

VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

File no. 76-12

Negative no(s). 5183, 4366

SURVEY FORM

Historic name La Grange

County/Town/City Prince William County

Street address or route number 5304 Antioch Road, Haymarket, VA

USGS Quad Thoroughfare Gap Quad.

Original owner George Green

Original use Residence

Present owner D. Cecil & Nancy Culbertson,

Present owner address Trustees

5304 Antioch Rd., Haymarket, VA

Present use Residence 415.5 acres Acreage

Common name

Date or period c1790 Architect/builder/craftsmen

Source of name Unknown Source of date Architectural evidence, published his-

Stories 2 stories, 1 1/2 stories
Foundation and wall const'n Stone foundation, brick wall

construction

Roof type Asphalt shingle-covered gable roof.

State condition of structure and environs House 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.)

Surrounded by tall trees and mature boxwoods, La Grange commands a prominent position on the side of a slope in the foothills of the Bull Run Mountains, which rise behind the house on the northwest. High Point Mountain, with an elevation of over 1,000 feet, forms a scenic backdrop to La Grange, a formerly large farm of over 380 acres in the Antioch area. Farming at La Grange has practically ceased, and the land in recent years has become potentially valuable for development. The completion of I-66 through Prince William County has probably enhanced the value of the land in the County's western end for development.

La Grange, a two-story, gable-roofed brick residence, exhibits a 4-bay front and a central hall plan. A 1 1/2-story wing on the west end of the main house contains the kitchen and is connected to the main block by an arched breezeway. The brick walls are laid up in flemish bond on the front and 5-course American bond on the sides and rear (of both the main house and the wing. The tuck-pointed lime-sand mortar has been repaired with Portland cement in some places. Exterior decorative details include a moulded brick cornice, glazed headers in the brick walls, and jack arches over the windows. Three gable-roofed dormers project from the roof of both the front and rear facades of the main block. The kitchen wing has two dormers per side. There are three exterior, brick end chimneys on the main house, one on the east end to serve the sitting (living) room, and two on the west end serving the present dining room. The chimneys in the main block have tiled weatherings and corbelled caps. The kitchen wing has an interior chimney on its west end containing a formerly large cooking fireplace and bake oven. There is also a small stack for a corner chimney in the present family dining room. The replacement 6/6 sliding sash windows are flanked by reproduction paneled shutters. Architrave trim surrounds the exterior door and window openings. There is a 4-light overhead Interior inspected? Yes (continued)

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

The estate from which La Grange was carved in the late 18th century was a portion of "King" Carter's Bull Run Tract, the 2,000 acres allotted to his grandson Carter Burwell. George Green acquired La Grange and reportedly built the house in 1790. In 1827, Benoni Harrison bought La Grange at auction. He enlarged the estate from 277 acres to almost 400 acres. Harrison, a merchant and member of the Virginia General Assembly, was a descendant of Burr Harrision (1637-1706), a justice of Stafford County who figured in "Parson Waugh's Tumult," a near-uprising in 1689 that had as its source religious intolerance. Benoni Harrison achieved comical notoriety in the 1941 WPA guide, which relates his long-lived dispute with his wife, Catherine, with whom he had a testy relationship.

In 1938, Joseph T. Gibbons and his wife, Irma, purchased La Grange, enlarging the estate by the addition of approximately 325 acres, primarily through the purchase of nearby Gravel Plain, an estate which lay across from La Grange on the east side of Antioch Road. The Gibbons remodeled the house's interior.

The present owners (trustees) acquired the property in 1972 from the estate of Irma I. Gibbons Carton.

