



VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

File no. 272-8
Negative no(s). 4906

SURVEY FORM

Historic name	Common name Back Stage Dance Supplies
County/Town/City Occoquan	
Street address or route number 205 Union Street, Occoquan, VA 22191	
USGS Quad Occoquan	Date or period c1850-c1870
Original owner Unknown	Architect/builder/craftsmen
Original use Residence? Store?	
Present owner Jeanne M. Gervais	Source of name
Present owner address 205 Union Street Occoquan, VA 22191	Source of date Architectural evidence
Present use Store	Stories 2 stories
Acreage 1,000 sq. ft.	Foundation and wall const'n Stone foundation; frame wall construction
	Roof type Pressed tin-covered gable roof.

State condition of structure and environs Building and environs are in good condition.

State potential threats to structure
Note any archaeological interest

Should be investigated for possible register potential? yes ___ no ___

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.)

This two-story, frame-constructed, rectangular-plan building has a pressed tin covered gable roof and is clad in channeled or German siding on all but the south side. The structure consists of a two-story, gable-roofed structure measuring about 15'x20' and sitting on the southeast corner of the intersection of Union and Commerce Streets. To this structure's rear, or east side, was added, on an east-west axis, a two-story building as wide as the earlier house is long.

The building, probably a former residence, at least in part, though it has been the location of a store since c1900, has a box cornice, plain frieze, cornerboards, and both 2/2 and 6/6 sliding sash windows. In addition, there are some recent 1/1 windows on the west side. There is a one-story open porch spanning part of the northwest side. A one-story shed-roofed addition is present on the east end of the addition. It has a parapet or false front. The interior has been remodeled. The stair may be old, however. It is now enclosed, but formerly was an open string, single-flight stair opposite the Union Street entrance. The simple, square newel, flattened rail, and square balusters appear to be old. The walls of the store are paneled. The floors, except the narrow-width pine floors on the second floor, are carpeted. The trim is all reproduction.

This building commands a prominent position at the intersection of Union and Commerce Sts. It is directly across from the historically-significant old Hammill Hotel.

The building has lost some of its architectural significance through remodeling, especially on the interior. The exterior, except for the addition of some incompatibly-sized windows, probably looks the same as it did in about the early 1900s, though it was probably painted a lighter color with dark trim. The old wood siding has been retained, and most of the old windows are in place. The building is old enough and interesting enough to warrant better preservation.

Interior inspected? Yes.

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

The present owner recently purchased this building from Edson M. Lynn, Jr. Previous owners have been Pauline E. Davis and Donald and Edson Lynn. The Frame House, an art gallery and frame shop, occupied this building during the 1970's. Prior to that it was the location of Lynn Electric. A grocery store was operated here in the early 1900's by "Sis" Tavener and Nora Carter.

There is a story associated with this house involving Gen. Wade Hampton, who was headquartered in the Hammill Hotel across Union Street from this building during the Civil War. To escape Federal troops, Hampton and his men allegedly sneaked out of town by way of a stream which runs beneath this building.

Sources and bibliography

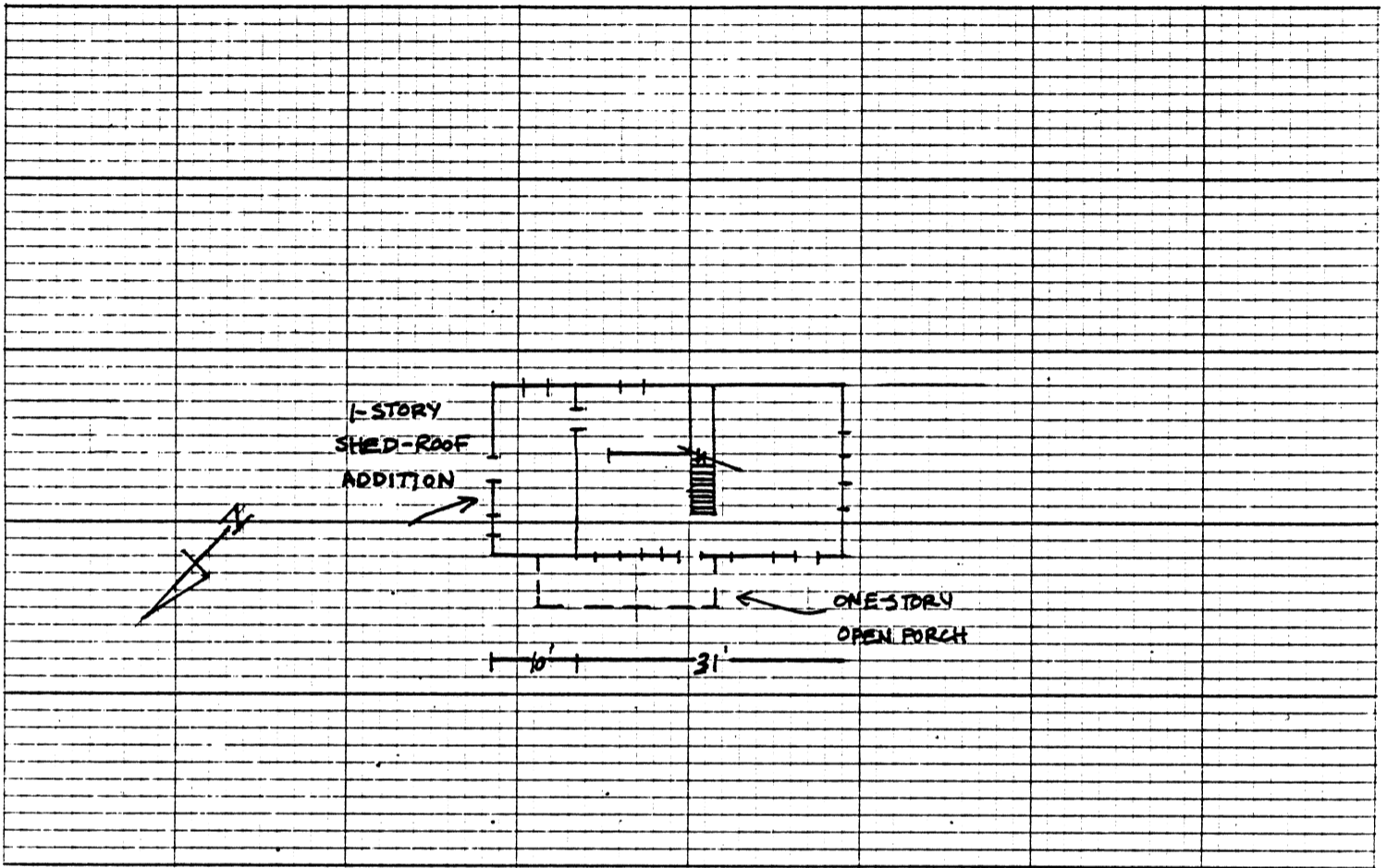
Published sources (Books, articles, etc., with bibliographic data.)

See part 2 of 4-part series on Occoquan by Ann Holiday in Manassas Journal-Messenger, published Sept. - Oct. 1973.

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

Names and addresses of persons interviewed Ms. Jeanne Gervais (owner).

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



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

