## 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 for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

#### 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Nathan Haines Farm (Boundary Increase) Other names/site number: N/A Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

#### 2. Location

Street & number: 1673 Lloyd Road City or town: Charles Town State: West Virginia County: Jefferson Not For Publication: Vicinity:

#### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this  $\underline{X}$  nomination  $\underline{}$  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  $\underline{X}$  meets <u>does</u> does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national	statewide	<u>X</u> local			
Applicable National Re	gister Criteria:				
<u>X</u> AB	<u> </u>	D			
1 1					
Susanti	De De	puty State Histor	ic Preservation Officer	6/6	23
Signature of certi	fying official/Ti	tle:	2	Date	
West Virginia State Hi	storic Preservation	Office, Departme	nt of Arts, Culture & H	istory	
State or Federal a	gency/bureau or	r Tribal Gove	ernment		
-					

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_\_ meets \_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

 Signature of commenting official:
 Date

 Title :
 State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

OMB Control No. 1024-0018

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## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- X entered in the National Register
- \_\_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register
- \_\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register

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- \_\_\_\_ removed from the National Register
- \_\_\_\_ other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

James Gabbert	7-10-2023
Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action

## 5. Classification

## **Ownership of Property**

(Check as many	boxes	as a	appl	y.)
Private:		Γ		
		L		

Public – Local

Public – State

## **Category of Property**

(Check	only	one	box.)
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Building(s)	x
District	
Site	
Structure	
Object	

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Number of Resources within Pro (Do not include previously list		
Contributing <u>1</u>	Noncontributing	buildings
		sites
	2	structures
		objects
1	2	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register <u>None</u>

### 6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions.) DOMESTIC: Single dwelling

**Current Functions** 

(Enter categories from instructions.) <u>DOMESTIC: Single dwelling</u>

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#### 7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions.) Other: I-House\_\_\_\_

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: *Foundation*: Uncoursed stone and concrete block; *Walls*: Wood frame covered with asbestos shingles; *Roof*: Standing seam metal

### **Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

### **Summary Paragraph**

The Nathan Haines Farm, composed of 45 acres of farmland including the Nathan Haines House, Daniel Haines House, and several secondary structures, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on October 14, 2022. This nomination proposes to expand the boundaries of the site to include the Susan Thornton House, a resource which originally was part of the Haines Farm and contributes to the farm's historic significance. The Susan Thornton House is a twostory, three-bay, single-pile, vernacular I-house with asbestos shingle siding, a standing-seam metal roof, front porch, rear shed addition, and modern deck on the west side (Photos 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6). Its location is 1673 Lloyd Road, Charles Town, West Virginia (Fig. 1). The house is part of and sits at the northern edge of a 62.6-acre nature preserve owned by the Potomac Valley Audubon Society. A single-bay cement block garage lies just west of the house (Photo 11). The house sits on about one acre of lawn that drops sharply toward Bullskin Run to the rear (Fig. 2). Bullskin Run flows year-round and floods after a significant rain. Beside the nature preserve, farms surround the house and render its feeling as distinctly rural. Despite its two-story addition, asbestos shingles, and wrap-around deck, the site maintains visual integrity as a small house on a small lot amidst large, rural farms.

### **Narrative Description**

The combined 45 acres in the National Register remain from a 325-scre tract the Haines family once owned. The Haines house, dating pre-Revolution, is stone with a steeply pitched roof. Outbuildings contemporary to the house include a stone spring house and summer kitchen. The

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Haines needed help to tend their crops and livestock and to perform domestic duties in the house. The two-acre Susan Thornton parcel lies about 100 yards from the Haines house on the south side of Lloyd Road on land the Haines owned until 1910.

The boundary increase area, comprising the Susan Thornton House and two non-contributing outbuildings, sits on the northern end of a 62.6-acre parcel owned and operated by the Potomac Valley Audubon Society as Cool Spring Nature Preserve.<sup>1</sup> The preserve has trails for visitors to walk, an education center for classes and orientation, a garage to house equipment need to maintain the property, and various bird and mammal habitats throughout its acreage. Trees and other foliage block a view from the Thornton House to any modern buildings. Only the two-acre portion containing the Susan Thornton House and its outbuildings is nominated for this boundary expansion.

## **Resource 1: Susan Thornton House (ca. 1869), contributing building.**

The Susan Thornton house is a two-story, three-bay, single-pile, vernacular I-house with asbestos shingle siding, and a side-gable roof covered in standing-seam metal. The core, historical house measures 23'2" wide by 15'2" deep (Figure 5). A shed-roofed, concrete porch extends across its front façade; it measures 18'0" wide by 6'0' deep. A two-story shed addition extends partway across the rear of the house; it measures 16'6" wide by 12'0" deep. A modern deck wraps around the house from the west side to the rear (south side).

### North façade

The north façade is the front of the house and location of its main entryway. The side-gable roof is standing-seam metal. Its wall is covered in asbestos shingles. Its foundation is hidden by the front porch. The front porch extends nearly across the façade, is supported by four square posts, and is covered with a metal, standing-seam roof. The first story has an eight-panel entry door centered, flanked by two centered, 6/6, double-hung sash windows. The second story has two, 6/6, double-hung sash windows above those on the first story.

### West façade

The west façade is the gable end of the house and end of the two-story shed addition. On the first story is a modern wood deck that extends to the rear of the house. Walls of the original house are covered in asbestos shingles with no doors or windows; walls of the addition appear to be covered with Masonite-like shingles to match those of asbestos. The deck sits above the foundation. To the south (or right) is a two-story addition with a single, modern, exterior metal door with 12-lights above a two-panel bottom. The parged stone foundation of the original house and the concrete block of the addition are exposed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Jefferson County Deed Book 1236:477.

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## South façade

The south façade is the rear of the house. Because the grading slopes to Bullskin Run, three stories are exposed. The basement, or lowest story, extends from the original house and is concrete block. At its center is an old exterior door of vertical beaded wood with a square, colored-glass window. A wooden pergola extends from the top of the concrete block and covers a wooden deck. Above the basement story is the first story that consists of a single, modern, 6/6 double-hung sash window centered on a wall of Masonite-like shingles. At the third level or second story, a pair of modern 8/8 double-hung sash windows, with the west, or left, window centered on a wall of Masonite-like shingles.

## East façade

The east façade is two-sectioned. To the right (north) is the gable end of the main house. Its foundation, where visible, is parged stone. Two small windows allow ventilation. At the first and second stories, the original, core, house is covered in asbestos shingles with no doors or windows. To the left (south) is the two-story addition. Its foundation is modern concrete block with a single, metal, 2/2 window for ventilation and light. The first and second stories are covered in Masonite-like shingles; on the first and second stories, centered, are single, modern 6/6, double-hung sash windows.

## Resource 2. Cement block garage (ca. 1940), non-contributing structure.

To the west of the Susan Thornton House is a cement block, single-bay, garage with a gable-end roof of standing-seam metal. At its east façade is a single 6/6, wood, double-hung sash window and to the rear of the façade a wooden hinged door. One the north façade is the entry bay. On the west wall is a single 6/6, wood, double-hung sash window. The south façade is solid cement block. Although probably older than 50 years, the garage is newer than the Period of Significance and is therefore non-contributing.

