

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

Listed On:

VLR 06/20/1989  
NRHP 01/25/1991

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 18). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-800a). Type all entries.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Madison Farm Historic and Archaeological District  
other names/site number DHL File No. 60-565 and Sites 44MY37 and 44MY436

### 2. Location

street & number	<u>██████████</u>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not for publication
city, town	<u>Elliston</u>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> vicinity
state	<u>Virginia</u>	code	<u>VA</u>
county	<u>Montgomery</u>	code	<u>121</u>
		zip code	<u>24087</u>

### 3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: Prehistoric and  
Historic Resources of Montgomery County

Number of contributing resources previously  
listed in the National Register 0

### 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  
 nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the  
National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 80.  
In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

John C. Miller  
Signature of certifying official

17 Dec 1990  
Date

VA Dept. of Historic Resources

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

### 5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register.	<input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register.	
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register.	
<input type="checkbox"/> other. (explain: _____)	

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)  
Domestic: single dwelling  
Domestic: secondary structure  
Agriculture: storage  
Domestic: village site

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)  
Domestic: single dwelling  
Domestic: secondary structure  
Agriculture: storage

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

Other: hall-parlor plan

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK  
walls WOOD: weatherboard  
roof METAL: tin  
other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

**SUMMARY DESCRIPTION**

The Madison Farm Historic and Archaeological District is defined by the Madison Farm, a 115-acre farm [REDACTED]. The district contains a late-eighteenth-century, two-story, frame house; the farm's collection of contributing outbuildings including an early nineteenth-century log meat house, frame outbuilding, and corncrib; and the farm's noncontributing elements including a modern tenant house, two barns, a garage, and a swimming pool. The house and related outbuildings are situated on a small knoll overlooking cultivated fields [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] In addition, the district contains a significant Late Woodland period (ca. A.D. 800-1600) village site known as the Marye Site (44MY37) and the eighteenth- and nineteenth-century historic Madison House Site (44MY436), which is associated with the existing house and outbuildings.

**ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS**

The ca. 1775, two-story, frame, gable-roofed dwelling is fronted by a two-story porch featuring square columns with molded capitals, bases, and necking. The second level has a sawn balustrade. The two-bay principal facade has a low-silled window with louvered blinds at the north end and a door with a transom and sidelights at the south end. Each end of the house has a finely crafted two-story, shouldered Flemish-bond brick chimney that heats each floor. The cornice and rake boards project from the wall and appear to date from the mid- to late nineteenth century, but the walls are still sheathed in many areas with original beaded weatherboards. An early frame one-story addition is built over the original cellar entry which was extended out and later covered by a latticed extension of the addition.

## 8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally  statewide  locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  A  B  C  D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

### Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

### Period of Significance

ca. A.D. 800-1600

### Significant Dates

N/A

Archaeology: historic--non-aboriginal

ca. 1775-ca. 1900

Archaeology: prehistoric

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Cultural Affiliation

Late Woodland

### Significant Person

N/A

### Architect/Builder

unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Madison Farm Historic and Archaeological District is significant under criteria C and D for its prehistoric Late Woodland period village site known as the Marye Site (44MY37) which is likely to yield important information concerning prehistoric lifeways in Montgomery County, and for its rare surviving late eighteenth-century dwelling with subsequent alterations illustrating the changes in needs and tastes of its occupants until around 1900. The farm's domestic outbuildings, including a log meat house, frame outbuilding, and log corncrib, also represent a well-preserved assemblage of nineteenth-century outbuildings. The Madison Farm complex also is significant for archaeological deposits present related to the eighteenth- and nineteenth-century domestic use of this rural property.

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

John Madison, who came to Montgomery County from eastern Virginia, acquired land [REDACTED] in the 1740s in Augusta County. He was the first clerk of the Augusta County Court. In 1760 he purchased the land of Ephraim Vause [REDACTED], which was then in the same county. In 1766 he bought more bottomland and in 1769 he moved to his land on the Roanoke and eventually built the surviving two-story, hall-parlor-plan, frame and weatherboarded dwelling around 1775 according to family tradition. A date of ca. 1775 for the construction of the building is consistent with the house's original plan, form, and architectural elements such as its shouldered Flemish-bond brick exterior end chimneys and second-floor interior woodwork. The house is only one of a few late-

See continuation sheet

### 9. Major Bibliographical References

Hawes, Charlotte Marye. Interview. 1985

Kegley, F. B. Kegley's Virginia Frontier. Roanoke: The Southwest Virginia Historical Society. 1938. pp.604-607.

#### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

#### Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

#### Specify repository:

Virginia Department of Historic Resource  
221 Governor Street

Richmond, Virginia 23219

### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property approximately 115 acres

#### UTM References

A \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing  
C \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

B \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing  
D \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

#### Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at a point A \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

#### Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the district were chosen to include the entire farm with its significant dwelling and outbuildings, landscape features, significant prehistoric and historic sites, and domestic-related space.

See continuation sheet

### 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Gibson Worsham  
organization Gibson Worsham Architect date June 1988  
street & number Route 2, Yellow Sulphur Springs telephone (703) 552-4730  
city or town Christiansburg state Virginia zip code 24073

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The first floor of the house was altered in the late nineteenth century, and the original hall-parlor plan was converted to a side-passage plan without a stair in the passage (the parlor became the passage). The interior of the original house features late nineteenth-century fashionable woodwork and furnishings including a Victorian mantel with bracketed shelf in the north room and molded trim. The second floor is less altered and features a Federal mantel and the original stairs to the attic rises along the central partition. A door between the second-floor rooms was blocked in the nineteenth century and access to the south room is now through a door off the south rear porch. The partition dividing the rooms on each floor is framed with studs and is original to the house. Evidence seems to indicate that the original stair from the first floor to the second was located under the existing attic stairs. The interior of the early addition to the south is unfinished with hewn corner posts and planed joists and studs exposed. The rafters are circular-sawn members. The basement features two rooms divided by a brick partition and an arched fireplace in the south end wall. The joists are exposed.

An originally detached two-story log structure to the east (rear) of the house has been altered in stages. It features Greek Revival interior trim, an enclosed corner stair, and a brick exterior end chimney. Beaded weatherboards and rake boards remain on the north end of the log section. In the mid-nineteenth century the log building and the main house were joined by a two-story frame wing. It features a passage connecting the new dining room with the older house and contains a new open-riser staircase that gives principal access to the second floor. The stair features a turned newel post, a paneled skirt, and traces of graining on the closet door below. The dining room has a false mantel with an arched head and doubled brackets and is backed only by a stove flue. The ell has a two-story porch along the south side with chamfered posts on the second floor and later square posts on the first floor. The brick floor of the porch was added recently. A large one-story porch just to the east was enclosed in recent years. A late nineteenth-century, one-room, frame addition of one story was added to the north end of the log section and served as a farm office. All sections are roofed with standing-seam metal roofing.

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The outbuildings include two contributing structures near the house. A log meat house is located to the south and in line with the log section. It features exposed V-notched logs, a standing-seam metal roof, two beams with hooks for hanging meat, a pair of dugout logs for salting meat, and an old paneled door with HL hinges. The frame outbuilding is of an early nineteenth-century date. It has a batten door with wrought iron strap hinges, standing-seam metal roof, box cornice, plain weatherboard, and a modern concrete foundation. Family tradition states that it was the dwelling of Aunt Sarah, a black family servant from Charles City County. Internal evidence supports an early nineteenth-century date of construction. The interior has exposed joists, board floors, whitewashed horizontal beaded board walls and sapling rafters. A seam on the east wall suggests a chimney was once located there. The owner's grandfather converted it into a granary. South of the domestic group stands a log corncrib. A large, two-level, double-crib, log barn stood nearby until well into this century. Noncontributing elements include a modern dwelling near the northern edge of the property and a modern garage and concrete lined swimming pool that have been built to the east of the house. The farm also includes two noncontributing modern barns.

### ARCHAEOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

Archaeological testing within the boundaries of the Madison Farm Historic and Archaeological District has documented the presence of two archaeological sites, both in a good state of preservation. They include the Madison House site (44MY436), an historic site associated with the existing house and outbuildings within the nominated acreage and dating to the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries A.D., and the Marye site (44MY37), a prehistoric village site dating to the Late Woodland period (ca. A.D. 800-1600).

Radford University undertook archaeological testing at the Madison House Site (44MY436) in 1987. Three test units, each measuring 1 meter X 1 meter, were situated around the Madison House, with all being excavated in one to three natural levels to depths of 20 centimeters below the ground surface. A controlled surface collection of exposed artifacts was also conducted along a walkway between the present driveway and the east wing of the house (Squares 1 and 2 are located along this walkway).

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Over 30 prehistoric lithic artifacts (all debitage) were recovered during the excavations of Squares 1, 2, and 3, clearly documenting a prehistoric component on the site. Most of the historic artifacts recovered from the test units date no later than the 1870s, and the pearlware ceramics likely relate to the earliest period of the house.

