



VIRGINIA
HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

File no. 76-148
Negative no(s). 5164

SURVEY FORM

Historic name Fostern	Common name
County/Town/City Prince William County	
Street address or route number 11003 Lucasville Road, Manassas, VA 22110	
USGS Quad Independent Hill	Date or period c1825 and later
Original owner Redmon Foster, Jr.?	Architect/builder/craftsmen
Original use Residence	
Present owner Stephen J. & Joan T. Boardman	Source of name
Present owner address 11003 Lucasville Road Manassas, VA 22110	Source of date Architectural evidence; local histories
Present use Residence	Stories 2 stories
Acreage 7.65 acres.	Foundation and wall const'n Stone foundation; frame wall construction
	Roof type Metal-covered gable roof.

State condition of structure and environs **House and surrounding grounds 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 residence was built in two stages. It is five bays wide by two bays deep. The three-bay, west section, containing a hall and one room on the first floor was built first. This part has an exterior stone end chimney which serves a recently-built brick fireplace. This section has heavy-hewn beams and a straight, open-string, two-flight, single-landing stair having a heavy, rounded rail, a moulded--slightly bulging 10-pin-style cherry--newel, square balusters, and under-stair paneling. The trim in this part is plain box, old architrave, and reproduction architrave. The two-story addition to the east end, probably built in the late 19th-early 20th century, contains a room on each floor. A brick stove flue serves this end of the house. Very likely, during this construction period the windows were updated to 2/2 sliding sash, the central peak was added, and a one-story front porch added. (Now there is a high, colonaded porch across the front.) At the same time, the house was probably re-sided, and cornerboards and gable returns were added. Now the house is clad in wide-gauge aluminum siding. The large, multiple-pane bay windows were installed in the 1960's. At that time, the partition between the hall and living room was moved, and the rear entrance blocked for installation of a closet. A kitchen and bath were installed in a one-story frame addition to the rear. A sun room was built onto the east end; and a large, one-story, 2-car garage was added to the rear and the west end. The only remaining outbuilding is a small frame barn, possibly dating to the 1930's or 1940's. Fostern is located in Fostern Acres (or Estates) a residential subdivision.

During the recent planning for the S.R. 234 (Manassas) Bypass, it was feared that the proposed highway might adversely affect Fostern, but it is not known whether that is still the case, or if the highway is still being planned. Fostern has lost a lot of architectural

Interior inspected? **Yes.** (Continued below)

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

Fostern received its name from the house's builder, Redmon Foster, Jr., whose family owned nearby Moor Green. According to one source, Fostern sits on one of two tracts, 641 acres and 219 acres, that were granted to William Forster (note spelling) in 1725 and 1729, respectively.

During the Civil War, the house allegedly was a refuge for soldiers' families. In the large slave cemetery on the property is reportedly the grave of one of the Foster slaves, "Uncle" Charles German, who walked 14 miles per day to teach Blacks in a schoolhouse in Nokesville.

The property is identified as belonging to Foster in 1901 on a County map, but it is not known when the property passed out of the Foster family.

The farm was subdivided in the mid-1960's. At that time, it contained about 120 acres. The house was renovated in about 1963 by Jerold Willmore. The present owners purchased the house and about 7 acres in 1978 from Thomas and Caroline Doolittle.

ARCHITECTURE (Cont.)

integrity through the many alterations and additions; however, the stairway, underpaneling, and some of the trim are all valuable assets and could be the basis for a full-scale restoration. A worthwhile exterior improvement would be the removal of the large bay windows on the first floor front and the replacement of windows compatible with the window placement on the second story.

