

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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 10-900a). Type all entries.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name PIEDMONT  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street & number US 64 & VA Route 691  not for publication  
city, town Greenwood  vicinity  
state Virginia code VA county Albemarle code 003 zip code 22943

### 3. Classification

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

Name of related multiple property listing: NA  
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 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Wayne C. Walker 17 Dec 1990  
Signature of certifying official Date  
Virginia Dept. of Historic Resources 221 Governor St. Richmond, Va.  
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:

entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Single dwelling

Domestic: Secondary structures

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Single dwelling

Domestic: Secondary structures

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete; brick

walls Log (stuccoed); brick

roof Shingle

other \_\_\_\_\_

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

**SUMMARY ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION**

Piedmont is an eighty-four-acre farm located in the Greenwood area of western Albemarle county, fifty-two acres of which comprise the nominated property. The main house consists of two distinctly different halves. The two-story, three-bay, gable-roofed log half (now stuccoed) was built possibly as early as the late eighteenth century and has been altered and added on to throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The two-story, gable-roofed brick half was built perpendicular to this log house and has its main entrance on the south gable end. Traditionally dating from 1838, it features a Flemish bond south facade with pencilled mortar joints, a molded brick cornice and much original interior woodwork. There are two rooms on each floor connected by a former exterior stair (now enclosed). To the north of the house are a log smokehouse, log slave cabin and the ruins of a large stone chimney and hearth, undoubtedly for a former kitchen building.

**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION**

Piedmont is an eighty-four-acre farm located in the Greenwood area of western Albemarle County on both sides of Interstate 64. Thirty-two acres of the farm are located north of the highway and are therefore not included within the nominated boundaries. The house is reached by a two-mile-long road (right-of-way) from Route 691. The surrounding area, at the foot of Afton Mountain and the Blue Ridge, is made up of large farms and estates and is overwhelmingly rural.

The house faces south across a fenced yard with pastures on either side. The yard is planted with boxwood and centuries-old oak trees, as well as fig trees and boxwood purportedly given to one of the former owners by Thomas Jefferson. To the rear (north) and in close proximity to the house are a one-story log smokehouse, a one-story gable-roofed log slave house and the ruins of a large stone chimney and hearth.

The main house at Piedmont consists of two clearly identifiable sections: a two-story stuccoed log building and a larger two-story brick wing. The log house is of uncertain date, but portions of it could date from the late eighteenth century. (The traditional date of 1734 is conjectural and highly

**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)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

ARCHITECTURE

1780-1900

1838

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Significant Person

NA

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Piedmont is an historically significant house that dates from several periods of architecture in Albemarle County. The two-story log half was possibly built in the late eighteenth century and still retains much of its early interior fabric, including beaded and pedestal chair rail, vertical beaded walls and a later pegged and numbered roof system. The two-story brick half, traditionally built about 1838 by Michael Wallace, is a fine example of transitional Federal/Greek Revival architecture, with two exceptional Greek mantels, pencilled Flemish bond brick work, and a molded brick cornice. Piedmont is also important for its unbroken association with the Wallace family, who were among Albemarle County's earliest settlers. The house was possibly begun in the 1760s by William Wallace, who arrived in the county in 1734 along with other Scotch-Irish families. They introduced Presbyterianism to the region and were active in the early political and economic life of the county. The farm is still held by the Wallace family, making it one of the few Albemarle County properties that remain in the hands of the original patenting families.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:

The history of Piedmont has, from the beginning, been associated with the Wallace family of Albemarle County. William Wallace (circa 1706-1766) and his brothers Peter and Andrew (died 1785), along with his father-in-law Michael Woods crossed Jarman's Gap from the Shenandoah Valley in 1734 and settled in the Greenwood-Mechums River area of western Goochland (now Albemarle County).<sup>1</sup> They were thus the original settlers of this historically important section of Albemarle County and were soon followed by other Scotch-Irish settlers, including the Stockton, Kinkead, and Jamison families. These families introduced the Presbyterian faith to the county and in 1747 brought the Reverend Samuel Black to lead the county's first Presbyterian congregation.

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Albemarle County Land Records, Charlottesville.  
Albemarle County Will Books, Charlottesville.  
Albemarle County Property Tax Books, Charlottesville.  
Albemarle County Order Books, Charlottesville.  
Wallce, George Selden. Genealogical Data Pertaining to the Decendants of Peter Wallace and Elizabeth Woods. Charlottesville: the Michie Company, 1927.

