

HISTORIC FURNISHING REPORT

MASSANUTTEN LODGE AT SKYLAND Shenandoah National Park

National Park Service

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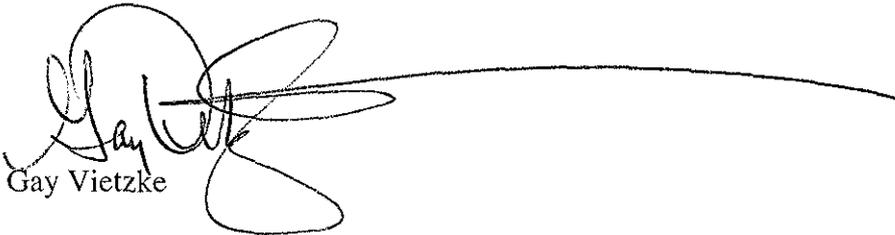
Memorandum

To: Technical Information Center, Information and Production, Information and
Production Services Division, Denver Service Center

From: Acting Director, Northeast Museum Services Center

Subject: Transmittal of Historic Furnishing Plan for Massanutten Lodge at Skyland,
Shenandoah National Park

Enclosed please find one copy of the completed Historic Furnishing Report for Massanutten
Lodge at Skyland, Shenandoah National Park. If you would like additional copies, please
contact the Northeast Museum Services Center at (617) 242-5613.


Gay Vietzke

Enclosure



HISTORIC FURNISHING REPORT
MASSANUTTEN LODGE AT SKYLAND
SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK

Luray, Virginia

by

Ellen Paul Denker

NORTHEAST MUSEUM SERVICES CENTER
Boston Support Office, National Park Service
United States Department of the Interior
2000

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Although my name is on the title page of this report, I am only the author. Many persons contributed information and insights to its substance both through previous published research and current comments and assistance. The historic structure report by John and Cherry Dodd formed the basis of the research for this furnishing report, while current Cultural Resources Specialist Reed Engle provided invaluable perspectives on the fabric of the original structure. Educator Karen Michaud helped me understand the interpretive goals for the site and Intern Carrie Janney guided me through the park's archives. Nancy Waters, Senior Curator at the Northeast Museum Services Center, piloted the project and was always ready with direction and insights on content as well as procedures.

Ellen Paul Denker
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Management Summary

Massanutten Lodge was built by Addie Nairn Hunter in 1911 on land purchased from George Pollock. The Lodge became an important element in Pollock's Skyland resort, first architecturally and second because of its association with Pollock. Mrs. Hunter married Pollock late in 1911 and Pollock lived in the lodge with her for many years. Architecturally, the lodge was an important addition to Skyland. Designed by Victor Mindeleff, Massanutten Lodge embodied the stylistic genre of Skyland through use of massive boulders and rustic surfaces.

Massanutten Lodge consists of two rooms plus a bath. The original entrance to the lodge was through an overhanging porch on the east side and into a small front hall. The large public space to the right of the entrance is a living room oriented east to west with a massive stone fireplace on the east end and a large porch on the west commanding a dramatic view of the Massanutten Range. A bedroom to the left of the entrance is the principal room of an L-shaped wing on the south side of the living room. A small bath adjoins the bedroom and is located spatially between the living room and bed room. The interior surface of all rooms were unfinished originally, without plaster ceiling or walls. Most of the lodge's original hardware is retained.

After sale of Skyland to the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1930, the Pollocks retained life tenancy to Massanutten Lodge. Mrs. Pollock died in 1944. Following Mr. Pollock's death in 1949, the lodge was emptied of personal effects. Virginia Sky-land Company, the concessioner for Skyland, used the lodge for housing its personnel until 1969, when the National Park Service took over use of the property as ranger quarters. When John Bruce Dodd inspected the lodge for his 1977 Historic Structure Report, he noted its dilapidated condition. The dramatic overhang of the large porch on the west side was missing and the interior had been painted and remodeled over the years to suit modern tastes. Massanutten Lodge was poorly maintained until the General Management Plan of 1983 proposed that it be used as a visitor contact station for Skyland. The lodge was restored between 1983 and 1987. The current historic furnishings report describes the building and use of the structure and gives a plan for furnishing the living room based on documentary photographs of about 1915. The interpretive plan suggests restoring the bathroom to its original appearance (but not furnishing it beyond its original fixtures) and using the former bedroom as an exhibition space.

PART I: ADMINISTRATIVE BACKGROUND AND HISTORICAL DATA

NPS Administrative Background

The initial commercial development of the area called Skyland today began about 1845. Miners' Lode Copper Company, comprised primarily of George H. Pollock, a prosperous Washington, D.C. importer, and Stephen M. Allen, president of the Massachusetts Historical Society in Boston, purchased 5,371 acres of land on Stony Man Mountain for the mining of copper. The area that became Skyland was greatly cleared of trees for a charcoal operation that supported the mining process. The copper was smelted around the plateau at Furnace Spring, and the operation ceased by 1850 because the ore was limited and of poor quality. Although the land provided no income for its owners during the next quarter century, local residents grazed their cattle and pigs in the clearings, removed lumber and tanbark, and generally "squatted" on the land.

Pollock's son, George Freeman Pollock (born 1868) fancied himself a naturalist and had a keen interest in taxidermy. When Dr. William T. Hornaday, young Pollock's mentor at the Smithsonian Institution, asked him in 1886 to collect specimens of small animals, the elder Pollock suggested his son do his searching on the copper tract. Young Pollock was so taken by the scenic splendor of the region that he returned to Washington determined to share his enthusiasm with others through a rustic resort. His father was willing to pursue the idea as a way of making some money with the languishing property and convinced Allen along with Colonel John Bowles, a Washington real estate developer, to buy out the other stockholders and develop potential buyers for resort property. By 1889, young Pollock had collected \$3,000 from sales of lots. He had also established Kearney, English and Pollock, Millowners, Builders and Contractors to process and sell the materials necessary to build cabins at the Stony Man camp.¹

Over the next few years, Pollock and others built several cabins and a log stable, in addition to the lumber mill. In 1891, Pollock fenced 125 acres to establish control of the land and began accumulating his own livestock, including dairy cattle, horses, mules, pigs, and chickens. But the following few years were problematic. The declining economy sent Pollock to other jobs and in 1893, the worst year of a very bad depression, both Allen and Pollock's father died leaving the legal status of the property in chaos for a decade. In protest against the problems he had caused them, the local squatters burned the resort buildings that had been built.

¹ Fletcher Kearney of Winchester, Virginia, and Harry English, a math teacher from Washington were G. F. Pollock's partners. The history that is summarized here can be found described in greater detail in pertinent chapters in George Freeman Pollock, Skyland: The Heart of Shenandoah National Park (Washington, DC: Chesapeake Book Company, 1960); John Bruce Dodd and Cherry Dodd, Historic Structure Report: Massanutten Lodge, Skyland, Shenandoah National Park, Virginia (Washington DC: United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1977); and Darwin Lambert, "Administrative History, Shenandoah National Park, 1924-1976," (ms., U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1979).

In 1894, Pollock started over, entertaining guests in tents rather than cabins and planting his first vegetable garden. By 1902, most of the prime scenic building sites along the western edge of the plateau had been sold and developed, Pollock had built a dining hall, recreation hall, acetylene gas plant, bath houses, kitchen, and a number of cabins. He had also greatly expanded the vegetable garden, and added a flower garden.

Addie Nairn Hunter spent her first summer at Skyland in 1910 and by the end of the year she had purchased a lot and perhaps also agreed to marry Pollock. In 1911 she hired Victor Mindeleff as her architect and built Massanutten Lodge. In November of that year she married Pollock in New York City. Massanutten Lodge was among the first cabins to have a bathroom with water heated in a coil system built into the fireplace. Waterworks and sewers were added to Skyland in 1923.

Skyland continued to develop until 1930. The survey for that year showed that more than 54 structures were in use, although several were destined for removal. The camp was developed on a plateau surrounded by steep slopes and cliffs. Two springs provided running water and bathing pools. The facilities used in common were built around a central open space and all of the buildings shared rustic elements such as porches made of timbers and exterior walls covered with bark. In addition, all deeds contained the proviso that only "a rustic dwelling built either of logs or of frame covered with bark" could be erected on the property. Individual owners were allowed to develop their own grounds within a certain rustic expression. George E. Judd eventually owned 13 acres and built extensive gardens on his property, which are being restored at this time. Addie Pollock built a gazebo, planted trees, and surrounded Massanutten Lodge with a flower garden in the naturalistic taste. Split rail fences, low rock walls, flower borders, and fern beds were common. The physical characteristics of the buildings and grounds gave the resort a village appearance with solid comforts—hot and cold running water, gas light (and later electricity), and fellow campers with the same values and goals.

In 1923, NPS Director Stephen T. Mather suggested in his annual report to the Secretary of the Interior that an eastern national park be created in the Appalachian Mountains. The following year, Secretary Hubert Work appointed a Southern Appalachian National Park Committee (SANPC) to locate, study, and recommend a site. At first the committee was convinced that nothing north of the Smokies was acceptable. However, Harold Allen, also of Washington, and his friends Pollack and Judd, together with L. Ferdinand Zerkel influenced SANPC to recommend Virginia's Blue Ridge in December 1924, declaring it "the outstanding and logical place for the establishment of the first new national park in the eastern section of the United States."

In 1925, the Shenandoah National Park Association (SNPA) was established to lobby for park legislation and raise money to purchase the land through the Commonwealth of Virginia. Authorizing legislation was passed in the spring of 1926. Virginia then engaged in the long legal process to condemn and purchase the land which was turned over to the U.S. government in December 1935. On July 3, 1936, President Franklin D. Roosevelt dedicated the park before 5,000 people gathered at Big Meadows.

The Pollocks sold their land to the Commonwealth in 1930, retaining life tenancy for Massanutten Lodge and the Annex.² Pollock also retained the right to run Skyland, which he continued to do until 1937, when the Virginia Sky-Line Company, Inc., officially took over management of the site. The advancing crowds of tourists created problems that Pollock's old methods of providing service no longer served. Superintendent Lassiter's monthly report for July 1936 noted that Pollock was "continuing his operation in the same manner in which he has operated Skyland for the past 35 or 40 years, not adjusting."³

Although the park was not officially dedicated until 1936, there had already been much development within its boundaries. Construction plans for Skyline Drive were announced by NPS in March 1931. By October 1932, the road was opened to Skyland and a year later to Front Royal. Pollock's comfortable upper middle class Appalachian village was now poised to become a major part of a public recreational experience. Construction of Skyline Drive required change in the layout of the resort itself. In order to accommodate a loop road that joined the resort to the drive several buildings were removed, the gardens bisected, and the grounds around several cottages, including Massanutten Lodge, were altered. A number of cottages were removed between 1933 and 1936 because they were in poor condition or unsuitable for the public. And in 1936, NPS landscape architect Charles M. Peterson recommended removal of the bark covering from most of the remaining buildings because it encouraged rot and "looked like a forced rusticity which is too delicate and 'arty' for the type of structure one would expect to find at a development such as Skyland." By 1937 the "rehabilitation" and "modernization" of Skyland had begun. Bark was removed from most of the existing buildings and replaced with rough slab boards or sawn siding. New buildings were finished in the same way. In 1939, Virginia Sky-Line built a recreation hall which established a new standard definition for what constituted "rustic" at Skyland.⁴

After George Pollock's death in 1949, furnishings of the Lodge and Annex were removed by Pollock's executor, J. Reginald Boyd, and sold at auction by the Murray Galleries in Washington, D.C. Massanutten Lodge was used as personnel housing first by Virginia Sky-Line Company, until 1969, and later by NPS.⁵ John Bruce Dodd and his wife, Cherry Dodd, were engaged by NPS to research and write an historic structure report, which was published in 1977. At the time, Massanutten Lodge was in poor condition, the overhanging portion of the western porch had been long gone and significant alterations had been made inside. According to the draft for the Skyland historic district nomination, "Massanutten Lodge was poorly maintained until the

² This tenancy was confirmed in a subsequent agreement signed in January 1938 and rental negotiated at a rate substantially less than other landholders due to Pollock's long-time investment in the property. See Lambert ms., p. 258.

³ Quoted in Lambert ms., p. 257.

⁴ See Reed Engle, "National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for Skyland Historic District." Draft, 1988.

⁵ See Dodd & Dodd, Historic Structure Report, p. 107.

General Management Plan of 1983 proposed that it be used as a visitor contact station for Skyland. The House was restored between 1983 and 1987..."⁶

Site Significance:

George Freeman Pollock's Skyland was one of many mountain, seaside, and scenic resort areas that developed during the late 19th and early 20th centuries as short-term remedies for the mental and physical afflictions caused by the noise, pollution, and congestion of increasingly urban American life. Seaside resorts had been popular with wealthy Americans since the 18th century, when summer fevers made city life dangerous. By the third quarter of the 19th century, scenic mountain areas in New York, Pennsylvania, and Virginia beckoned sturdy adventurers in search of nature's novelties. Pollock was one of them. While many summer resort communities were traditionally the enclaves of the very wealthy; others, like Skyland, attracted the growing number of professionals—industrialists, managers, civil servants, and educators—who made enough money to afford resort vacations or summer homes outside cities, but sought simpler pleasures away from the fashionable and costly "watering holes" of the wealthy.

For more than 40 years, Pollock operated Skyland as a mountain resort community on land inherited from his father and subdivided for development. Pollock built cabins on some lots for rental or sale, while other lots were sold undeveloped. Vacationers who rented cabins often turned into residents who bought property. Skyland's proximity to Washington, D.C. attracted Pollock in the first place and many other Washingtonians followed, including Smithsonian entomologist Harrison Gray Dyar, educator Thomas Fell, explorer and architect Victor Mindeleff (who designed Massanutten Lodge), the famous Byrd family of Virginia, which produced politicians and explorers, National Geographic publisher George H. Judd, and wealthy society matrons such as Addie Nairn Hunter. Hunter built Massanutten Lodge in 1911 on land purchased from Pollock in 1910. She married Pollock in November 1911. Thus, residents and vacationers could count on finding their own kind hiking the trails and eating in the dining hall at Skyland. When the Secretary of Interior appointed a National Park Committee to look for a site in the southern Appalachians to designate as a national park, Pollock's friends Harold Allen, a Skyland regular, and George Judd, a Skyland landowner, used their influence and powers of persuasion to help create Shenandoah National Park, which included Skyland as a developed resort area within the park.

While other areas of Shenandoah National Park have subsequently been developed as resorts, Skyland has remained in name and place. The original rustic character of its surviving cabins was largely lost during periods of maintenance and renovation over the past sixty years. Furthermore, construction of motel-type accommodations below the original Skyland has obscured the village arrangement of the cabins. However, outlines of Pollock's rustic resort community have been retained where original buildings survive and a conscientious effort has

⁶ Engle, "National Register Nomination"

been made during the last decade to replace inappropriate roofing materials with wood shingles and restore porches when possible in an effort to revive the resort's appearance in 1935.

A National Register nomination for Skyland as a historic district is currently in draft form. This nomination cites Skyland's significance under Criteria A, B, and C: "Criterion A is applicable because Skyland is an integral part of America's search for recreational opportunities beginning in the last half of the nineteenth century. Criterion B is applicable because of Skyland's association with several individuals of national and many others of state significance. Criterion C is relevant to Skyland because the Judd Gardens and the historic buildings collectively are characteristic of a type, period, or method of construction" especially in their adherence to the rustic cottage style of the late nineteenth century.⁷

Massanutten Lodge is one corner of Skyland that retains its original rustic qualities architecturally in its commanding position above the modern buildings and its lavish use of bark and rustic pillars and railings. Restoration of its interior furnishings and exterior landscaping will further enhance its architectural fidelity to the Skyland of the Pollocks' era.

