handsome staircase with stained balusters and handrail provides access to the third level. Three small rooms (two illuminated by dormer windows and the third by the Palladian window in the front portico) are accessed from the stair hall. A small, narrow door provides access to the rooftop, and an additional doorway enters into a large, open space that, according to local oral history, was used as a ballroom by the Page family when they hosted parties. (It is likely, however, that dancing occurred on the first floor rather than the third, as the third floor would likely become quite hot during the summer months. In addition, this third floor room does not display evidence that it ever possessed the ornamentation common to other known ballrooms of the period.) The rectangular ballroom covers the floor area of the right half of the main block of the house as well as the space over the rear ell, and is illuminated by six dormer windows.

The house rests atop a basement that includes several rooms used as classrooms during the 1970s as well as a boiler room and several storage areas. A massive steel oil tank provided fuel with which to heat the home.

In June 2012, a derecho-style windstorm caused an oak tree on the west side of the house to break, which subsequently damaged the southwestern corner of the building. Damaged elements include a chimney, roof, cornice, porch balustrade, and the portico. Measures have been taken to stabilize the damaged areas (as seen in several photos of the property included with this nomination), and a restoration plan is under development.

Shed (c. 1909, Contributing)
Just to the rear of the house is a small gable-roofed shed constructed of brick laid in Flemish bond. The gable-fronted roof is covered in slate shingles and is trimmed by a simple cornice with Greek returns. A wooden board-and-batten door provides access to the shed from the south end, and the interior has a concrete floor.

Gateposts (c. 1909, Contributing)
At the southwest corner of the yard is a pair of quartz gateposts that served to delineate the domestic curtilage (yard) from the surrounding pastureland. These gateposts flanked the main entrance road that led from the east side of Rutledge Creek near the Amherst Depot up to the house.

Pole Barn (c. 1990, Non-Contributing)
Just north of the house is a simple shed with a low-pitched gable roof that is supported by square wooden posts.

Gazebo (c. 1990, Non-Contributing)
A small hexagonal gazebo covered with wooden shingles and a diminutive hexagonal cupola is located just southeast of the house.

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.
- [x] 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

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance
1909

Significant Dates
N/A

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Gregory, Leslie C., Carpenter

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.)

Constructed in 1909 for Norfolk, Virginia, real estate mogul Herman Lawrence Page, Dulwich Manor (also known as Dulwich Farm or Dulwich House)[1] is one of the largest and most ornate houses constructed in Amherst County during the first half of the 20th century, and is, by far, the most significant example of a purpose-built summer house in the county. The Neoclassical mansion features Flemish bond brickwork with brick quoins, diorite stone window sills and keystones, a steeply-pitched hipped roof covered with slate, and a massive two-story portico supported by Ionic columns. Used for recreation and entertainment by the Page family for more than four decades, the house boasts large and open public spaces on the first floor.

Dulwich Manor has a period of significance of 1909, signifying the year that the house was constructed. It is locally significant under Criterion C as the largest and most ornate example of an extant Neoclassical home constructed in Amherst County during the first half of the twentieth century.

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

In December 1906, Herman L. Page purchased three tracts of land totaling 271 acres from the Amherst Development Company.[2] This land, which was all a portion of the former farm of M.B. Coffey, was located just to the east of the Southern Railway's Amherst Depot and north of the road that led from the depot eastward to Poplar Grove Church (now known as Union Hill Road or State Route 659). An extant early-mid-19th century house known as "Hunting Tower" (005-0141) was situated on the eastern end of the tract.

Born in Cardiff, Wales, in 1860 to Alfred H. Page and Lenora Webb, Herman Lawrence Page immigrated with his family to the United States in 1876, arriving in Baltimore aboard the ship *Nova Scotia*.[3] He lived on a farm in Princess Anne County, Virginia, with his family for a few years, and by 1880, he had settled in the nearby city of Norfolk, where he worked as a retail grocer.[4] In 1883, he married Adella H. Penzold of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, who was also living in Norfolk. At the age of 21, Page launched H.L. Page & Co., a real estate firm.

By the end of the 19th century, Page had become interested in local affairs in Amherst County, which lay 160 miles northwest of Norfolk. Perhaps excited by the prospects of the Town of Amherst further developing as a bedroom community for Lynchburg just ten miles to the south via the Southern Railway, Page took a particular interest in land to the south and east of Amherst Court House, which had easy access to the train depot. Page subsequently became involved with the Amherst Development Company, which was a major landholder in the vicinity (when Page purchased the 271-acre tract from the company in 1906, he abstained from the company's vote to sell the property in order to reduce the appearance of a conflict of interest).

