

JK 9/19/78
NRNP - 2/2/79
Ches. West 02-143

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Midway (Preferred)

AND/OR COMMON

Riverdale

2 LOCATION

1.2 miles SE of Millington; W side of State Route 678;
STREET & NUMBER .4 mile NNE of intersection of State Routes 678 and 614; .4 mile
S of Moormans River.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Millington

VICINITY OF

Seventh (J. Kenneth Robinson)

STATE

Virginia

CODE

51

COUNTY

Albemarle

CODE

003

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. I. A. Palmer

STREET & NUMBER

Riverdale Farms, RFD 2, Box 420-A

CITY, TOWN

Charlottesville

VICINITY OF

Virginia

STATE
22901

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Albemarle County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Charlottesville

Virginia

STATE
22901

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (2) (see Continuation Sheet #1)

TITLE

(1) Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

DATE

October 1967, November 1967

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington

D.C.

STATE

DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Midway is scenically situated on a large tract of land in Albemarle County. Its picturesque massing, formal gardens, and well-planted grounds contribute much to the beauty of the Albemarle landscape. The present brick residence is the result of three building campaigns. The east wing was built during the second decade of the 19th century. A second structure to the west was completed by 1820. The two structures were connected during a later date in the 19th century. A rear (north) kitchen wing was added circa 1930.

The front (south) elevation of the early house is laid in Flemish bond. The four-bay facade is sheltered by a somewhat crudely executed two-story porch. The first story consists of five Doric columns which support a second-story gallery, and the whole is covered by a shed roof. The portico shelters a multi-paned transom entry which retains its original raised-panel door. Fenestration consists of 9/9 hung-sash on the first story and 6/6 hung-sash on the second story. All the windows are framed by simply executed wood architrave surrounds. Wooden louvered shutters are found on the principal windows of the north and south elevations.

The east elevation is laid in four-course American bond. The wall is unpierced with the exception of two small, wooden louvered windows at the attic level. Both the east and west elevations contain stepped parapets.

The north elevation of four bays features 9/9 hung-sash on the first story and 6/6 hung-sash on the second story. Basement windows are covered by metal grills. A finely executed brick cornice runs the length of the eaves course of the rear elevation.

A two-story hyphen connects the west addition to the main house. Originally, the second story of the hyphen was an exposed gallery similar to that found on the oldest section. Before the addition of the hyphen, the two-story west wing was four bays by two bays; the main entrance was located in the southwestern bay. The wing is laid in five-course American bond, and the fenestration consists of 9/9 hung-sash with simple wooden architrave trim. A kitchen wing is attached to the rear of the 1819 wing. Built in 1930, the kitchen wing replaces an earlier one-story brick ell which may have dated to 1765.

The interior of Midway is in a fine state of preservation. The hall contains an enclosed corner stair which ascends to the second floor. The stair has simply executed balusters and newel post and spaced winders. Of particular interest throughout the interior are the mantels and wainscoting. The mantels in the hall and library are simply executed Federal mantels, distinguished by a torus-molded surround which suggests inspiration from a Georgian prototype. Handsomely finished wainscot with a molded chair rail runs the perimeter of both rooms. The second-floor mantels are similar in execution to the first. Molded chair rails are found in the upper chambers.

The 1819 wing exhibits fine provincial woodwork in the Federal style. Raised panels grace the mantels on the first floor, complemented by paneled wainscoting. The second-floor rooms are less elaborate but retain their original Federal mantels. Cornices in both wings appear to be modern.

The grounds of Midway were landscaped by Charles Gillette and include a formal garden to the west of the house. Two outbuildings survive including a brick kitchen and wood-frame barn.

(see Continuation Sheet #1)

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES ca. early 19th century BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Midway is a rambling Albemarle County farmhouse exhibiting many features characteristic of the region's early 19th-century vernacular architecture. Dominated by a long, two-story gallery, the picturesque structure is nestled in the rolling hills of the western part of the county, with the Blue Ridge Mountains forming a scenic backdrop. The scene forms a classic picture of the pastoral beauty for which Albemarle County is famous. Formerly part of a large Colonial grant, the property was long the seat of the Rodeses, one of the county's prominent landed families.

John Rodes immigrated to Albemarle County in 1749 after receiving a land grant from George II. The Rodes family occupied the property throughout the 18th and 19th centuries. Although it cannot be documented, it seems likely that the east wing of the present residence was built by John Rodes III during the second decade of the 19th century. Tax records indicate that the wing to the west was built in 1820, for in that year \$1250 of value was added, bringing the total value of the buildings to \$4500. The present kitchen wing was added around 1930, replacing an early brick ell which may have been the original 18th-century portion of the house.

Interesting architectural features of the house include the finely executed Flemish-bond brickwork on the facade of the east wing. Albemarle County is noted for the beautiful brickwork of its Federal-period houses, and that on Midway is among the best. The delicately tooled joints retain their original white penciling, and the bricks themselves still are covered with an old red wash. Other features typical of the region's vernacular are the mousetooth cornice and the stepped parapets with their corbeled shoulders. The interior of the east wing is arranged in a hall-parlor plan, a holdover from Virginia's Colonial vernacular houses. Both the east and west wings have paneled wainscoting.

Midway during the 19th century was a large and prosperous plantation which raised hemp, flax, and tobacco. It also maintained a ropewalk and a mill. Although the property has lost a considerable amount of its original 715 acres, the remaining lands provide an appropriately rural setting for the house. Complementing the setting is an attractive formal garden laid out in 1936 to the design of the noted landscape architect Charles Gillette.