## Resource 3. Wooden poultry house (ca. 1920), non-contributing structure.

To the southwest of the house is an old, wooden poultry house, measuring 6'4" long by 5'6" deep. It is sheathed with vertical boards, all well-weathered and some detached. It is covered by a standing-seam metal shed roof, slanting to west. At the south end is a doorway. Against the interior west wall is a roost reached by a poultry ladder.

## Integrity

The setting of the Susan Thornton House has changed little from when she and her family built their house ca. 1869. The Nathan Haines House remains across the street in full view of the Thornton House. Bullskin Run continues to flow or overflow as no doubt it did during the Thorntons' occupancy. Lloyd Road was unpaved while the Thorntons lived there, but otherwise the setting is unimpaired by development or modern intrusions.

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The core house remains the same form as when built, a simple two-story, three-bay, single-pile building. Its original walls were board-and-batten.<sup>2</sup> When asbestos shingles were added is unknown, but in all likelihood between 1920 and 1940,<sup>3</sup> long after the Period of Significance.<sup>4</sup> If so, they must be treated as a visual intrusion to the historical appearance. A modern deck is perhaps the most prominent intrusion, but its addition does not detract from the historical significance of the house. A poultry house looks old, but there is no way to confirm it was built before 1917. It, too, has been updated with fresh chicken wire on its interior.

 $<sup>^{2}</sup>$  The original exterior south wall of the house is board-and-batten. The north wall of the kitchen addition is the exterior board-and-batten wall of the original, core house.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Per conversation with Jane Rissler, Curator, Jefferson County Historical Museum, whose family moved to the Thornton house in 1948 and lived there to about 1962. Ms. Rissler confirmed the asbestos shingles were already on the house.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> "The Industrial Uses of Asbestos," *Scientific American* (22 April 1876), 258-259. The article describes commercial uses of asbestos in 1876. Patents for asbestos siding and roofing were issued in the early 1900s.

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#### 8. Statement of Significance

#### **Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

	- 1
	- 1
	- 1
	- 1

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- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

_	_	_	_	_

D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

#### **Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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## Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions.) <u>AGRICULTURE</u> <u>ARCHITECTURE</u>

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Period of Significance \_1870-1910\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

<u>N/A</u>

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.) N/A

**Cultural Affiliation** 

Architect/Builder \_N/A

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Nathan Haines Farm was listed on the National Register at a local level of significance under *Criterion A: Agriculture* for its role in the agricultural development of the Bullskin Run community, and *Criterion C: Architecture* for displaying multiple, well-preserved architectural styles (Georgian and Federal). The Susan Thornton House was previously excluded from the nomination because it has a separate property owner than the rest of the Nathan Haines Farm. This boundary expansion seeks to recognize the house's historic association with the adjacent Haines family farm. The expansion is locally significant and contributes to *Criterion A: Agriculture* as the residence of the Thorntons, a formerly-enslaved Black family who continued to perform farm and domestic labor for the Haines family after emancipation. Wills and deeds attest to the respect the white family had for their Black domestic employees. The house also contributes to *Criterion C: Architecture* as a good representation of a simple, vernacular I-House, one that was built during Reconstruction to house a free Black family. In a larger, local, sense, the house represents the limited opportunities available to African Americans throughout Jefferson County in the immediate aftermath of emancipation.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

### Introduction

Jefferson County has had a long presence of enslaved Africans and African Americans dating to its earliest European settlement. Political science professor Hannah Geffert states that in the 1720s Quakers bought the enslaved Johnson family and gave them "immediate freedom."<sup>5</sup> With white settler Joist Hite, the Johnsons settled on Opequon Creek in Berkeley County. As historian Jerry Johnson attests, the first Blacks to settle the area were free. But by 1860, Jefferson County held the greatest number and percentage of enslaved persons of any of the 55 counties that would eventually comprise the state of West Virginia when it was founded June 20, 1863. The reasons were demographic and economic.

Jefferson County is the most eastern of West Virginia counties and therefore geographically closer to the large farms and estates of eastern, or Tidewater Virginia. By the early 1700s, Tidewater owners had depleted soil through successive crops of tobacco. They sought unspoiled lands to the west. As part of the Albany Treaty of 1722, the Five Nations of the Iroquois agreed to peace on the Virginia frontier that included rich lands of the Shenandoah Valley. For any potential European settler, peace opened a way to prosperity.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Hannah N. Geffert, editor, *An Annotated Narrative of the African-American Community in Jefferson County, West Virginia* (Charleston, WV: West Virginia Humanities Council, 1992), 1, quoting Jerry M. Johnson III, *Johnsontown, West Virginia, Year Book 1987* (Johnsontown, Jefferson County, WV: By the author, 1987).

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Enslaved Blacks cleared the way for white settlement. In what would become Jefferson County in 1801, such Tidewater planters as Ralph Wormeley acquired 12,000 acres that he settled with more than 100 enslaved persons to farm and raise livestock (Fig. 8).<sup>6</sup> The food would more than feed his other enslaved in eastern Virginia, and he could sell or barter any surplus. On a smaller scale, George Washington and his brothers Charles, John Augustine, Lawrence, and Samuel bought large tracts to farm and raise livestock or to lease. Charles Town, the county seat, is named for Charles Washington, the town's founder and scion.

Perhaps more important than English migrations from eastern Virginia were those of Germans and Scots-Irish from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware who also sought fertile lands of the Shenandoah Valley. They bought smaller tracts than eastern Virginians. These latter, non-English settlers did not bring enslaved persons, though some would eventually buy or rent them. Their reason was economic. Germans and Scots-Irish grew flax and other crops that were not labor intensive and therefore did not warrant enslaved help.<sup>7</sup> One relatively small farm of 325 acres on Bullskin Run was owned by a Quaker, Nathan Haines, Sr. (1754-1825), his children and grandchildren.

As tax records attest, agriculture was central to owners of the Nathan Haines Farm from its founding in 1760 to, arbitrarily, 1910, when Haines descendants sold the farm out of their family. In 1787 the personal property tax for Frederick County, Virginia (now Jefferson County, West Virginia), assessed Nathan Haines, Sr. for nine horses and twenty head of cattle.<sup>8</sup> By any measure, and in comparison with other landowners, the number of Haines's horses and cattle constituted wealth. But by 1802, the first year of recordkeeping for the newly-established Jefferson County, assessors charged Nathan Haines, Sr. and his son John with only nine horses and cattle, a significant drop from 1787, and perhaps an indication that the Haines's put more emphasis on farming and milling than on large animal husbandry.<sup>9</sup> By 1813 Nathan Haines, Sr. owned nine mares and cattle, and John ten, double the number they had owned ten years earlier.<sup>10</sup> Precisely what crops the Haines's grew is not known as agricultural censuses for Jefferson County do not begin until 1850.