Page's selection of land close to the train depot was not accidental. He constructed two entrances to what would become known as Dulwich Farm: a service entrance flanked by gateposts made of quartz rubble was located on the east side of what is now known as Dulwich Drive (formerly a section of Braxton Ridge Road) and immediately south of the house known as Hunting Tower. The main entrance to the farm was just 575 feet southwest of the Amherst Depot on what is now designated as Union Hill Road. In the early 20th century, this was the main road leading eastward towards the James River from Amherst (it was, for a brief time, designated as U.S. Highway 60). The main entrance was also adorned by a pair of quartz gateposts which were flanked by pedestrian gates and quartz wing walls. The main entrance to Dulwich Farm was easily visible from the depot, and Page would often refer to the farm as being "at the depot."

The trip between Norfolk and Page's property at Amherst could be achieved almost exclusively by train. The Page family would take the Norfolk & Western line from Norfolk westward to Lynchburg's Union Station (roughly 175 miles). Then, changing tracks, they would finish their journey with a quick (10 miles or so) trip northward to Amherst via the Southern Railway.

The 1906 Norfolk City Directory listed Page's many business interests. He served as president of the Bay Shore Terminal Co., Elizabeth River & Hampton Roads Ferry Co., Consolidated Turnpike Co., and Dulwich Place Co. In addition, he was the secretary-treasurer of the Amherst Development Co., West Portsmouth Land Co., and the Norfolk Installment Land Co. He also served as the secretary of the Chautauqua-by-the-Sea Assembly & Improvement Co., South Ghent Land Co., and the Southern Branch Drawbridge Co.[5] Page also founded the first real estate exchange in the United States.[6]

In 1907, Page formed the Amherst Electric Light & Power Company, and three years later, was the president of the Lynchburg and Northern Railway, which proposed a trolley car line that would connect Lynchburg, Sweet Briar, Amherst, and the Crabtree Valley in Nelson County.[7]

After being involved in business and land development matters in Amherst for over a decade, it is not surprising that Page ultimately decided to construct a home there. A December 1909 issue of the Richmond *Times Dispatch* announced that H.L. Page, "formerly of Norfolk, but now of Amherst, has completed a handsome residence on his farm near this place [Amherst], and expects to move into it very soon." The article noted that the house was "fitted up with all the modern conveniences" and cost approximately $20,000.[8] Indeed, the family soon took residence in the impressive home, and was listed in the 1910 Census at their farm on Braxton Ridge Road (during this period, today's Braxton Ridge Road included what is now called Dulwich Drive on the east side of the property). Along with Herman and Adella were their two youngest children (also named Adella and Herman) and Jennie Walker, a 17-year-old African American cook. Their two oldest sons, Percy and Lawrence, had both reached adulthood and resided in Norfolk, while their oldest daughter Huldah Page Bonney lived with her family across what is now known as Union Hill Road. [9]

The design of Dulwich Manor is said to have been inspired by the Dulwich, England, home of one of H.L. Page's uncles. The most likely candidate for the uncle whose home inspired Herman

is Lt. Col. Charles Harrison Page (1826-1897) who, like Herman's father, was born in Dulwich, Surrey, England. However, Charles spent most of his adult life in Cardiff, Glamorgan, Wales (Herman's birthplace) rather than Dulwich. Interestingly, Charles Page's Cardiff home was known as "Dulwich House," and while Dulwich Manor in Amherst County is by no means a replica of the Cardiff home, it is possible that certain design elements, including steeply-pitched gabled and hipped slate roofs and dormer windows, were carried over into Herman Page's homes in Virginia.[10]

Dulwich Manor possesses a number of architectural similarities with H.L. Page's primary residence at 323 Fairfax Avenue (122-0232) in the Ghent neighborhood of Norfolk, which is currently being operated as a bed and breakfast called the "Page House Inn." Constructed in 1899 at a cost of $11,350, the architect of the Georgian Revival house is not known. Architects who were prolific in the Ghent area during this period included John Kevan Peebles, J. E. R. Carpenter, H. Irving Dwyer, Cassell & Cassell and Arnold Eberhard. Like Dulwich Manor, the Fairfax Avenue home is a five-bay, two-and-a-half-story building with a steeply-pitched hipped roof covered with slate (both roofs have a flat platform on top). Both houses are constructed of brick laid in Flemish bond, have similar configurations of corbeled chimneys, and have similar ells projecting from the right rear of the building. In addition, both houses feature similar polygonal projections capped by a cross-gable roof on the right side, and both have slightly projecting central bays on the façade capped by a cross-gable roof (although Dulwich displays a one-bay, two-story portico and the Norfolk house has a one-story full-length porch). The similarities between the two properties suggest that the same architect was involved in both projects.[11]

Dulwich Manor was likely built (at least partially) by Amherst contractor Leslie C. Gregory, with help from Silas McDaniel, J.P. Beard, and Walter E. Robinson (or Robeson). Gregory was capable of working on large brick homes, as he was involved in the construction of the Georgian Revival (American foursquare plan) home of Dr. Kearfott (163-0018) on Main Street in Amherst in 1907 (this home now serves as the Amherst County Museum and Historical Society).[12]

