



VIRGINIA  
HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

File no. 76-39  
Negative no. 4365

SURVEY FORM

Historic name G. A. Gossom House	Common name
County/Town/City Prince William County	
Street address or route number 16016 Waterfall Road, Haymarket, Va.	
USGS Quad Thoroughfare Gap	Date or period c1875-1900
Original owner G. A. Gossom (?)	Architect/builder/craftsmen
Original use Residence	
Present owner Dr. & Mrs. John C. Lange*	Source of name Previous owner.
Present owner address 16013 Waterfall Road	Source of date Architectural evidence.
Haymarket, Va.	Stories 2
Present use Residence	Foundation and wall const'n Stone foundation, frame wall construction.
Acreage 8 acres including store & barn.	Roof type Metal-covered gable roof.

State condition of structure and environs House and surrounding area in good condition.

State potential threats to structure None.  
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.)

House is covered with aluminum siding. Foundation is stuccoed and scored to resemble ashlar. Raised stone platform (c11' x 12') on the west side of house may be foundation for former outbuilding. Storage shed (20th C.) on stone foundation behind house. Another 1-story storage building (garage?) across S.R. 601 from house, rests on stone foundation; measures 11'9" x 17'; is covered with vertical board & batten siding and painted red with white doors; and has a 2'8" wide batten door at center, rear, 2d level. Door has wrought iron hasp latch. This shed may have been built on former location of Waterfall Post Office.

Kitchen is located in basement, east room. Partition between stair hall and west room on main floor has been removed. House has a recently-built shed roof addition across the back.

Interior inspected? Yes

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

This house and the adjacent store are picturesque reminders of a once-bustling commercial center known as Waterfall. The intersection of Jackson's Hollow Rd. (S.R. 680) and Waterfall Rd. (S.R. 601) once boasted a store (or stores), post office, grist mill, blacksmith's shop, store-keeper's house, several other residences, and during the early part of this century, one or two bar rooms.

This house was the residence of George A. "Allie" Gossom and his family who operated the store at Waterfall. Gossom bought the house in the early 1900s from Brook Rector. Ned Yeafman built the house, according to several sources, after the Civil War and after the mill had ceased operating. It supposedly rests on the former tail race of the mill.

The first house at Waterfall is said to have been built about 1820 by the Carters and was demolished in the 1920s. It was located across the road from the Gossom House, up the hill.

The Gossom House at Waterfall and other significant historical structures in Waterfall, including the former general store and post office, the barn on mill foundation, the Smith farmhouse north of Waterfall, and one or 2 other houses should be taken into consideration before any more new development occurs in the immediate vicinity of Waterfall. Several anticipated threats to this small historical crossroads include: 1) increased traffic caused by new residential development which may soon force the unused or underused buildings in this community to give way to road improvements, 2) the visual impact on the community by the construction of new houses (already begun) on the hill to the north of Waterfall. Any new construction should take into consideration the adverse effect it may have on Waterfall, if the character, or charm of the area is to be preserved.

\*Present tenants: Robert & Diane Strickland.