Sources and bibliography

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

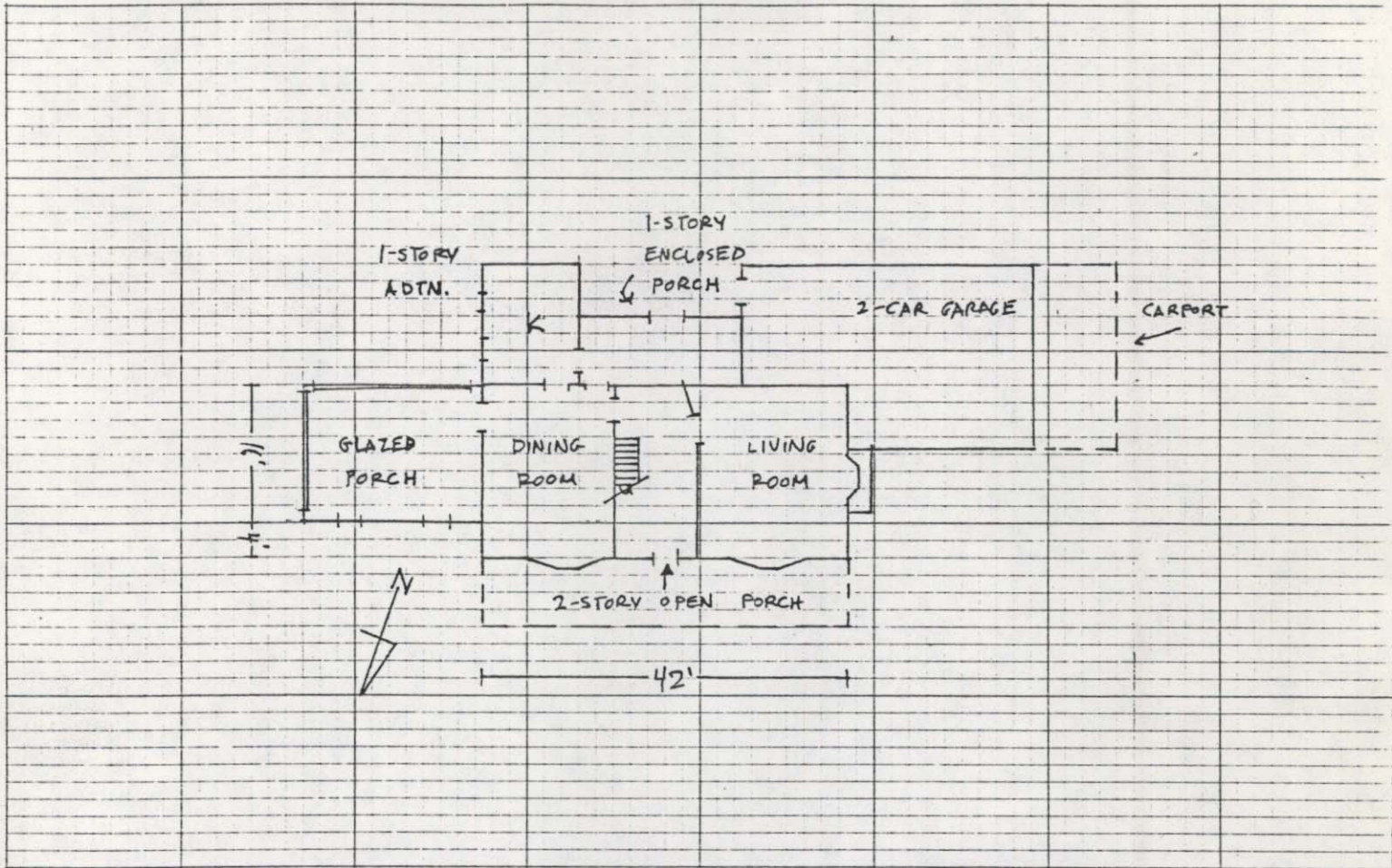
W.P.A. Writer's Project, Prince William, The Story of Its People and Its Places (c1941), pp. 116-117. Ratcliffe, R.J., This Was Prince William (c1978), p. 84.