Herman L. Page certainly wasn't the only wealthy non-resident to construct a summer home in Amherst County. In 1925, Mary Leigh Suhling constructed a summer cottage near Winesap called "Hanshill" (005-5329), which was designed by Pendleton Clark and Walter Crowe. In 1933, George C. Stevens built the "Rock Cottage" (designed by an unknown New York architect) at "Speed the Plough" (005-0040) near Elon. Most Amherst County buildings used as summer homes, whether purpose-built or converted cabins and farm houses, were relatively modest, and focused on the ideals of a simple, rustic country life. In keeping with this theme, most were of stone, log, or frame construction, but Page's massive brick Neoclassical mansion was one of the largest and most ornate country homes (either primary residences or summer homes) to be built in Amherst County during the first half of the 20th century.[13]

Despite the family's presence at the farm for the enumeration of the 1910 Census, all accounts indicate that Dulwich Manor was built to serve as a summer residence for the Page Family. While the 1910-1913 Norfolk City Directories list H.L. Page's residence at his Amherst home,

he successfully argued to the Amherst Court in 1911 that he was not a resident of the county that year, and that his personal property taxes should be reduced.[14]

Published accounts suggest that the Pages used Dulwich as one would expect for a summer house in the country: as a seasonal social hub as well as a place for Page to play the role of a country gentleman and livestock breeder. In September 1910, 8-year-old "Master" Herman Leigh Page hosted a party at Dulwich Manor for some of his young friends. During the Christmas holidays of that year, Herman's 20-year-old sister, Della (or Adella), hosted a "delightful dance" at the house.[15]

Indeed, dances became a popular activity at Dulwich Manor. In the summer of 1911, Miss Adella Page hosted a dance at her "beautiful colonial home, 'Dulwich House,'" in honor of her guest Miss Marguerite Garrett of Norfolk, which included more than twenty guests from as far away as Norfolk, Washington, D.C., and San Antonio, Texas. The Page Family continued to use the property as a social hub almost a decade later, when, in August 1920, it was reported that the family was returning to Norfolk after having a "stag house party at 'Dulwich Farm.'"[16] Around 1925, Herman and Adella Page established a winter residence in St. Petersburg, Florida, and spent the warmer months in Amherst.

Unable to raise livestock on his urban property in Norfolk, Page began raising pure-bred animals at Dulwich Farm soon after constructing the manor house. In 1911, Page advertised in the Southern Planter that he was selling a "fine registered French Coach Stallion" in addition to French Coach mares and colts, an Aberdeen-Angus bull, and several calves at Dulwich Farm, Dearborn, Amherst County (Dearborn was the name of the community surrounding the Amherst rail depot and grist mill). In the summer of 1914, Page purchased several head of cattle from the celebrated Red Poll herd of Curles Neck Farm in Henrico County, including one of the herd's nine bulls, which was known as "Curles 18." Page was particularly proud of this bull, which became a productive part of his herd. In 1922, he announced that he was selling several registered calves "sired by my celebrated Bull Curles 18th Big George," which weighed an impressive 2,563 pounds. Names of some of Page's Red Poll cattle included "Dulwich King," "Dulwich Lee," and "Dulwich Ada."[17]

Page also raised registered swine (primarily Berkshire hogs) at Dulwich Farm with names such as "Queen of Dulwich," "Dulwich Revelation," "Dulwich Girl," and "Dulwich Robinhood." In addition to French Coach horses, Aberdeen-Angus and Red Poll cattle, and Berkshire Hogs, Dulwich Farm also produced Percheron horses, Shetland ponies, Toulouse geese, Partridge Wyandottes, and Partridge Plymouth Rocks (both types of chickens).[18]

Continuing the country life theme embodied at Dulwich, the Page family and their guests were known to have conducted hunts on the property. An undated remnant of a letter reads:

> "Dear Sweetheart,
>
> We hunted yesterday but only killed ten birds and 16 rabbits. The weather is very warm…" [remainder of page torn.]

The stationery upon which this letter was written featured a photograph of Page's favorite bull, "Big George," and listed H.L. Page as the owner of Dulwich Farm (boasting 1,256 acres at the

time) with his middle son Percy A. Page (1886-1946) as the manager. In the fall of 1916, H.L. Page, along with his sons Lawrence and Percy and Messer's Face and Nichols of Nichols of Norfolk enjoyed a week-long hunt on the property.[19]

The Page family continued to visit Dulwich during the summers through the 1930s and into the 1940s. The 1940 Census listed Percy A. Page and his wife Vera likely residing at Dulwich Manor along with their adult children, Percy (a horse trainer) and Virginia. Percy and his family had recently returned to Amherst, having resided in St. Petersburg, Florida, in 1935. Just a few houses away (likely at Hunting Tower on the Dulwich property) was Percy's younger brother, Herman Leigh Page, whose household contained his wife Helen, son Herman, and daughters Jane and Betty.[20]