Significance and Evaluation of Historic Furnishings:

Although few furnishings associated directly with the lodge have been recovered, photographs of the interior show that the furnishings that were in use between ca. 1915 and ca. 1940 were typical of rustic resort furnishings from the first half of the twentieth century. Wicker seating furniture and plain oak case furniture coordinated with the "unfinished" character of the interior ceiling and walls of Massanutten Lodge. These serviceable materials were juxtaposed with handmade textiles. Middle-Eastern wool rugs, American Indian baskets, European textiles on benches and pillows, and handworked table coverings gave the lodge the appearance of having been worked from nature by sophisticated human intelligence of wide-ranging ethnicity. By contrast, Addie Pollock's home in Washington, D.C. was custom built in an historical style and furnished with highly finished decorations in courtly Anglo-Saxon taste, exquisitely polished and neatly upholstered, that required a staff for regular maintenance.

In addition to the requisite chairs and tables, furnishings in Massanutten Lodge included a number of pieces associated with the leisure activities that pleased Mr. and Mrs. Pollock: an upright piano, a bird cage, a large baize- or leather- covered table for playing cards, a Victrola and later an Atwater Kent radio, and many, many books. Mrs. Pollock was a classical pianist, who nursed wild birds and squirrels (and even kept a few as pets) and loved music, poker, and books.

⁷ Engle, "National Register Nomination," pp. 25-26. On pages 26-28, the historical perspective that meets Criterion A is discussed. On pages 28-30 the significant persons are profiled who qualify the district under Criterion B. (Additional research on the significant women of Skyland is currently underway.) On pages 30-33 the historical architectural and landscape design significance pertaining to Criterion C is provided.

Of special note in the lodge is the fireplace inglenook with two built-in benches that are large enough to convert to beds for overnight guests, although there is no direct evidence that they were intended for this use or that they were ever used in this way.

Historical Data

Construction and Historical Use of Structure:

Addie Nairn Hunter purchased her Skyland lot from George Freeman Pollock for \$200 at the end of the 1910 resort season, her first season at Skyland.⁸ The deed for the lot, approximately 100 feet square, was executed September 17 and recorded in Page County on September 20 of that year.⁹ The deed contained "the usual restrictions as to its use, as are made in the sale of all Skyland lots namely as follows. The lot can be used only for the purpose of erecting thereon a rustic dwelling built either of logs or of frame covered with bark. It cannot be used for housekeeping purposes, or to keep boarders, a store, stable, bar, or to maintain any kind of a nuisance of any kind..." Meals were to be taken in the common dining hall.

Mrs. Hunter's purpose was to build a cottage for her personal use. The cottage was called Massanutten Lodge, even before it was built, as homage the dramatic view it would have westward toward the Massanutten Range. Mrs. Hunter chose the architect Victor E. Mindeleff, who was already famous for the rustic stone houses he had designed for Glen Echo, a development of the Chautauqua National Assembly that was built within ten miles of Washington, D.C. Mindeleff and his wife were also landowners at Skyland. Between 1903 and 1909 the Mindeleffs bought several lots and built three cottages, ranging in size from one to seven rooms. Each cottage also had a bathroom. *Tryst of the Winds* is the only one of the three that still exists, but it was moved outside of the park boundary near Luray. Pollock had known Mindeleff for many years. They probably met at Glen Echo, when they both worked there 1891-1893. According to the claim made by Addie to the Commonwealth of Virginia when it was buying the properties to develop the Shenandoah National Park, Mindeleff was paid \$400 for his design and an extra \$100 for supervising the construction.

Massanutten Lodge has two rooms and a bath arranged in an L-shape on one floor. The two primary rooms are a great room or living room and a bedroom. A small bathroom was accessible from the bedroom. The original entrance to the cottage was through a protected porch on the east side and into a small entrance hall. From this cozy space, the living room was available to the right and the bedroom to the left. Behind a third door straight ahead was a narrow staircase to the attic.¹⁰ The dramatic 30% slope of the site required the use of massive stone pillars to support the balcony side of the cottage. In keeping with the deed restrictions, the area between the piers was framed in and subsequently covered with bark. The front facade, facing away from the view, is also stone, while the sides of the lodge are half timbered and stuccoed. According to Pollock's account, "the native stone...was being quarried nearby."¹¹

⁸ This cost is quoted in Dodd & Dodd, *Historic Structure Report*, from land records, p. 33; Engle, "National Register Nomination," notes \$250, which was probably taken from Addie's 1930 claim to the Commonwealth.

⁹ See Dodd & Dodd, *Historic Structure Report*, p. 147 (Appendix D) for transcript of deed.

¹⁰ A portion of this stairway was removed at some time after NPS took possession of the lodge perhaps to provide a second door into the bathroom.

¹¹ Pollock, *Skyland*, pp. 162-163.

George Pollock's nephew, Wallace Dyar, remembered that the stonework for the lodge was constructed by Charlie Sisk, a mountaineer.¹²

Dodd & Dodd suggest that Pollock probably acted as the general contractor for the job and that Mrs. Hunter took a personal interest in the lodge's construction, visiting the site and no doubt making choices for hardware and fixtures. Building began in the spring of 1911 and the lodge was likely occupied at some point during that year, although it does not appear on the Page County tax rolls until 1912. On November 29, 1911, Addie Nairn Hunter married George Freeman Pollock in New York City.

The brochure published in 1911 for the camp points out that erection of a new waterworks meant that cabins and cottages could have full sanitary facilities, and a new acetylene gas plant meant that there was "plenty of hot water at any time" if the cabin owner installed a gas heater. When Mrs. Pollock filed her claim with the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1930 she described the lodge as being "fully fitted out for acetylene gas, which was used, and still can be used, as all connections remain."¹³

All the original interior spaces retain their exposed wood frame walls and ceilings. These were painted gray or white at some time during the Virginia Sky-Line/NPS period. Only the living room has had the paint stripped to reveal the original finish.¹⁴

For detailed information about the building and construction of Massanutten, see John Bruce Dodd and Cherry Dodd's *Historic Structure Report* for the National Park Service (1977). Dodd & Dodd's description of the lodge's construction and the evidence that remains of its original fabric is largely accurate, although some refinement of his observations can now be made based on recent dismantling of the kitchen.

As noted above, the area that housed a kitchen for many years was the original entrance to the lodge. A porch roof covered the original doorway from the time the lodge was built. Dodd & Dodd speculates that the upright holding the free corner of this porch was originally a log post matching the pillars that support the roof of the west porch. At some point, Dodd & Dodd speculate, this post was replaced by a stone pier and the open space from the original stone southeast corner of the lodge to the new pier was filled in with matching stone and a window to admit natural light to the space. A Norfolk & Western photograph dated 1929 shows this new pier and wall in place, but how much earlier the renovation was made is unknown. Inspection of this wall today from the outside shows distinct differences in the laying of the stone and confirms Dodd & Dodd's source of speculation.

¹² Wallace Dyar, transcription of interview with Anita Badertscher and George Dowery, August 23, 1993 (original in Shenandoah National Park Archives), p. 36.

¹³ Dodd & Dodd, *Historic Structure Report*, p. 41, claims that full documentation for the acetylene system "is lacking," however, recent inspection of the lodge found plugs in the woodwork where the pipes would have come into the house for interior and exterior lighting.

¹⁴ See Dodd & Dodd, *Historic Structure Report*, p. 44, in architectural data section for a picture of the appearance of the living room when it was being used as ranger quarters in the 1970s.

Additional changes were made to the lodge before 1939. Mrs. Pollock notes in her claim filed with the Commonwealth in October 1930 that the lodge was originally supplied with acetylene gas service, but "Latter fitted with complete electrical equipment, including stoves and frigidaire." (Spelling and capitalization have been taken from claim.) A photograph dated 1939, taken by Wallace J. Dyar and preserved in the Page County Library, shows that the north balcony was altered to serve as an entry porch for the door on the north side of the lodge. This door originally opened only onto the balcony and was not an entrance to the lodge. In the 1939 photograph it appears to serve as the entry door to the lodge. These changes in orientation of the lodge may have taken place when the original entry porch on the east side of the lodge was turned into a kitchen sometime before October 1930, but after the 1929 Norfolk & Western photograph was taken. Entry to the lodge through the kitchen would not have been considered.

Recent dismantling of the kitchen area suggests that the current south facing end wall with door was constructed in the early 1960s. This date is indicated by the type of building materials that were used and is consistent with the time when NPS took over the building for ranger housing. However, there would have been an earlier wall, probably with door, that this ca. 1960 carpentry replaced. At some point the original wooden porch floor was covered with poured concrete, which was used as the setting bed for the vinyl tile floor.¹⁵

NPS use of the lodge for ranger quarters may also have lead to the removal of the lower portion of the stairway that went to the attic. Although the HSR cites no evidence of the stairs coming completely to the first floor, shadows of the treads and risers were noted by several observers on a recent inspection of the lodge for the purposes of the current report. The stairs may have been removed to provide a second doorway to the bathroom, a doorway which is inconsistent with the original design of the lodge.

Evidence observed during the recent dismantling of the kitchen space calls into question the exterior colors shown in the 1977 HSR. In Section 5 of Part 4, Architectural Data, Dodd & Dodd show the exterior colors to be Cocoa on the timbers, Green on the sash and screens, and Gray on the Stucco. During the recent dismantling, an area of original wood was scraped to determine the sequence of color. It appears that the wood was first left to weather in its original surface. Subsequently a brown stain was added. Current speculation on this suggests that the stain came after the stone pier was put in place to support the porch as can be observed in the area where the ceiling changes to accommodate the new pier. Paint was used to mimic the stain at some later date, although it presents a much different overall color. The current colors would have become standard at some time long before Dodd & Dodd's research for the 1977 HSR, but the date of their first use is currently unknown. Expert paint analysis would confirm the sequence described here and perhaps suggest the approximate date of the color change.

The gardens associated with Massanutten Lodge were carefully planned and tended by Mrs. Pollock, although she chose a romantic, rather than formal, organization for them. George

¹⁵ Reed Engle, Cultural Resources specialist, SNP, to Nancy Waters, Senior Curator, Northeast Museum Services Center, e-mail message, January 7, 1999.

Pollock's great-niece Rosemary Brandenburg Roberts remembered, "Around Massanutten Lodge, there were mostly wild flowers—rhododendron, azaleas, dogwood, columbine, etc. I think Aunt Addie wanted to keep it as natural as possible." Other regular Skyland visitors remembered also day lilies, dahlias, and cosmos.¹⁶ The garden surrounded the lodge and lined the paths that approached it on the east and the gazebo on the south side. Even years later, Mrs. Pollock remembered to list landscaping costs on her claim, noting: "All pines and most of the trees were planted when young, and carefully raised on both north and south sides of the house."¹⁷ A few reminders of this garden can still be seen here and there around the lodge, but most of it has passed with no one to tend it.

The Pollocks spent approximately eight months each year at Skyland after the lodge was built, often remaining until just after Christmas, when they would move to Mrs. Pollock's house in Chevy Chase. During the period of World War I, they lived at the lodge year round. Following the war and until the mid 1930s, Mrs. Pollock was in residence at Skyland from mid April to the end of September. As the years wore on, her health declined, her interests changed, and her visits became irregular. Once the lodge was bought her interest in using it waned even though she and George Pollock retained life rights. Instead of spending the season at Skyland, she often visited for only a few days at a time. She died in 1944, he died in 1949, and use of the lodge passed to the National Park Service.

Many Skyland regulars knew Massanutten Lodge as "Poker Flat" because of the non-stop poker games that were frequently a part of life in the cottage. Alcohol consumption was also routine, even during the years of Prohibition. Music was a big part of life in the lodge as well. Mrs. Pollock was an excellent classical pianist and kept a Victrola for listening to popular music. When electricity was available, she had an early Atwater Kent radio. Mrs. Pollock was considered well read, and the walls of the lodge were lined with books.

George Pollock's autobiographical history of Skyland is filled with the raucous entertainments he staged for his guests and the general mayhem of running a rustic resort. But life at Skyland could also be quiet, relaxing, and contemplative. Pollock described a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Walter Reid of Boston, who spent their honeymoon at Skyland one fall after it "had closed for the season.... Mr. Reid was a member of the Lambs Club of New York, Mrs. Reid was a poet They spent the evenings with Mrs. Pollock and me in Massanutten Lodge, where we would have pleasant card games and readings of poetry We had wonderful horseback rides with Mr. and Mrs. Reid, as well as wonderful hikes, and once Mr. Reid and I had a wild pig hunt."¹⁸

The community at Skyland was close-knit. Although information about overnight guests at the Pollocks' lodge is not available, we can presume that other Skyland residents would have been

¹⁶ For Roberts' quotation and the comments of other informants, see Dodd & Dodd, Historic Structure Report, p. 42.

¹⁷ Dodd & Dodd, Historic Structure Report, part 4, section 4.

¹⁸ Pollock, Skyland, pp. 168-169.

entertained at Massanutten Lodge on numerous occasions. Families and individuals who owned property at Skyland at the same time as Mrs. Pollock included the politician Richard E. Byrd and his sons, Richard and Harry, as well as their wives, Elinor Bolling Flood, Marie D. Ames, and [Harry Byrd's wife]; Smithsonian entomologist Harrison G. Dyar, his first wife Zella Peabody and second wife Wellesca Pollock Allen (George Pollock's sister); architect Victor Mindeleff; educator Thomas A. Fell and his wife Isabella Louisa Hunter, who lived in the cabin below Massanutten Lodge; U. S. Attorney General T.W. Gregory; Army Surgeon General Merrit O. Ireland; Colonel O. O'Stealey of Louisville; Carnegie Hall manager Augustus Goodyear Heaton; Dr. Gilbert H. Grosvenor, President of the National Geographic Society; NPS Director Stephen T. Mather; National Geographic publisher George H. Judd and his wife; among many others.

Analysis of Historic Occupancy

Addie Nairn Hunter Pollock

Born in 1873 in Washington, D.C., Addie Nairn lost her mother at an early age. Her father, John Nairn, a prosperous Washington druggist, lavished her with attention. In an interview with Dodd & Dodd, Swami Premananda, a close friend of Addie's late in her life, described her as "a brilliant scholar, acquiring an encyclopaedic knowledge of world culture and remained an avid student, attending lectures on diverse subjects throughout her life. She could converse with anyone on almost any subject including medicine, in which she had considerable interest. ... [Yet] she remained always humble and was never haughty or arrogant with others. She also became an excellent pianist and spent a great deal of time playing the works of such composers as Chopin and Bach. She had a piano in the living room at Massanutten Lodge and also a hand-wound Victrola and would entertain friends there playing records of spirituals and some popular music ... the songs of Paul Robeson were favorites of hers."¹⁹

Mrs. Pollock was also an ardent gardener, an accomplished horsewoman, an avid poker player, and something of a philanthropist where Skyland was concerned. On at least two occasions she purchased land to protect the trees or protect Skyland from development.²⁰

In addition to all of the above traits, Mrs. Pollock loved animals, especially small ones. She always had a pet dog, usually a Pekingese, and frequently nursed squirrels and birds back to health that she found injured or sick around Skyland. Her niece, Rosemary Roberts, reported that a flicker and a robin refused to leave her after they were cured, and she kept them as pets for several years. The robin even learned to play dead on cue. When Mrs. Pollock asked "Who

¹⁹ Dodd & Dodd, *Historic Structure Report*, pp. 87-88.

²⁰ See Pollock, *Skyland*, pp. 212-213, regarding Mrs. Pollock's role in saving the hemlocks of the Limberlost, and p. 163 regarding her purchase of land across from Massanutten Lodge from Brinton to protect it from mining operations.

killed Cock Robin?" the bird rolled onto its back and stuck its feet into the air.²¹ Her favorite horse was buried at Skyland.

Addie Nairn Hunter was married, or perhaps recently divorced, when she first stayed at Skyland in 1910. She and Pollock were married in November 1911, after Massanutten Lodge had been built. She was wealthier than Pollock and financed his antics and shortfalls for a number of years. In the mid 1920s, however, their close relationship was replaced with something more like mutual respect. She may also have banished him to his own quarters at some point, willing to share an evening's entertainment with him, but not a bed. However, they remained married and she continued to be committed to Skyland throughout the rest of her life.