Squares 1 and 2, excavated on either side of the north chimney of the house, produced mostly architectural artifacts such as window glass, nails, and brick fragments. Pearlware, whiteware, and lead glazed redware sherds along with cut nails, suggest that these deposits (and the artifacts they contain) date no later than the mid-1800s. An interesting feature, related to chimney construction, was identified in each square. This feature was a baked clay pedestal approximately ten centimeters thick that was located around the base of the chimney. The hard, orange, baked clay contained fragments of brick and rock as inclusions and may have been constructed to provide a firm foundation for the chimney.

Square 3 was excavated in an area where, according to the current property owners, a kitchen was once located. Most of the ceramics excavated from Level 1 (topsoil level) were various types of decorated and undecorated whitewares, predominantly dating to the 1840-1860 period. In Level 2, however, a variety of particularly kitchen-related artifacts were recovered, including butchered animal bone, glassware fragments, whiteware and lead glazed redware sherds, and an iron kettle base. These artifacts, and a number of cut nails, also indicated a mid-1800s date for this deposit. A 1 meter X 0.5 meter extension of Square 3 to the north also produced a number of comparably-dated artifacts, and identified a one to two centimeter thick lens of white ash and charcoal at the base of the topsoil which may be part of the kitchen floor. The high frequency of kitchen-related artifacts certainly documents the location of a kitchen in this area.

Considering the number of artifacts (over 1,400) and the features identified through placement of merely three test units around the Madison House, the potential for other temporally discrete deposits is high. Further, the excavations here documented the good state of preservation for these intact deposits.

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cal District

The Marye Site (44MY37) is situated in a cultivated field [redacted]

[redacted]. First documented by members of the Archeological Society of Virginia in 1978, more intensive archaeological testing was undertaken by Radford University in 1987. After conducting a controlled surface collection over 1,900 meters of the site, eleven test units, each 1 meter X 1 meter, were excavated in the southern portion of the site. Based on surface debris, the site measures approximately 75 meters X 100 meters. The sharply circumscribed presence of organic materials (as most graphically seen on the surface by periwinkle shells) within this area indicates the settlement here once may have been palisaded

The 1987 Radford University investigation documented that the Marye Site contained very extensive and well preserved prehistoric deposits. Over 1,700 temporally diagnostic ceramic sherds and over 25 temporally diagnostic projectile points were recovered in addition to fire-cracked rock, lithic debitage, and well preserved organic material such as bone, shell, and wood charcoal. Most of the ceramic artifacts were tempered with fine sand or crushed quartz, and their surface treatment included cordmarking and knot-and-net roughening. Common decorations included fingernail punctations or pinching, often in a row along neck sherds and incised lines on the lips of rim sherds.

The sand and crushed quartz tempered sherds represent the Wythe variant of Dan River ceramics which date to the Late Woodland period. While one projectile point recovered from the surface is likely an Archaic period artifact (dating to ca. 1000 B.C.), all remaining projectile points have been temporally identified as being associated with the Late Woodland occupation here.

Of particular importance, one cultural feature was identified during subsurface testing, documenting the good state of preservation at the site. In association with bone, shell, and fire-cracked rock as well as lithic and ceramic artifacts, a sample of wood charcoal was obtained and submitted for radiocarbon dating. A date of A.D. 1530 +/- 90 was obtained which is totally consistent with the temporally diagnostic artifacts present at the site.

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At present, the Marye site is preserved intact due to its being situated within an agricultural zone, a county designation reviewed for renewal every ten years. Other than cultivation, which has affected only the first 20 to 35 centimeters below the surface, the site environs has been exposed to but very minor disturbances from relic collectors with the most notable case being the reported vandalism of a prehistoric burial. Examination of the site by Radford University indicated that such activities were isolated in occurrence and had not affected the site's overall integrity.

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eighteenth-century buildings surviving in Montgomery County. Only one other dwelling is documented as being as old or older than the Madison Farm house. Nearby Smithfield (listed individually on the National Register) is known through dendrochronological studies to date to 1775-76. The two houses are similar in building fabric, but not in form.

John Madison raised a large family on the farm and died in 1783. One son, Rowland, settled on his father's upper tract (Will of John Madison, Kegley, p. 605). Other sons included Thomas Madison, who lived on Tinker Creek near Fincastle, and James Madison, first bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia, who lived at Williamsburg. William Madison died of smallpox in 1782. His wife Elizabeth, daughter of William Preston of Smithfield, inherited the lower tract from her father-in-law.

Elizabeth Madison is said by the family to have made substantial additions to the house. Later generations added wings and altered the interior. Family tradition suggests that the log section to the rear (east) was used as a schoolroom, and that the detached kitchen stood to the south of the ell. The present owner's great-grandmother, a daughter of President John Tyler, married one of William Madison's descendants in the post-Civil War era and made significant alterations after her arrival at the farm. She altered the finishes on the first floor, adding large windows on the west front and north end of the large first-floor room in the oldest section, and converted the smaller room into an entry passage or hall by adding a door with sidelights onto the new two-level front porch. The woodwork on the interior was completely altered and fashionable furniture of the Eastlake style was installed. It is probable that the original front door was centrally positioned on the west front and was flanked by small windows, but evidence of this is now concealed. These alterations, which illustrate changing concepts of space and function, extend the period of significance to about 1900.

