

## Virginia Department of Historic Resources PIF Resource Information Sheet

This information sheet is designed to provide the Virginia Department of Historic Resources with the necessary data to be able to evaluate the significance of the property for possible listing in the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places. This is not a formal nomination, but a necessary step in determining whether or not the property could be considered eligible for listing. Please take the time to fill in as many fields as possible. A greater number of completed fields will result in a more timely and accurate assessment. Staff assistance is available to answer any questions you have in regards to this form.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>General Property Information</b>   | For Staff Use Only<br>DHR ID #: 041-5064 |
| Property Name(s): <u>Dewberry Hill</u>  |  |
| Property Date(s): <u>Ca. 1815; late 1850s; 1970s; ca. 2015</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Circa <input type="checkbox"/> Pre <input type="checkbox"/> Post               Open to Public? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Limited <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |  |
| Property Address: <u>2181 Wilkins Road</u> City: <u>Alton</u> Zip: <u>24592</u>   |  |
| County or Ind. City: <u>Halifax County</u> USGS Quad(s): <u>Alton</u>   |  |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Physical Character of General Surroundings</b>   |  |
| Acreage: _____ Setting (choose one): <input type="checkbox"/> Urban <input type="checkbox"/> Town <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Suburban <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rural <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation Corridor |  |
| Site Description Notes/Notable Landscape Features:<br>The house stands on a rise with mostly cleared ground on and surrounding the lot, a small orchard, and woods in the distance.   |  |
| Secondary Resource Description (Briefly describe any other structures (or archaeological sites) that may contribute to the significance of the property: described under Architectural Description below)   |  |
| Ownership Category: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Public-Local <input type="checkbox"/> Public-State <input type="checkbox"/> Public-Federal   |  |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Individual Resource Information</b>  |  |
| What was the historical use of this resource? Examples include: Dwelling, Grist Mill, Bridge, Store, Tobacco Barn, etc...   |  |
| <u>Dwelling and farm</u>  |  |
| What is the current use? (if other than the historical use) <u>Dwelling</u>   |  |
| Architectural style or elements of styles: <u>Italianate, Greek Revival</u>   |  |
| Architect, builder, or original owner: <u>1850s detail attributed to the workshop of Thomas Day</u>   |  |
| # of stories <u>2</u> Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Rebuilt <input type="checkbox"/> Renovated |  |
| Are there any known threats to this property? <u>None known</u>   |  |

### Resource Component Information

Please answer the following questions regarding the individual components of the resource. If the component does not exist, answer “n/a.” If you feel uncomfortable in answering the question, please leave the space blank. Photographs of the features can also help our staff identify specific feature components. Usually, priority is given to describing features on the primary (front) facade of the structure.

**Foundation:** Describe the foundation that supports the structure. Examples include piers, continuous brick, poured concrete. Continuous masonry: parged under the front house, stone-veneered under the back house

**Structure:** Describe the primary structural component of the resource. Include primary material used. Examples include log, frame (sawn lumber), and brick. Also include the treatment, such as a particular brick bond or type of framing, if known. Front house: frame; back house: log

**Walls:** Describe the exterior wall covering such as beaded weatherboard or asbestos shingles. Plain weatherboards

**Windows:** Describe the number, material, and form of the primary windows. This includes the number of panes per sash, what the sashes are made of, and how the sashes operate (are they hinged or do they slide vertically) Have the windows been replaced? 8/8 wood sash, other smaller windows with other pane arrangements

**Porch:** Briefly describe the primary (front) porch. List the primary material, shape of the porch roof, and other defining details. Modern reconstructed Italianate two-tier porch of sawn and molded wood

**Roof:** Describe the roof, listing the shape and the covering material. Front house: metal-sheathed shallow hip; back house: metal-sheathed side-gable

**Chimney(s):** List the number of chimneys and the materials used. Include the brick bond pattern if possible. Front house: historic-period exterior American-bond brick chimneys; back house: rebuilt stone or stone-veneered 1970s chimneys