Adella Penzold Page died at the age of 80 in St. Petersburg, Florida, in April 1942, and she was buried at the Amherst Cemetery. While the Pages had a great deal of involvement in the communities of Norfolk and St. Petersburg, their affection for Amherst is signified by their selection of the community as their final resting place. In February 1946, 85-year-old Herman Lawrence Page died at his winter home in St. Petersburg. A funeral was held at the Amherst Presbyterian Church and he was buried next to his wife at the Amherst Cemetery. Death seemed to dominate the 1940s for the Page family. Percy A. Page, only 59 years old, died in August 1946, and Herman Leigh Page, Jr. (grandson of H.L. Page) died at the age of 18 in August 1947. A student at the Virginia Military Institute, Herman Leigh Page, Jr. (also known as "Sonny") was killed in an accident while on summer furlough.[21]

In his last will and testament, Herman Lawrence Page offered Dulwich Manor to his son Herman Leigh Page, Sr., for the sum of $15,000. In November 1946, Herman Leigh Page, Sr., purchased the property and owned it until 1962, when he and his wife Helen sold it to Layward and Helen Cash. Five years later, the Cashes conveyed the house, surrounded by 130 acres, to J.B. McDearmon and Keene C. Brown.[22] McDearmon was the publisher of the Nelson County *Times* and Amherst *New Era Progress* newspapers, and Brown was a Columbia University graduate who settled in Amherst County in the mid-1960s and lived at Buffalo Ranch. A part-owner in the previously mentioned newspapers, he was very active in the community, served on the boards of trustees of Sweet Briar and Lynchburg Colleges, and is perhaps best known for anonymously purchasing and subsequently donating Winton in nearby Clifford to serve as a country club and golf course. During Brown's ownership of Dulwich Manor during the 1970s, the property was used as Amherst Academy, which was one of Amherst County's first private elementary schools. A small building (no longer extant) was constructed just west of the main house and served as additional classrooms, and a one-story brick addition (which contained a school library and several classrooms) was added to the rear of the house.

In 1980, Jimmy and Polly McBride purchased the property from Keene, and began the painstaking process of reverting the building back to a residential use. The McBrides removed chalkboards, fluorescent lighting, and commercial carpeting from each room. In 1988, Bob and Judy Reilly of New Jersey purchased the property and converted it into a six-room bed and breakfast inn, which opened in 1990. Mike and Georgene Farmer acquired Dulwich Manor in the

late 1990s, and continued its operation as a bed and breakfast until 2010, when it was under the ownership of Dennis Gibbs of Castro Valley, California.[23]

On 29 June 2012, Dulwich Manor, then vacant, was damaged by the derecho storm that swept across Virginia. A major portion of the centuries-old oak tree that stands just to the west of the house succumbed to the high winds of the storm, and caused significant damage to the southwest corner of the house, including a chimney, the cornice, and the portico. Dulwich Manor rests on a slight knoll, and is susceptible to wind gusts(in March 1929, a windstorm uprooted fifteen shade trees in the yard of the house).[24]

Later in 2012, the property was acquired by Frank Martos of Bigwig Services, Inc., who plans to repair and restore the property.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Account and time books of Leslie Clark Gregory, Accession #2012.25, Amherst County Historical Society and Museum.

American Berkshire Association. "American Berkshire Record, Volume 56." Springfield, Illinois: American Berkshire Association. 1920.

American Chester-White Record Association. "The American Chester-White Record." Huntington, Indiana: The Whitelock Press. 1912.

Amherst County Deed Books (1890-2012), Land Tax Records (1925-1940), Law Order Books (1906-1915). Clerk of the Circuit Court, Amherst, Virginia.

"Amherst County Historic Resources Survey Report," Lynchburg, Virginia: HistoryTech, LLC. 2010.

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Norfolk, Portsmouth, and Berkley City Directory, 1906.

Page House Inn web site (http://www.pagehouseinn.com/photo-gallery.htm).

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Scene Magazine.

Smith, W. Scott, Oral interview with William Inge, Sargent Memorial Room, Norfolk Public Library, 6 December 2012.

"The Southern Planter", Volume 72, Volume 75.

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Undated letterhead for "Dulwich Farm, Dearborn, Amherst County, VA" accessed via the Internet on www.ancestry.com (http://trees.ancestry.com/tree/49432463/person/20213658218/media/1?pgnum=1&pg=0&pgpl=pidlpgNum).

United States Census, Population Schedule, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940 (accessed via www.ancestry.com).

Virginian Pilot.

Virginia Department of Agriculture and Immigration. Yearbook 1922, Bulletin 177. Richmond, Virginia. 1922.

