



VIRGINIA
HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

File no. 76-208
Negative no(s). 4370

SURVEY FORM

Historic name Henry House	Common name
County/Town/City Prince William County	
Street address or route number Manassas National Battlefield Park, Haymarket, VA 22069	
USGS Quad Gainesville	Date or period 1870, c1880
Original owner Judith Henry	Architect/builder/craftsmen Andrew Norman (builder)
Original use Residence	
Present owner U.S. Government	Source of name
Present owner address Manassas National Battlefield Park, Haymarket, VA 22069	Source of date Architectural evidence, Park histories
Present use Part of historical battlefield	Stories 2 stories
Acreage Included in park's 3,000 acres	Foundation and wall const'n Stone foundation; frame walls.
	Roof type Metal-covered gable roof.

State condition of structure and environs House is in fair condition; grounds are o.k.

State potential threats to structure - House is out of the time context for interpreting the battles.
Note any archaeological interest - Foundation of original Henry House may exist under present house.
Heavy fighting occurred in this area.

Should be investigated for possible register potential? yes ___ no ___ Listed in Battlefield Park nomination.

Architectural description (Note significant features of plan, structural system and interior and exterior decoration, taking care to point out aspects not visible or clear from photographs. Explain nature and period of all alterations and additions. List any outbuildings and their approximate ages, cemeteries, etc.)

The Henry House is a two-story frame, I-type house, clad with channeled siding. Supposedly built in two stages, in part on the stone foundation of the earlier Henry House, this house has a partial basement. Exterior decoration includes a moulded cornice and double cornerboards. The sliding sash windows have 6/6 panes, except in the center section of the east and west sides where the panes are 2/2. Around the doors and windows is a narrow strip of architrave moulding applied to plain box trim.

The doors are of varying types: the main entrance on the east side has a two-panel wooden door. The door on the south end is a 5-panel 1920's-30's door. There is an unused 4-panel door on the west. There is a closed, winding stair in the kitchen, or north room, of the house. The walls of the kitchen are sheathed with matchboard, or beaded ceiling. A brick fireplace may have heated both the kitchen and the next adjoining room, a dining room or sitting room. The kitchen fireplace has been sealed off, but the fireplace in the dining room, fitted for use as a stove flue, has a crude, practically unadorned mantel consisting of a plain, thick shelf supported by plain jambs and having a plain frieze. There is a similar mantel in the room directly above this room. The room in the south end is small, like a hall or entryway. It has a small window which appears to have once been a full-sized sliding sash window. The room has two doors to the outside and a crudely made closed-string, single flight stair, with a square newel, square rail and plain round balusters. The stair winds at the top rather than the bottom. The interior of the house, which is used for storage, is in poor condition. The interior doors are all of the 4-panel type, and the floors are narrow-board pine. The trim is single bead with architrave moulding.

Just off the north end of the house is a small, 10-foot-square, gable-roofed shed with board and batten siding. On the immediate grounds of the house, which is surrounded by some

Interior inspected? Yes. (continued)

Historical significance (Chain of title; individuals, families, events, etc., associated with the property.)

This house was built in 1870 and later on the foundation or site of the earlier Henry House. At the time of the Civil War, the Henry House, a 1½-story frame house, was the home of Judith Carter Henry, an 85-year-old widow. Her husband, Dr. Isaac Henry, whom she had married in 1801, was a U.S. Navy surgeon who died in 1829. Judith Henry was a daughter of Landon Carter of Pittsylvania. The farm, 333 acres, was originally included in George Carter's portion of the Lower Bull Run Tract, which had been patented in the 1720's by Robert "King" Carter when he was agent for the proprietary.

According to the legend, the ancient Judith Henry was moved from the house on a litter when the fighting on Henry Hill began on July 21, 1861. She asked to be returned to the house, however, and was then struck by a stray shell. After the battle, the house was allegedly chopped into pieces and carried off by sightseers as souvenirs. The house remains, it is said, were burned during the Battle of 2nd Manassas.

The present house on the site was constructed in 1870 and later, the first part having been built by a Confederate veteran named Andrew Norman. This fact was revealed in about 1920 when Mr. Norman visited the battlefield and, beside his signature which he made in a visitors guest book, wrote, "I built this house in 1870."

