



VIRGINIA
HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

File no. 76-192
Negative no(s). 4916

SURVEY FORM

Historic name Falkland Tenant House County/Town/City Prince William County Street address or route number vic. 7500 Cerro Gordo Rd., Gainesville, Va. USGS Quad Thoroughfare Gap Original owner unknown Original use Residence Present owner Robert Alvey et al * Present owner address 4606 Sanders Lane Catharpin, Va. Present use Residence Acreage c5 acres	Common name Date or period mid-to-late 19th century Architect/builder/craftsmen Source of name Source of date Architectural evidence. Stories 2 stories Foundation and wall const'n Stone foundation, frame wall construction. Roof type Metal-covered gable roof.
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State condition of structure and environs Structure and environs are in poor condition. Some rehabilitation and renovation is underway.
 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.)

Allegedly occupied for a long time by Levi Gough as his residence, this 1½ and 2-story el-plan house appears to date from the mid or late 19th century. Carpenter-built, mainly out of poles, the house has a shed-roofed open porch filling in the el on the front, and a one-story enclosed porch on the rear, containing two rooms. The exterior brick and stone chimney on the west end contains a fireplace on the west side and a stove flue on the east side, at the first floor level. The medium-width exterior weatherboards have been covered over with asbestos siding. The exterior door and window trim is simple, butt-joined box trim. The windows, sliding sash, 6/6. The front door is a board and batten-type door assembled with screws and having butt hinges.

The interior walls are partly covered with wallboard and partly with lath and plaster. The two rooms downstairs each have a crudely-built mantel, for use with a stove, probably dating to the late 19th or early 20th century. There is an enclosed, two-flight, single-landing staircase opposite the door to the right of the front entrance. Upstairs there are three bedrooms.

Though not old or architecturally important, this is an uncommonly-found house in Prince William County. There are a few houses similar to it in Buckland, the closest community. The house illustrates the living arrangements of a low-income tenant farmer, from around the end of the Civil War to well into the 20th century. Gradually, these houses are being demolished or are allowed to disintegrate. Houses of this kind are not well-built to begin with and are often neglected or allowed to deteriorate.

Until 1979 or 1980, there was a small log-constructed barn or outbuilding just north of the house, but it was removed and re-erected elsewhere, it is supposed. According to one source, there are two unmarked graves in the back yard of this house.

Interior inspected? Yes.

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

This house, said to have been the longtime residence of Levi Gough, has always been associated with Falkland, q.v., a farm that was first owned by the prominent Carter family. Robert "King" Carter patented large amounts of land in Prince William County in the 1720s. Falkland dates from the early 1800s. In 1979 or 1980, this house and a small parcel were separated from Falkland and sold. Tax records as of Jan 1981 do not list name and address of new owner.

Sources and bibliography

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

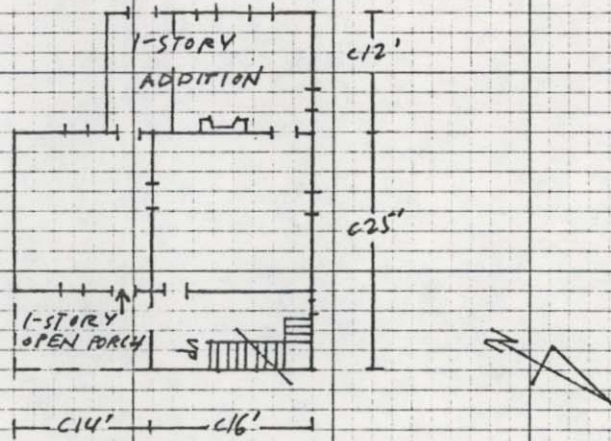
W.P.A., Writers Project, Prince William, the Story of Its People and Its Places (c1941), p.170.

Ratcliffe, R. J., This Was Prince William (c1978), p. 72.

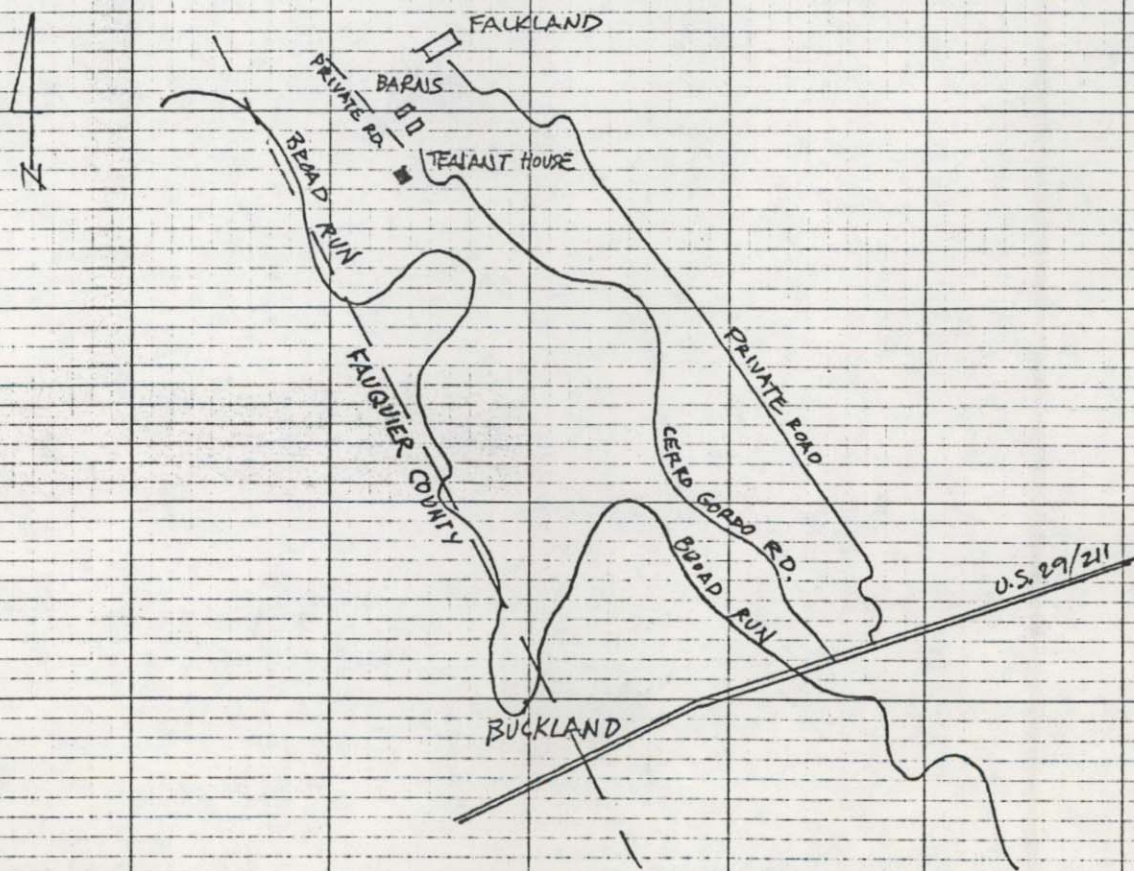
Primary sources (Manuscript documentary or graphic materials; give location.)