Although she was raised in a strict Presbyterian household, Addie Nairn rejected the moralistic rules of her father, who disapproved of dancing and card playing and held the Sabbath as a holy day without entertainment. She continued to attend the family church, Fifth Avenue Presbyterian in Washington, D.C., but she led her life according to her own interests and standards. In 1930 a friend persuaded her to attend services at the nonsectarian Self-Revelation Church of Absolute Monism, founded by Bramachari Jotin of Calcutta in 1928. From then on, Mrs. Pollock was a devotee and became a close friend and follower of Swami Premananda (Bramachari Jotin, she called him B.J.). She served his Golden Lotus Temple faithfully, doing administrative work and organizing the library, which she kept open for users. The money she received from the sale of Massanutten Lodge to the Commonwealth became the seed money for the building of the new Golden Lotus Temple. B.J. spent considerable time at Skyland and became a major source of information for John and Cherry Dodd's HSR.

Mrs. Pollock died in 1944.

²¹ Dodd & Dodd, Historic Structure Report, p. 90.

George Freeman Pollock

Naturalist, entrepreneur, and showman, George Freeman Pollock was a man who lived the life of his dreams. He was smitten with the Appalachian landscape from the first day he saw it as a young man and managed to maneuver people and events to claim and work that landscape to his own ends. The founding of Shenandoah National Park ultimately proved the wisdom of his vision.

Born in New York City in 1868, Pollock spent much of his childhood in Washington, D.C. His father was a general merchant, specializing in later years in postcards, albums, and souvenirs; his mother was active in the kindergarten movement—she bore 10 children—publishing extensively and training teachers through programs she created.²² Young Pollock showed an unabashed interest in natural history from an early age. By the time he was 15, he had gained the attention of Smithsonian naturalist Dr. William T. Hornaday, who hoped to benefit from Pollock's youthful enthusiasm by sending him on a specimen-collection assignment. Instead, Pollock stumbled into an line of work that combined his interest in nature with his infectious gift for having a good time.

Using land long owned by his father (and partners), Pollock created a rustic Appalachian resort with a loyal clientele. Although there were problems in starting and continuing the operation, Pollock was always able to talk someone into helping him out by means of money or influence. And when neither of these worked—especially against the mountaineers—he simply used their own tactics against them, staking claims and defending those claims with fire power and bravado, when he needed land or resources they controlled. For Pollock's guests the danger of camp life, from snakes and weather, from mountaineers and difficult living conditions, were balanced by a concessionaire who gained undying loyalty through pampering and entertaining his guests. The tales of his escapades, safely preserved in his autobiographical *Skyland* and recounted today by the descendants of his *Skyland* guests, still resonate along Skyline Drive.

²² See Dod & Dodd, Historic Structure Report, pp. 4-6, for background on the Pollock family.

Evidence of Room Use and History of the Furnishings

Living Room

The living room was the principal space for Massanutten Lodge. A large rectangular room on the north side of the lodge, the room is anchored on the east by a massive stone fireplace and on the west by windows and doors opening on to an expansive porch with a dramatic view toward Massanutten Mountain. The room is entered by a door in the south wall that leads from the entrance hall. The ceiling above the fireplace end is lower than the full ceiling. In addition, two large built-in benches flank the hearth. The whole effect is of a warm, dark cozy corner or inglenook, lit only in day time by small casement windows flanking the breast of the fireplace and opening on the north and south walls above the built-in benches. Gas (later electrified) fixtures flank the alcove for artificial light

Formal photographs taken within a few years of the lodge's construction show the cozy benches covered with seating cushions and accented by pillows upholstered with woven middle eastern fabrics. The adjustable backs of the benches appear to be covered with woven mats. Informal shelves that have been constructed within the unfinished framework are filled with books. The windows are hung with simple glass curtains that extend below the frame. Brass gas lights with white glass shades are on the posts flanking the space. The floor of this area is primarily composed of the large hearth made of 6-inch terra cotta tiles.

The fireplace and attendant cozy area were visually separated from the rest of the room with a Caucasian rug approximately 3x6 or 4x8 that corresponds with the door in the north wall, leading to a small balcony, and the door in the south wall leading to the entrance hall.

The balance of the room is also the largest section occupying approximately two-thirds of the available floor space. This floor area is covered in the middle with a plain carpet having a series of contrasting stripes at either end. A smaller Asian rug marks the area between this main living space and the French doors opening to the large balcony on the west. The principal furniture of the room is arranged around the large carpet and is comprised of four wicker arm chairs shown on the four corners of the carpet, an oak table and wicker couch on the north wall, and an oak upright piano with bench on the south wall.

In the photograph of the west end of the room, additional furnishings are crowded into relatively small corners. Large double windows face each other from the north and south walls at this end of the room, while two smaller windows flank the French doors leading to the balcony. The curtains are plain and translucent. Books fill the open shelves fitted into the unfinished west wall. The horn of a Victrola can be seen in the northwest corner, as well as a hanging bird cage. Other items are only barely noticeable tucked behind the seating furniture. In the southwest corner is a large table holding a brass oil lamp with large glass globe, a jardiniere (of metal or ceramic) holding wild flowers and foliage (perhaps dried), and some large finely bound books.

In addition to the principal pieces of furniture—piano, armchairs, tables, etc.—the room also shows the friendly clutter of souvenirs picked up on trips abroad, or at least beyond Skyland and Washington. Northwest Coast Indian artifacts, Indonesian carvings, and bits of Chinese porcelain are barely visible around the room. Wallace Dyar also mentioned in his 1993 interview the mounted animal heads and beer steins that were collected by Pollock and the bells collected later by Mrs. Pollock. Pillows and table coverings were made with tribal textiles from the Near and Far East.

The room was used in many ways that had to do with entertaining oneself and entertaining others. The four wicker armchairs, though arranged for the “official” photographs, were lightweight and movable. Smaller chairs are probably lurking unseen in the corners of these photographs, but would have been available at a moment’s notice for gathering around a poker table or pulling up to the piano or bringing into a conversational grouping. Two photographs taken by Wallace Dyar in 1940 and now in the Page County Library confirm the use of the smaller chairs. These photographs show the Pollocks gathered with several friends and playing cards (probably poker, their favorite game) around an oak gaming table covered with cloth or leather. Members of the assembled party are seated in a variety of small chairs that resemble either bentwood bar chairs or Hitchcock side chairs. Wicker seating is still visible in the room. This may be the same table that is barely visible in the southwest corner of the earlier photos, but pulled out for the later record.

In addition to card playing, we also know that Mrs. Pollock was an avid reader and a very sociable person. She also was a friend to small birds and animals, frequently nursing wild varieties back to health. The bird cage in the northwest corner of the room is evidence of these interests. Mrs. Pollock always had her own small dog in residence, usually a Pekingese. One of the 1940 Dyar photographs shows “Danny Boy” sitting on a Chinese silk pillow in the middle of the poker table with chips lying about.

A number of Pollock’s special entertainments no doubt revolved around the lodge. For example, he described in Skyland the evening before the last annual Christmas party when the men were waging a Roman Candle Battle below the cottage while “the ladies gathered to watch on the high porch at Massanutten Lodge.”²³ He continued the story: “The battle was a success, and we had returned to Massanutten Lodge to prepare for the next game on our program when we heard a knock.” The sequence of events and use of the cottage first by the ladies on the sidelines and later by all “to prepare for the next game” (likely with something harder than hot cider) was probably typical for his regular escapades.

In addition, the presence of a piano and a Victrola confirms oral accounts of Mrs. Pollock’s interest in music, both classical and popular. In remote Skyland, making music and playing records would have been the only ways to hear music performed. She later had a radio, one of the first made by Atwater Kent according to one source, to connect her to music being played elsewhere.

²³ Pollock, *Skyland*, p. 165.

Documentation:

Dyar interview, p. 13, re: Addie's bell collection—“She collected fine things. A lot of delicate things, like () tapestry. Of course one of her specialties in later years was bells. She had beautiful little glass bells, tiny little things, metal ones, and ceramic types of bells. In fact that's what I think she had used this little rack for, was to put some of her collection of bells on. ... I know she had a lot in her home in Washington, too. I saw (), marvelous collection. (p. 14) ...she had some tapestry pieces, and ().”

Dyar interview, p. 15, mentions that Addie had a chauffeur and that one of his jobs was combing the dog and another was making sure the dog's feet were clean before it came into the house. Dogs were generally Pekingese. He mentions Ming Toy.

Dyar, p. 14, re: Pollock's interest in collecting taxidermy-- “I think it might be worthwhile mentioning that Uncle George was a great outdoorsman. You might recall in his book Skyland that he got involved in taxidermy at one time and he did stuffed animals. It had to be something that might be considered to put on the walls. Because he'd take off antlers, and heads of boars, things of that sort. They were here [Massanutten Lodge], I remember them. And he had his bugle...”

Dyar interview, p. 7, The source of hot water was they had a coil, () in back of fireplaces. Then we'd have one of the mountain people would come around at the crack of dawn in the morning, about 5 o'clock would make the rounds of the cabins and build the fires in the fireplaces, start them while people were still asleep. You had to leave your door open so he could get in. ... By the time the people woke up ... they had hot water to bathe or wash with. But of course, they had to stoke ... take care of it themselves. Make sure you did it or the fire would go out and they'd have cold water. [question: did the coils go into a tank?] Yeah, yeah. They all had, maybe, I'd say maybe about a twenty or forty gallon tank outside of the cabin. The coil would usually wind up to about two, three, about four 'U's' [p. 8] () intake (). They were in the rear of the fireplace so that the heat from the fire would heat up the pipes.

Dyar interview, p. 12, re: Pollock's collecting & display-- “Of course he always picked up steins, from little miniatures, only maybe one, inch and a half, two inches tall, to the giant thing, oh over a foot and a half tall. So he'd line the, put a lot of them in Massanutten Lodge, he put them up here on the shelves around here, but mostly in Annex.” [Dyar tells about Pollock's relationship with Ballantine Beer's dining hall at the NY World's Fair].

Bedroom

The room is roughly square though cut across the southeast corner with a stone fireplace and hearth. A simple wooden mantel demarcates the change from stone to wood above. The hearth below is laid with 2 ½-inch square terra cotta tile. There are windows on the three outside walls. A doorway near the southwest corner opens onto the porch on the south side of the lodge. Doors in the north wall open into two closets, the bathroom, and the entrance hall.

There is little documentation for this room or its activities. No photographs are known to survive. Wallace Dyar remembered a large desk near the fireplace from which Mrs. Pollock worked as well as a four-poster double bed coming out from the west wall between the windows. What these pieces looked like and what other objects were in the room is largely unknown. Dyar also described the use of a mantel clock that stood on a shelf over the bed. This clock is now in SNP Archives.²⁴

The use of the desk in the bedroom suggests that Mrs. Pollock must have conducted some business in this room, but whether she actually admitted associates for business is unknown. Sleeping can also be assumed for the room, but any other activities are unknown. Whether Mr. and Mrs. Pollock slept together in the same bed or even in the same room is also unknown. Mr. Pollock had at least two additional cottages that he owned prior to his marriage and continued to maintain after his marriage. Eagle's Nest and the Annex are known to have contained his extensive collections of decorative arts, mounted hunting trophies, and steins, though some of these types of items may have been in the lodge as well.

The walls were unfinished originally. Original hardware, which matches hardware throughout the lodge, has been retained, except for the knob, lock, and keeper on the closet door in the northwest corner of the room. A small cupboard was crudely built into the southwest corner of the room at a much later date than that of the lodge's construction.

Documentation:

Dyar July 1993 interview notes, p. 4-- "There was an oak secretary, quite large and tall, about 4-5' wide, 6' high, 18-24" deep. Stood against the east wall, between the window and fireplace. Had a fold down desk, a number of drawers, doors that opened out on top, little letter compartments. Addie once showed him a secret compartment where she kept some money, showed him how to open it. He forgot how, and the secretary was sold at the auction... The bed stood against the west wall, between the windows. Remembers it as a four-poster bed. On the shelf between the two windows is where the clock Wally inherited stood. (note: the one he donated when he later visited)."

Dyar Aug 1993 interview, p. 39-- So as far as her bedroom is concerned, the only thing I remember () while she was alive, was that secretary. It would be well worth duplicating it (). My own recollect it was sort of a light wood, not () but more of a—would this be a pine or something?.... Sort of like a rosewood, a light shade of rosewood. It had the shelf, there, a writing shelf, and quite a number of little pigeon holes and a glass front above it. She kept various things in it. I think she had some of her bells in there. ... But the bells were a rather recent collection, she started collecting that was, well, it was in the '40's. Which () because that was the time I sent her the camel bell. () '33 or '34. But as far as details of this room, I'm just lost.

²⁴ Wallace Dyar to Anita Badertscher, telephone interview, July 1993, transcript notes, p. 4.

Dyar Aug 1993 interview, p. 16, mentions use of secretary-- "It was about three, three or four feet wide, ()... About six feet tall, I'd say. A lot of compartments and they had a fold-out drawer () ... Even with the cubby holes along the sides, she had one secret compartment, that only she knew the combination to. She would put money in there, and she never told me about this. ... I don't think even Uncle George knew about it."

Bathroom

The bathroom of Massanutten Lodge was original to the building of the structure and is among the first bathrooms to be built into the Skyland cottages. Mrs. Pollock notes in her claim that her house was "expensively built, the very best the market could afford." This lavish spending on a rustic cottage is evident even in the bathroom, which houses its original bathtub and accessories.²⁵ The accessories are chrome-plated brass throughout, including the soap and tumbler holder and robe hooks. The towel bar is white glass with chrome-plated brass attachments.

The window of the bath faces the major view to the west and provides ample afternoon light. Open informal shelving for storage was created within the existing framework of the unfinished walls. Additional shelving may also have been provided on the east wall which was later removed to provide a second entrance to the room from the original entrance hall.

The bath was provided with hot and cold running water, the hot water coming from the coil arrangement built into the living room fireplace. Dodd & Dodd make a general statement about the unpainted wall surface throughout the lodge, but there is no indication if paint analysis was done for his report to determine if the bathroom walls might have been painted originally, or shortly after the lodge's construction, to provide a reasonably sanitary cleanable surface.

Documentation:

Dyar interview, p. 17, re: getting hot water-- "Of course water was a problem. The old Furnace Spring downhill was the main source of water. Pipes () varied, because he didn't have the means of doing more than mostly just laying them just below the surface of the ground, which required draining in the fall and () freeze up. But he did have water brought in to all the cabins that were built. The source of hot water was they had a coil, () in back of fireplaces. Then we'd have one of the mountain people would come around at the crack of dawn in the morning, about 5 o'clock would make the rounds of the cabins and build the fires in the fireplaces, start them while people were still asleep. You had to leave your door open so he could get in. ... By the time the people woke up ... they had hot water to bathe or wash with. But of course, they had to stoke ... take care of it themselves. Make sure you did it or the fire would go out and they'd have cold water. [question: did the coils go into a tank?] Yeah, yeah. They

²⁵ According to Dodd & Dodd, Historic Structure Report, the stool and basin were replaced in 1954 by Virginia Skyline Company. See Section 4, p. 82.

all had, maybe, I'd say maybe about a twenty or forty gallon tank outside of the cabin. The coil would usually wind up to about two, three, about four 'U's' [p. 8] () intake (). They were in the rear of the fireplace so that the heat from the fire would heat up the pipes. ... [question: was there some way of circulating the water to warm the whole...] I know it circulated some because your tap would have hot water () get warm water, and water from the tank of course stayed warm. Of course, most of the cabins ... were not built for winter living."

West Porch

The large porch on the west side of Massanutten Lodge juts out dramatically from the great stone piers that support the building. The porch provided a large airy space for relaxing and entertaining. Today, there are benches that follow the outline of the porch railing. Although they are new and thinly made, they likely mimic to some degree benches that were there earlier. Large hooks in the great log piers that support the overhanging roof once held a large hammock. The porch was restored in the mid 1980s. In the 1977 HSR, the lodge is shown in contemporary photographs without the large balcony section of the porch because it had deteriorated and been removed earlier.

Documentation

Pollock, in Skyland, page 165, described the evening before the last annual Christmas party when the men were waging a Roman Candle Battle below the cottage while "the ladies gathered to watch on the high porch at Massanutten Lodge."