**Architectural Description of Individual Resource:** *(Please describe architectural patterns, types, features, additions, remodelings, or other alterations. A sketch of the current floor plan would be appreciated.)*

Dewberry Hill, located in southwest Halifax County, has a characteristic Halifax County evolution: an initial one-story-with-garret house, in this case a log dwelling believed to date to ca. 1815, which was made into the rear wing of a larger house, in this case a two-story frame house which is thought to have been built in the second half of the 1850s. The back house has a side-gable roof over a long form capped at each end by stone or stone-veneered 1970s chimneys of double-shouldered (south chimney) and single-shouldered (north chimney) form. The front house has a shallow-pitched hip roof with overhanging eaves supported by Italianate brackets with acorn pendants. The ornate double-tier Italianate front porch with its square columns and scroll-sawn ornament is a modern reconstruction. The porch shelters a first-story entry with gridded sidelights and transom in a decorative surround. The second-story entry, which has only sidelights, is a simpler version of the one below. Other exterior features include decorative window surrounds, paneled corner boards, and modern one-story shed porches with latticed supports on the south ends of the front and back houses.

The front house is entered through decoratively paneled double-leaf front doors. The sidelight and transom panes around the doors are colored yellow, red, green, and blue, a historic treatment (some panes are clear). The doors open into a center passage dominated by a two-run stair with a dramatic scrolling newel at its foot, the signature of the workshop of Thomas Day. The stair has simple scrolled tread brackets, rectangular balusters, and square-section upper newels with shafts that swell in imitation of entasis. The rooms to the sides have Greek Revival and Italianate mantels with post and lintel forms. The rooms also have modern paneled wainscots created from old lumber, and the north room has recessed cabinet-shelving in segmental-arched niches with keyblocks, also modern. Two-panel doors, eared door surrounds, decorative apron panels under windows, and a door surround with stepped moldings are other features of the front house.

The back house interior has two mantels in its downstairs. The mantel in the kitchen at the south end is believed to belong to the house; it has a simple Greek Revival form with paneled pilasters. The mantel in the sitting area at the north end is from another house. The back house was once divided into two rooms (probably a hall and parlor) but the wall was removed to create a wide framed opening. Against the stub of the wall rises a two-run winder stair with a closed stringer on the upper run. At the bottom is a turned ca. 1900 newel; the slender square-section newels on the upper parts of the stair are original. The back house has original beaded ceiling joists and modern wainscots and cabinet-shelving recesses like those in the front house.

Dewberry Hill's historic outbuildings are gone. They included a doctor's office in the front yard and a kitchen near the back house. Modern outbuildings include a story-and-a-half studio-like building with a bracketed front-gable roof and wide segmental-arched doorway; and a few farm-type buildings and a solar array.

**Significance Statement:** Briefly note any significant events, personages, and/or families associated with the property. (Detailed family genealogies are not necessary.) Please list all sources of information. It is not necessary to attach lengthy articles or genealogies to this form. Normally, only information contained on this form will be posted for consideration by the State Review Board.

### *Draft Statement of Significance Summary*

Dewberry Hill belongs to a select group of Halifax County houses with detail attributed to the workshop of free black cabinetmaker and finish carpenter Thomas Day. The house began as a story-with-garret log house thought to have been built about 1815 by Harrison Stanfield. Dr. Thomas Herndon Miles and Lucie L. Palmer Miles purchased the property in 1856 and soon after erected a two-story Italianate house in front of the log house. Features of the house such as a boldly scrolled stair newel are almost certainly the work of the Day workshop. The house's exterior features cornice brackets with acorn pendants and a reconstructed two-tier porch with lavish detail. Dewberry Hill is potentially eligible for the National Register under Criterion C in the architecture area of significance as a likely product of the Thomas Day workshop and as an early local example of the Italianate style.