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:

_X__ State Historic Preservation Office
____ Other State agency
____ Federal agency
____ Local government
____ University
_X__ Other
Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia; Amherst County Museum & Historical Society, Amherst, Virginia; Sargent Memorial Room, Norfolk City Public Library, Norfolk, Virginia

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): VDHR# 163-5020

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property __5_____

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: Longitude:

2. Latitude: Longitude:

3. Latitude: Longitude:

4. Latitude: Longitude:

Or
UTM References
Datum (indicated on USGS map):

[X] NAD 1927 or [ ] NAD 1983

1. Zone: 17S	Easting:	0672921	Northing: 4160130
2. Zone:	Easting:		Northing:
3. Zone:	Easting:		Northing:
4. Zone:	Easting :		Northing:

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

The boundaries of the nominated property are those identified as being the boundaries of tax parcel 96-A-22A by the County of Amherst. See attached parcel map.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries encompass the historic domestic curtilage (yard) surrounding the nominated property, and represent the entirety of the acreage currently associated with Dulwich Manor and its outbuildings.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: W. Scott Breckinridge Smith, Principal
organization: HistoryTech, LLC
street & number: Post Office Box 75
city or town: Lynchburg state: Virginia zip code: 24505
e-mail scott@historytech.com
telephone: 434-401-3995
date: 14 December 2012

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

The following information is common to all photographs:

Name of Property: Dulwich Manor

City or Vicinity: Town of Amherst

County: Amherst **State:** Virginia

Photographer: W. Scott Smith

Date Photographed: 30 November 2012

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

Photo 1 of 13: VA_AmherstCounty_DulwichManor_001
View: Façade (south elevation) (camera pointed to north)

Photo 2 of 13: VA_AmherstCounty_DulwichManor_002
View: East elevation (camera pointed to west)

Photo 3 of 13: VA_AmherstCounty_DulwichManor_003

View: West elevation (camera pointed to east)

Photo 4 of 13: VA_AmherstCounty_DulwichManor_004
View: North and east elevations (camera pointed to southeast)

Photo 5 of 13: VA_AmherstCounty_DulwichManor_005
View: Interior central hall, first floor (camera pointed to south)

Photo 6 of 13: VA_AmherstCounty_DulwichManor_006
View: Interior central hall, first floor, stair detail (camera pointed to north)

Photo 7 of 13: VA_AmherstCounty_DulwichManor_007
View: West parlor, mantel detail (camera pointed to west)

Photo 8 of 13: VA_AmherstCounty_DulwichManor_008
View: East parlor, first floor (camera pointed to northeast)

Photo 9 of 13: VA_AmherstCounty_DulwichManor_009
View: Southwest bed chamber, second floor (camera pointed to west)

Photo 10 of 13: VA_AmherstCounty_DulwichManor_010
View: Large Room, third floor (camera pointed to north)

Photo 11 of 13: VA_AmherstCounty_DulwichManor_011
View: Garden shed (camera pointed to northeast)

Photo 12 of 13: VA_AmherstCounty_DulwichManor_012
View: Pole barn (camera pointed to northwest)

Photo 13 of 13: VA_AmherstCounty_DulwichManor_013
View: Gateposts (camera pointed to southwest)

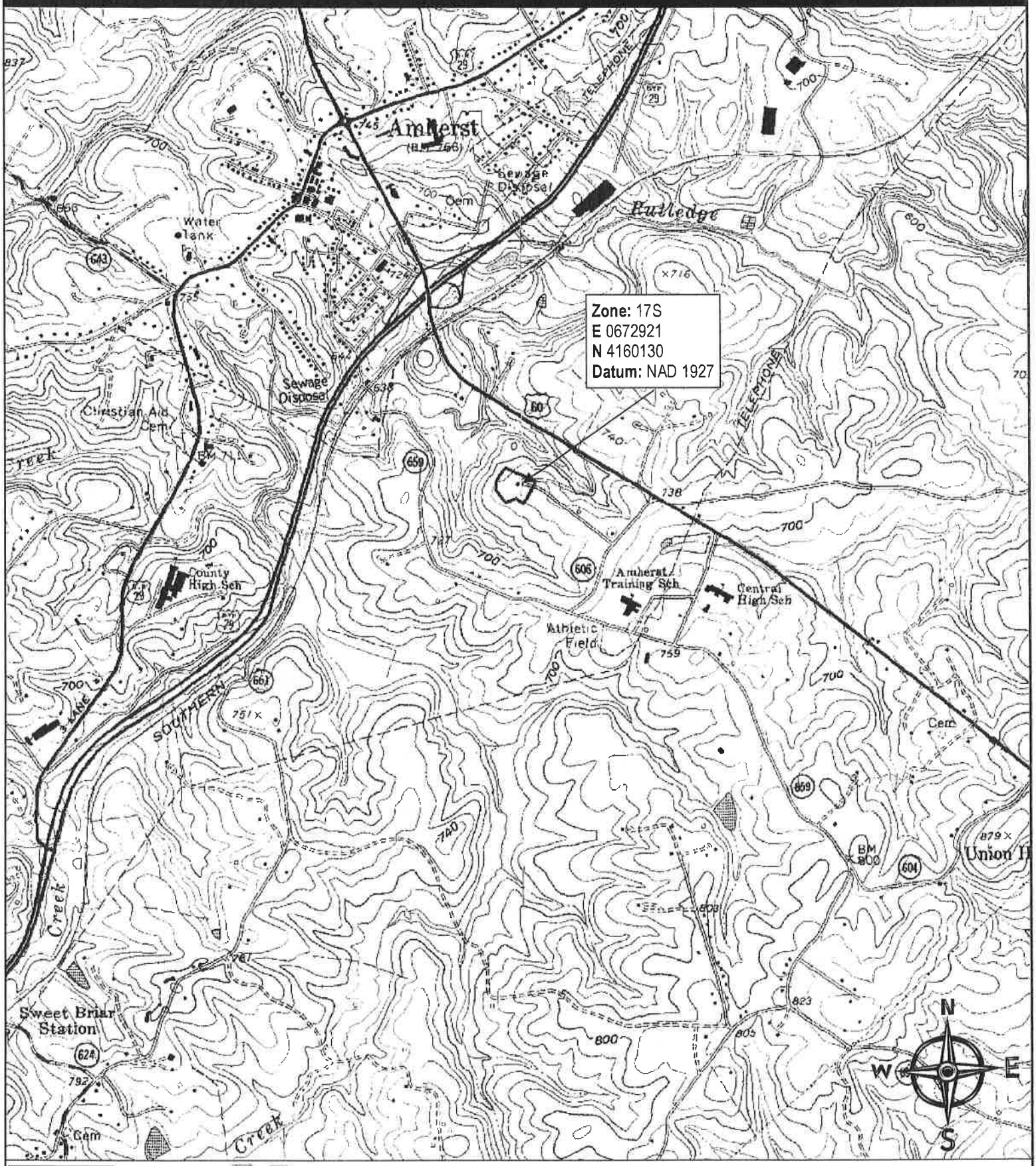
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Endnotes