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

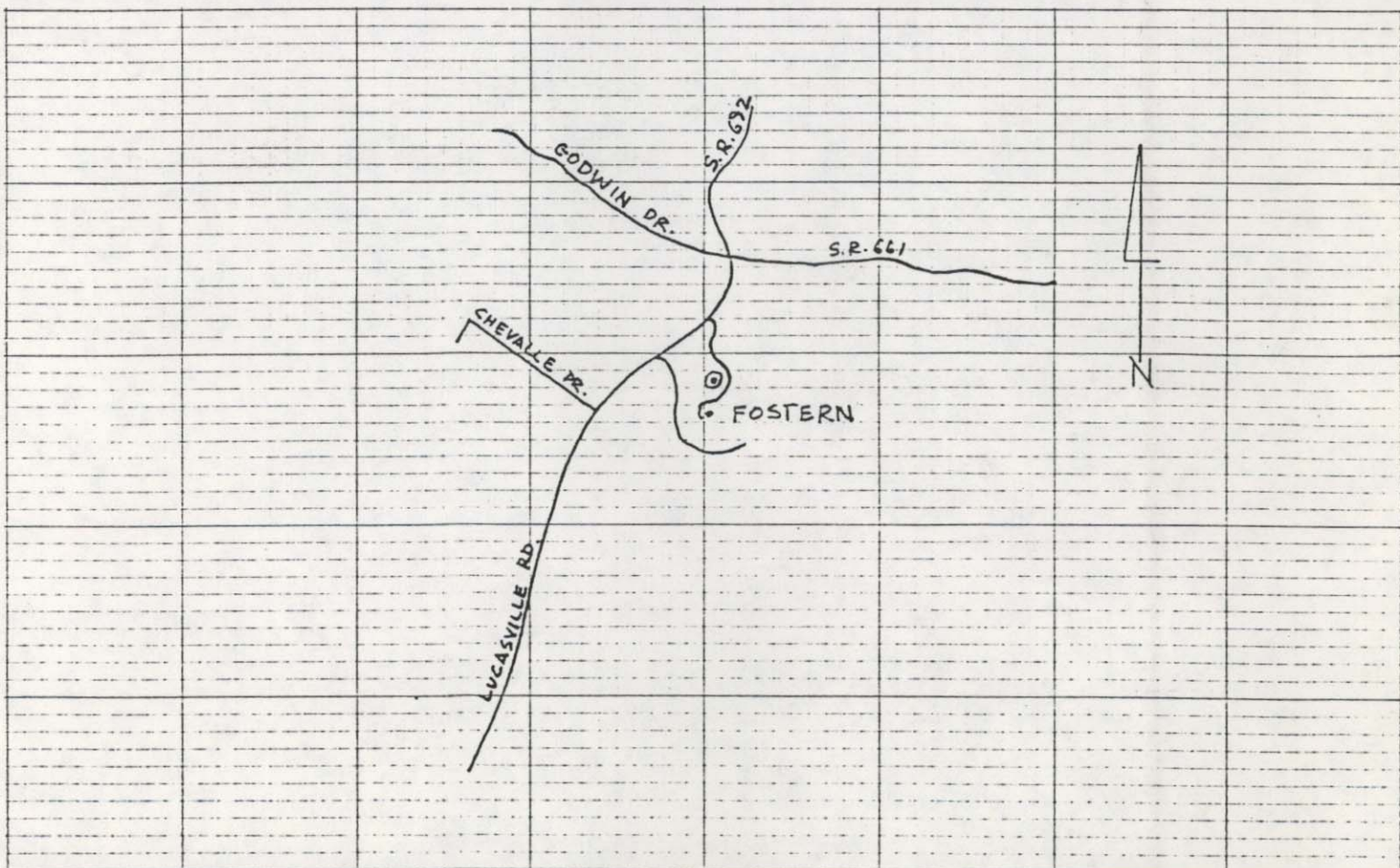
"Map of Prince William County, Virginia" (1901), by Wm. H. Brown.

Names and addresses of persons interviewed Mrs. Boardman (owner).