See continuation sheet

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

**Specify repository:**

VDHR 221 Governor Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

**10. Geographical Data**

Acresage of property 52 acres

**UTM References**

A 17 | 695430 | 421131150  
 Zone Easting Northing

C 17 | 695430 | 42112740

B 17 | 695430 | 421128160  
 Zone Easting Northing

D 17 | 695430 | 42112680

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

See continuation sheet

**Boundary Justification**

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Geoffrey Henry  
 organization \_\_\_\_\_ date October 1990  
 street & number 1515 Rutledge Avenue telephone 804-293-8006  
 city or town Charlottesville, Virginia state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code 22903

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unlikely). It is two-and-one-half-stories high and three bays wide, with a two-story porch along the front (south) facade. Most of the log exterior, with V-notched corners, is now covered with stucco, save on a portion of the north facade. It is apparent from this facade that the second story is a later addition, possibly from the 1810-1830 period. Across the first story of the front facade is a strip of beaded chair rail molding, like that seen elsewhere in the interior. A two-story porch, mid-nineteenth century in date, extends across the south facade. It features stuccoed brick columns on the first story and wooden piers with Chinese Chippendale and jig-sawn railing on the second story.

Moldings around door and window frames are from the Federal period (circa 1810-1830) but the door on the north facade has later Greek Revival characteristics. Window frames are pegged and mortised with six-over-six sash and brick sills.

The porch on the north facade was partially enclosed in the mid-twentieth century to form a kitchen. There are also steps which lead down to the modern basement. The interior of this log house features one large room on the first floor, with two bedrooms on the second floor, the two floors connected by a steep winder stair at the north-west corner. There are one-inch thick, vertical-beaded board walls at the west end of both floors. There are two vertical-beaded board doors on the west side of this downstairs room: one to the stair and one for a shallow closet. A narrow wooden strip with beading on both edges encircles the room six feet above the floor, but may have originally served as a chair rail and was replaced when the present pedestal chair rail was inserted between 1810 and 1830. The molding strip also appears on the second floor. The mantel is late Federal in design with flat pilasters, beaded trim, and a plain frieze. It is a replacement of an earlier mantel. Another winder stair leads to the attic. The attic appears to date from the 1810-1830 period. The rafters are pegged and mortised and the Roman numerals scratched into them are still plainly visible.

Between this house and the later brick wing is a short brick connector which contains two stairs. The early stair is located at the north end of this connector and was blocked off in the early twentieth century. From this stair, the rear of the fireplace in the log wing is visible with its four-course American bond and penciled mortar joints. The second stair on the south is considerably wider and was once open to the outside. There is access to this stair from a door on the porch and the two stairs are now joined by a door near the second floor level.

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The two-story, two-bay, gable-roofed brick wing was built perpendicular to the log wing in two stages during the late 1830s. This two stage construction history may explain the unusual placement of the stairs at Piedmont. The rear half appears to be the earlier and has an exposed brick chimney at the center of the north gable end. The rounded log joists with bark covers that run in an east-west direction are visible from the basement crawl space. The windows have nine-over-six sash on both levels, with plain cyma reversa surrounds and plain corner blocks. There is a side entrance to a modern shed-roofed porch. It has a four-panel Greek Revival period door with three-light transom.

The south half is slightly later and features Flemish bond brickwork with pencilled mortar joints and some decorative glazed headers on the south gable end. Five-course American bond is used on the other facades. The four-panel Greek Revival-period door with three-light transom is on the south facade. Windows have nine-over-six sash on both levels with reeded flat-cyma surrounds and plain corner blocks.

Although the halves of this brick wing were built at different times, this fact is not readily apparent from the exterior, as there is no visible seam or break in the brickwork and the window moldings are identical. There is also no break in the molded brick cornice that runs along the eaves on the west and east facades.

The interior of the brick wing features two rooms on each floor: a dining room and sitting room on the first floor, with two bedrooms and a twentieth-century bath on the second floor. There is a wealth of original interior woodwork, that in the north half possessing Federal style characteristics, while the woodwork in the south half is executed in an unusual although rather provincial variant of the Greek Revival style. Both first-floor rooms feature beaded pedestal chair rail, beaded baseboards, and molded door and window surrounds. The mantel in the sitting room has beaded pilasters with part of the shaft decorated with a cut-out circular design, a molded mantel shelf with reeded edge and a plain frieze. The dining room mantel lacks the pilasters, but has a molded and beaded shelf. The south bedroom mantel features a variation of the sitting room mantel, with cut-out half-moons designs, while the other (earlier) bedroom) has molded surrounds and a plain mantel shelf.

