

VLR-4/18/78 NRHP-11/16/78

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED

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 Heiston-Strickler House (Preferred); Stone House

AND/OR COMMON Old Stone House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 2.4 miles NW of ~ b r corporate limits; 400' S of South Fork Shenandoah River; 1.7 miles NW of intersection of State Routes 675 and 654; .2 mile W of State Route 675.

CITY, TOWN Luray VICINITY OF Seventh (J. Kenneth Robinson)

STATE Virginia CODE 51 COUNTY Page COUNTY CODE 139

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input 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 type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input checked="" 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 Mr. Maurice H. Strickler

STREET & NUMBER R.F.D. #3

CITY, TOWN Luray VICINITY OF Virginia 22835

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Page County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN Luray STATE Virginia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (2) (see continuation sheet #1)

TITLE (1) Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

DATE 1969 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN Washington STATE DC

7 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

The Heiston-Strickler House is a two-story, two-bay dwelling situated, like most of the early Page County houses, on a rise overlooking the Shenandoah River bottom land and Massanutten Mountain beyond. The gable-roofed structure is built of rubble stone laid in alternating long and short blocks with rough jack arches over the windows. It has exterior end chimneys, early 19th-century 6/9 sash, and a box cornice. A small, one-story late 19th-century porch with bracketed piers shelters the front door. On the rear (north) facade, a small projecting frame bay has replaced an earlier door, and a second-floor door, which formerly opened onto a now-destroyed, full-length, one-story porch, has been closed. To the east is a one-story late 19th-century frame wing.

The original plan was that of the three-room Continental Flurküchenhaus, with a long narrow küche (kitchen) to the east and a slightly smaller stube (hall) to the west with a small kammer (chamber) partitioned off from it at the rear (river side). Early in the 19th century, the vertical board partition between the küche and the stube/kammer was moved two feet toward the end, reducing the length of the latter two rooms, and a small entryway was partitioned off at the front of the küche. In this entry is a winder stair which replaces an original one in the same position. Another winder stair was built in the kammer at the time of the alteration.

Decoration in the house is minimal. The longitudinal bearing joist (summer) in the küche and stube has a cyma mold along its leading edges; the joists which it carries are covered, except in the kammer stair where it may be observed that they are embellished with the same molding. In the küche, a plain 19th-century mantel marks an infilled fireplace which in turn is a drastic reduction of an original 7-foot cooking fireplace whose jambs are still visible in the rough infill. Under the stair in the vestibule is a reused doorway with a door composed of vertical bevel-edged sheathing in random widths. The exterior door is also original and has tapered battens and strap hinges.

Interior doors on the second floor may provide evidence of the first-floor interior doors, all of which have been replaced with 19th-century batten doors. The surviving doors are of the six-panel, raised-panel variety. Their top panels, rather than being square as is usually the case, are elongated into horizontal rectangles. The doors are hung with strap hinges which span most of their width.

In the stube, an early 19th-century shelf has been combined with later elements into a mantel over the infilled fireplace. A pedestal chair rail encircles the room, and there are remnants of an original plate rail such as is found in the contemporary Fort Stover, located nearby.

Under the küche is a vaulted cellar which is now entered from the frame wing in approximately the same space through which interior stairs formerly descended from the küche. A bulkhead opening on the north (river) end has been replaced with a window, and a barred window at the south end has been closed.

The roof is a common-rafter-and-collar structure differing from similar Anglo-Virginian roofs in that the rafters are tenoned directly into the ends of the tie beams without benefit of a false plate.

(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 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 type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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. 1790

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Located in the shadow of Massanutten Mountain, overlooking the Shenandoah River bottom lands, the late 18th-century Heiston-Strickler House is one of the most handsome and best-preserved of the Page County Germanic houses.

Like nearby Fort Stover, its use of end chimneys reflects the influence of Anglo-American building ideas, but the Heiston-Strickler House retains many more traditional features of German building, including the two-bay facade, the vaulted cellar, a hill-side site, and Germanic interior structural and decorative details. The house is unique among its contemporaries in that the plan alterations it underwent in the early 19th-century were undertaken within the context of Continental, rather than British, tradition.

The land on which the house is built is part of a tract granted (or confirmed) by the proprietors of the Northern Neck in 1762, to Henry Hestant of Frederick County. In 1777 Hestant (also Heastant, Heesting, Heaston, now spelled Heiston) left the 264-acre tract to his son Jacob. It was either Jacob or his son Abraham who probably built the house ca. 1790. This is the traditional date recorded on a modern cement replacement of a missing gable-end datestone, and it accords with the architectural evidence. After Jacob Heaston's death in 1795, the inheritance was held jointly by his widow, Elizabeth, and their seven adult children, the oldest of whom was Abraham. Abraham Heaston had married Magdaline Strickler, who was the second wife and widow of Jacob Strickler, a Mennonite preacher and owner of another of the extant German houses, Fort Egypt. In 1798 her son Daniel Strickler attained majority. John Strickler, oldest son of Jacob, effected a complex series of land transactions in order to procure the Heiston house and its present 330-acre tract for Daniel, his half brother. Daniel Strickler continued to accumulate land throughout his career. He held several important civil and religious offices, including militia captain, clerk of Mill Creek Church, justice in the newly formed (in 1831) county of Page, and later its sheriff. Land tax books identified Strickler's residence as "Stone House" as early as 1814. In addition, he served in the Virginia General Assembly. At his death in 1845, the house was bequeathed to his son Harrison and has remained in Strickler hands since.

DU/VDS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Chappell, E. A. "Rhenish Houses of the Massanutten Settlement". Unpublished manuscript in Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission archives, 1977.
 Kerkoff, J. A. Old Homes of Page County, Virginia. Luray, Va., 1962.
 Page County Deed Books A, B; Land Tax Books 1832-1850; Will Book C.
 Shenandoah County Deed Books B,D,K,L,M,N,O; Land Tax Books 1782-1831; Will Books D,F,B
 Strickler, Harry M. A Short History of Page County, Virginia. Richmond, Va., 1952.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 6 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	17	717680	4286250	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The acreage comprising the Heiston-Strickler House is bounded by a line that begins at a point on the S bank of South Fork Shenandoah River, 800' W of State Route 675 and 1.7 miles NW of intersection of State Routes 675 and 654; thence extending 600' S to N side of private drive; thence extending 500' W following said drive; thence extending 400' N to S bank of river; thence extending 500' E along said river to point of origin.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE

March, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

221 Governor Street

TELEPHONE

(804) 786-3144

CITY OR TOWN

Richmond

STATE

Virginia 23219

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Tucker Hill, Executive Director
 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE APR 18 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Heiston-Strickler House, Page County, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET #1

ITEM NUMBER 6, 7 PAGE # 1

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

- (2) Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey
1967, 1977 State
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
221 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

7. DESCRIPTION

East of the house is a small 19th-century woodshed, and several yards farther east is a handsome late 19th-century forebay bank barn. To the rear of the wing of the main house, a wash house has been demolished, but its stone chimney survives.

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