Although Nathan Haines, Sr. and his wife Mary (McPherson) Haines (1757-1815) had ten children, only three are focal to this boundary expansion: Nathan Haines, Jr. (1787-1861), John Haines (1777-1822), and Daniel Haines (1777-1856). Nathan, Jr. and John farmed; Daniel was a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Virginia Gazette, Purdie and Dixon, June 16, 1774. Page 2, column 3. See:

https://research.history.org/DigitalLibrary/va-gazettes/VGSinglePage.cfm?issueIDNo=74.PD.28&page=2&res=LO. Accessed June 1, 2019.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Geffert, quoting Robert D. Mitchell, "Content and Context: Tidewater Characteristics in the Early Shenandoah Valley," *Maryland Historian*, vol. 5 (1974), 82-89.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Netti Schreiner-Yantis and Florene Speakman Love, *Personal Property Tax Lists for the Year 1787 for Berkeley County, Virginia* (Springfield, Virginia: Genealogical Books in Print, 1987), 1427.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Patricia B. Duncan, *Jefferson County, Virginia, Personal Property Tax Lists, 1802-1813*, (Bowie, Maryland: Willow Bend Books, 2003), 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Duncan, Jefferson County Personal Property Tax Lists, 1802-1813, 169.

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miller at Haines Mill. The federal census for 1810 lists Nathan Haines, Sr. with a household size of five and no enslaved or colored persons.<sup>11</sup>

The federal census of 1820 lists Nathan Haines, Sr. as a farmer with a household of seven, including "1 free colored person."<sup>12</sup> In 1824, Nathan Haines, Sr. died, leaving his farm to his sons Nathan Jr. and John. The senior Nathan Haines wrote his will in 1813 but the will was not probated until 1824, two years after John's death in 1822. No legal instrument is known transferring the property from John's family to those of Nathan, Jr. The senior Nathan Haines will required Nathan, Jr. and John (now deceased) to care for their brother, Daniel, Daniel's wife (the recently deceased Beulah Grubb Haines), and Daniel Haines' children (three daughters).<sup>13</sup>

The Jefferson County, Virginia Personal Property Tax lists from 1810 to 1820 show various free Black laborers working for the Haines family including Harry Thompson, John Thompson (tanner), Thomas Thompson, Solomon Dunbar, Richard Moore, and James Hatter. In 1830 the federal census lists Nathan Haines, Jr. as a farmer with a family household of six plus one "free colored male" and one "free colored female."<sup>14</sup> None are named here. Daniel Haines is listed in Jefferson County with a household size of four, presumably himself, his wife, and two others.<sup>15</sup> For 1840, the federal census lists Nathan Haines, Jr. as a farmer with a family household of six plus one "free colored male" and one "free colored female."<sup>16</sup> Daniel Haines had a household of six plus one "free colored male" and one "free colored female."<sup>16</sup> Daniel Haines had a household of six plus one "free colored male" and one "free colored female."<sup>16</sup> Daniel Haines had a household of two whites plus an enslaved person.<sup>17</sup> Nathan, Jr. and Daniel – two brothers: one a farmer, the other a miller. Daniel Haines owned one enslaved person in the 1840 census, and the Haines

<sup>17</sup> United States Census, 1840," https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui- content/view/3507863:8057? tid=&pid=&queryId=596c1de89b948caa83a61314651ae87a&\_phsrc=hmg241&\_phstart=successSource

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Third Census of the United States, www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33SQ-GYB4-62S?i=4&cc= 1803765&personaUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AXH2Q-2FB. Accessed June 25, 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Donald E. Watts, *Fourth Census of the United States of America, 1820: Occupations and Manufactures in Jefferson County, Virginia,* (Charles Town, West Virginia: Jefferson County Museum, 2012), 74.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Jefferson County Will Book 4:217.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> "United States Census, 1830," database with images, FamilySearch

<sup>(</sup>https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:XH54-ZZP: 20 February 2021), Nathaniel Haines, Jefferson, Virginia, United States; citing 123, NARA microfilm publication M19, (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.), roll 191; FHL microfilm 29,670.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> "United States Census, 1830," database with images, FamilySearch

<sup>(</sup>https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:XH54-ZZ6 : 20 February 2021), Daniel Haines, Jefferson, Virginia, United States; citing 123, NARA microfilm publication M19, (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.), roll 191; FHL microfilm 29,670.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> "United States Census, 1840," database with images, *FamilySearch* 

<sup>(</sup>https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33S7-9YBM-SLR?cc=1786457&wc=31SK-

NQL%3A1588670024%2C1588666040%2C1588665902 : 24 August 2015), Virginia > Jefferson > Not Stated > image 25 of 76; citing NARA microfilm publication M704, (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.).

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family in 1860 one enslaved female person of color.<sup>18</sup> Thus from 1820 to 1910 the Haines family used enslaved or employed persons of color to help run their farm and household.

## Susan Thornton and Her Family's Contribution to Agriculture

Emancipation in 1863 posed problems for those emancipated and owners who lost their enslaved labor. Narrative historian Shelby Foote notes that emancipation set free four million persons most without proper education or training, and the withdrawal of federal troops in 1877 led to Jim Crow laws and the continued subjugation of Blacks.<sup>19</sup> Foremost, many Blacks needed housing.

A Jefferson County family with that need was Robert Thornton (1831-1887), his wife Susan B. Thornton (1837-1923), and their children. Early records regarding Susan Thornton and her family are limited. Susan Thornton was born Susan Slow sometime around 1840. Robert Thornton and Susan Thornton became a couple sometime in the late 1850s. Although her husband Robert Thornton was a free man as early as 1860, Susan remained enslaved, and it is unclear whether she achieved freedom before or after the Civil War. Death records for their sixmonth-old daughter, Mary Frances Thornton, show that Susan and her daughter were still enslaved by Hugh Nelson Pendleton (1800-1875) at the time of Mary's death on December 6, 1858. Hugh N. Pendleton owned the property known as Westwood, in Summit Point, Jefferson County.<sup>20</sup> Although she was enslaved, Hugh Pendleton recognized the marriage of Susan and Robert when he reported Mary Thornton's death. Through the course of their relationship, they had 14 children, although several died in infancy.

As they had from the 1760s, the Haines family farmed. In 1850 the United States conducted its first agricultural census. The entry for Nathan Haines listed his farm at 140 acres of improved land and 60 acres unimproved for a total of 200 acres. The census taker, no doubt with input from Haines, cited the farm value at \$10,000 with an added value of machinery at \$150. Haines owned six horses and six "milch" (milk) cows, four other cattle (steers), eight sheep, and twenty swine. The value of his livestock totaled \$480. He grew 600 bushels of wheat, 300 bushels of Indian corn, 20 bushels of oats, 20 pounds of wool, ten bushels of Irish potatoes, 200 pounds of butter, and ten tons of hay.<sup>21</sup>

Pendleton freed his enslaved at the "outbreak of the Civil War."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Daniel was a family outlier, as is described more fully in the National Register nomination for Nathan Haines Farm. See: John Demer, "Nathan Haines Farm," National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form, SG100008071 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2022), Section 8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Carter Coleman, Donald Faulkner, and William Kennedy, "Interview with Shelby Foote," *The Paris Review*, issue 151, Summer, 1999. <u>https://www.theparisreview.org/interviews/931/the-art-of-fiction-no-158-shelby-foote</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> James L. Taylor, *Africans-in-America of the Lower Shenandoah Valley: 1700-1900* (Charles Town, WV: James L. Taylor, 1999), 10; derived from *Jefferson County Historical Society Magazine*, vol. XII, 23-24. Taylor states

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> United States Non-Population Agricultural Census for 1850, 28th-District for Jefferson County, taken August 12, 1850 On microfilm.