Sources and bibliography

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

Writer's Project, W.P.A., Prince William,

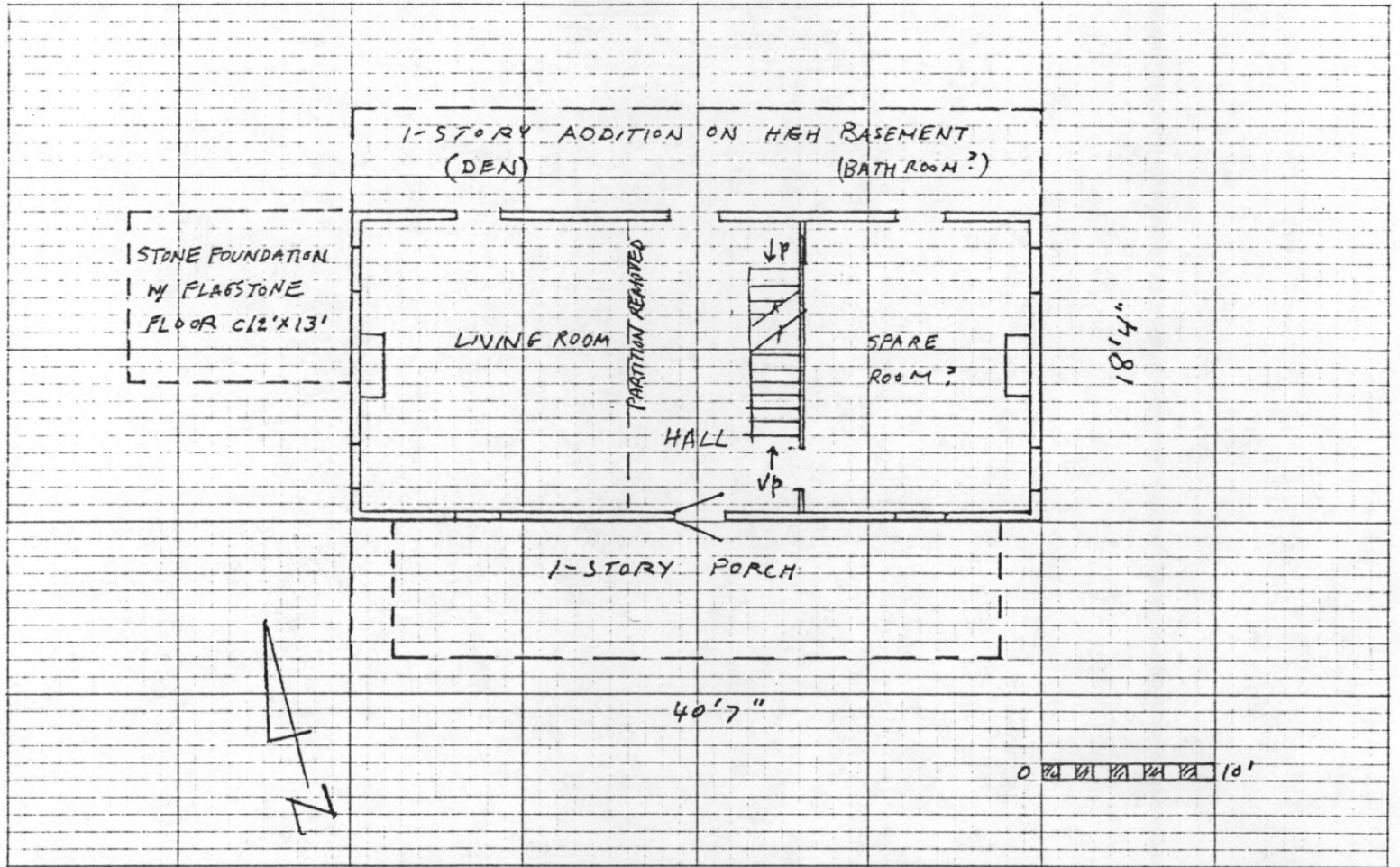
(1941, 1961) pp. 183-184; E. R. Conner, III, Water Milling on Catharpin Run, Prince William County, Va. (c1976), p. 24.