Entry

Although there is no written or oral documentation regarding the original entry, it clearly was through a large east door and into the Entrance Hall that remains today. The roof overhangs this doorway and was originally supported by a stone pier at the southeast corner of the Entry Porch that it covered. Subsequently a stone wall was constructed between the southeast corner of the original east wall of the Living Room and this pier. An uplifting casement window was probably built into this wall when it was added. This space was later completely enclosed on the southside and the Porch Entry converted to use as a kitchen probably when the Pollocks no longer took their meals in the dining hall. A small door in this south wall then functioned as the back door of the house and the original entry door was merely a divider between the new Kitchen and old Entrance Hall.

Illustrations

- Figure 1. Addie Nairn Hunter (Pollock) with Charlie Sisk & Eddie Parks
- Figure 2. Addie and George Pollock at the White House, 1925
- Figure 3. Massanutten Lodge with summerhouse and gardens ca. 1940 (color)
- Figure 4. Flowers along the entrance path ca. 1940 (color)
- Figure 5. General View of Skyland from promotional flyer ca. 1920 (SNP)
- Figure 6. Massanutten Lodge from the west ca. 1915 (Hepburn)
- Figure 7. Massanutten Lodge from the south ca. 1915 (Hepburn)
- Figure 8. Massanutten Lodge looking southwest along original entrance path, 1929
(Virginia Tech: Norfolk & Western Railroad Collection)
- Figure 9. Living Room looking east toward fireplace ca. 1915 (Hepburn)
- Figure 10. Living Room looking west toward doors and balcony ca. 1915 (Hepburn)
- Figure 11. Southwest corner of Living Room showing Pollocks and guests playing
cards, ca. 1940 (Page Co Library: W. J. Dyar photographer)
- Figure 12. Friend of Addie Pollock on Lodge balcony, late 1930s

Figure 1. Addie Nairn Hunter (Pollock) with Charlie Sisk and Eddie Parks in a photograph taken during the building of Massanutten Lodge in 1911. The two men were mountaineers who are said to have helped with the building of the lodge. The photograph was originally published in George Pollock's *Skyland* (1960), page 162.

Figure 2. Addie and George Pollock in a group photograph taken at the White House on January 19, 1925, and published in the *Shenandoah National Park Official Pictorial Book* (1929).



Figure 3 (color). Massanutten Lodge from the south with summerhouse and gardens in a photograph taken about 1940 by Wallace J. Dyar, a Pollock nephew who spent many summers at Skyland as a youngster and later as general assistant to Addie and George Pollock. The photograph was published originally in John and Cherry Dodd's Historic Structure Report (1977).

Figure 4 (color). Flowers along the entrance path to Massanutten Lodge in a photograph taken about 1940 by Wallace J. Dyar and published originally in John and Cherry Dodd's Historic Structure Report (1977).



Figure 5. A portion of the General View of Skyland from the promotional flyer published about 1920. Note the prominent location and distinctive balcony of Massanutten Lodge. SNP Archives



Figure 6. Massanutten Lodge at Skyland taken from the west and showing the great porch, the rustic garden fence and the lodge's early landscaping. The photograph was taken about 1915 by Charles J. Hepburn, Sr. SNP Archives

Figure 7. Massanutten Lodge at Skyland taken from the south about 1915 by Charles J. Hepburn, Sr. SNP Archives

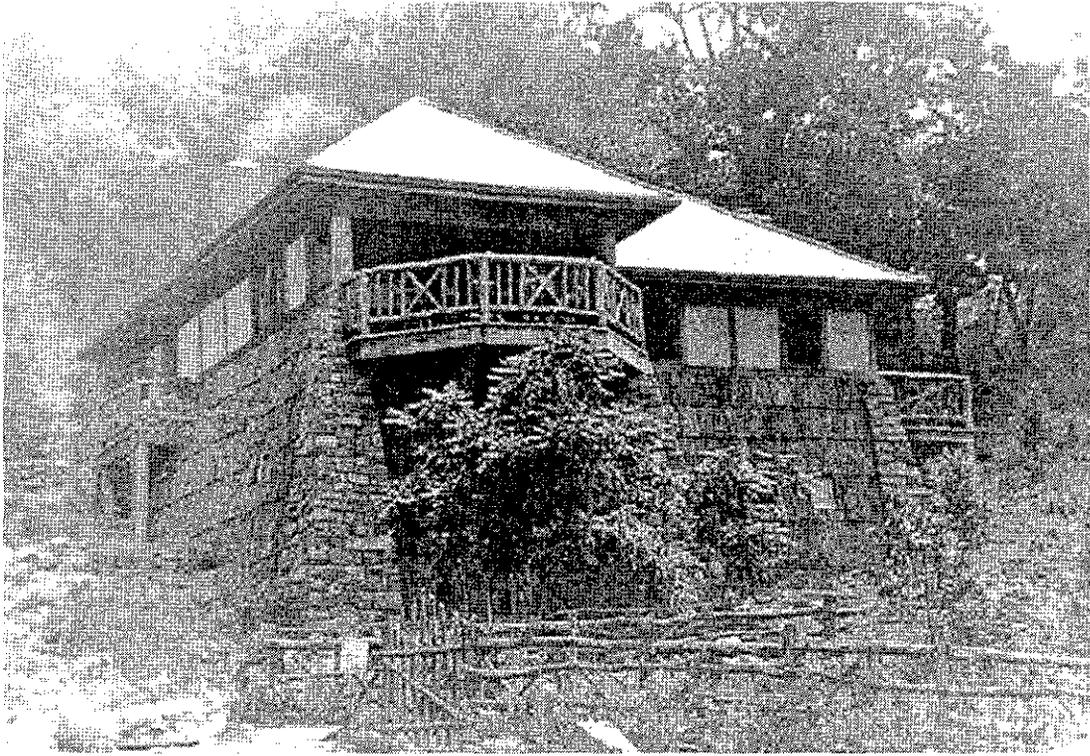


Figure 8. Massanutten Lodge looking toward the southwest along original entrance path that ran along the east side of the lodge toward the original southeast entry in a photograph taken in 1929 by the Norfolk & Western Railroad to promote tourism in the new park. Note the original balcony outside the door in the north wall of the Lodge¹ and the extension of the east wall from the fireplace to enclose the entrance. Virginia Polytechnic University Library: Norfolk & Western Railroad Collection

¹ Two photographs taken from the northeast in 1939 by Wallace Dyar and now preserved in the Page County Library, Luray, Virginia, show the same balcony altered to serve as an entrance, confirming the opinion that the original entrance on the east side of the lodge was later altered for use as a kitchen.



Figure 9. The Living Room of Massanutten Lodge looking east toward the great fireplace in a photograph taken about 1915 by Charles J. Hepburn, Sr. SNP Archives

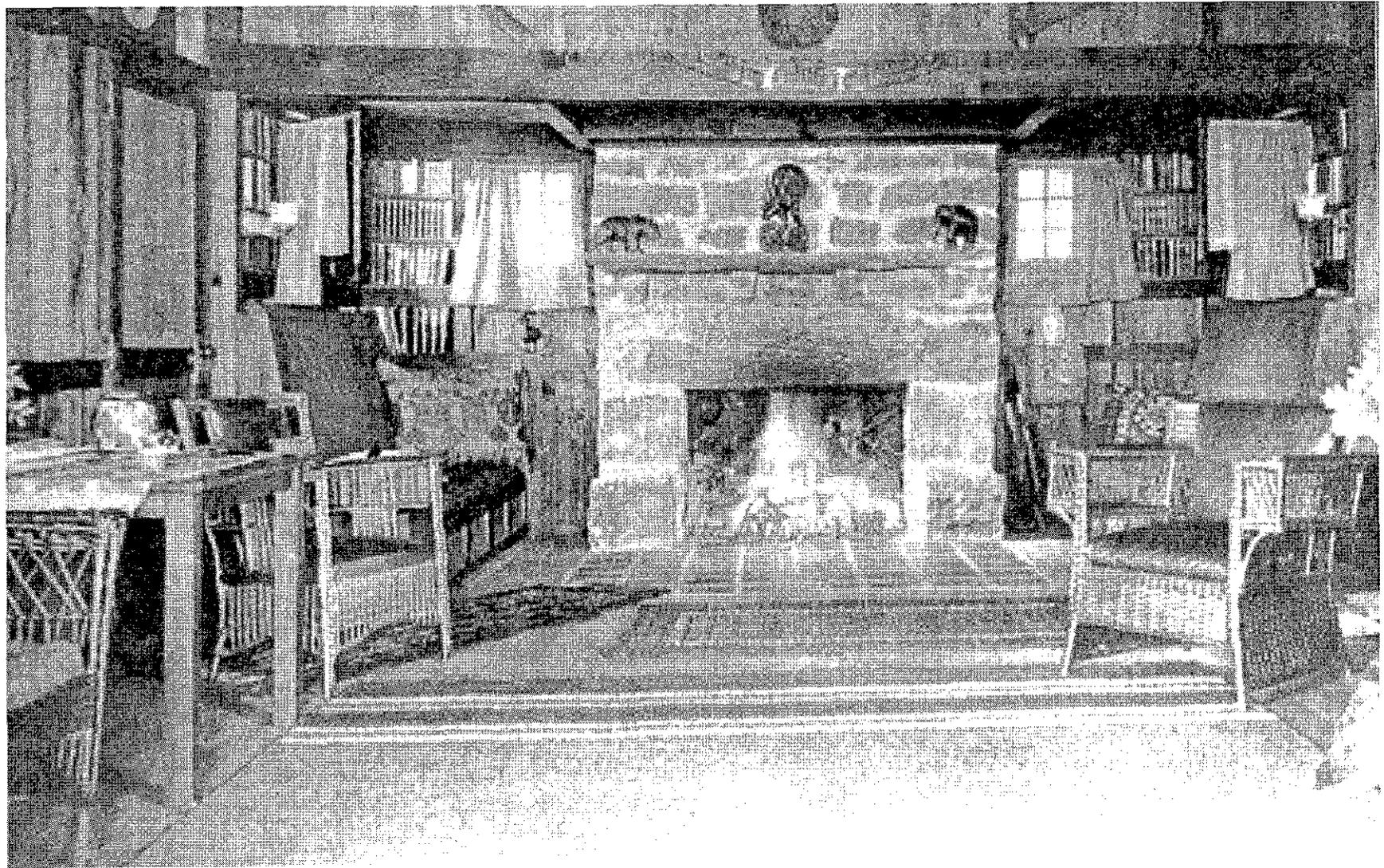


Figure 10. The Living Room of Massanutten Lodge in a photograph looking west toward the doors and balcony. The photograph was taken about 1915 by Charles J. Hepburn, Sr. SNP Archives

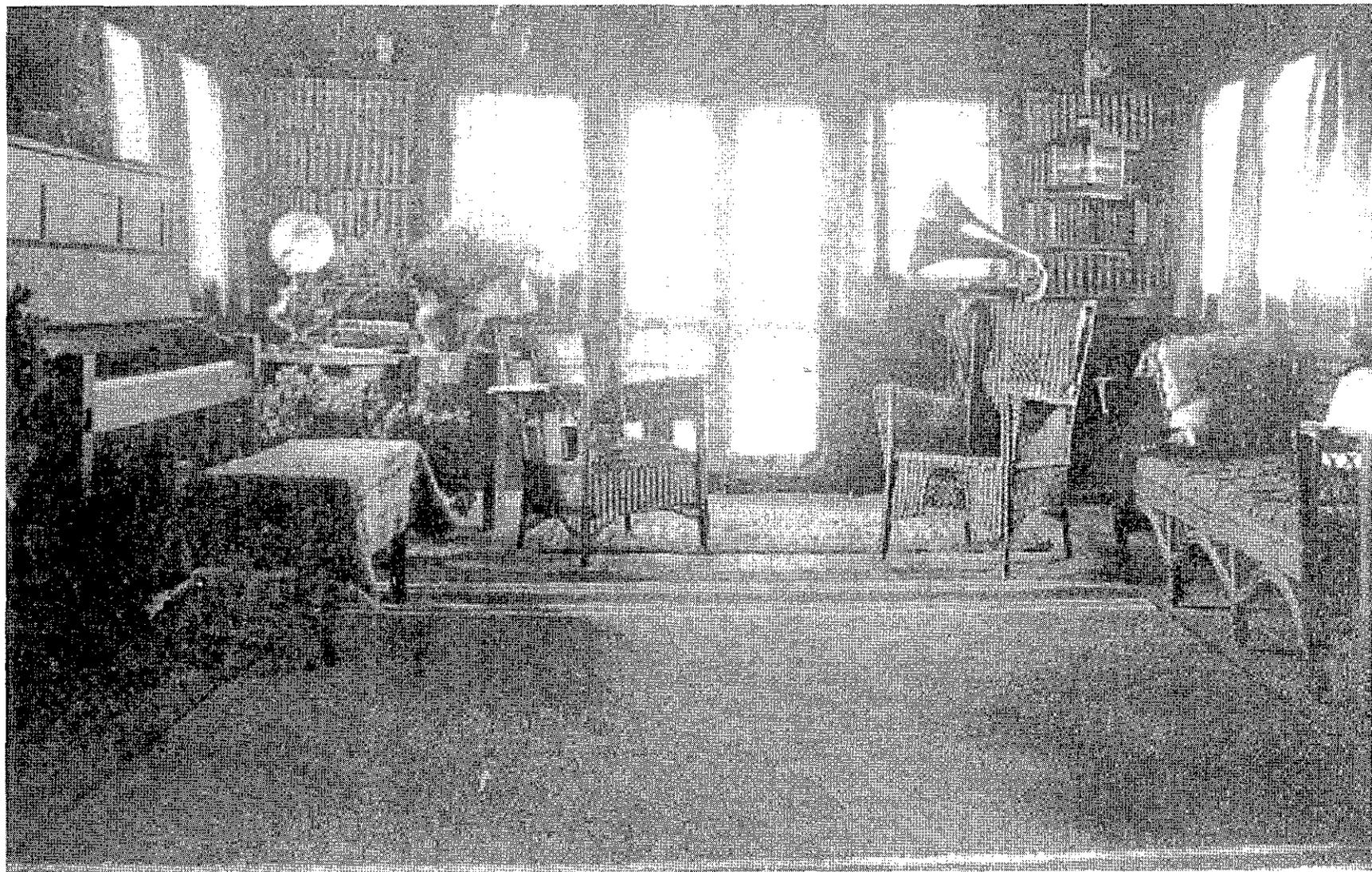


Figure 11. The Pollocks and their guests play cards around a table in the southwest corner of the Living Room at Massanutten Lodge identifiable by the bookshelf and window arrangement visible in the background. The photograph was taken about 1940 by Wallace J. Dyar. Page County Library: Wallace J. Dyar photographer