RCC, CCL, MTP

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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MIDWAY, Albemarle County, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET #1

ITEM NUMBER 6, 7, 10 PAGE 1

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

- (2) Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey
1967, 1975, 1978 State
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
221 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

7. DESCRIPTION

Boundary Justification

The nominated acreage (75 acres) is a small fraction of the original Rodes acreage of over 700 acres. The land extends from the road to the Moormans River. Recently constructed farm buildings are included on the nominated property. The southern boundary follows the drive to the main house, which runs from route 614 northeast towards route 678, from which the eastern boundary extends northwest along a ravine to the river. The western boundary runs from the road to a ridge near the river, while the northern boundary is defined by the natural contour of the ridge and includes the river. The above boundary connotes the physical and ideal impression of an early 19th-century farm.

RCC

10. VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

continuing on N side of said drive for about 200', then curving SE along W side of drive for about 500', then curving SW along N side of drive for approximately 1400'; thence extending 3000' due N to a ridge overlooking the river; thence following the ridge contours about 700' E to S bank of river; thence following SW along said bank for about 200' to point of origin.

5280 II NW
(BROWNS COVE)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

COMMONWEALTH
DIVISION OF MINE
JAMES L. CALVER, S

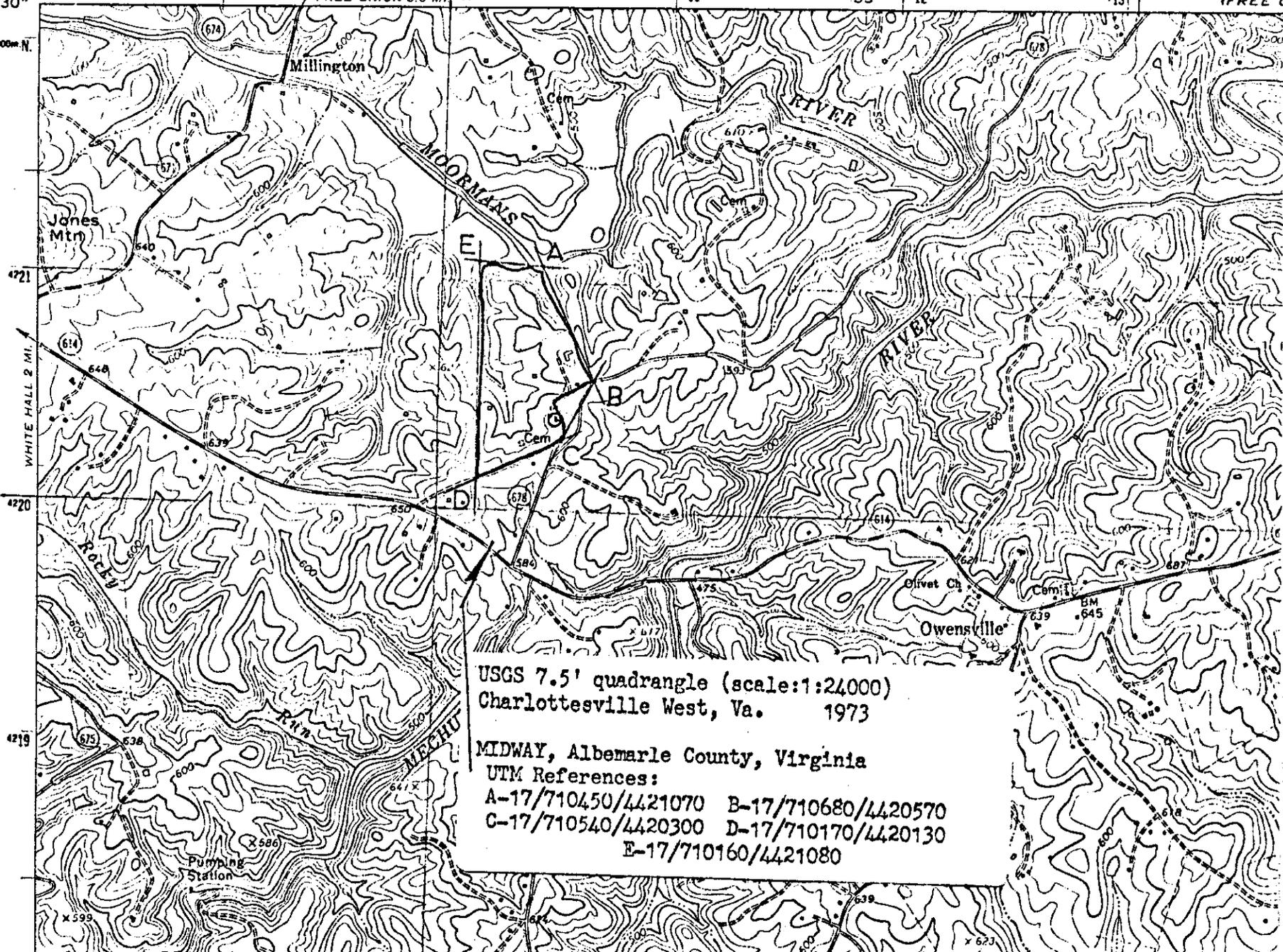
78°37'30"
38°07'30"

709000m E FREE UNION 3.6 MI 710

711 35' 712

713 5260' (FREE L

4222000m N



4221

4220

4219

USGS 7.5' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)
Charlottesville West, Va. 1973

MIDWAY, Albemarle County, Virginia

UTM References:

- A-17/710450/4421070
- B-17/710680/4420570
- C-17/710540/4420300
- D-17/710170/4420130
- E-17/710160/4421080