Sources and bibliography Published sources (Books, articles, etc., with bibliographic data.) WPA, Writers Program, Prince William, The Story of Its People and Its Places (c1941), p.187; HABS, Virginia Catalog (1976),p.124; Ratcliffe, R.J., This Was Prince William (c1978),p.65; Templeman, Eleanor Lee & Nan Netherton, Northern Vir-Primary sources (Manuscript documentary or graphic materials; give location.) ginia Heritage (c1966(,p.184. Names and addresses of persons interviewed Mrs. D.Cecil (Nancy) Culbertson (owner); E.R. Conner, Manassas Museum, Manassas, Va. Plan (Indicate locations of rooms, doorways, windows, alterations, etc.) Site plan (Locate and identify outbuildings, dependencies and significant topographical features.) Frances Jones, Architectural Name, address and title of recorder Historian - Surveyor, NVPDC

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VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISS

File no. 76-12 Negative no(s). 51

SURVEY FORM

Historic name La Grange County/Town/City Prince William County Street address or route number 5304 ANTION USGS Quad Targuelland Grange	Common name
Original owner George Green Original use Reciprose Green	Architect/builder/craftsmen
Present owner D. Cecil + Nancy Culbertson, Trustees	Source of name Unknown Source of date Architectural evidence, published histories 2 stories 1
Present use Residence Haymarket, Va.	Stories 2 stories, 1/2 stories Foundation and wall const'n Stone foundation, brick wall Roof type Asphalt shingle-covered gable roof.
State condition of structure and environs	ASSET ASSET STITUTE COVERED GADE FOOT.

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.)

Interior inspected? Yes.

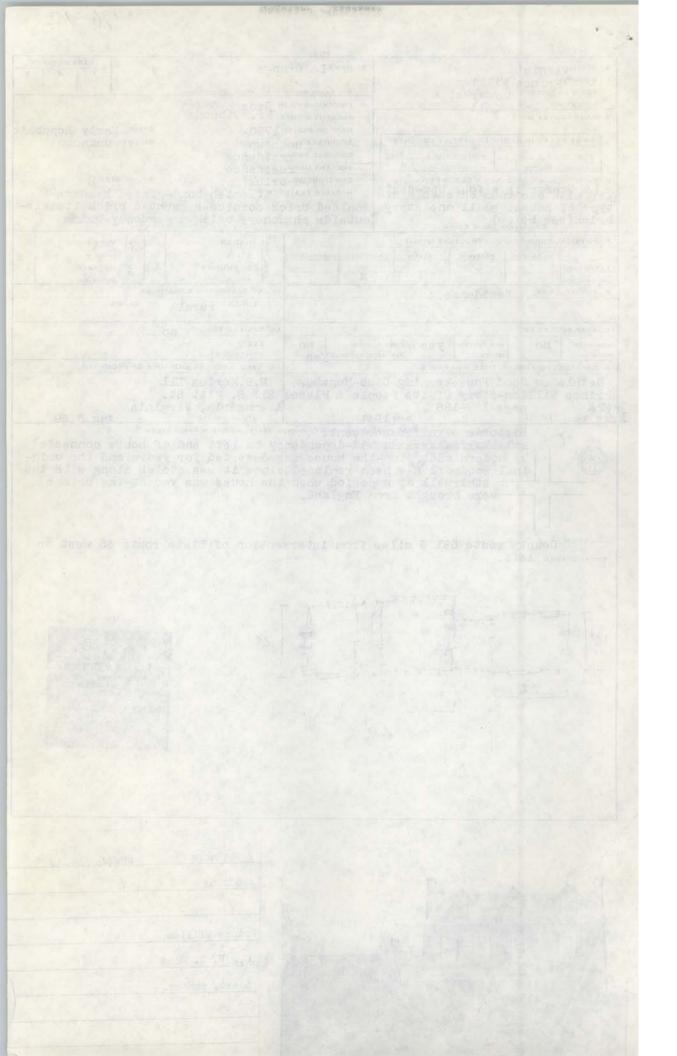
Historical significance (Chain of title; individuals, families, events, etc., associated with the property.)