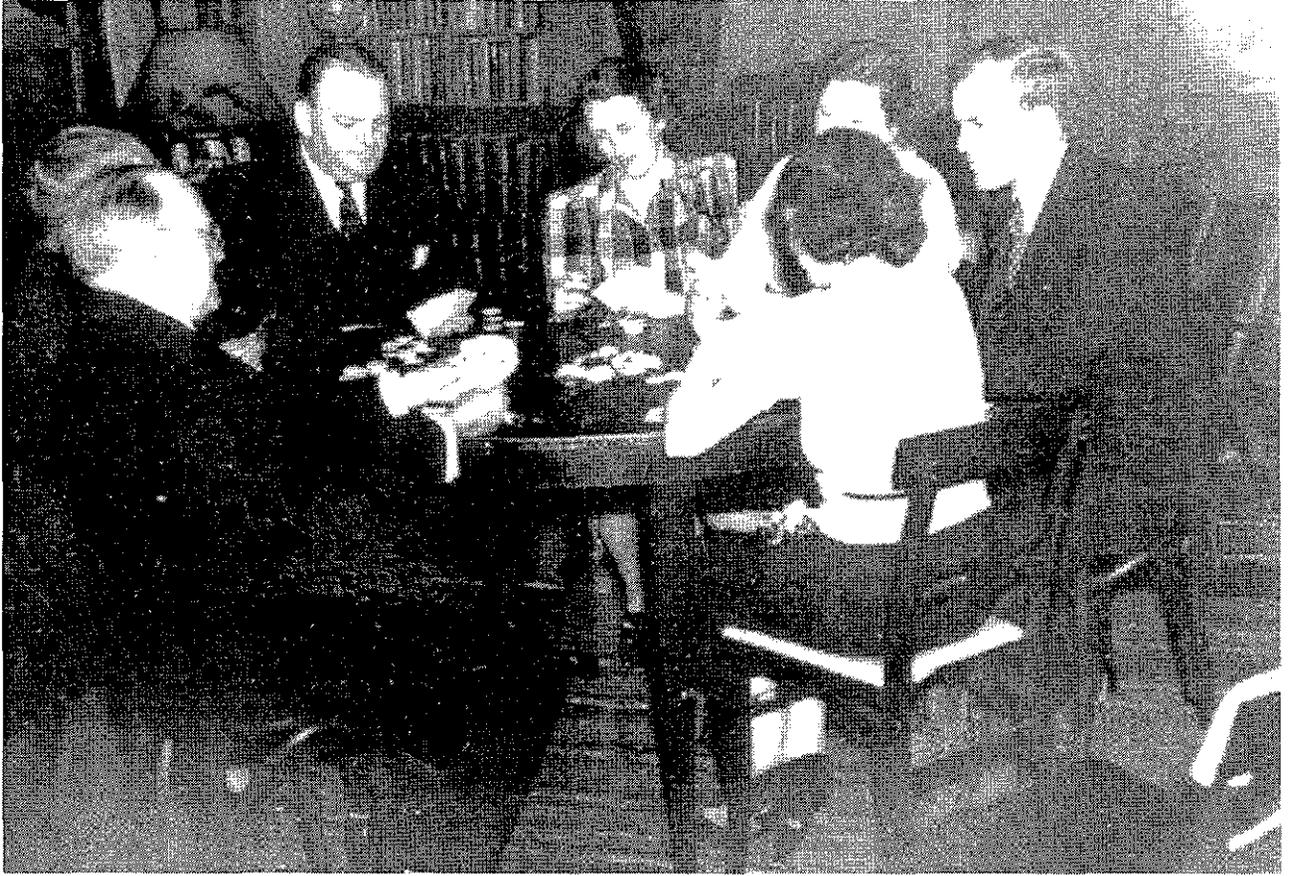


Figure 12. Addie Pollock's close friend in later years, Bramachari Jotin, is said to be standing on the balcony of Massanutten Lodge. Note the flat-weave rug on the deck and the suggestion of a rocking chair at the right. Both items might have been moved to the balcony for a pleasant afternoon, but were perhaps brought in at night. The balcony railings had been replaced by the time the photograph was taken, perhaps in the late 1930s. Photograph published originally in John and Cherry Dodd's Historic Structure Report (1977).



Appendices

Mrs. Pollock's Claim to the State of Virginia
regarding the value of Massanutten Lodge, 1930

National Register Nomination for the Lodge, 1969

Claim of Mrs. G. Freeman Pollock

In the Circuit Court of Page County, Virginia, No. One, At Law.
The State Commission on Conservation and Development of the State of Virginia, Petitioner, vs. The G. Freeman Pollock Stone Man Mountain Lands at Skyland

more or less, of land in Page County, Virginia, Defendants.
The undersigned, in answer to the petition of the State Commission on Conservation and Development of the State of Virginia, and in response to the notice of condemnation awarded upon the filing of said petition and published in accordance with the order of the Circuit Court of Page County, Virginia, asks leave of the Court to file this as his answer to said petition and to said notice.

My name is Addie Nairn Pollock

My Post Office Address is Skyland, Page County, Virginia

I claim a right, title, estate or interest in a tract or parcel of land within the area sought to be condemned, containing about one lot acres, on which there are the following buildings and improvements: as shown on Skyland Plat.

Stone and frame constructed bungalow

This land is located about nine miles from Luray Virginia, in the Magisterial District of said County.

I claim the following right, title, estate or interest in the tract or parcel of land described above: (In this space claimant should say whether he is sole owner or joint owner, and if joint owner give names of the joint owners. If claimant is not sole or joint owner, he should set out exactly what right, title, estate or interest he has in or to the tract or parcel of land described above).

Owner

The land owners adjacent to the above described tract or parcel of land are as follows:

North G. Freeman Pollock Skyland tract

South G. Freeman Pollock Skyland tract

East G. Freeman Pollock Skyland tract

West G. Freeman Pollock Skyland tract

I acquired my right, title, estate or interest to this property about the year _____ in the following manner:

Purchased from the owner G. Freeman Pollock. See Page County Deed
Book No. _____ Page No. _____

I claim that the total value of this tract or parcel of land with the improvements thereon is \$ 8,000.00 I claim that the total value of my right, title, estate or interest, in and to this tract or parcel of land with the improvements thereon is \$ 8,000.00

I am the owner of X X X X acres of land adjoining the above described tract or parcel of land but lying outside the Park area, which I claim will be damaged by the proposed condemnation of lands within the Park area, to the extent of \$ X X X

(In the space below should be set out any additional statements or information as to this claim which claimant desires to make; and if practicable he should also insert here a description of the tract or parcel of land by metes and bounds).

Remarks: This house is expensively built, the very best the market could afford. Stone was especially quarried and dry masonry work outside with solid cement inside. Between inside oak ceiling and outside ceiling, is a heavy coat of Cobots Quilted grass quilting; expensive; then comes metal lathing with waterproof special plaster painted. (See Back Page.) (Continue remarks if necessary on the back).

Witness my signature (or my name and mark attached hereto) this 4th day of October, 1930. Addie Nairn Pollock

STATE OF VIRGINIA, COUNTY OF _____ Page _____, To-wit:

The undersigned hereby certifies that Addie Nairn Pollock the above named claimant personally appeared before him and made oath that the matters and things appearing in his above answer are true to the best of his knowledge and belief, this 4th day of October, 1930.

My commission expires
May 17th 1933

Emmet C. Berry

Clerk of the Court, or Special Investigator
Notary Public, of the State of Virginia

(CONTINUATION OF REMARKS:)

Between the double floors is also a layer of Cobts quilted sheathing; this sheathing used is made of heavy sea grass, compressed, and stitched, like a mattress, or a quilt. It was put in to keep the house warm.

The oak is the finest obtainable, and all cut to order. The doors made to order at the mill; the most expensive hardware was used throughout.

House was built on a piece of land covered with almost solid rock, and on account of the great height of the first floor, the construction was very expensive, requiring a lot of scaffolding, which also made workmanship very expensive.

The front stone pyramid support pillars were built by masons, and owing to the difficulty of their shape, were torn down twice. Finally, the carpenters had to build a form for the masons to follow, in order to get true lines.

All pines and most of the tress were planted when young, and carefully raised on both north and south sides of the house.

The roof, without regard to expense, was carefully built, covered with the best grade, and heaviest of roberoid paper, and then covered with asbestos tiles. All this heavy material hauled from Luray at great expense, At that time the road was very bad.

Fireplace especially constructed of selected stone with ash pit, constructed of stone, beneath. The chimney lined with tile flue, and patented metal throat. This applies to both chimneys.

The house is fully fitted out for acetylene gas, which was used, and still can be used, as all connections remain. Latter fitted with complete electrical equipment, including stoves and frigidaire

Cozy seats built in of special pattern constructed at the mill.

Architect plans and work on this job cost \$400. Architect's supervision another \$100. The lot purchased from G. F. Pollock, before Mrs. Pollock's marriage, cost her \$250.00.

All outside trim of house is chestnut, stained. All gutters of best cypress, especially ordered.

This house is a fine piece of work, and has been greatly admired, and is easily worth \$8,000. Could not be replaced for less than this sum.

STATE: Virginia	
COUNTY: Page	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:
George Freeman Pollock Cottage

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Massanutten Cottage

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
In Skyland concession area. SNP Building #11-29

CITY OR TOWN:
Shenandoah National Park, Luray

STATE: Virginia CODE: COUNTY: Page CODE:

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP			STATUS		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC	
District <input type="checkbox"/>	Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes:		Restricted <input type="checkbox"/>	
Site <input type="checkbox"/>	Structure <input type="checkbox"/>	Private <input type="checkbox"/>	In Process <input type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		No: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Object <input type="checkbox"/>		Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>				

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>Seasonal Park Employee quarters</u>
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>		
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:
Shenandoah National Park

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Luray STATE: Virginia CODE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Park Headquarters Drafting Room

STREET AND NUMBER:
Shenandoah National Park

CITY OR TOWN: Luray STATE: Virginia CODE:

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Park Headquarters Drafting Room

STREET AND NUMBER:
Shenandoah National Park

CITY OR TOWN: Luray STATE: Virginia CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: COUNTY: ENTRY NUMBER DATE FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One) mainly			(Check One)		
	Altered <input type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

See copies of Historical Resource Study Proposal (Form 10-22), Development Package Proposal (Form 10-238), and individual building data report (Form 10-768) attached.

Although the basic structure has remained unchanged, the original stained timbers and rough board walls were painted during the time the concessioner leased the building. Paint would have to be removed from boards, timbers and stonework or the boards turned over or refinished to return the interior to its original appearance.

The outside stonework and bark-covered shingles and rough timbers are much the same in appearance as when the Pollocks occupied the cottage.

Although the downhill side of the building gives the appearance of a two story structure, there is only a limited amount of crawl-space or storage space under the main floor which is entered from the uphill side of the cabin.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal	Education	Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/>	Engineering <input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Historic <input type="checkbox"/>	Industry <input type="checkbox"/>	losophy <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Park establishment</u>
Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/>	Invention <input type="checkbox"/>	Science <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Pollock era in</u>
Art <input type="checkbox"/>	Landscape	Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Blue Ridge Mts.</u>
Commerce <input type="checkbox"/>	Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Human-	_____
Communications <input type="checkbox"/>	Literature <input type="checkbox"/>	itarian <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Conservation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Theater <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
	Music <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

Massanutten Cottage was the summer residence of the late George Freeman Pollock, original owner and developer of the Skyland area, on the southern slopes of Stony Man Mountain, as a Blue Ridge Mountain Resort. Pollock and two of his close friends, conservationist and hiking enthusiast Harold Allen, and publisher George H. Judd, of the Washington, D. C. firm of Judd and Detweiler, were the activist team that sparked the drive to establish the Shenandoah area of the Blue Ridge as a national park. Pollock, as chief owner and operator of the Skyland summer resort owned a 6,000 acre tract. He entertained all members of the Southern Appalachian National Park Committee at Skyland at his own expense in 1924. This visit convinced the committee that this area of the Blue Ridge had the necessary qualities for becoming a national park. Without Pollock's support, the drive would have collapsed long before others got back of the idea to set aside a section of the Blue Ridge Mountains as Shenandoah National Park, so that the mountains' scenery could be widely known and enjoyed by all Americans and many foreign visitors. Pollock was a naturalist and avid conservationist. He and Mrs. Pollock were instrumental in saving "the Limberlost", a grove of ancient hemlocks and oaks which is virtually the only virgin stand of trees in Shenandoah today. The architecture of this structure is representative of "the Pollock era" at Skyland and would be representative of that period. Also Pollock befriended the Blue Ridge Mountain inhabitants and gave many of them employment at Skyland or in supplying his guests needs.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The book "Skyland, Heart of Shenandoah National Park," by George Freeman Pollock, as edited by Sturart E. Brown, Jr. Published in 1960 by the Chesapeake Book Company of Berryville, Virginia. Library of Congress Catalog Card #60-16567. Chapter XIII gives an excellent and accurate account of the beginnings of Shenandoah National Park and Pollock's part in its establishment.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		38	35	40 N
NE	° ' "	° ' "		78	23	1 W
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
E. Ray Schaffner, Chief Park Naturalist

ORGANIZATION: National Park Service DATE: 11/28/72

STREET AND NUMBER:
Shenandoah National Park

CITY OR TOWN: Luray STATE: Virginia CODE:

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

K		REGION
Shenandoah NP		SERO
FISCAL YEAR	RSP INDEX NO.	
71	Shen-H-3	
PRIORITY		
REGIONAL	WASO	

HISTORICAL RESOURCE STUDY PROPOSAL

Submit original and one copy to the Washington Office. One copy should be retained in the Regional and Park Office. The items on reverse will be filled in by WASO and copies of the completed form will be supplied the Regional and Park Office concerned.

1. TITLE (Give brief, general descriptive title for the study)

Massanutten Cottage - Skyland; Historic Structure Report (Part I and II)

2. PURPOSE (Explain what is needed. Give brief description of the character and scope of the proposed study, including a short statement of the actual management or interpretive need to be met in the park, such as a gap in historical knowledge, a building to be restored or rehabilitated, or the documentation of a historical base map)

Prepare the Historic Structure Report (Part I and II) for the Massanutten Cottage - Skyland; in order to determine its interpretive value, cost of restoration and best use.

3. JUSTIFICATION (Be specific. Explain why study is needed and why the proposal must be accomplished as soon as possible, or as scheduled, with emphasis upon the consequences to the Park and the Service, if not completed)

The Massanutten Cottage at Skyland is one of the last remaining buildings of the old Skyland resort. Mr. George Freeman Pollock's wife had the cottage built for their use about 1913. Because of Pollock's significant contribution to the establishment of the Park and his flamboyant nature as an entrepreneur of the era, we feel that the cottage should be preserved as representative of the man and the times (Ref. Skyland by G. F. Pollock)

The building is government owned and has been used by the Park concessioner as employee quarters for many years under their contract. The concessioner no longer wishes to use or maintain the building. (See attached letter). We are anxious to stabilize the structure to prevent further deterioration. As suggested, the Massanutten Cottage would make a fine small conference room. Exhibits and photographs depicting the Pollock era might also be housed in the building.

PREPARED BY <i>Douglas B. McHenry</i> Douglas B. McHenry, Assistant Chief Park Naturalist	DATE October 1, 1969
PROPOSED (Park Superintendent) <i>R. Taylor Hoskins</i> R. Taylor Hoskins, Superintendent	DATE October 1, 1969
PROPOSED (Regional Director)	DATE
APPROVED (Chief, Office of Arch. & Historic Preservation) <i>/S/ Ernest Allen Connally</i> Ernest Allen Connally	DATE NOV 13 1969

DURATION OF THE STUDY

Four Weeks

STUDY TO BE DONE BY:

- a. Service: Office of Archeology & Historic Preservation
- b. Contract or Agreement: _____
- (1) Institution or Organization: _____
- (2) State or Federal Agency: _____
- (3) Other: _____

ESTIMATE OF COST:

- a. Service Account No. Advance Planning, B & U 14x1035 2192-2922
- b. Other Funding _____
- c. Cost Schedule _____

COMPONENTS	FY 1971	FY 1971	FY 19__
(1) Personal Services.....	History \$2,500	Hist. Archi. \$2,500	Total
(2) Contract Services.....			
(3) Travel.....	\$ 200	\$ 200	
(4) Other Direct Expenses.....			
(5) Reproduction and Printing.....	\$ 300	\$ 300	
(6) TOTAL.....	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$6,000

FORM OF FINAL PRODUCT

Documented, illustrated report reproduced by Offset-Itek, and measured drawings of the structure.

ADDITIONAL REMARKS, IF ANY

PERCENTAGE OF COMPLETION

September 30 _____
 December 31 _____
 March 31 _____
 June 30 _____

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

INDIVIDUAL BUILDING DATA

Prepare in duplicate. Send original to Regional Office. Retain one copy in park office.

Building Name Massanutten	Bldg. No. 11-29
Location in Park Skyland	
Park, Monument, Etc. Shenandoah National Park	

I. GENERAL

Use and Occupancy Quarters	Owned By U. S. Government	Operated By National Park Service	
Maintained By National Park Service	Constructed By G. F. Pollock	Year Prior 1933	Drawing No. N/A
Remodeled By		Year	Drawing No.