Two mid-nineteenth century log buildings are located in close proximity to the north-west of the log half of the main house. The larger is a one-story, two-bay, ~~house~~ room (12 feet by 20 feet) with V-notched logs, weatherboarded gable ends, six-over-six sash windows (probably not original) and a stone and brick chimney at the north gable end. The shingle roof, brick floor,

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rafters and fireplace are the product of modern renovations. This house traditionally has been known as a former slave house. The smaller house ( 11 feet by 13 feet) probably a former smokehouse, is in more derelict condition but retains more of its original fabric. It has V-notched logs, round log joists, a later wood shingle roof and pegged log rafters. There are windows on the gable ends, but no chimney. Both houses probably date from before the Civil War and are clearly shown in a photograph dating from the 1880s in the possession of the present owner. To the northeast of the house are the stone ruins of an old detached kitchen hearth of uncertain date. One of the original massive oak mantel beams is still in place.

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In 1737 Wallace patented four hundred acres "on both sides of Michams River and Lickinghole creek " and in 1741 he patented an additional two hundred acres "on both sides of Lickinghole swamp."<sup>2</sup> His name appeared often in the early county records, as in 1745 when his brother Andrew Wallace was appointed surveyor of the "highway from the D.S. to Mitcham's River" and William Wallace was ordered to assist in clearing.

In 1765 he paid seventy-seven pounds for an additional two hundred acres "on a branch of Stockton's creek,"<sup>4</sup> and it is believed that it is this tract on which the present house at Piedmont now stands. In his will, dated June 15, 1766, he devised the upper half of "this track of land I now live on" to his third son William (1740-1809), with his other sons John and Josiah, each to receive one-third of the six-hundred-acre plantation.<sup>5</sup> A brief inventory of Wallace's estate mentions plantation tools and household belongings, indicating that he did have a residence there. It is not certain that son William lived long at Piedmont, as he built a house at nearby Meadowbrook sometime between 1771 and 1783. He was the only brother to<sup>6</sup> remain in Virginia; the others sold their land and moved to Kentucky and Ohio.

Although its building date is not certain, the early log half of Piedmont possesses certain eighteenth century traits, including the vertical board walls with beading, beaded and pedestal chair rail (some of which was removed and used in the later second-floor portion), and the steep winder stair on the west end. It is thus possibly contemporaneous with nearby Black's Tavern (circa 1769), a one-story, two-room log house located nearby, as well as the older part of Headquarters, north of Piedmont in Browns Cove.

This log half is more fully documented in two fire insurance policies taken out by Wallace with the Mutual Assurance Society of Virginia in 1802 and 1805. (It is believed that Wallace had moved from Meadowbrook to Piedmont by that time; he died there in 1809). The policy, taken out on "my one building on my plantation" between "George Smiths and that of John Dettor" depicted a "wooden dwelling house covered with wood, 28 feet by 20 with a shed of 12 feet by 28". The policy added that "the above dwelling is one story high and is contiguous to a small log house"; the entire house was valued at \$510 for insurance purposes. A small shed (no longer there) extended from the house's gable end and had a chimney. The policy taken out in 1805 indicated that several changes had occurred at Piedmont. The house, while possessing the same dimensions, was described as being "one story and a half" with a "portico 28 feet by 12." No contiguous log building was mentioned. It is possible that the only remnant of this latter building is the large stone chimney with hearth that is located to the north of the brick portion of Piedmont.



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After William Wallace's death in 1809 the farm passed to his son, also named William (1772-1812) who operated a successful store with with his in-law John Pilson. The erection of the store house and an attached residence (both of unknown location) were mentioned in his father's 1809 will. The inventory of the younger Wallace's estate in 1813 indicates that the store was of the general merchandise variety, selling cloth, farm tools, seed, and a few luxury goods such as English soap and clocks.<sup>10</sup> As William died unmarried, ownership of the store and Piedmont passed to his brother Michael (1783-1845). Inventories left by both Michael and Richard Wallace after their deaths give a detailed picture of their merchandise as well as an indication of their personal wealth, which was rather substantial.