[1] Most early (1910-1930) newspaper accounts and advertisements refer to the property as "Dulwich Farm," except for an article in the August 3, 1911 Richmond *Times Dispatch* which mentions "Dulwich House." One of the first instances of the property being referred to as "Dulwich Manor" is a 1934 plat of Page's property by Amherst County Surveyor J.S. Glunt.
[2] Deed Book 58, page 150, Amherst County Clerk of Court
[3] National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), Washington, DC; Records of the US Customs Service, RG36, Series: M255, Roll: 26
[4] Year: 1880; Census Place: Norfolk, Norfolk, Virginia; Roll: 1381; Family History Film: 1255381; Page: 372A; Enumeration District: 071
[5] 1906 Norfolk, Portsmouth, and Berkley City Directory.
[6] St. Petersburg *Times*, 14 February 1946
[7] Richmond *Times Dispatch*, 25 April 1910
[8] Richmond *Times Dispatch*, 6 December 1909
[9] Year: 1910; Census Place: Court House, Amherst, Virginia; Roll: T624_1621; Page: 11A; Enumeration District: 0009; ; FHL microfilm: 1375634
[10] Charles Harrison Page's home, "Dulwich House," is located at 4 Pencisely Road, Canton, Cardiff, CF5 1DG (Cardiff Unique Property Reference Number [UPRN]: 10002527533), Google Maps URL: http://goo.gl/maps/z93jt
[11] *Virginian Pilot*, 29 June 1899; Smith, W. Scott, Oral interview with William Inge, Sargent Memorial Room, Norfolk Public Library, 6 December 2012; 323 Fairfax Avenue, Norfolk, Virginia Google Maps URL: http://goo.gl/maps/O5DDL; "Photo Gallery," Page House Inn web site: http://www.pagehouseinn.com/photo-gallery.htm
[12] Account and time books of Leslie Clark Gregory, Accession #2012.25, Amherst County Historical Society and Museum.
[13] "Amherst County Historic Resources Survey Report," Lynchburg, Virginia: HistoryTech, LLC. 2010.
[14] The first known written instance of the Page family specifically using Dulwich Manor as a summer house is in 1916, when the Richmond *Times Dispatch* reported that "Mr. & Mrs. H.L. Page, of Larchmont, left today to spend the summer at their home in Amherst" (11 June 1916). A 1924 announcement in the same newspaper stated that Herman Page "is now at Dulwich Farm for the summer." (6 July 1924). Law Order Book 12, page 332, Amherst County Clerk of Court.
[15] Richmond *Times Dispatch,* 25 September 1910; Richmond *Times Dispatch,* 8 January 1911
[16] Richmond *Times Dispatch,* 3 August 1910, Richmond *Times Dispatch,* 22 August 1920
[17] "The Southern Planter", Volume 72, page 640; "The Southern Planter", Volume 75, page 662; Virginia Department of Agriculture and Immigration, "Yearbook: 1922, Bulletin 177." Richmond, Virginia. 1922. Page 15
[18] American Berkshire Association, "American Berkshire Record, Volume 56." Springfield, Illinois: American Berkshire Association. 1920. Pp. 56,209-56,210; American Chester-White Record Association, "The American Chester-White Record." Huntington, Indiana: The Whitelock Press. 1912. page 313; Undated letterhead for "Dulwich Farm, Dearborn, Amherst County, VA" accessed via the Internet on www.ancestry.com; http://trees.ancestry.com/tree/49432463/person/20213658218/media/1?pgnum=1&pg=0&pgpl=pid|pgNum
[19] Richmond *Times Dispatch*, 19 November 1915
[20] Year: 1940; Census Place: Court House, Amherst, Virginia; Roll: T627_4244; Page: 17B; Enumeration District: 5-2; Herman Leigh Page acquired Hunting Tower from his father Herman Lawrence Page in 1942, Deed Book 121, page 589, Amherst County Clerk of Court
[21] Richmond *Times Dispatch*, 28 April 1942; Richmond *Times Dispatch*, 10 May 1946; Class of 1948 Yearbook, Virginia Military Institute, page 387.
[22] Deed Book 131, page 194, Amherst County Clerk of Court; Deed Book 218, page 457, Amherst County Clerk of Court; Deed Book 263, page 315, Amherst County Clerk of Court
[23] Amherst *New-Era Progress*, 17 July 1986; *Scene Magazine*, May 1993.
[24] Richmond *Times Dispatch*, 12 March 1929