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



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



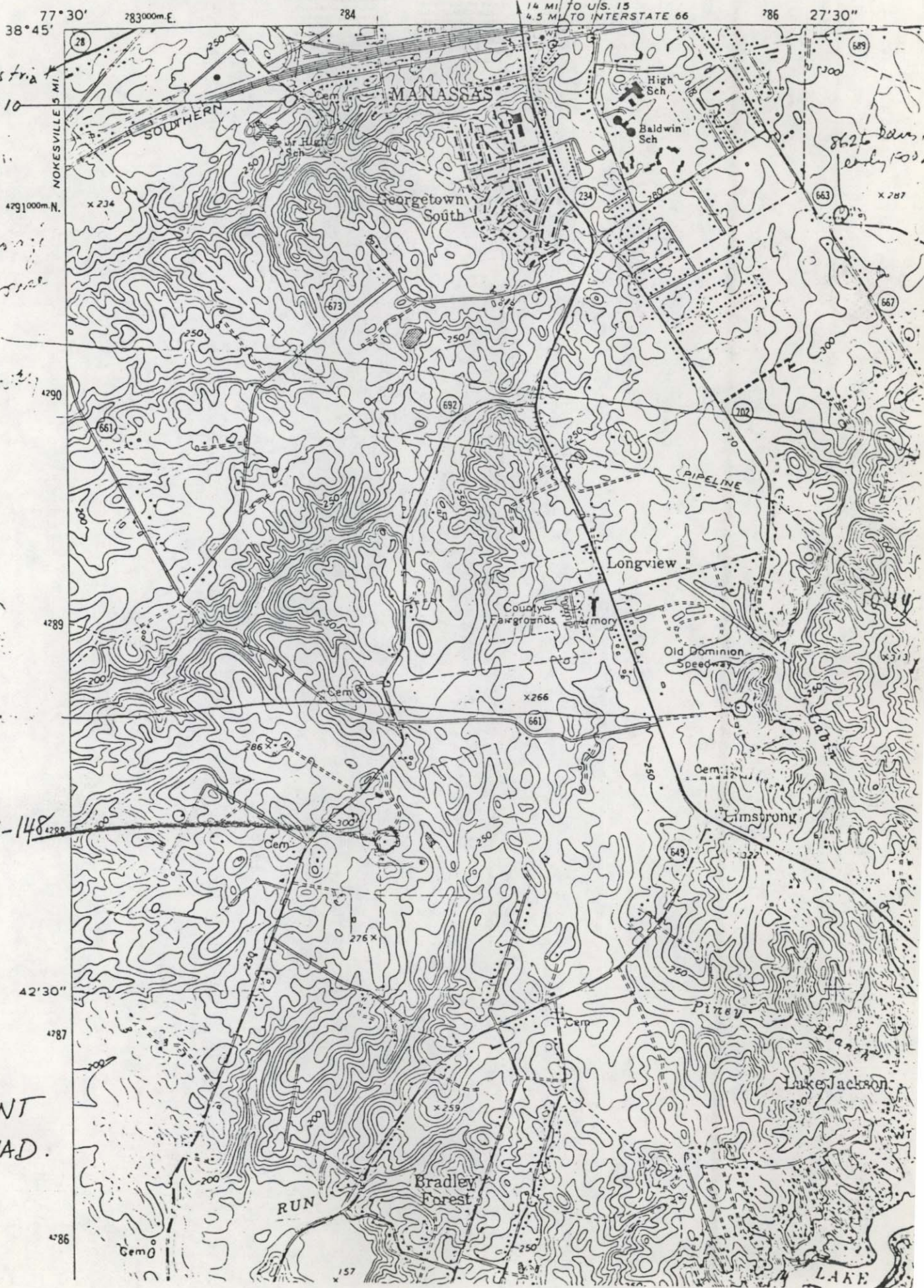
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

240.1 SE
(GAINESVILLE)

usas Industrial
1 site 155-10

FOSTERN 76-148

INDEPENDENT
HILL QUAD.



Rich Henderson House
southern Railway depot, Manassas
Sterling Jordan House

14 MI TO U.S. 15
4.5 MI TO INTERSTATE 66

NOKESVILLE 5 MI.

4291000m N.

4290

4289

4288

42'30"

4287

4286

1161

862 to 865
early 1900s

x 287

x 273

x 322

x 259

x 157