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For 1860 the agricultural census listed Nathan Haines with the same acreage as in 1850 but with an increase in value of his machinery to \$200 and a near doubling of value of his livestock to \$900.<sup>22</sup> Although difficult to compare, values of Nathan Haines's farm seem comparable to those of his neighbors. The 1860 federal population census lists Nathan Haines with a family household of six plus one enslaved female, age 16.<sup>23</sup> Two persons also listed are Robert Thornton, age 30, black, farm laborer; and George Brown, age 30, black, laborer.<sup>24</sup> This entry in 1860 was first for the surname "Thornton." In succeeding censuses and documents the surname "Thornton" had greater import to the Haines children.

In 1861 Nathan Haines, Jr., died and left the reduced acreage of his 127-acre farm to his three unmarried children: son, Edward B. Haines (1820-1889), and daughters Alvina Haines (1826-1896) and Mary Haines (1828-1884). The 1860 federal population census lists the Nathan Haines household with one enslaved female, age 16.<sup>25</sup> Born in 1837, Susan Thornton would have been age 23 in 1860 and was possibly the enslaved female referred to in the census. The Jefferson County map drawn by county surveyor Samuel Howell Brown for 1852 shows the future plot of land under ownership of the Haines family (Fig. 3).

On February 25, 1869, Edward B., Alvina, and Mary Haines gifted a lease to Susan Thornton of a two-acre plot of land, directly across Lloyd Road from the drive leading to the Nathan Haines house. The entry in the deed book stated the lease was for her "natural life" and that of her husband, Robert. The Haines children gifted the lease "in appreciation of the faithful service" Susan provided to their late parents, Nathan Jr. and Mary.<sup>26</sup>

By 1869 or 1870 Susan and Robert had either built or renovated a simple, four-room and basement I-house on the tract leased to them. The federal population census for 1870 listed the following Thornton family members, all mulattoes, presumably living at home: Robert (age 39), "Farm laborer;" Susan (age 30), "Domestic Servant;" and children Jane (age 7), Charlie (7), Richard (age 6), Nathaniel (age 5), and Alice (age 2). All were living in the same house the

<sup>25</sup> "United States Census (Slave Schedule), 1860," database with images, FamilySearch

(https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33SQ-GBSF-SSZ3?cc=3161105&wc=8126-

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Linda B. Greene, *Virginia 1860 Agricultural Census*, vol. 2 (Westminster, MD: Willowbend Books, 2006), 82-91.
 <sup>23</sup> "United States Census (Slave Schedule), 1860," database with images, *FamilySearch*

<sup>(</sup>https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33SQ-GBSF-SSZ3?cc=3161105&wc=8126-

FM9%3A1610312301%2C1610372901%2C1610303601 : 16 October 2019), Virginia > Jefferson > Other > image 28 of 41; citing NARA microfilm publication M653 (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> "United States Census, 1860", database with images, FamilySearch

<sup>(</sup>https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M41C-DHV : 18 February 2021), Nathan Haines in entry for Edward B Haines, 1860.

FM9%3A1610312301%2C1610372901%2C1610303601 : 16 October 2019), Virginia > Jefferson > Other > image 28 of 41; citing NARA microfilm publication M653 (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup>Jefferson County Deed Book 5:315.

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Thorntons owned and valued by them at \$500.<sup>27</sup> Although Susan was the proper owner, the 1870 census listed Robert as head of household. In all likelihood, Robert was a farm laborer at the Nathan Haines farm across Lloyd Road from where the Thorntons lived, and Susan was a domestic servant at the Haines house as well. In 1870, Robert and Susan were parents to five children, all aged seven or younger. Even at the young age of seven, Jane and Charlie probably pitched in to assist with all that needed to be done at their home, inside and out. Like other children of the period, Jane and Charlie carried a lot of water and firewood.

For 1880 the federal population census listed the following Thornton family members, presumably living at their home on Lloyd Road: Robert (age 50), "Farm hand;" Susan (age 39), Keeping house;" and children Charles (age 17) "At work;" Richard (age 14), "At work;" and Nathaniel (age 12), Alice (age 10), Thomas H. (age 8), and G. W. (son, age 6), and A. F. (son, age 4), all listed as "At home."<sup>28</sup> What happened to Jane Thornton is not known. The Thornton's neighbors across Lloyd Road were the Haines family. There was no listing for property value in the federal population census. The Jefferson County map drawn by county surveyor Samuel Howell Brown in 1883 shows the tiny plot of land leased to "S.B Thornton" (Fig. 4). The simple floor plan of the house in 1870 is drawn in Figures 5a and 5b.

On October 30, 1887, Robert Thornton died from rheumatism at age 56, leaving Susan a widow. Robert's death record also identifies his parents, Ed. and Prescila Thornton.

In 1896 Alvina Haines, the last surviving child of Nathan and Mary Haines, died and left her farm to her nieces, Ella Haines and Lucie Haines. A codicil to Alvina's will states: "It is my wish that Susan Thornton shall have the use of the house she now lives on [for] her lifetime, and at her death, her children are at liberty to move or sell the house (she having built it), and the lot [will then] return to the farm." <sup>29</sup> The house belonged to Susan Thornton, but the land continued to belong to the Haines nieces.

The federal population census for 1890 was destroyed by fire and cannot be referenced. For 1900, however, the federal population census contains more detailed information about the Thornton family. Susan Thornton, (age 63), "widowed," occupied the house with daughter Rachael (age 19). Both are listed as "Day Laborer." Also living at home were grandchildren Richard (age 8), James (age 7), both "At school," and Rebecca (age 5).<sup>30</sup> The record listed Susan and Rachael both able to read and write, and that Susan owned the house where they lived. Susan's grandson James would go on to join the military during World War I. He died from

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup>Year: *1870*; Census Place: *Grant, Jefferson, West Virginia*; Roll: *M593\_1689*; Page: *540B*. https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/14686918:7163.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup>1880 Federal Population Census. https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/9084076:6742.
 <sup>29</sup> Jefferson County Will Book 19:292.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup>1900 Federal Population Census. https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/62477455:7602.