In the 1920's the Henry farm was acquired from Arthur Lee Henry, and the Henry House was operated as a historical museum by the Sons of the Confederate Veterans, a geneological and patriotic organization whose members are descended from Confederate veterans. The caretaker of

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ARCHITECTURE (Cont.)

HENRY HOUSE

old locust trees, are two memorials dating to the Civil War. Directly east of the Henry House, about 40 feet away, is the first Bull Run monument. It consists of a pyramid of shaped and roughly coursed sandstone surrounded by four blocks or piers of red sandstone. Each corner pier was originally topped by a large parrot shell. (Two of the shells were removed by the MPS, and the remaining two were stolen in June 1980.) The central pyramid, however, still retains its shell. The pyramid is inscribed on the west side, "In/Memory/ of the Patriots/who fell at/Bull Run/July 21, 1861," and on the east side, "Erected/June 10, 1865." The whole monument rests on a raised grassy mound measuring about 25 feet square, and the monument is enclosed by a rail fence. A NPS-erected marker explains that the monument was "Erected in the Spring and Winter of 1865 by Gamble's Federal Cavalry Brigade, then stationed at Fairfax Court House. It was dedicated with elaborate civic and military ceremonies on 10 June 1865." The stones for the monument may have come from the foundation of Pittsylvania, the mid-18th century Carter plantation house that was once the core of a large Bull Run estate. Pittsylvania was burned by Union soldiers in 1862. According to a Park historian, the rumor that the bodies of Union soldiers killed on this hill were buried in a mass grave under the monument is not true.

In a small fenced plot west of the Henry House is the burial ground containing the grave of, among others, Judith Henry. The inscription on Judith Henry's stone marker explains that she was killed in her 85th year by a shell that exploded in her house.

There is another monument identical to the Union monument described above, erected at the same time by Gamble's Brigade and located near the unfinished railroad, also known as the "deep cut." It was dedicated to the patriots who fell August 28, 29, 30, 1862.

HISTORY (Cont.)

the museum was a one-armed veteran named Adiniron Powell. In the late 1930's, the Department of the Interior acquired the Henry farm and house from the Sons of the Confederate Veterans and included it in the National Battlefield Park.

There are at present no plans for the future use of the Henry House.

PUBLISHED SOURCES (Cont.)

"Monument Vandalized," in Potomac News, 24 June 1980.

Hanson, Joseph Mills, Bull Run Remembers (c1953), p.

"Battlefield Monuments Constructed 100 Years Ago," in Manassas Journal-Messenger, 10 June 1965.

Sources and bibliography

Published sources (Books, articles, etc., with bibliographic data.)

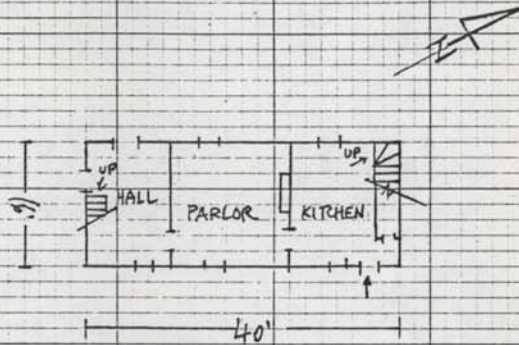
W.P.A., Writer's Project, Prince William, the Story of Its People and Its Places (c1941), pp. 130-132. Ratcliffe, R.J., This Was Prince William (c1978), p. 117. (Continued)

Primary sources (Manuscript documentary or graphic materials; give location.)

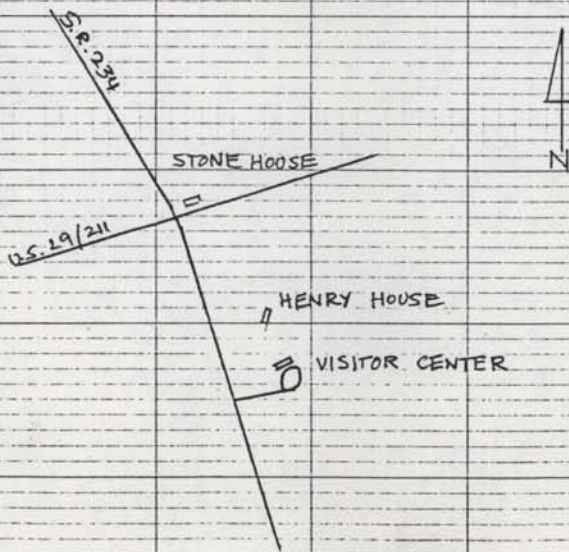
Battlefield Park Visitor Center files include information on Henry House.