2. VALUE		3. TYPE			4. SIZE (Sq. Footage)			
Original Cost \$ 1,800	Present Value \$	No. Stories 1	No. Rooms 4	Basement Crawl Space	Overall 1260	Basement -	1st Floor 1260	2nd Floor -

5. CONSTRUCTION

Construction Type Frame & Stone	Foundation Stone and Wooden Posts	Walls, Exterior Stone and Lap Bark	Walls, Interior See Remarks	Floor See Remarks	Roof Tile
---	---	--	---------------------------------------	-----------------------------	---------------------

6. INTERIOR FINISH

Walls See Remarks	Floors See Remarks	Ceilings See Remarks	Trim See Remarks
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7. UTILITIES

Water Skyland Yes System	Electric Public Utility	Gas -	Sewer Yes	Telephone -	Other -
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8. MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT

Plumbing Yes	Heating Fireplace	Fuel Wood	Electric -	Hot Water 52 gal. Yes	Other -
------------------------	-----------------------------	---------------------	----------------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------

9. EXISTING CONDITION (Indicate Excellent, Good, Fair, Poor - if New Building Leave Blank)

As of (Date) 3-6-70	Structural Fair to Poor	Mechanical -	General State of Repair Fair
-------------------------------	-----------------------------------	------------------------	--

10. FIRE PROTECTION

No. Hydrants 2	Size 2 1/2"	Distance 175' & 150'	Mechanical -	Hand Dry Chemical	Other -
--------------------------	-----------------------	------------------------------------	------------------------	-----------------------------	-------------------

11. PHOTOGRAPHS. Furnish 8 x 10 1/2" photographs or smaller photographs mounted on 8 x 10 1/2 sheets. Attach to photograph: Name of park, location in park, and name and number of building.

12. SKETCH PLAN. Furnish legible sketch on separate sheet including over-all dimensions, names and sizes of rooms, scale, and date drawn. Use double line to indicate walls of building.

13. REMARKS (Furnish any other pertinent data to complete record)

Walls: Living room, hall, and bedroom - exposed stud-stained; bathroom sealed-painted; kitchen-plasterboard and stone-painted.

Floors: Living room, hall and bedroom -T&G hardwood and varnish - clear-bathroom and kitchen - linoleum.

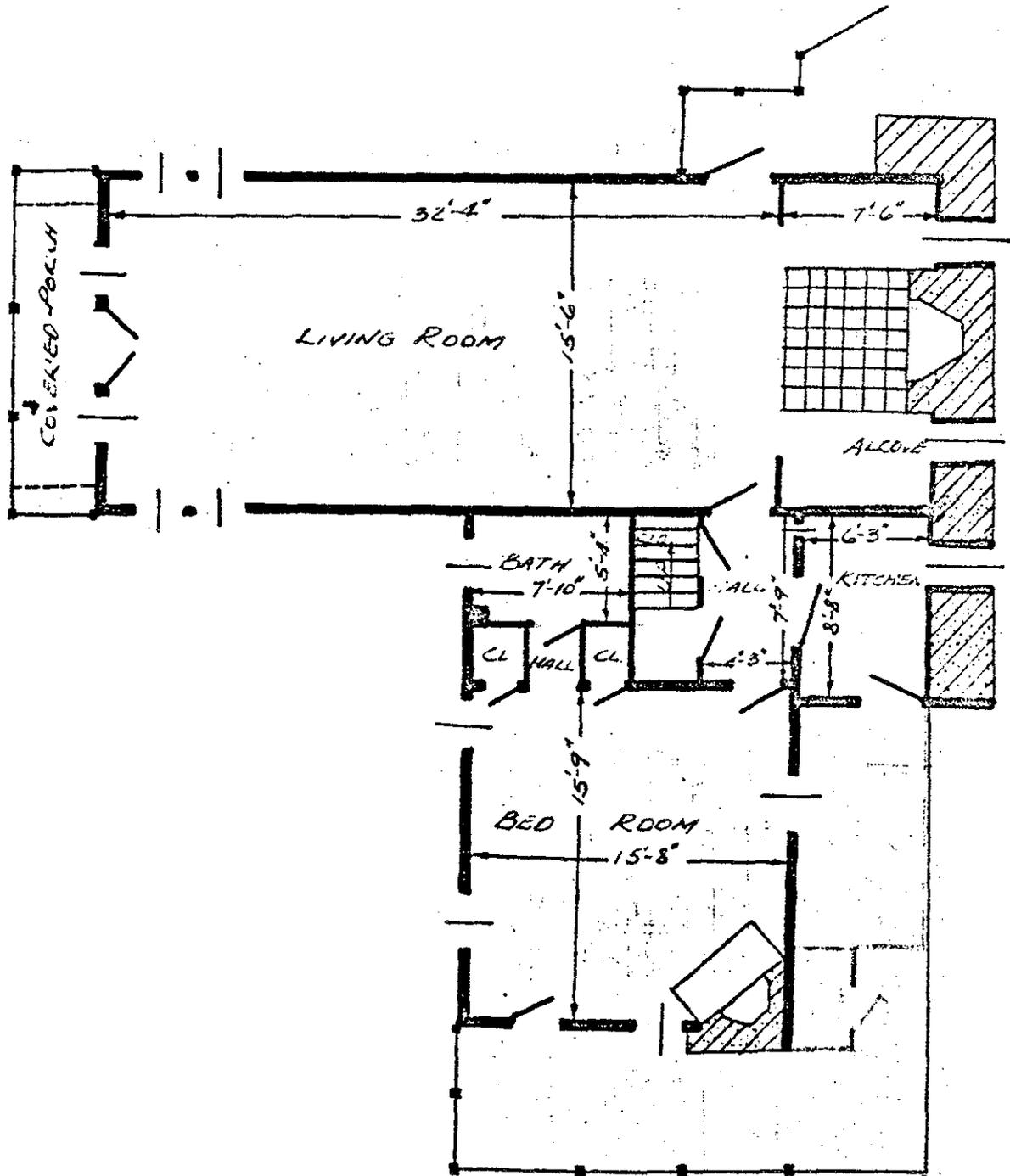
Ceilings: Living room, hall and bedroom - exposed joists - stained; bathroom and kitchen - sealed, painted.

Note: The above stained portions have since been painted while the building was being used by the Virginia Sky-Line Company.

The original cost is unknown. Acquired by donation from the Commonwealth of Virginia and at the death of life tenure resident, the late G. F. Pollock.

This building was used by the Concessioner for rental purposes until 1968. It was then used to quarter Virginia Sky-Line Company's personnel. The structure was turned back to the National Park Service in 1969. At present, it is planned to use the building as a seasonal quarters for National Park Service personnel.

Prepared By Thomas R. Lowe Chief of Park Maintenance	Date MAY 1 1970	Approved By (SOD) R. TAYLOR HOSKINS R. Taylor Hoskins, Supt.	Date MAY 1 1970
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MASSANUTTEN

Bibliography:

Unpublished:

Wallace J. Dyar, interview notes with Anita Badertscher via telephone, July 20, 1993, and subsequently corrected (perhaps by Mr. Dyar). Deposited in Archives, Shenandoah National Park.

Wallace J. Dyar, interview transcript, with Anita Badertscher and George Dowery, August 23, 1993, Shenandoah National Park, Luray, Virginia. Deposited in Archives, Shenandoah National Park.

Engle, Reed. "National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for Skyland Historic District." Draft, 1988 (National Park Service).

Lambert, Darwin L. "Administrative History, Shenandoah National Park, 1924-1976." Draft, 1979 (National Park Service).

Rosemary Brandenburg Roberts, letter (typed transcript) to nephew Guy Brandenburg, dated June 11, 1994. Deposited in Archives, Shenandoah National Park.

Published:

Dodd, John Bruce and Cherry Dodd. Historic Structure Report: Massanutten Lodge, Skyland, Shenandoah National Park, Virginia. Philadelphia: Mid-Atlantic Region, National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior, 1977.

Keller, J. Timothy, et al. Judd Gardens: Cultural Landscape Report. Charlottesville, Virginia: Land and Community Associates for National Park Service, 1993.

Lambert, Darwin L. The Undying Past of Shenandoah National Park. Boulder, Colorado: Roberts Rinehart, Inc. Publishers, 1989.

Pollock, G. Freeman. A Camping Party on Stony Man Mountain, During July and August, 1894. Washington, D.C.: Pollock, 1894.

Pollock, G. Freeman. The Fifth National Conference on State Parks, May 25, 26, 27 and 28, 1925, at Skyland. Washington, D.C.: Judd & Detweiler, Inc. printers, 1925.

Pollock, George Freeman. Skyland: The Heart of the Shenandoah National Park. Forward by U.S. Senator Harry F. Byrd, edited by Stuart E. Brown, Jr. Washington, DC: Chesapeake Book Company, 1960.

Robinson & Associates. Shenandoah National Park, Historic Resource Study. Draft, 1996.

Skyland—The Only Combined Dude Ranch and Resort in the East. n.pub., 1933.

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PART II: IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Furnishings Plan

Introduction

The Plan recommends furnishing the Living Room with reproductions to its appearance in the Hepburn photographs of about 1915 and using the Bedroom as an exhibition space. The Plan further recommends restoration of the bathroom to its pre-1930 appearance to coincide with the period of the Living Room, but not furnish it with moveable goods; and to remove the Kitchen and restore the Porch Entry and Entrance Hall to their pre-1930 appearance. Accommodations for handicap accessibility will have minimal impact on the restoration plan for the Porch Entry.

Choice of the Hepburn interior photographs as a furnishing guide is based on several key issues. First, in order to interpret the Lodge as an important aspect of life at Skyland, the period represented must be before sale of the property to the Commonwealth of Virginia. Second, the Hepburn photographs represent the only complete record of the room in its pre-1930 appearance. Third, the room remained relatively unchanged from its initial furnishing until its dismantling after George Pollock's death. Small items were shifted continually, but the larger pieces--piano, armchairs, tables, etc.--probably continued to be used throughout the room's period of occupancy by the Pollocks.

The Kitchen was installed in the original covered Porch Entry about 1930 when the property transition was taking place. Skyland residents, for the most part, were required by deed restrictions to eat in the Dining Hall. Thus, installation of the Kitchen in the Lodge represents the turning point of Skyland from Pollock to public property. In order to show the Pollock-Skyland period, it is necessary to remove the Kitchen and use the original Porch Entry to the Lodge.

Reproductions for furnishing the Living Room have been recommended for three principal reasons. First, only a very few original furnishings for the Lodge have been identified and these are fragile or were used in the Bedroom. Second, the interpretive objectives would be well served by visitors' ability to use objects in the space for relaxing in the same ways that the Pollocks and their guests used the space. Third, limited seasonal use of the building presents certain housekeeping problems in terms of dirt and vermin control, thus putting original artifacts in continual danger.

Interpretive Objectives

Massanutten Lodge is currently used as the last stop on the tour called "Paradise on Earth" (1998 Season) which helps visitors see life in historic Skyland of the 1920s. Historic Skyland is presented as a typical mountain resort that became incorporated in a new national park because of the timely influence of Skyland's landowners. After taking a leisurely walk through the original layout of the resort and passing some early Skyland buildings, visitors enter Massanutten Lodge to see the interior of one of the Skyland cabins. During the walking portion of the tour, visitors see the valley, look at Judd Gardens, and visit the Conference Hall and central

open space. Topics include the 1920s era, a brief history of the early days of Skyland and the typical activities of visitors, a discussion of the upper-middle class professional people who visited the resort and how they were related to each other genealogically and professionally, George Pollock's role in developing Skyland and the resort's effect on the local economy, and a dialogue about the architectural characteristics of the resort that defined its rusticity. The architectural discussion on approaching Massanutten Lodge naturally leads the visitors inside the structure.

By furnishing the Living Room of Massanutten Lodge with reproductions, NPS could allow visitors to actually use the furniture and built-ins as the Pollocks might have. At the end of their 1 1/2 hour tour, visitors are tired and ready to sit down. By working with this disposition, NPS would encourage them to further understand the use of Lodge furnishings for relaxation. We know from historical evidence that Mrs. Pollock had very specific personal interests, including reading, listening to music and playing the piano, card playing, and ministering to small animals. To follow her interests as cues for the visitors, NPS might have books available for visitors to thumb and read briefly (perhaps common novels of the period, including *A Girl of the Limberlost* by Gene Stratton-Porter, 1909), a player piano or operational Victrola that would play music popular in the era (when operated by the ranger, Paul Robeson recordings would be appropriate), mechanical (singing) birds in a bird cage, and playing cards on the tables. Interpreters should use care in noting Mrs. Pollock's interests in meditation, which came later than the restoration period of the Living Room.

Visitors might also be encouraged to visit an exhibition in the Bedroom (see below) and view the original bathroom through the door in the Bedroom that opens into it.

Operating Plan

The ranger-guided tour that includes Massanutten Lodge is available seasonally from late May until early September, twice a week on Thursday and Saturday afternoons (1998 Season). Visitors currently enter the Lodge through the door in the north wall of the Living Room. This door originally gave access to a small balcony off the north side of the Lodge, which was accessible only through this door. However, when the Kitchen was installed in the original Porch Entry, formal access to the Lodge was made from a path that was made to intersect the balcony. Thus, the balcony became a porch that was accessible from the path running along the east side of the Lodge and through the door in the north wall of the Living Room. When the Kitchen is removed during restoration of the Porch Entry, access to the Lodge can be made again through the original formal Entry and Entrance Hall.

Currently visitors are encouraged to look around the Lodge's interior as the ranger finishes giving the tour. Under the new plan, visitors might be invited into the Living Room to sit and hear the last part of the tour; then encouraged to relax in the interior and visit the adjacent rooms.

Current limited use of the Lodge would require regular maintenance on a weekly or bi-weekly basis during the season that it is open and available to the public. During the off-season, regular weekly check and monthly maintenance would limit vermin damage and control dust accumulation.

Current disabled access to the Lodge is along the same path and through the same entry now used by able-bodied visitors. Under the new plan, the original path and entry to the Lodge

would be restored and disabled visitors would continue to use the same entry as able-bodied visitors (that is the restored Porch Entry). There may need to be some accommodation in the slope of the porch floor in order for wheelchairs and mechanical scooters to reach the Entry threshold. Inside, the Lodge is all on one level with no sills to overrun.

Recommended Furnishings and Working Drawings

Recommendations

Living Room

As noted above in the Interpretive Objectives, it is recommended to furnish the Living Room with reproductions. The Furnishings List included here identifies these furnishings and the Floor Plan locates them in the room.

Bedroom

The current recommendation is to produce an interpretive exhibit for the large square room that was the bedroom of Massanutten Lodge when the Pollocks occupied it. The principal reason for this recommendation is that historic furnishing of the room would be largely speculation as there are no surviving pictures and only sketchy descriptions of the room's contents or decorative appearance.

It is also recommended that NPS remove the small cupboard in southwest corner of the bedroom which appears to be much later in installation than the original fabric of the building.

Bathroom

It is recommended that this room be restored to its original appearance, but not furnished with small moveable objects as these would be entirely speculation. In order to restore the room, NPS might consider conducting professional paint analysis of the room's interior surfaces to determine if they were painted originally and what the original color was. In addition, the current NPS floor should be removed and the original flooring for the room determined. The room's restored floor should match the original floor as much as possible.

The stool and basin should also be replaced with typical American-made fixtures of the period of building, about 1911. Since this room will be available only for distant inspection, original fixtures are recommended rather than reproductions if possible.

Restoration of this room will also require replacing the wall that separated the room from the original attic stairway.

Entrance Hall

The interior walls and ceiling of the Entrance Hall are currently painted white. These surfaces should be restored to their original appearance as the Living Room walls have already been finished. The original stairway to the attic might also be replaced in time so that the Lodge will finally have been returned to its original configuration.

When the original Porch Entry is restored, a new entry door made to look like the Lodge's other exterior doors (in north and south walls) will need to be put in place.