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influenza at Camp Upton, New York, just months after enlistment. His body was returned to Charles Town and buried in Fairview Cemetery.<sup>31</sup>

For the federal population census of 1910, still living on Lloyd Road was Susan (age 73), a widow and mother of "fourteen children," of whom seven were living. At home were Susan, daughter Alice R. Cooper (age 40), Alice's brother-in-law William Cooper (age 32), nieces Rebecca (age 10) and Nancy Cooper (age 4), and nephew Warner Cooper (age 7). William worked as a "Farm laborer;" the others were "At home."<sup>32</sup> Six family members continued to live at the family house (but not "homestead" as they did not own the land) on Lloyd Road. Alice was listed as a widow, having lost her husband, Nathaniel Cooper, the year prior. According to his obituary: "Nathaniel A. Cooper, a much-respected colored man of Rippon, died on Saturday last, aged 39 years. He was in the employ of Mr. John L. Burns for over 20 years."<sup>33</sup>

Other major changes were to occur in 1910. The Haines nieces Lucie B. Haines, Ella Haines Gossling, and Ella's husband, Harry J. Gossling, sold their 127-acre Haines farm to W[ayne] G. Conway and Harry R. Kern for \$4,000. Kern was a lawyer from Winchester, Virginia; Conway lived on another farm north of Charles Town. Neither chose to live in the Nathan Haines house. The deed describes an additional brick tenant house (probably the Daniel Haines House) and a "frame house occupied by Susan Thornton."<sup>34</sup> After 160 years of ownership, the Nathan Haines farm had left the Haines family.

The decade of the 1910s saw a series of new owners of the Haines farm and its two-acre parcel leased to Susan Thornton. In 1911 Wayne G. Conway sold his interest to Harry R. Kern for \$1,000 and Kern's assumption of the balance owed on the property.<sup>35</sup> Harry R. Kern sold the property to Lela Kitchen for \$10,858, more than twice what he and Conway paid for it less than two years before. Kitchen put down \$1,000 and agreed to pay the rest.<sup>36</sup> In 1914 Lela Kitchen returned the property to Harry Kern with no financial settlement cited.<sup>37</sup> In 1917 Frank Bushong and Thomas Moore, trustees for Jefferson Bank and Trust, agree to lend John C. Burns the balance of monies due (above) using the farm as collateral. This agreement, established in advance, allowed the sale.<sup>38</sup> Later in 1917 Harry Kern sold the farm to John C. Burns for

<sup>32</sup>1910 Federal Census. https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/30265283:7884.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Find a Grave, database and images (https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/39896446/james-edward-thornton: accessed 02 April 2023), memorial page for James Edward Thornton (13 Aug 1893–1918), Find a Grave Memorial ID <u>39896446</u>, citing Fairview Cemetery, Gibsontown, Jefferson County, West Virginia, USA.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> Spirit of Jefferson. [volume] (Charles Town, Va. [W. Va.]), 17 Aug. 1909. Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers. Lib. of Congress. https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84026788/1909-08-17/ed-1/seq-3/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Jefferson County Deed Book 105:287.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> Jefferson County Deed Book 108:70.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Jefferson County Deed Book 108:71.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Jefferson County Deed Book 110:425.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Jefferson County Deed Book 114:498.

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\$10, 519. Burns paid \$2,629.75 down and agreed to pay the remainder in four yearly installments of \$1,972.31 each.<sup>39</sup>

Another sale to John C. Burns occurred on December 17, 1917. Susan Thornton, Alice R. McDaniel, Ja[me]s. W. McDaniel, Rachel A. Cooper, Albert F. Thornton, Bettie Adams, Richard Thornton, Blanche Thornton, Thomas Thornton, and George Thornton sold the Susan Thornton House on Lloyd Road to John C. Burns for \$50.<sup>40</sup> The Thorntons had built and lived in their house nearly fifty years. While theirs was not a forced sale in the strictest sense, the Thorntons had little choice but to accept the price John C. Burns offered.

A reason for the sale was painful but obvious. Generations of the Haines family lived in the big stone house across Lloyd Road from the Thorntons. With the sale of the farm and large house to outside investors in 1910 and the departure of the Haines nieces, the Haines house was no longer owner-occupied. It no longer needed domestic help provided by at least two, and probably three, generations of Thornton women. It may also no longer have needed farm labor provided by as many generations of Thornton men. For the Thorntons, the loss of steady employment close to where they lived diminished the importance of their living in the Susan Thornton House. The Thorntons were all but forced to move, and move they did.

The federal population census of 1920 showed Susan Thornton living on today's Border Road, in Kearneysville, Jefferson County, about fourteen miles from her house on Lloyd Road. She lived at the home of her son-in-law and daughter, James (age 57) and Alice (age 49) McDaniel. Others in the household were sister-in-law Rachael Cooper (age 39), and children Charles McDaniel (age 23), Esau McDaniel (19), Jacob McDaniel (age 19), and Lucy McDaniel (age 24), and cousin Roy McDaniel (age 15). Nieces and nephews to the McDaniels also living in the household were: Rebecca Cooper (age 19), Warner Cooper (age 17), Nancy Cooper (age 14), and Charles Cooper (age 3).<sup>41</sup>

In 1920 James and Alice McDaniel sold their house west of Kearneysville to William Woodfork for \$500.<sup>42</sup> Where their extended family moved is not known. Susan Thornton died September 17, 1923, at age 77 (or age 87), and is buried in the Methodist Cemetery just south of Kearneysville. In the federal population census for 1930 James McDaniel (age 68) and his wife Alice (age 60) were living in Shepherdstown District, Jefferson County. James is listed as a "Farm laborer."

Three generations of Black Thorntons grew up in a relatively small house their mother built in 1869. They provided decades of service to the Haines, a white family across Lloyd Road from where they lived. Thornton women provided domestic service that meant they carried water, cleaned, washed clothes and household linens, prepared and cooked meals, started fires and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Jefferson County Deed Book 114:496.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Jefferson County Deed Book 116:63.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup>Federal Population Census for 1920. https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/14431524:6061.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> Jefferson County Deed Book 118:342.

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removed ashes, emptied chamber pots, canned and preserved food – all physically hard jobs in the mid- to late-1800s. At the same time Thornton men kept dairy cows, farmed 100 acres of fields, butchered swine and beef to preserve for winter months, built and mended fences – physically hard jobs for men in the mid- to late-1800s. The Nathan Haines farm survived and prospered only with help of the Thornton family and other Blacks who worked there.

Black women did double duty. They toiled for the white-owned households they served, and earlier or later during the same day, for their own families. Black women performed these tasks while pregnant and nursing their own newborns and infants, and also sometimes, those of the white households they served. Black children were some help, but the responsibility to feed and clothe her family fell to the Black woman with as much food and money as her hard-working husband and children could supply.

According to federal population census data, all Thorntons could read and write, though most had never gone to school. In spite of family literacy, no letters, photographs, or writings of Susan Thornton and her children are known to survive. Their lives must be interpreted from scant written entries in federal population census data, deeds, and other legal documents. A part of their lives also can be interpreted from the house Susan and Robert Thornton built on Lloyd Road, a house that was always theirs on one hand, but never theirs on the other. It remains a reminder of the grit and pluck of an African-American family post-Emancipation and of the Black ethnic heritage their house represents.