The frame house in the south yard may be one of very few surviving slave houses in the region. Evidence of a chimney on the east end, and the tradition that the house was inhabited in the post-Civil War period by a family servant, combined with the evident age of the structure, point to that conclusion. The log meat house is well preserved, as is the drive-through double log corncrib.

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Alterations to the house and grounds have not obscured the value of this unusually complete collection of early farm structures. The form of the house and its relationship to its outbuildings and the surrounding land it dominates are illustrative of the continued growth and the long tenure of a single family in one location. Many of the features are among the earliest in the region, and their grouping together at one site is extremely unusual. Recent archaeological excavations have confirmed the existence of considerable additional data about other demolished outbuildings. The farm has been under cultivation by descendants of the builder for over two hundred years. The landscape provides a strong integral setting for the buildings and sites. Noncontributing buildings do not detract from the overall integrity of the spacious farm itself, due to their relatively small scale and wide dispersal.

### ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Archaeological resources in the Madison Farm Historic and Archaeological District are significant under Criterion D since archaeological testing has documented they possess good integrity and are likely to yield information important for both Virginia history and prehistory. The Madison House Site (44MY436) is significant for regional studies on eighteenth and nineteenth century farm life, while the Marye Site (44MY37) is significant for regional studies on Late Woodland (ca. A.D. 800-1600) lifeways.

At the Madison House Site (44MY436), an architecturally significant collection of standing structures exists. Archaeological testing here has documented the presence of intact deposits directly adjacent to the Madison House in addition to similarly intact deposits at the traditional location of a former kitchen for the farm complex. Given the but limited testing that occurred here and the good state of preservation characteristic of examined areas, it is very likely that other areas within the site complex contain well preserved deposits.

Dating to the last quarter of the eighteenth century, only one other standing structure has been documented as being equally old in Montgomery County as the Madison House. Archaeological deposits dating to this time period are similarly rare. Given the good state of preservation characteristic of the Madison House Site, it

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possesses significance for studies on the eighteenth settlement of southwestern Virginia. This is a portion of Virginia history for which historical documentation is sparse, further enhancing the significance of well preserved archaeological deposits dating to this time period.

The Madison House Site also is significant for studies on nineteenth century farm life, particularly in comparison to the better studied and larger plantation complexes in Virginia. Archaeological deposits have identified both domestic deposits as well as deposits associated with outbuildings associated with the farm. Such deposits should contain important information for examining variations in social character within and between farms in the region as well as spatial patterning of occupation and agricultural practices across the landscape.

Archaeological testing at the Marye Site (44MY37) has documented the presence of intact subsurface cultural deposits in association with a variety of lithic and ceramic artifacts as well as well preserved organic remains such as bone, shell, and wood charcoal. The state of preservation of both features and organic materials makes the Marye Site significant for local and regional studies on Late Woodland subsistence, community organization, and settlement patterns. Representative of a village, this is one of the last remaining examples of this site type in the Montgomery County environs, further enhancing its archaeological significance. Additional archaeological investigations at the Marye Site should provide new and more detailed information on the utilization of local resources in meeting subsistence needs, the site's internal organization as a village, and its role in local and regional settlement systems. Such information, in turn, is important for studies examining the causes for and consequences of noticeable population increases and the formation of increasingly complex socio-cultural institutions within southwest Virginia during the Late Woodland period.

The Marye Site also is significant for archaeological studies on cultural interactions within the region. Studies of similar Late Woodland village sites in Montgomery County and elsewhere in southwest Virginia indicate that the Marye Site represents an expansion of the Dan River culture of the central Piedmont along the Virginia and North Carolina border into higher altitude areas

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in western Virginia. Further research at sites such as the Marye Site should significantly increase our knowledge of the mechanisms involved in such regional interactions during the Late Woodland period.

Finally, based on the abundance and variety of artifacts already recovered from the Marye Site, it contains important information on lithic technology and the use of local lithic resources as well as ceramic technology and associated changes during the Late Woodland period. Further enhancing such studies on material culture is the documented presence of organic materials suitable for radiocarbon dating, allowing more precise temporal control for such studies and thereby providing refinements to local and regional chronologies.

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BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION - continued

(UTM [REDACTED], [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

UTM REFERENCES - continued

E [REDACTED]  
F [REDACTED]