Sources and bibliography Published sources (Books articles etc. with bibliographic data.)	
WPA, Writers Program Prince William the Story of Its People and Its Places (e	1941), p. 187:
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HABSI-1959.	cont
Names and addresses of persons interviewed Mrs. D. Cecil (Nancy) Culbertson	(owner).
E.R. Conner, Manassas Museum, Manassas, Va.	23
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

Date

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La Grange (Continuation Sheet)

Architectural description (continued)

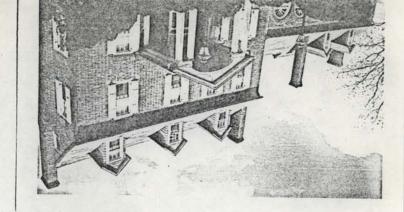
above both the front and rear doors. Both of these entrances have a reproduction 6-panel door. A one-story, metal-roofed porch supported by square columns spans the rear, or north side of the main block. An enclosed, shed-roofed, sheltered entrance on the north side opens onto the arched breezeway connecting the main house with the kitchen wing. A small gabled-roofed porch supported by pairs of square columns shelters the front entrance, on the south side. This porch, with its elliptical arch opening, is probably a 20th century replacement of an earlier porch. The double segmented arches with fan lights on the south side open onto the breezeway connecting the house's two sections. Repairs in the brickwork at the center point of the two arches suggest that there may formerly have been a single, large arch opening here.

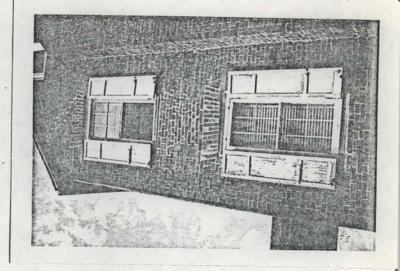
La Grange's interior was remodeled in 1941, the house having been vandalized, according to the HABS <u>Virginia Catalog</u>, sometime before 1936. The mantels, door and window trim, doors, windows, and stairways are reproduction work. The floors are replacements. The interior has a central hall plan with a two-flight, single-landing, open-string staircase. The east room in the main block has a single fireplace, while for some reason, the west room or present dining room has two hearths separated by the doorway opening onto the passage to the kitchen wing. [Tradition has it that Benoni Harrison, who owned La Grange from the late 1820s to after the Civil War, had the extra fireplace installed because he would not sit at the same hearth with his wife, Catherine.]

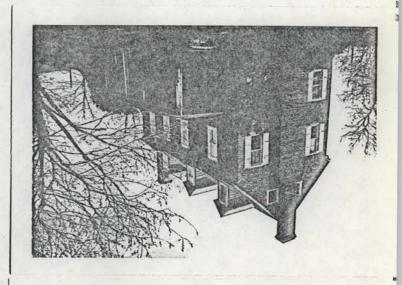
In the kitchen, which is on a lower level than the main house, there is a large fireplace containing a bake oven.

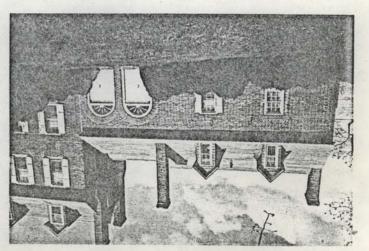
Benoni Harrison and others are buried in the cemetery at LaGrange. This cemetery, a short distance west of the house and near the barn, contains about 10 markers recently moved from the two cemeteries marked on the U.S.G.S. map. The cemetery contains markers for Harrisons, Norvilles, Gossoms, Whites and Jordans.

A small stone outbuilding just south of the main house and visible from the road marks the location of La Grange's spring. A small, hip-roofed frame outbuilding beside the kitchen may be old and is used for storage. A c1920 tenant house and collection of barns are located west of the house. A large barn and a tenant house on the property burned in 1973. The plat showing the division of La Grange in 1827 revealed three houses on the estate which then totaled 277 acres, and mention was also made of a blacksmith shop and a shoe making shop.









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