### Architecture

Architectural historians Virginia and Lee McAlester describe vernacular I-houses as "two-story I-houses (two rooms wide and one room deep)" and "traditional British folk forms that were common in pre-railroad America, particularly in the Tidewater South." The McAlesters go on to say, "...they [I-houses] were particularly favored as modest folk dwellings...."<sup>43</sup> Architectural historian Gerald Foster calls the I-house "the standard dwelling, with many variations, of successful farmers in the South and West."<sup>44</sup> So describes the Susan Thornton house. While Susan Thornton and those who built her house were probably unaware of traditional British housing folk forms, or even widespread popularity of the style, they were aware of the simplest forms of permanent house construction and followed those forms when building their house.

Spatially, the Thornton house sits well below the house of Nathan Haines, its landowner. When occupied by the Thornton family from 1869 to 1917, the family could look up the hill to the big stone house of the landowner, always reminding the Thorntons of their lower social status. The Thornton house entrance is to the north, and the house is built into a hillside to the south with rear windows facing south. Being built into a hillside mirrored many bank barns in Jefferson

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2005), 96, 97. Their reference to "traditional British folk forms" may derive from: Henry Glassie, *Pattern in the Material Folk Culture of the Eastern United States* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania, 1968), 66, 67.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> Gerald Foster, American Houses: A Field Guide to the Architecture of the Home (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2004), 74.

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County. So did its vertical-board siding. Thus, the Thornton house shared more in common with a barn than with the stone manor house on the hill. The cellar floor was dirt; the Thorntons probably could never justify the cost of one in concrete. For the Thorntons, water came from nearby Bullskin Run at the southern base of their property. There may have been a dug well, but James Mason did not drill a proper well until the 1940s.

The house is frame, not log, suggesting it was built after the advent of braced-frame houses in Jefferson County in the 1840s. Thornton builders had sawn, dimensioned, framing lumber available to them, perhaps from the Haines sawmill located within eyesight less than a half-mile to the east. Perhaps Robert Thornton worked the sawmill as part of his duties to the Haines family, and he could buy or barter lumber for his home. This form of vernacular housing did not require an architect or a skilled finish carpenter. Its construction was easily within the manual skills of many who worked on farms as laborers. They could build from example. Use of the descriptor "perhaps" simply means no hard documentation is known and to some extent research must rely on conjecture.

That these I-houses were one room deep reflects their need for ventilation during hot summer months. Their design thus differs little from wealthier neighboring houses of stone or brick that were also one room deep, also to allow for cross-ventilation. The Thornton house had a cellar that served as a bonus utility room for food preparation or boiling water for laundry. No documentation survives on whether a cast-iron stove or fireplace hearth heated the house. By 1870 cast-iron stoves for heat and cooking were common and popular in Jefferson County. Modern blown insulation in the cellar hides evidence of original features.

The Thornton house was built with board-and-batten siding. Popular in America between 1845 and 1865, its earliest American proponent was Alexander Jackson Davis (1803-1892). In 1837 Davis published *Rural Residences* in which his plan for a farmer's house was "boarded vertically, with the edges tongue and grooved, and the joint covered with a fillet" (Fig. 9).<sup>45</sup> Although Davis may have been the first American architect to introduce board-and-batten siding, a colleague popularized the style a few years later.

Andrew Jackson Downing (1815-1852), was primarily a landscape architect. In 1842, five years after Davis published *Rural Residences*, Downing published *Cottage Residences*, an architectural design book that recommended "… nailing [boards] vertically on the frame, and covering the joints by a strip one to two inches wide. We suggest this mode as a variation, as it makes a very warm and dry house, and the effect is good."<sup>46</sup> At the same time, Downing felt wood "the worst

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> Alexander Jackson Davis, *Rural residence, etc.: consisting of designs original and selected, cottages, for farmhouses, villas, and village churches: with brief explanations, estimates, and a specification of materials, construction, etc.* (New York: To be had of the architect at New York University, 1837), n.p. 13, 14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> A. J. Downing, *Cottage Residences; or, a Series of Designs for Rural Cottages and Cottage Villas, and their Gardens and Grounds* (New York, 1842), 103-106. Quoted in: Robert Jensen, "Board and Batten Siding and the Balloon Frame: Their Incompatibility in the Nineteenth Century," *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* (*JSAH*), Vol. 30, No. 1 (Mar., 1971), 41. Downing once submitted a plan for The Mall in Washington, D.C.

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material for building," only to be used as a last resort.<sup>47</sup> By 1850 he softened, conceding in his popular *Architecture for Country Houses* that "a large proportion of cottages [inevitably] must be built of wood."<sup>48</sup> For wood houses he favored board-and-batten siding.

By Downing's "frame" is meant a *braced* frame rather than a *balloon* frame popular in the Midwest beginning in the 1830s and used by builders to date. A braced frame combined framing designs of colonial times with lighter, dimension-sawn, lumber of the mid-1800s. Vertical boards and battens were nailed to the sill plate and beam at the eaves and to any horizontal members in between (Fig. 10). If a client could afford, he or she could infill the space between studs with brick for added strength and insulation.

For Susan Thornton, board-and-batten siding was the least expensive siding for her home. Vertical boards served a dual purpose of structural sheathing and face boards exposed to weather. Battens compensated for expansion and contraction of the vertical nailed boards that widened or contracted depending on season. Board-and-batten siding need not to have been whitewashed or painted; it weathered nicely without treatment. For reasons of economy and simple construction, builders throughout Jefferson County built two-story I-houses, two rooms wide and one room deep. They also covered older log houses with board-and-batten siding for the similar simplicity of installation and economy.

Long-time neighboring Bullskin resident Dan Lutz describes the local house form as "Reconstruction construction." His description summarizes both a political era and a locally prominent housing form. The form seems popular in many other parts of West Virginia's Eastern Panhandle, and as the Foster and the McAlesters write and illustrate, throughout many other rural areas throughout the South and central Appalachia.

Between 1872 and 1917, tax assessors valued the Thornton property at between \$250 and \$300. On that assessment in 1880, the Thorntons paid annual property taxes of \$2.36, as follows: \$.50 for "State and State Schools," \$ 1.25 for "County levy," \$.20 for "County roads," \$. 28 for "County teachers," and \$ .13 for "County buildings." Depending on daily wages paid, perhaps 50 cents, taxes could amount to the equivalent of a week's wages for a Thornton.<sup>49</sup>

In layout, the Thornton house had a basement with a dirt floor, a single room on the first floor, and at most, two rooms on the second floor (Figs. 6a, 6b). A dogleg stairway on the south wall led to the second floor. The shallow-pitched roof rendered the attic unusable. An open room on the first floor made sense for a large family. A fireplace or cast iron stove on the east wall heated

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> Downing, *Cottage Residences*, 16. Quoted in Jensen, "Board and Batten Siding," JSAH, 1971, 41.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> A. J. Downing, *The Architecture of Country Houses; Including Designs for Cottages, Farm Houses, and Villas* (New York, 1850), 32. Quoted in Jensen, "Board and Batten Siding," *JSAH*, 1971, 42.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> Because the property was part of the Haines farm after 1917, tax records that otherwise indicate improvements to a property are inconclusive after 1917. Increased values could indicate improvements anywhere on the 127-acre property. Owners of the Haines farm built a barn and other outbuildings that could well explain increases in property taxes.