List of Furnishings

Furnishings List - Living Room

item #	object name & description	location	documentation	recommendation
# 1	carpet, wool pile, series of contrasting stripes at two ends, otherwise plain, edges bound in dark material	center of floor	Photographs, Charles J. Hepburn, Sr., ca. 1915, east and west ends of room	use reproduction or similar item; suggest purchase from J.D. Kurtz, Wilmington, DE, cost approx. \$7,000 (use natural sheep's wool)
# 2	small rug, wool, probably Turkish, geometric, approx. 3' x 5'	east end in front of tile hearth	Hepburn photo, east end	use reproduction or similar item; suggest purchase from J.D. Kurtz, cost est. \$1,000
# 3	small rug, wool, probably Turkish, approx. 2.5' x 4'	diagonal from north door to tile hearth	Hepburn photo, east end	use reproduction or similar item; suggest purchase from J.D. Kurtz, cost est. \$1,000
# 4	small rug, wool, probably Turkish, approx. 2' x 3'	in front of south door to entry	Hepburn photo, east end	use reproduction or similar item; suggest purchase from J.D. Kurtz, cost est. \$750
# 5	small rug, wool, probably Turkish, approx 4' x 6'	in front of French doors to porch	Hepburn photo, west end	use reproduction or similar item; suggest purchase from J.D. Kurtz, cost est. \$1,500
# 6	piano, upright, oak "Mission" style w/through tenons, use player piano if possible	south wall, center	Hepburn photo, west end	use similar item; suggest purchase from antiques dealer, cost approx. \$2-3,000
# 7	piano bench to match piano above, plain oak "Mission" style	in front of piano	Hepburn photo, east and west end	use similar item; should be included in above purchase
# 8	rug, Middle Eastern, approx. 3' x 5'	covers piano bench above	Hepburn photo, east and west end	use reproduction or similar item; suggest purchase from J.D. Kurtz, cost est. \$1,000
# 9	gaming table, round, oak or mahogany in "Mission" style, possibly w/ top covered in leather or greenbaize; approx. 40" diameter	southwest corner	Hepburn photo; photograph by Wallace Dyar dated Oct 10, 1940 (Page County Library)	use reproduction or similar item; suggest commission for new from E.A. Clore Sons (Strictly Mission, S. Bent Bros. are alternates); cost est. \$3,500
# 10	side chair, bentwood w/plain curved back	southwest corner behind table	Dyar photo	use reproduction or similar item; cost approx. \$100-150.

Furnishings List - Living Room

item #	object name & description	location	documentation	recommendation
# 11	side chair, "Hitchcock" painted style	southwest corner behind table	Dyar photo	use reproduction or similar item; cost approx. \$100-150.
# 12	fluid lamp, brass base, glass chimney, frosted globe shade	on gaming table	Hepburn photo, west end; also visible in Dyar photo	use reproduction; cost approx. \$300.
# 13	table runner, possibly embroidered (optional)	on gaming table	Hepburn photo, west end	use reproduction or similar item; cost approx. \$200.
#14 ab	books (2), leather bound	on gaming table	Hepburn photo, west end	use reproduction or similar item; cost approx. \$100.
# 15	jardiniere, brass or ceramic [fill with dried flowers taken from Skyland grounds]	on gaming table	Hepburn photo, west end	use reproduction or similar item; suggest purchase from Pier 1; cost approx. \$200.
# 16	books, leather bound, large, several matching sets (could be classics)	built-in shelves southwest corner	Hepburn photo, west end	use reproduction or similar item; suggest purchase from used book dealer; cost approx. \$3,000
# 17	armchair, wicker w/ upholstered seat and back	southwest corner; front gaming table	Hepburn photo, west end	use reproduction or similar item; suggest purchase from . . .
# 18	highback armchair w/wings, wicker w/wicker seat & back	northwest corner; in front of bed	Hepburn photo, west end	use reproduction or similar item; suggest purchase from . . .
# 19	Victrola, table model, large horn, Edison or Victor	northwest corner in front of window	Hepburn photo, west end	use reproduction or similar item; cost est. \$1,000
# 20	table [possibly small oak?]	northwest corner to hold Victrola	none (conjecture: would be needed to support table model Victrola)	use reproduction or similar item; cost est. \$250 (poss vendors: EA Clore Sons, Strictly Mission, S. Bent Bros.)
# 21	bed/couch?, possibly roll-away (pillows covered in embroidered or woven textiles would be appropriate, but conjectural)	northwest corner	suggested in Dyar photo	buy new from home furnishing store, cost est. \$150. [see cover below]

Furnishings List - Living Room

item #	object name & description	location	documentation	recommendation
#22	rug, wool, probably Turkish, approx 6' x 9'	northwest corner on bed/couch	Dyar photo	use reproduction or similar item; suggest purchase from J.D. Kurtz, cost est. \$3,500.
#23	books, some leather-bound sets, some miscellaneous	shelves in northwest corner	Hepburn photo, west end	use reproduction or similar item; suggest purchase from used book dealer; cost est. \$2,000.
#24	bird cage, square with pent roof, possibly all wood	hanging from ceiling in northwest corner	Hepburn photo, west end	use reproduction or similar item; cost of new approx. \$100.
#25	brass vase w/trumpet shaped neck and bulbous bottom	west shelves near ceiling, south end	Hepburn photo, west end	use reproduction or similar item; suggest purchase from Pier 1; cost approx. \$150.
#26	ceramic vase, Rookwood style (dark brown with flower painting)	west shelves near ceiling, next to brass vase	Hepburn photo, west end	use reproduction or similar item; cost approx. \$100.
#27	doll in Japanese dress, tall	west shelves near ceiling, over door	Hepburn photo, west end	use reproduction or similar item; cost est. \$300.
#28	Indian basket, looks like Navajo "wedding basket" made by Paiute basketweavers	west shelves near ceiling, over door	Hepburn photo, west end	use reproduction or similar item; cost est. \$1,000.
#29	vase or souvenir	west shelves near ceiling, northwest cor	Hepburn photo, west end	use reproduction or similar item; cost est. \$150.
#30	bulbous ceramic vase or basket with chevron pattern	west shelves near ceiling, northwest cor	Hepburn photo, west end	use reproduction or similar item; cost est. \$300.
#31	couch with arms, wicker, upholstered seat (flat, buttoned cushion, cotton? fabric)	north wall, center	Hepburn photo, west end	use reproduction or similar item; cost est. \$2,000.; poss vendors include Wicker Shop, Maine; Henry Link [Smithsonian line]
#32	miscellaneous large cushions (up to 3), embroidered and tassled	on wicker couch	Hepburn photo, west end	use reproduction or similar item; cost est. \$300. each

Furnishings List - Living Room

item #	object name & description	location	documentation	recommendation
#33	picture, narrow black wood frame, glass; landscape print	over wicker couch	Hepburn photo, west end	use reproduction or similar item; cost est. \$175.
#34	plate/plaque, possibly ceramic (delft or majolica) or metal	over wicker couch	Hepburn photo, east end	use reproduction or similar item; suggest purchase from Pier 1; cost est. \$100-200.
#35	table, plain oak rectangular "Mission style" w/ slightly tapered legs, top approx. 30" x 60" (no drawer)	north wall, east of couch	Hepburn photo, east end	use reproduction or similar item; poss vendors include E.A. Clore Sons, Strictly Mission, S. Bent Bros.; cost est. \$500.
#36	table runner, embroidered or woven, approx. 6' long x 18" wide	on table above	Hepburn photo, east end	use reproduction or similar item; cost est. \$150.
#37	ceramic vase or basket, bulbous	on table above	Hepburn photo, east end	suggest new Chinese ginger jar; cost est. \$150.
#38	armchair, wicker, leather seat and back	north wall between table & door	Hepburn photo, east end	use reproduction or similar item; poss vendors include Wicker Shop, Maine; Henry Link; cost est. \$750.
#39 ab	woven mats (2)	on backs of benches in inglenook	Hepburn photo, east end	estimate \$200 for reproduction or similar item
#40 ab	long cushions (2) covered in dark fabric; suggest they are thinly tufted with buttons, similar to cushion shown on wicker couch	on seats of benches in inglenook	Hepburn photo, east end	custom order from local upholsterer; cost est. \$500. each
#41	rectangular pillow, woven fabric in Middle Eastern taste, approx. 24" x 18"	northeast corner, on built-in bench	Hepburn photo, east end	use reproduction or similar item; suggest purchase from J.D. Kurtz; cost est. \$200.
#42	pair brass bracket lamps, gas light, frilly glass shades, frosted white	flanking inglenook	Hepburn photo, east end	use reproduction or similar item; cost est. \$100. each with shade

Furnishings List - Living Room

item #	object name & description	location	documentation	recommendation
#43	books, miscellaneous sets (Dickens, for example) and unmatched period novels	fill in all built-in shelves in inglenook	Hepburn photo, east end	use reproduction or similar item; suggest purchase from used book dealer; cost approx. \$3,000
#44	small dish, Iznik style	east wall on shelf north of fireplace	Hepburn photo, east end	use reproduction or similar item; suggest purchase from Pier 1; cost est. \$100.
#45	mantel ornaments, carved wood probably from Pacific Rim country such as Indonesia; bear, elephant, phoenix? (8-15" high)	on mantel	Hepburn photo, east end	use reproduction or similar item; Treasures of the Earth carries Indonesian wood carvings; cost est. \$200-500. each
#46	rectangular pillow covered in flat-weave Middle Eastern textile, geometric, approx. 18" x 24"	southeast corner, on built-in bench	Hepburn photo, east end	use reproduction or similar item; suggest purchase from J.D. Kurtz; cost est. \$200.
#47	vase, ceramic, Chinese?, hexagonal baluster shape, approx. 8-10" high	east wall on shelf south of fireplace	Hepburn photo, east end	use reproduction or similar item; suggest purchase from Pier 1 or similar vendor; cost est. \$100.
#48	small textile, rectangular, embroidered or woven, Chinese?, approx. 8" x 10"	east wall, under vase	Hepburn photo, east end	use reproduction or similar item; suggest purchase from J.D. Kurtz; cost est. \$150.
#49	andirons, wrought iron, in outline shape of arrowheads	fireplace	Hepburn photo, east end	use reproduction or similar item; suggest custom order from blacksmith; cost est. \$500. pair
#50	fireplace tools (3), wrought iron	leaning against fireplace, south side	Hepburn photo, east end	use new wrought iron from same blacksmith as andirons; cost est. \$150.
#51	Indian artifacts, Northwest Coast: woven basketry hat, wood carving, and wood paddle	mounted above inglenook overhang	Hepburn photo, east end	use reproduction or similar item; suggest contacting artists through Raven's Window, Haines AK; cost est. \$500-1,000. each

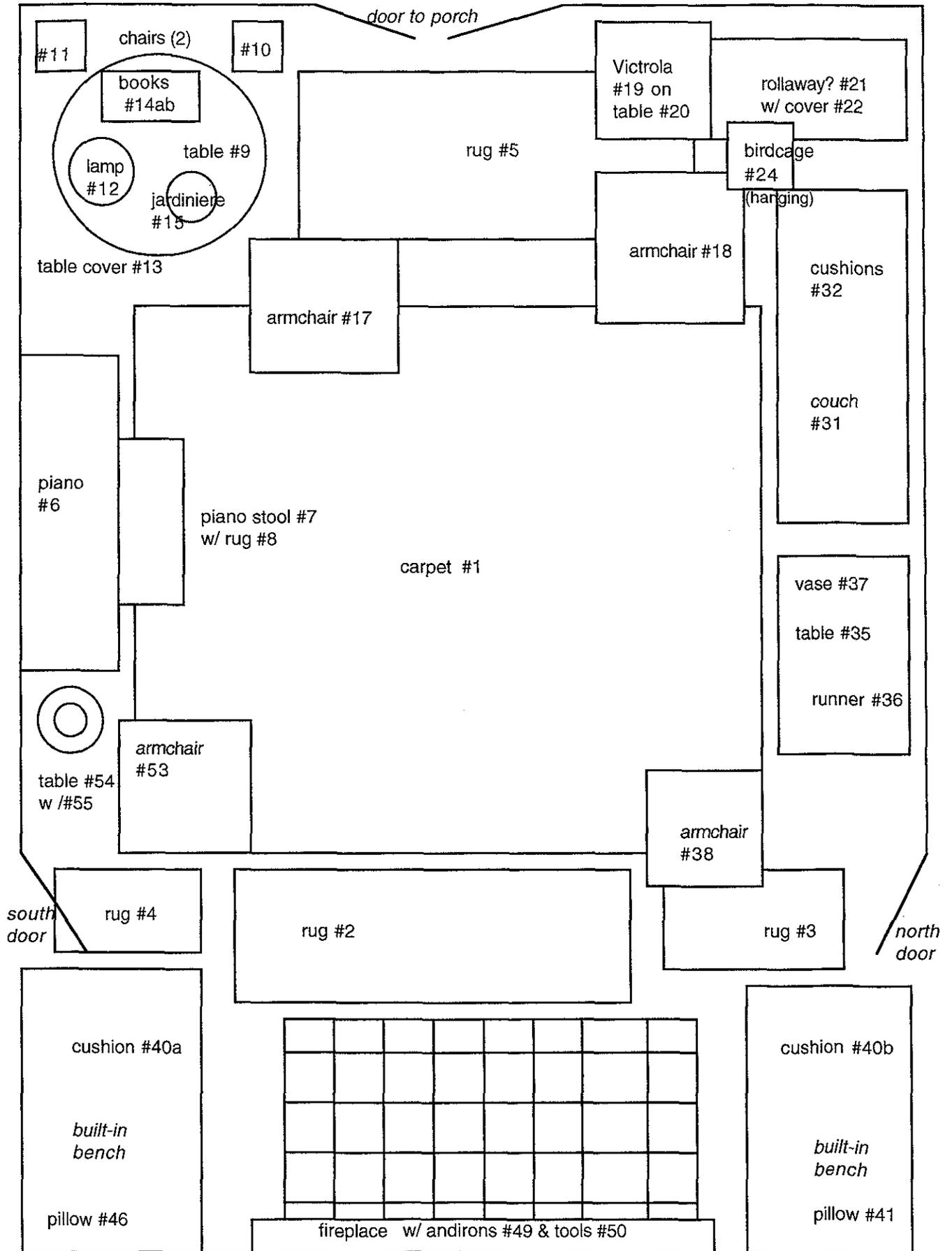
Furnishings List - Living Room

item #	object name & description	location	documentation	recommendation
#52	stone club, Eastern Woodland	mounted above inglenook overhang	Hepburn photo, east end	use reproduction or similar item; cost est. \$500.
#53	armchair, wicker, leather seat and back	left of piano on south wall	Hepburn photo, east end	use reproduction or similar item; poss vendors include Wicker Shop, Maine; Henry Link; cost est. \$750.
#54	table?	south wall, b/w piano & armchair	Hepburn photo, east end, barely visible at right	use reproduction or similar item; poss vendors include E.A. Clore Sons, Strictly Mission, S. Bent Bros.; cost est. \$250.
#55	jardinere, suggest brass, with dried plant materials	on table above	suggested in Hepburn photo, east end, barely visible on right side	use reproduction or similar item; suggest purchase from Pier 1 or similar vendor; cost est. \$200.
#56	curtains, plain weave, pale color, loosely gathered on rod at top	covering all windows	Hepburn photo, east & west ends (note: in Dyar photo, 1940, fabric is dotted swiss)	custom order through local vendor; cost approx. \$1,500. for fabric and fabrication
#57	Mexican hat	north wall, above exterior door	Hepburn photo, east end	use similar item; cost est. \$100.