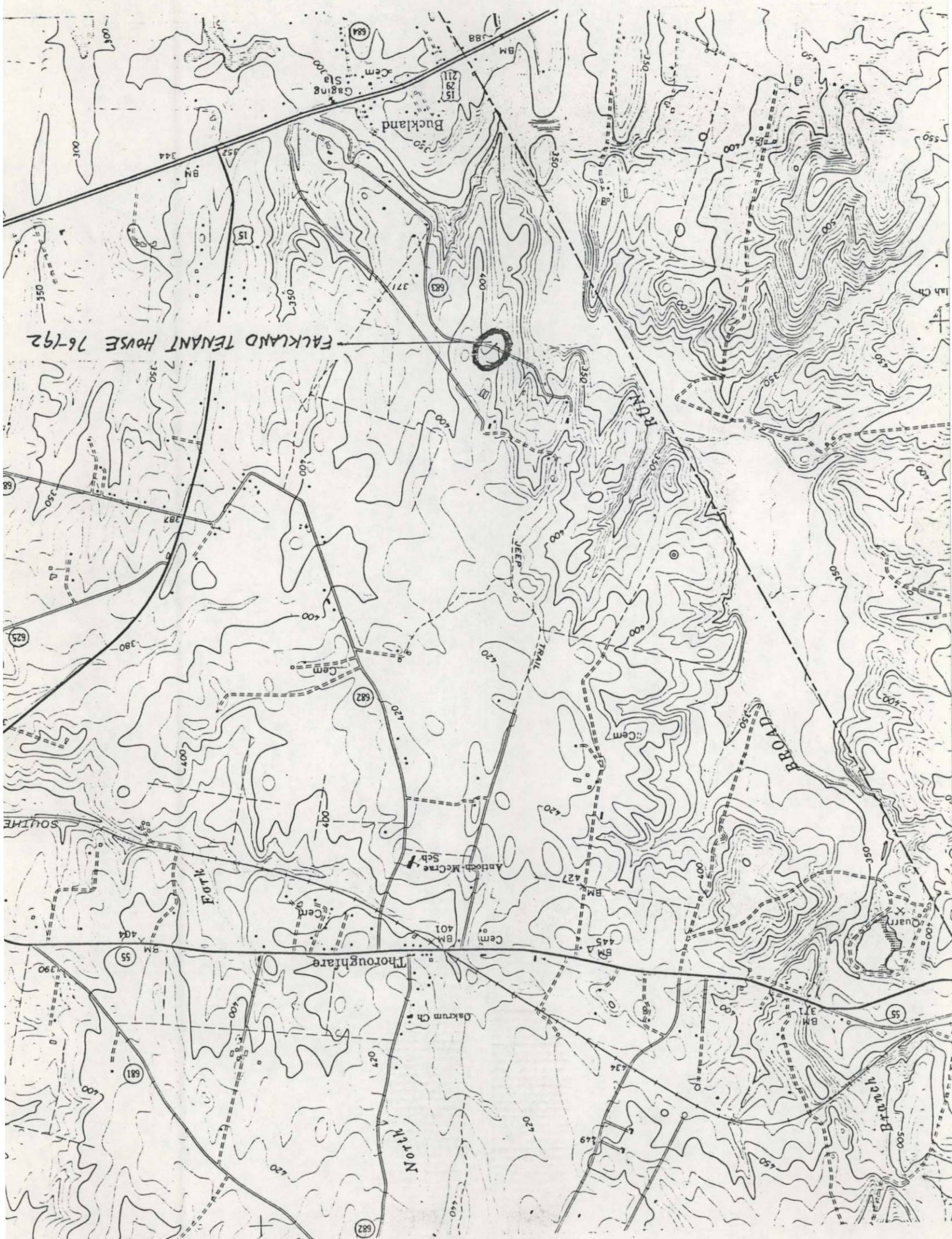
Names and addresses of persons interviewed E. R. Conner, Manassas Museum.

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



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





THOROUGHFARE GAP QUAD

FALKLAND TENANT HOUSE 76-792