Dulwich Manor VDHR # 163-5020

Topographic Map 550 Richmond Highway Amherst, Amherst County, VA



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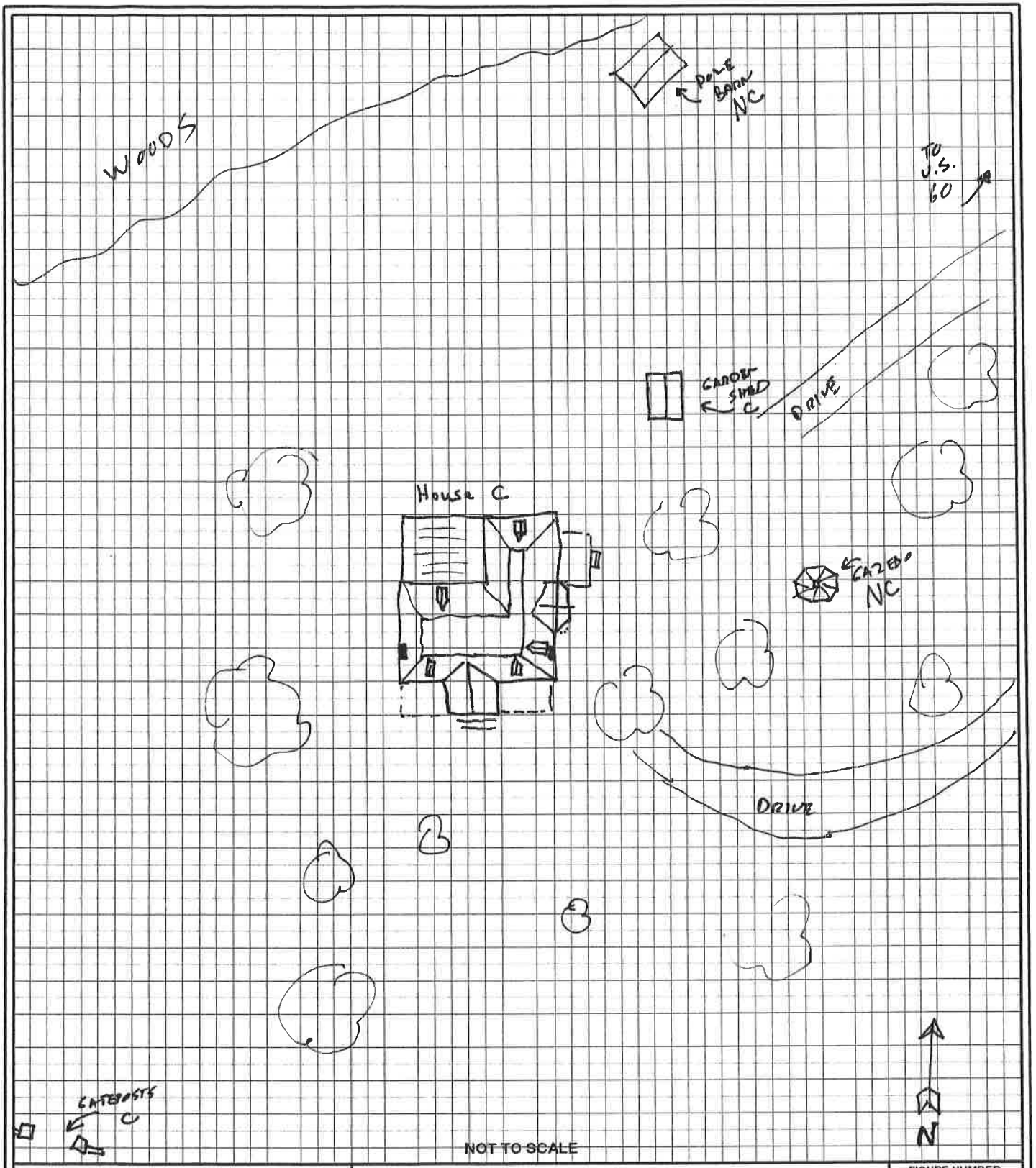
Datum: NAD 1927