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the room although not evenly. A large family could gather together, eat together, and wash together. They had no other choice. Coincidentally, the I-house where Susan Thornton and her large family moved in 1917 on Border Road in Kearneysville had a similar floor plan: basement with a dirt floor, first floor one large, open room with a stairway against an outer wall, and perhaps two rooms on the second floor. Neither the McAlesters nor Foster describe an I-house with only one room on the first floor and a stairway against an exterior wall. They describe "hall-and-parlor" or "center hall" variations as following Georgian influence. The Thorntons simply wanted the most house they could afford without reliance on stylish architecture.

After the Thorntons sold their house a subsequent owner or owners added a single-story addition with a shed roof to the south wall. Another owner added the second story to the addition also with a shed roof. Before 1948 when the Rissler family moved in someone built a single-car garage and added asbestos shingles. No records survive to document these additions and alterations.

Though added to and updated by subsequent owners, the Susan Thornton house remains an example of a large family that lived in a small space for roughly 40 years while engaging in farming and domestic service to the landowners of their house.

## Integrity

The setting of the Susan Thornton House has changed little from when Thornton and her family built their house ca. 1869. The Nathan House remains across the street in full view of the Thornton House. Bullskin Run continues to flow or overflow as no doubt it did during the Thorntons' occupancy. Lloyd Road was unpaved while the Thorntons lived there, but otherwise the setting is unimpaired by development or modern intrusions.

The core house remains the same form as when built, a simple two-story, three-bay, single-pile building. Its original walls were board-and-batten.<sup>50</sup> When asbestos shingles were added is unknown, but in all likelihood between 1920 and 1940,<sup>51</sup> long after the Period of Significance.<sup>52</sup> If so, they must be treated as a visual intrusion to the historical appearance. A modern deck is perhaps the most prominent intrusion, but its addition does not detract from the historical significance of the house. A poultry house looks old, but there is no way to confirm it was built before 1917. It, too, has been updated with fresh chicken wire on its interior.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> The original exterior south wall of the house is board-and-batten. The north wall of the kitchen addition is the exterior board-and-batten wall of the original, core house.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> Per conversation with Jane Rissler, Curator, Jefferson County Historical Museum, whose family moved to the Thornton house in 1948 and lived there to about 1962. Ms. Rissler confirmed the asbestos shingles were already on the house.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> "The Industrial Uses of Asbestos," *Scientific American* (22 April 1876), 258-259. The article describes commercial uses of asbestos in 1876. Patents for asbestos siding and roofing were issued in the early 1900s.

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#### 9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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Federal Census Records for 1830 to 1930, available on Ancestry.com and FamilySearch.com Jefferson County, WV, Deed Books Jefferson County, WV, Will Books Jefferson County, WV, Land Books

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Nathan Haines Farm SG100008071 (boundary
increase to include Susan Thornton House)
Name of Property

Jefferson, WV County and State

### **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 #\_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

#### Primary location of additional data:

- <u>x</u> State Historic Preservation Office
- \_\_\_\_ Other State agency
- \_\_\_\_\_ Federal agency
- Local government
- \_\_\_\_\_ University
- \_\_\_\_ Other

Name of repository:

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_\_

#### **10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property \_\_\_\_\_2\_\_\_

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

#### Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84:\_\_\_\_\_ (enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

Latitude: 39.243838 N Longitude: 77.926911 W

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The tract is the two-acre parcel at the southern side of 1673 Lloyd Road, Charles Town, Jefferson County, West Virginia, surveyed in 1995 when owner Nancy Lutz declared a merger parcel of her property (Fig. 2). As of 2023, the parcel is part of a 62-acre tract owned by the Potomac Valley Audubon Society. The parcel can be viewed in its entirety from Lloyd Road.

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**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

Although now included in the larger, 62-acre tract of the Potomac Valley Audubon Society, the two-acre parcel represents its historical boundaries of 1869 to 1917 and is therefore the most accurate property depiction. Because the Susan Thornton House is owned by a different owner than the Nathan Haines Farm, the Susan Thornton House was not included in the original National Register nomination of the Nathan Haines Farm. This boundary increase adds to the accuracy of the historical record.

## **11. Form Prepared By**

names/titles: Addison Reese and John Deme	er			
organization: Jefferson County Historic Landmarks Commission				
street & number: P. O. Box 23				
city or town: Charles Town	_ state: WV	_ zip code: 25414		
e-mail:_addisonrreese@gmail.com; jdemer@	<u>ahotmail.com</u>	_		
telephone: <u>304-876-6013</u>				
date: <u>December 12, 2022</u>				

Additional Documentation (Submit the following items with the completed form<sup>©</sup>

Maps: A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

**Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

Additional items: (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

## List of Figures

Figure Description

- 1 USGS Map indicating property location.
- 2 Plat showing location and boundaries of Susan Thornton house.
- 3 Sketch map showing direction of photographs
- 4 Future site of Susan Thornton house. Samuel Howell Brown map of 1852.
- 5 Susan Thornton house, 1883. Samuel Howell Brown map of 1853.
- 6a Susan Thornton house plan, first floor (1870).
- 6b Susan Thornton house plan, second floor (1870).
- 7 Susan Thornton house plan, first floor (2022).
- 8 Ad and transcription, Ralph Wormeley sale.
- 9 Earliest American view of board-and-batten siding, Alexander Jackson Davis, 1837.
- 10 Example of brace framing probably used on Thornton house.
- 11 Brace framing with board-and-batten siding and brick infill for insulation.

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## Figure 4. Future site of Susan B. Thornton house.

Source: Samuel Howell Brown map of Jefferson County, 1853. Library of Congress.



**Figure 5. Susan B. Thornton house, 1883.** Source: 1883 Samuel Howell Brown map of Jefferson County. Library of Congress.