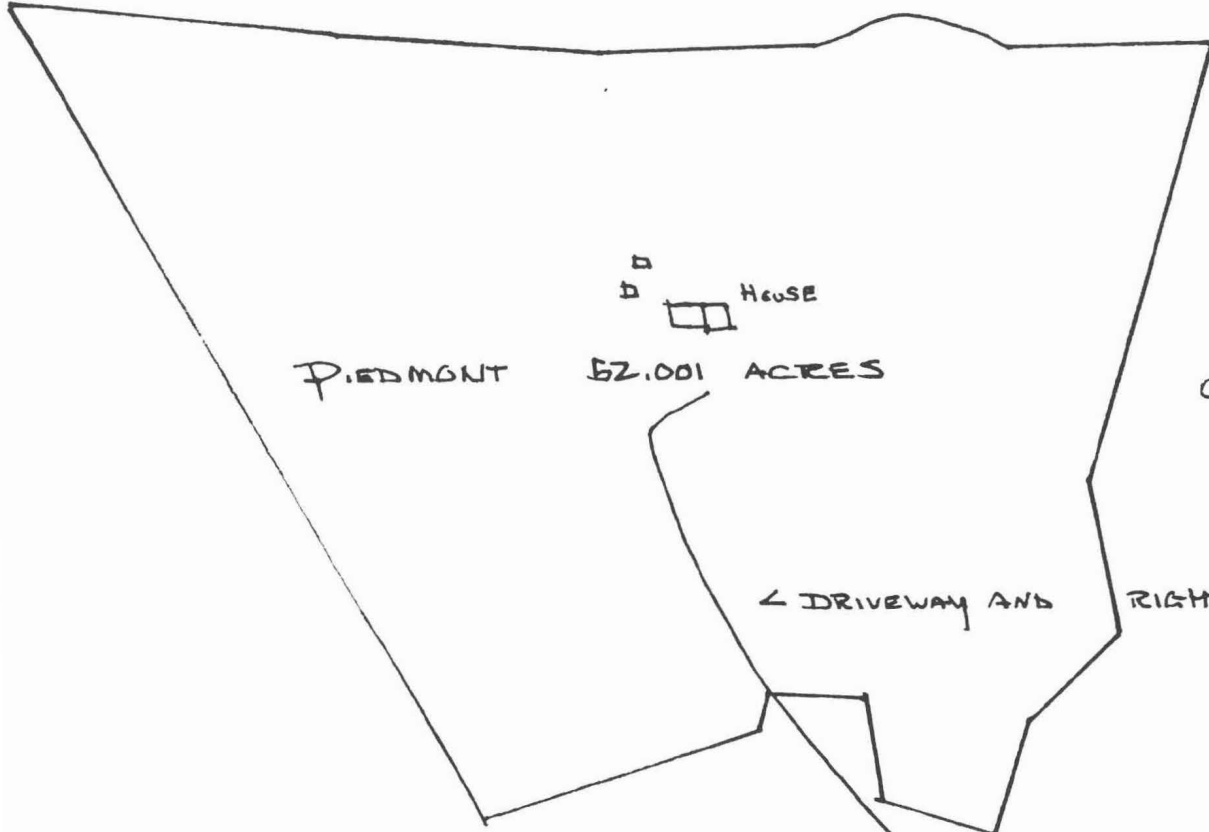
It was Michael Wallace, the only one of the brothers with a family, who built the two-story, brick Federal/Greek Revival wing of Piedmont. The traditional date of 1838 is supported by the land tax records, although this may only refer to the earlier north wing of the brick house. This wing, a substantial but not ostentatious example of architecture from this period, bears many similarities with the aforementioned Headquarters in Browns Cove -- particularly in the use of the brick cornice-- the 1810 portion of Midway near Batesville, and the Brookeville Tavern on present U.S. Route 250 near Afton. The woodwork and mantelpieces, executed in an unusual but rather provincial variant of the Greek Revival style, are a notable feature of Piedmont.

Piedmont passed to Michael Wallace's son, the fourth William Wallace (1821-1903)<sup>11</sup>, a respected local farmer and holder of several minor county offices. The two log houses on the property were probably added during his tenure (almost certainly before the Civil War), as was the two-story front porch of the log wing of the house that appears in a family photograph taken in the 1880s.

After the death of William Wallace, the house passed to two nieces, the Misses Mary and Margaret Rogers, the latter a teacher at the local Greenwood school. After they died it was inherited by Colonel George Selden Wallace, an attorney from Huntington, West Virginia. His extensive research into the Wallace family genealogy resulted in the book Genealogical Data Pertaining to the Descendants of Peter Wallace and Elizabeth Woods, published in 1927. Piedmont became a summer and vacation home for the family instead of a year-round residence. He made several alterations to the house, including the excavation of the basement under the log wing, the addition of the kitchen and bathroom, the side porch and stone steps on the south side of the brick house. At the death of his son George Wallace, Jr. in 1990, Piedmont passed to his three grandchildren.