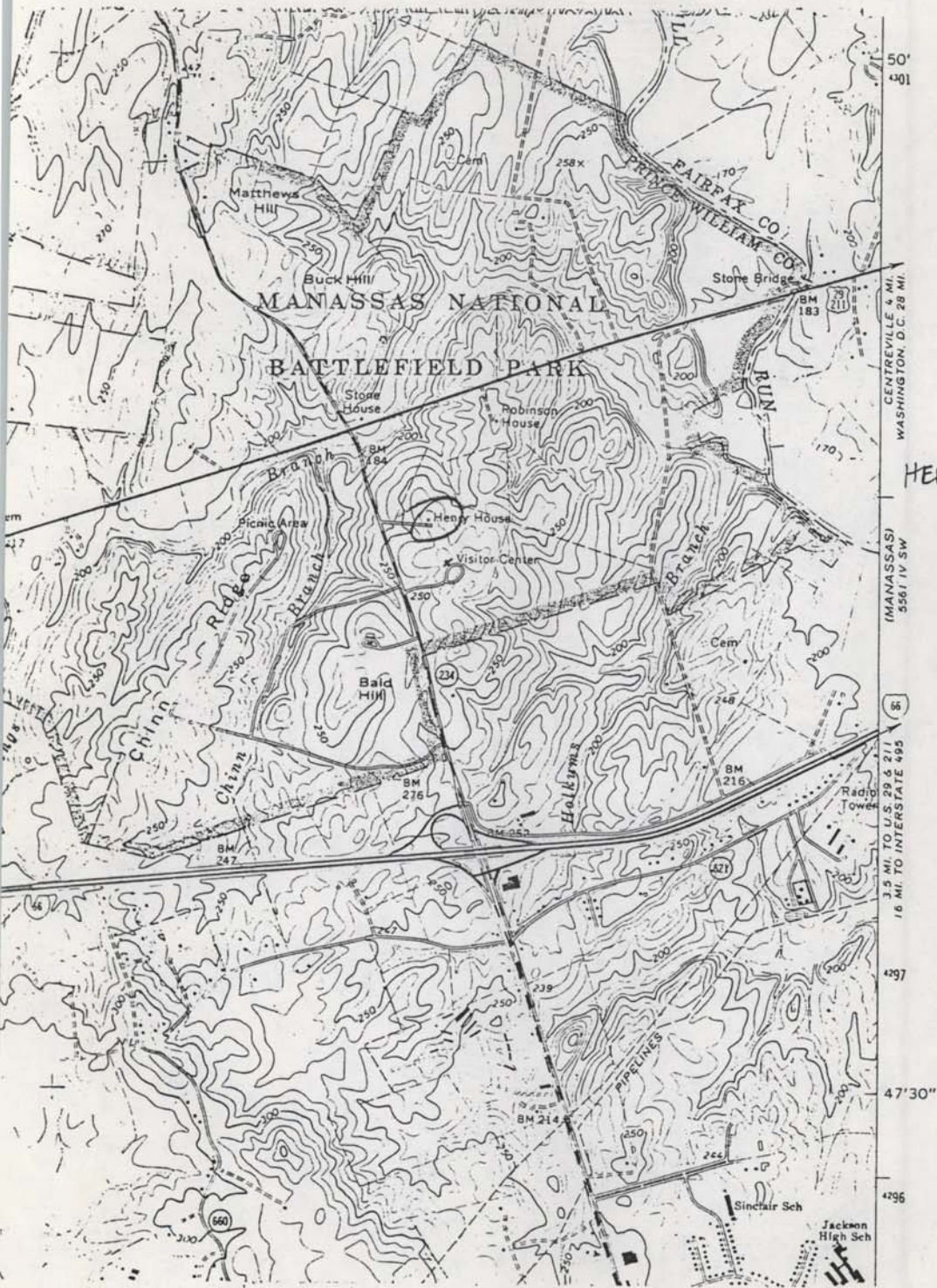
Names and addresses of persons interviewed Stuart Vogt, MNBP Historian and Acting Superintendent.

Plan (Indicate locations of rooms, doorways, windows, alterations, etc.)



Site plan (Locate and identify outbuildings, dependencies and significant topographical features.)





HENRY HOUSE
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