### *Historic Context*

The back house is thought to have been built by Harrison Stanfield about 1815. In 1856 Dr. Thomas Herndon Miles and his wife, Lucie L. Palmer Miles, bought the property and within a few years erected the front house (tax record research should confirm the date of construction). Features such as the scrolled stair newel are attributed to the Milton, North Carolina, workshop of Thomas Day. A similar newel appears in the Halifax County house known as Lynnwood (ca. 1854) which is documented as the work of the Day workshop. Other examples appear over the state line in North Carolina (South Bend, a southwest Halifax County house contemporaneous with Dewberry Hill, has a simplified version of the newel attributed to the Day workshop). Dr. Miles practiced medicine in the front yard office, followed by the next owner, Dr. William M. Palmer, who owned the property from 1884 to 1889. Later owners included James E. and Mary J. Wilson Dewberry, hence the property's name. Dr. Keister W. Adams and his wife, C. Hope Nicholas Adams, acquired the property in 1935. It is currently owned by the Adams's granddaughter Sallie Wade Adams and her husband, Tom Kaiser.

### *Sources*

Edmunds, Pocahontas Wight. *A History of Halifax*. Reprint (volumes 1 and 2) by Halifax County Historical Society, 2008.

Halifax County Historical Society Architectural Committee. *An Architectural History of Halifax County, Virginia*. South Boston, Va.: Halifax County Historical Society, 2016.

Marshall, Patricia Phillips, and Jo Ramsay Leimenstoll. *Thomas Day: Master Craftsman and Free Man of Color*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2010.

Pezzoni, J. Daniel. "An Architectural History of Halifax County, Virginia." Manuscript prepared for the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and the Halifax County Historical Society, 2008.

|  |                               |   |                    |
|--|-------------------------------|---|--------------------|
| <b>Legal Owner(s) of the Property</b> (For more than one owner, please use a separate sheet.)              |                               |   |                    |
| Mr. <input type="checkbox"/>   | Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/> | Dr. <input type="checkbox"/>            |                    |
| Miss <input type="checkbox"/>  | Ms. <input type="checkbox"/>  | Hon. <input type="checkbox"/>           |                    |
| _____  |                               | _____                                   | _____              |
| (Name)   |                               | (Firm)                                  |                    |
| _____  |                               | _____                                   | _____              |
| (Address)  |                               | (City)                                  | (State) (Zip Code) |
| _____  |                               | _____                                   |                    |
| (Email Address)  |                               | (Daytime telephone including area code) |                    |
| Owner's Signature: _____   |                               | Date: _____                             |                    |
| <b>•• Signature required for processing all applications. ••</b>   |                               |   |                    |
| In the event of corporate ownership you must provide the name and title of the appropriate contact person. |                               |   |                    |
| Contact person: _____  |                               |   |                    |
| Daytime Telephone: (      )  |                               |   |                    |

|   |                               |   |                    |
|---|-------------------------------|---|--------------------|
| <b>Applicant Information</b> (Individual completing form if other than legal owner of property) |                               |   |                    |
| Mr. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   | Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/> | Dr. <input type="checkbox"/>            |                    |
| Miss <input type="checkbox"/>   | Ms. <input type="checkbox"/>  | Hon. <input type="checkbox"/>           |                    |
| J. Daniel Pezzoni   |                               | Landmark Preservation Associates        |                    |
| _____   |                               | _____                                   | _____              |
| (Name)  |                               | (Firm)                                  |                    |
| 6 Houston St.   |                               | Lexington                               | VA 24450           |
| (Address)   |                               | (City)                                  | (State) (Zip Code) |
| gilespezzoni@rockbridge.net   |                               | (540) 464-5315                          |                    |
| (Email Address)   |                               | (Daytime telephone including area code) |                    |
| Applicant's Signature: _____  |                               | Date: _____                             |                    |

|  |                               |                               |   |
|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| <b>Notification</b>  |                               |                               |   |
| In some circumstances, it may be necessary for DHR to confer with or notify local officials of proposed listings of properties within their jurisdiction. In the following space, please provide the contact information for the local County Administrator or City Manager. |                               |                               |   |
| Mr. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  | Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/> | Dr. <input type="checkbox"/>  |   |
| Miss <input type="checkbox"/>  | Ms. <input type="checkbox"/>  | Hon. <input type="checkbox"/> |   |
| James M. Halasz  |                               | County Administrator          |   |
| _____  |                               | _____                         |   |
| (Name)   |                               | (Position)                    |   |
| Halifax County   |                               | PO Box 699                    |   |
| (Locality)   |                               | (Address)                     |   |
| Halifax  |                               | VA 24558                      | (434) 476-3300                          |
| (City)   |                               | (State) (Zip Code)            | (Daytime telephone including area code) |