MN (9.1° W)

0 600 1200 1800 2400 3000 3600 ft

Data Zoom 13-1



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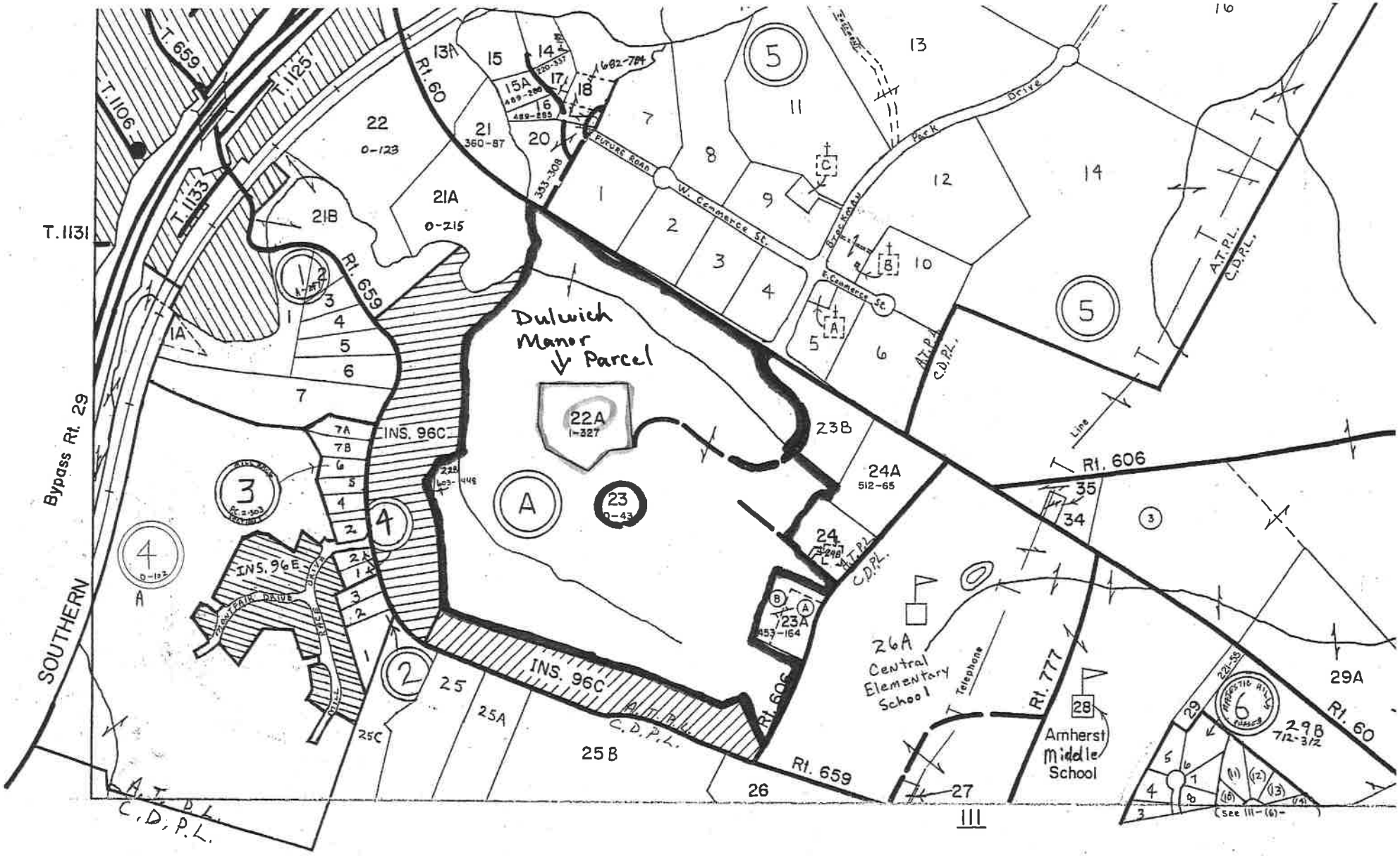
Dulwich Manor
550 Richmond Highway, Amherst, VA 24521
Amherst County, VA Amherst Quadrangle

FIGURE NUMBER: 1 of 1

DRAWN BY:	DATE:	DHR FILE NUMBER:
W.S. Smith	December 2012	163-5020

Additional Documentation - Sketch Map

C - Contributing
NC - Non contributing



Tax Parcel Map, #96-A-22A
Dulwich Manor, Amherst County, VA
DHR # 163-5020

SCALE IN FEET

500 0 500 1000 1500 2000
200 0 200 400 600 800

COURTHOUSE
AMHERST

DISTRICT
TOWN

Additional Documentation

EXIT