↑  
ADDITIONAL ACREAGE

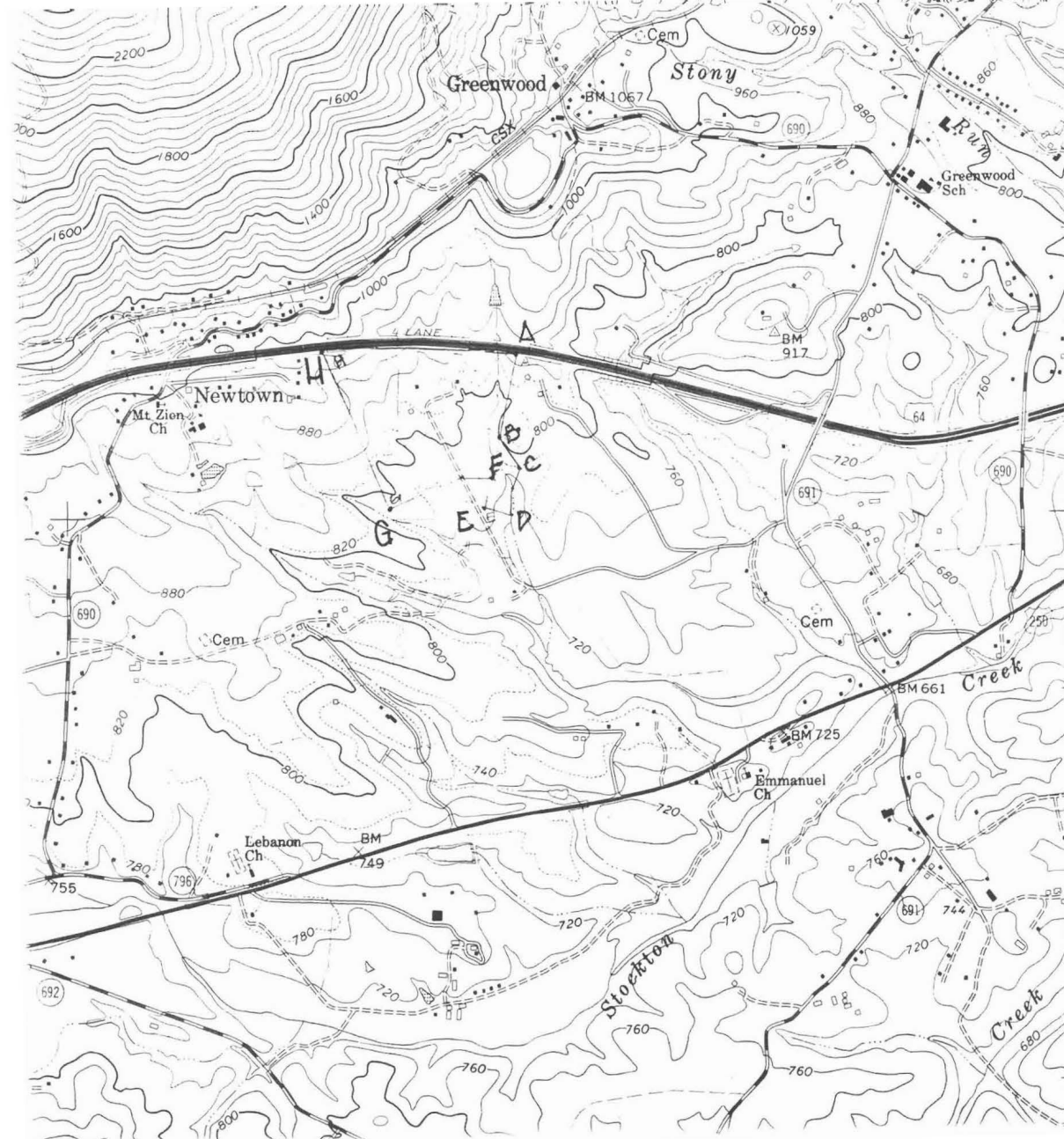
INTERSTATE 64 → CHARLOTTESVILLE



PIEDMONT - GREENWOOD, VA



BLDGS NOT DRAWN TO SCALE!



4214  
 1/4 MI TO U.S. 29  
 CHARLOTTESVILLE 14 MI  
 4213  
 2'30"  
 1/4 MI TO U.S. 29  
 GROZET (VIA VA-240) 4.2 MI  
 CHARLOTTESVILLE (U.S. 29) 16 MI  
 4211

PIEDMONT  
 GREENWOOD, VA

UTM REFERENCES

- A: 17|695430|4213150
- B: 17|695380|4212860
- C: 17|695450|4212740
- D: 17|695430|4212680
- E: 17|695340|4212590
- F: 17|695360|4212700
- G: 17|694960|4212590
- H: 17|694720|4213140

130 000 FEET  
 (NORTH)