Please use the following space to explain why you are seeking an evaluation of this property.  
**Confirmation/recognition of Thomas Day house; authentication of architectural components indicative of Thomas Day style. Desire to seek protection of this house as landmarked property in order to preserve its contribution and significance to the history of Halifax County.**

Would you be interested in the State and/or the Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credits? Yes  No   
 Would you be interested in the easement program? Yes  No

**Legal Owner(s) of the Property** (For more than one owner, please use a separate sheet.)

Mr.  Mrs.  Dr.   
Miss  Ms.  Hon.

SALLIE WADE ADAMS

2181 WILKINS RD

ALTON

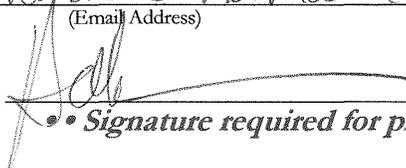
VA

24520

sallie.wade@hotmail.com

917.257.8411

Owner's Signature:



Date: 12/13/2016

•• Signature required for processing all applications. ••

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

Contact person:

Daytime Telephone: ( )

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

Mr.  Mrs.  Dr.   
Miss  Ms.  Hon.

J. Daniel Pezzoni

Landmark Preservation Associates

6 Houston St.

Lexington

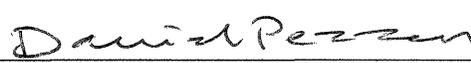
VA

24450

gilespezzoni@rockbridge.net

(540) 464-5315

Applicant's Signature:



Date: 12/16/2016

**Notification**

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

Mr.  Mrs.  Dr.   
Miss  Ms.  Hon.

James M. Halasz

County Administrator

Halifax County

PO Box 699

(Locality)

(Address)

Halifax

VA

24558

(434) 476-3300

(City)

(State)

(Zip Code)

(Daytime telephone including area code)

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Would you be interested in the State and/or the Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credits? Yes  No

Would you be interested in the easement program? Yes  No

**Legal Owner(s) of the Property** (For more than one owner, please use a separate sheet.)

Mr.  Mrs.  Dr.   
 Miss  Ms.  Hon.  THOMAS G KAISEK  
 (Name)

2181 Wilkins Rd, (Address) ALTON, VA (City) (Firm) 24520 (Zip Code)

TOMSAUCE@Hotmail.com (Email Address) 646 226 8662 (Daytime telephone including area code)

Owner's Signature: [Signature] Date: 12/13/16  
 •• Signature required for processing all applications. ••

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

Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Telephone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

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

Mr.  Mrs.  Dr.   
 Miss  Ms.  Hon.  J. Daniel Pezzoni Landmark Preservation Associates  
 (Name) (Firm)

6 Houston St. (Address) Lexington (City) VA (State) 24450 (Zip Code)

gilespezzoni@rockbridge.net (Email Address) (540) 464-5315 (Daytime telephone including area code)

Applicant's Signature: Daniel Pezzoni Date: 12/16/2016

**Notification**

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Mr.  Mrs.  Dr.   
 Miss  Ms.  Hon.  James M. Halasz County Administrator  
 (Name) (Position)

Halifax County (Locality) PO Box 699 (Address)

Halifax (City) VA (State) 24558 (Zip Code) (434) 476-3300 (Daytime telephone including area code)