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

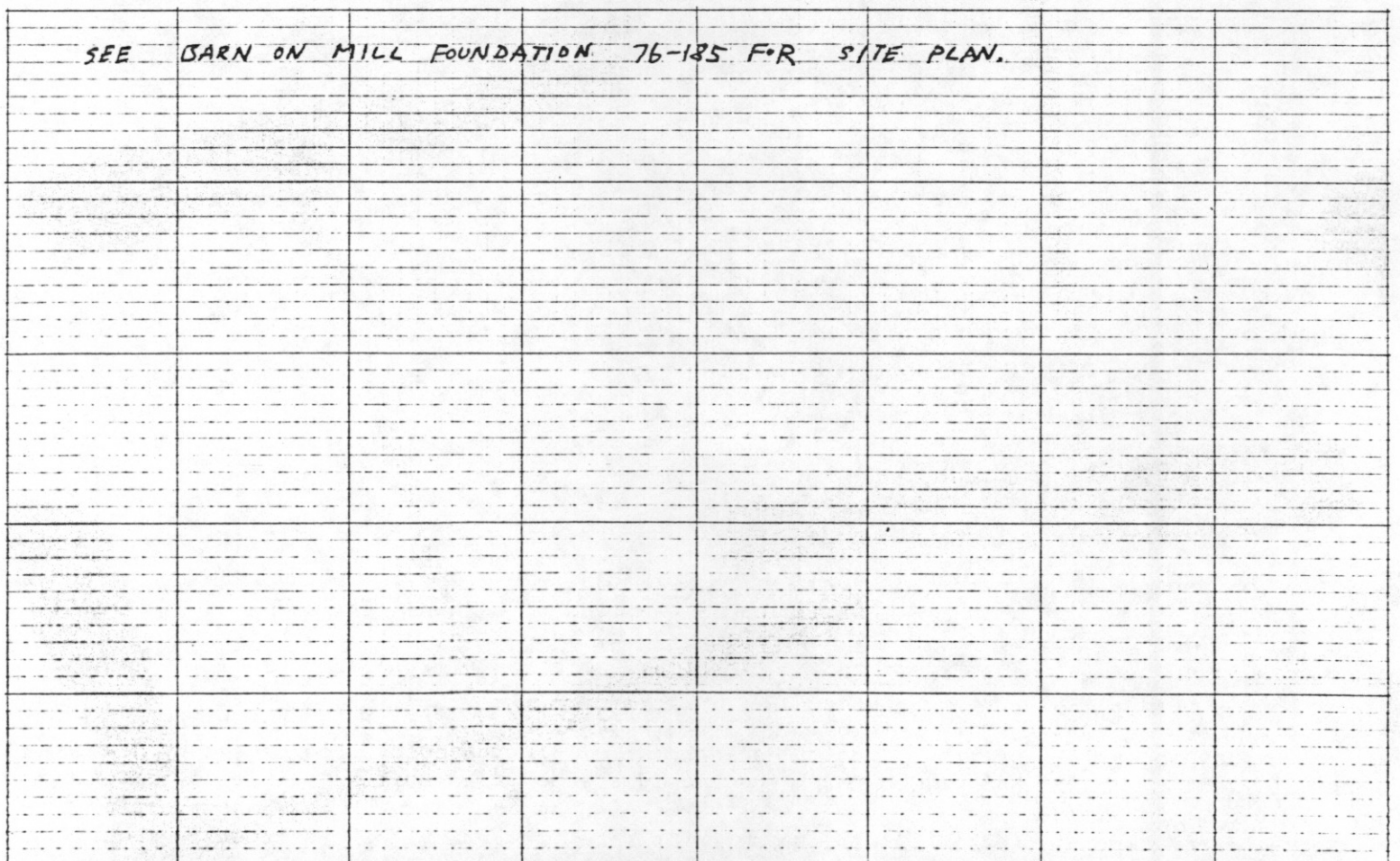
Early photos of area in possession of Ruth Gossom & Mary Smith at Bethel Academy, near Warrenton, Va.

Names and addresses of persons interviewed Mr. Preston Smith, Haymarket, Va.; Mr. Fowler Ashby, 4004 Mountain Road, Haymarket, Va.; Mrs. Barton (Pauline) Padgett, Mt. Atlas Lane, Haymarket, Va.; E. R. Conner, III, Manassas Museum, Manassas, Va.

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



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



Name, address and title of recorder Frances Jones, Architectural  
Historian - Surveyor, NYPDC

Date

JUL 27 1979.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
DIVISION OF MINERAL RESOURCES  
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BEACE  
76-39  
N. FORK

G.A. GOSSOM HOUSE  
76-39

THOROUGHFARE  
7.5 MINUTE SECTION