Nathan Haines Farm SG100008071 (boundary
increase to include Susan Thornton House)
Name of Property

0 BE SOLD TRACT of LAND in Berkley and Frederick counties, containing 12,076 acres; it lies 7 miles on each fide of Shenando river, the quantity on the east fide, being only a flip of low ground, is inconfiderable, the quality of the land is remarkably good, and the conveniencies attending it great. There are two plentiful freams of water running through markes three miles in length, fome of which are already reclaimed meadows, and the reft, at a very finall expence, might foon be re-duced to the like flate. On each fide of the flreams mills might be credted and furnaces, the land affording flone, lime, iron, and lead ore. On one of the fireams I have already creded a complete merchant mill, with a pair of the beit French burrs for grinding of wheat, and a pair of common flones for grinding of Indiar torn; belides this, there is near the dwelling houfe a ty-mill, and on the other fiream there is a valuable faw mill. There are five fettled and improved plantations; on one of them is a good flone house, 2 flories high, with 2 rooms on a floor, a kitchen, dairy, and all other convenient outhoufes; on another plantation, where Michael Pikelived, there is a good fione house; and at the other plantations there are overfeers houfes, negro quarters, barns, stables, sobacco houses, &c. The above traft thall be either par-titioned off in lots of 1000 or 500 acres, or fold bodily to one purchafer. Belonging to this effate there are 112 negroes to be difposed of, together with all the flocks of cattle, equal to any in the colony, horfes, mares, colts, hogs, &c. likewife all the necellary implements for the planter or farmer. Any perion or perions inclinable to purchase are defired to make their proposals to me at Rofegill, on Rappahannock river, or to leave them with the overfeer, who lives at the house plantation, and will thew the land. In November 1 shall be on the premises, and may then be perfonally treated with. Part of this land, and fome of the negroes, belong to my eldell fon, who leaves to me the diffolition thereof, and will confirm any engagement I enter into on his part RALPH WORMELEY.

**Source:** *Virginia Gazette*, Purdie and Dixon, June 16, 1774, page 2, column 3.

Jefferson, WV County and State

#### TO BE SOLD

A TRACT of LAND in Berkley and Frederick counties, containing 12,076 acres; it lies 7 miles on each side of the Shenando river the quantity on the east side being only a slip of low ground, is inconsiderable; the quality of the land is remarkably good, and the conveniences attending it great. There are two plentiful streams of water running through three marshes three miles in length, some of which are already reclaimed meadows, and the rest, at a very small expense, might soon be reduced to the like state. On each side of the streams mills might be erected and furnaces, the land affording stone, lime, iron, and lead ore. On one of the streams I have already erected a complete merchant mill, with a pair of best French burrs for grinding of wheat, and a pair of common stones for grinding of Indian corn; besides this there is near the dwelling house a tub mill, and on the other stream there is a valuable saw mill. There are five settled and improved plantations; on one of them is a good stone house; 2 stories high, with 2 rooms on a floor, a kitchen, dairy, and all other convenient outhouses; on another plantation, where Michael Pike lived, there is a good stone house; and at the other houses there are overseers houses, negro quarters, barns, stables, tobacco houses, &c. The above tract shall be partitioned off in lots of 1000 or 500 acres, or sold bodily to one purchaser. Belonging to this estate there are 112 negroes to be disposed of, together with all the stocks of cattle, equal to any in the colony, horses, mares, colts, hogs, &c. likewise all the necessary implements for the planter or farmer. Any person or persons inclinable to purchase are desired to make their proposals to me at Rosegill, on Rapphannock river, or to leave them with the overseer, who lives at the house plantation, and will shew the land. In November I shall be on the premises, and may then be personally treated with. Part of this land, and some of the negroes, belonging to my eldest son, who leaves to me the disposition thereof, and will confirm any engagement I enter into on his part. RALPH WORMELEY.

**Figure 8. Ad and transcription, Ralph Wormeley sale.** *Virginia Gazette*, Purdie and Dixon, June 16, 1774, page 2, column 3. See: <u>https://research.history.org/DigitalLibrary/va-gazettes/VGSinglePage.cfm?issueIDNo=74.PD.28&page=2&res=LO</u>. Acc' 2019-06-01

Nathan Haines Farm SG100008071 (boundary increase to include Susan Thornton House) Name of Property

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Figure 9. Early American view of board-and-batten siding, Alexander Jackson Davis, 1837.

Source: Alexander Jackson Davis, *Rural residence, etc.: consisting of designs original and selected, cottages, for farmhouses, villas, and village churches: with brief explanations, estimates, and a specification of materials, construction, etc.* (New York: To be had of the architect at New York University, 1837), n.p., 14. Board-and-batten used on second story.



## Figure 10. Example of brace framing probably used on Thornton house.

A hybrid construction method between heavier timber-framing of colonial architecture and lighter balloon-framing beginning ca. 1820.

Source: Asher Benjamin, Practical House Carpenter (Boston: By the author, 1835), 96.





(JSAH), Vol. 30, no. 1 (Mar., 1971), 41.

# Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log.

## **Photo Log**

Name of Property:Susan Thornton HouseCity or Vicinity:Charles TownCounty:JeffersonState:West VirginiaPhotographer (s):Addison Reese, John DemerDate Photographed:October 20, 2022Description of Photograph(s), number, and view indicating direction of camera:

## Number Description/Direction of Camera

1 of 11	WV_Jefferson_County_Susan Thornton House_0001
	Susan Thornton house north façade. View from north to south.
2 of 11	WV_Jefferson_County_Susan Thornton House_0002
	Susan Thornton house east façade. View from east to west.
3 of 11	WV_Jefferson_County_Susan Thornton House_0003
	Susan Thornton house south façade. View south to north.
4 of 11	WV_Jefferson_County_Susan Thornton House_0004
	Susan Thornton house view southeast to northwest.
5 of 11	WV_Jefferson_County_Susan Thornton House_0005
	Susan Thornton house west façade. View west to east.
6 of 11	WV_Jefferson_County_Susan Thornton House_0006
	Susan Thornton house. View northwest to southeast.
7 of 11	WV_Jefferson_County_Susan Thornton House_0007
	Susan Thornton house cellar addition. View southwest to northeast.
8 of 11	WV_Jefferson_County_Susan Thornton House_0008
	Susan Thornton poultry house. View east to west.
9 of 11	WV_Jefferson_County_Susan Thornton House_0009
	Susan Thornton poultry house. View south to north.
10 of 11	WV_Jefferson_County_Susan Thornton House_0010
	Susan Thornton house kitchen addition to original board-and-batten siding.
11 of 11	WV_Jefferson_County_Susan Thornton House_0011
	Susan Thornton garage. View northeast to southwest.

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WV\_Jefferson\_County\_Susan Thornton House\_0001 Susan Thornton house north façade. View from north to south.



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WV\_Jefferson\_County\_Susan Thornton House\_0003 Susan Thornton House south façade. View south to north.



Susan Thornton house view southeast to northwest.

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WV\_Jefferson\_County\_Susan Thornton House\_0005 Susan Thornton house west façade. View west to east.



Nathan Haines Farm SG100008071 (boundary increase to include Susan Thornton House) Name of Property

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WV\_Jefferson\_County\_Susan Thornton House\_0007 Susan Thornton house cellar addition. View southwest to northeast.



WV\_Jefferson\_County\_Susan Thornton House\_0008 Susan Thornton poultry house. View east to west.

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WV\_Jefferson\_County\_Susan Thornton House\_0009 Susan Thornton poultry house. View south to north.



WV\_Jefferson\_County\_Susan Thornton House\_0010 Susan Thornton house kitchen addition to original board-and-batten siding. View to northeast.

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Susan Thornton garage. View northeast to southwest.

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

Tier 1 - 60-100 hours Tier 2 - 120 hours Tier 3 - 230 hours Tier 4 - 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.