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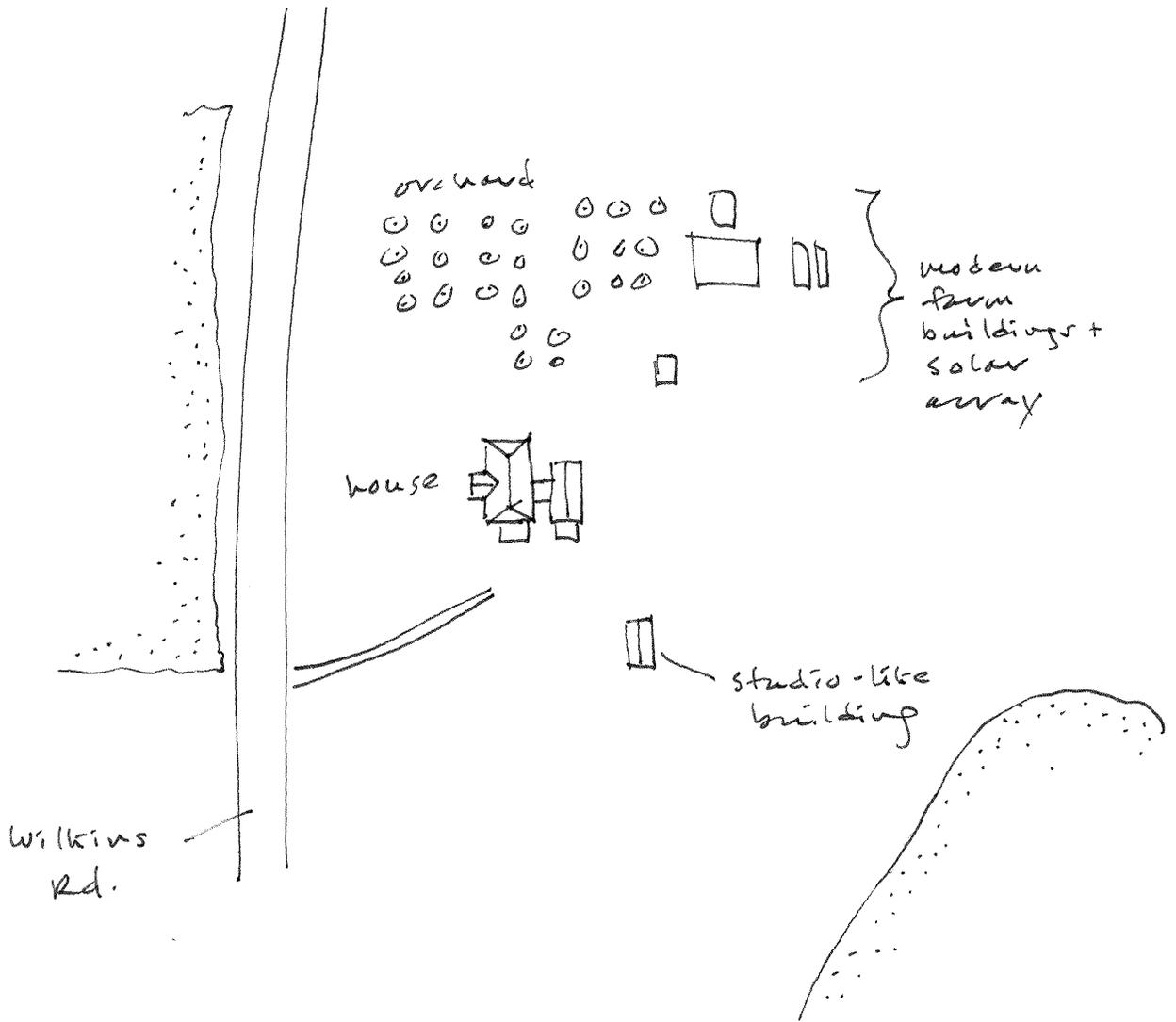
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 Would you be interested in the easement program? Yes  No

Dewberry Hill

Halifax Co., Va.

041-5064

NTS



# Dewberry Hill

041-5064

Halifax County, Virginia

Alton quad

November 2016

041-5064