Working Drawings

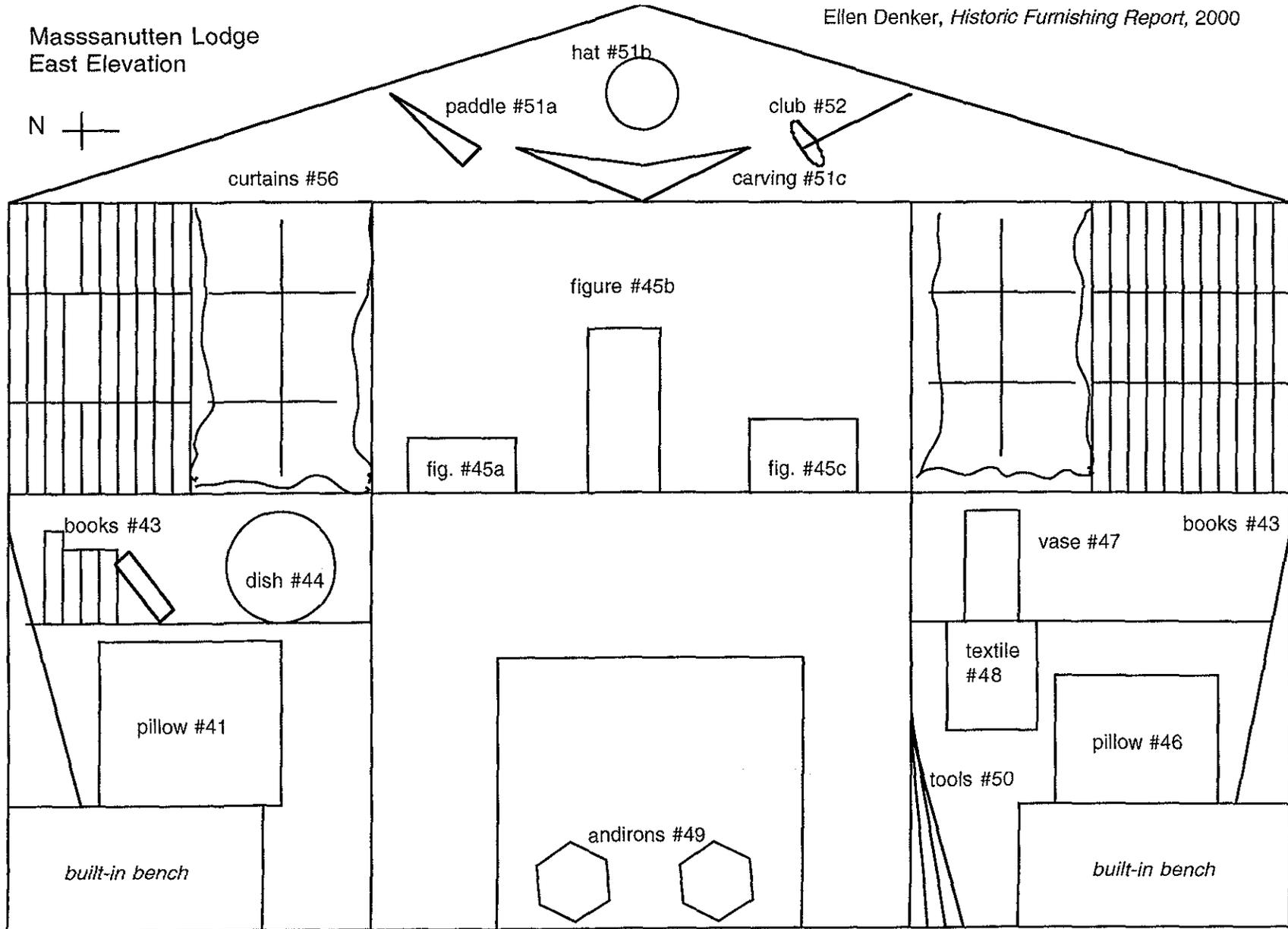
Floor Plan
East Elevation
North Elevation
West Elevation
South Elevation

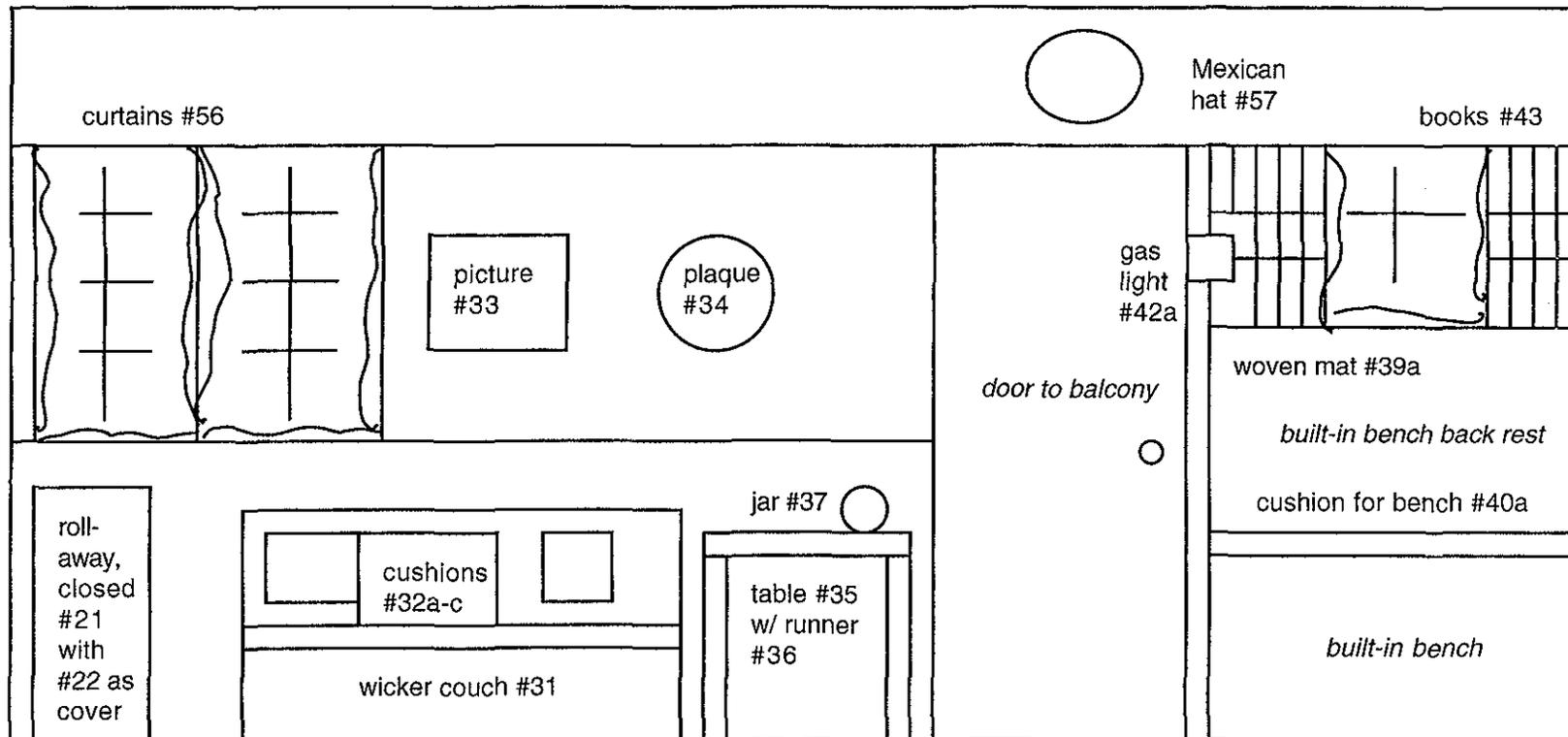
Massanutten Lodge: Floor Plan



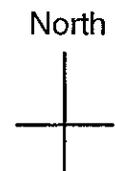
Massanutten Lodge
East Elevation

Ellen Denker, *Historic Furnishing Report*, 2000



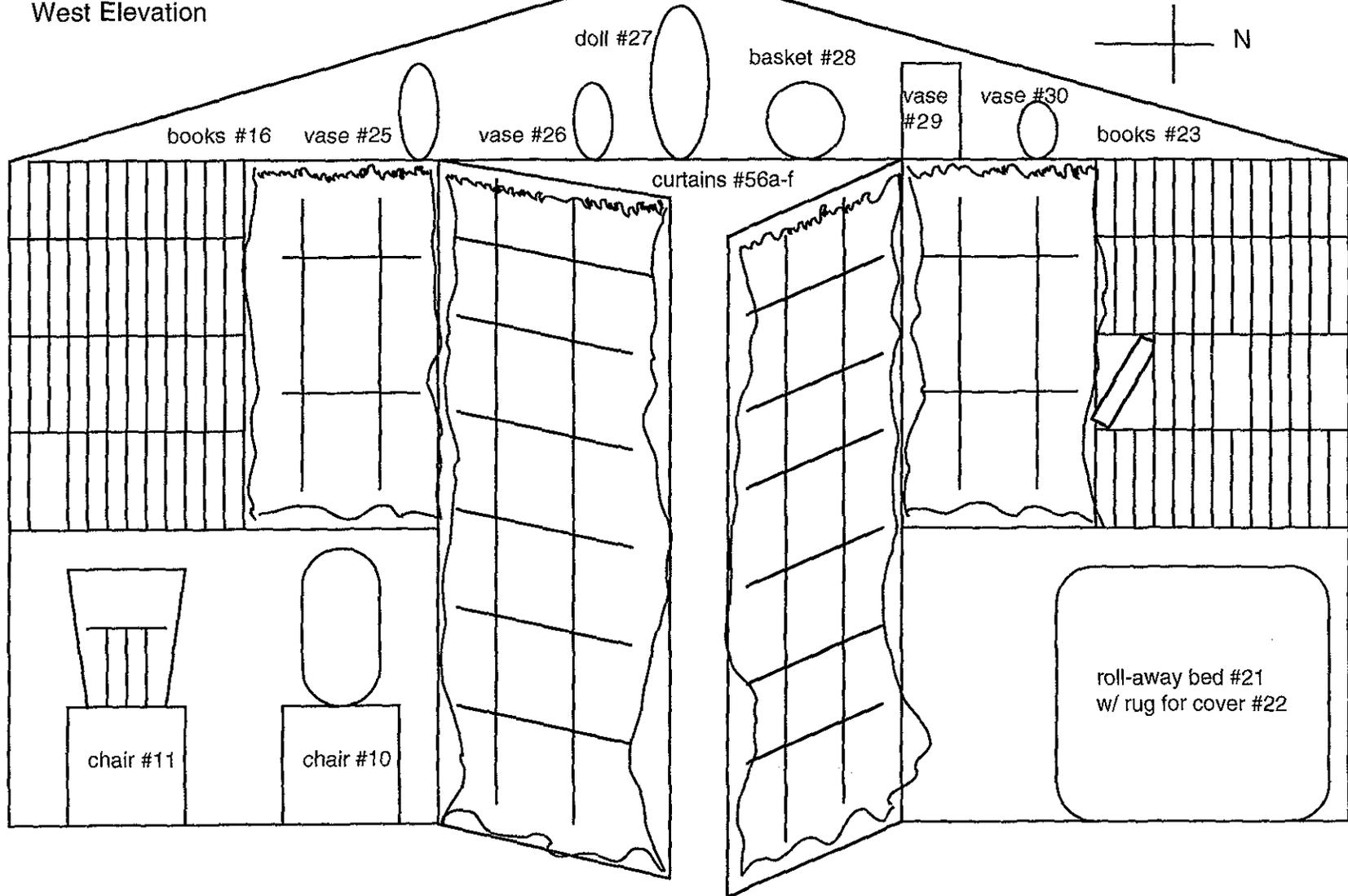


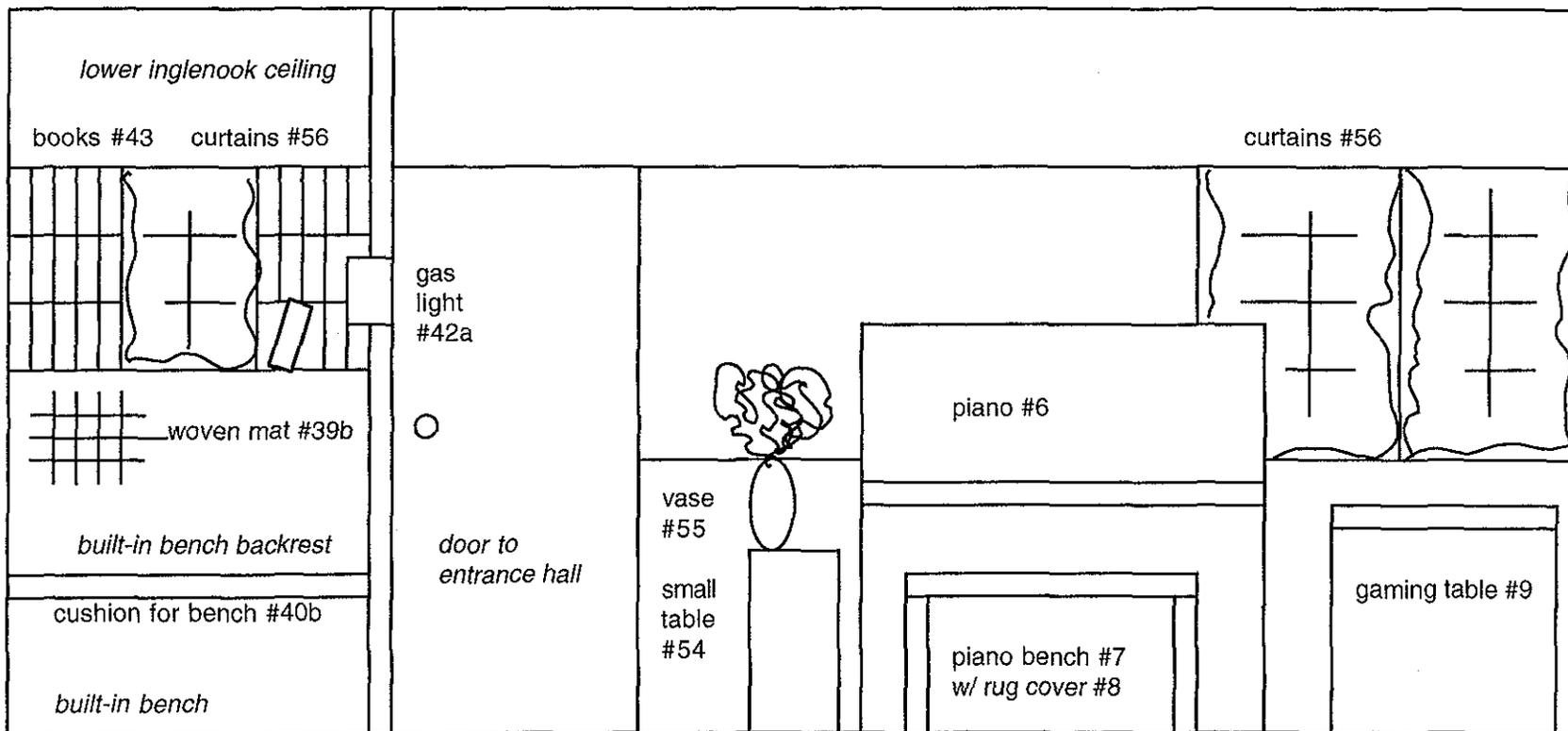
Massanutten Lodge
North Elevation



Massanutten Lodge
West Elevation

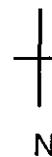
Ellen Denker, *Historic Furnishings Report*, 2000





Massanutten Lodge
South Elevation

Ellen Denker, *Historic Furnishing Report*, 2000



PROPOSED INTERPRETIVE EXHIBIT FOR BEDROOM

Exhibition Treatment Overview:

An interpretive exhibit is recommended for the large square room that was the bedroom of Massanutten Lodge when the Pollocks occupied it. The reason for this recommendation is discussed in the historical data section of the furnishing report.

The purpose of the exhibition is to examine the ways that people used resort living to relax from everyday life at home and to explore the camp experiences of various representative campers. The exhibition will be the didactic version of what visitors experience vicariously in the living room where they can sit on the furniture, look through the books, listen to the piano or Victrola, play cards, and lounge. Visitors will learn that while individual camp activities are largely similar to those experienced at the turn of this century (hiking, games, horseback riding), there are also fundamental differences (length of stay, familiarity with other campers, relatively small number of participants).

The exhibition will be primarily photographs, some life size, with only a few objects. These might include facsimiles of Stony Man and Skyland trade materials describing camp life [and other artifacts to be chosen--some objects are on display at Skyland Lodge, are they expected to stay there?].

The exhibit will be divided into three major sections:

Resort Life

- getting there by train, horse, wagon, foot
- camp life
 - length of stay
 - relationships between campers
 - extended families, close friends, business associates
 - camp activities
 - hiking, horseback riding, reading, games, dining, entertainment, camp fires, music, singing, dancing, gardening, swimming

Women of Skyland

(short biographies; quotes about life at Skyland if available)

- Addie Pollock
- Mrs. Judd
- [middle class to be identified]
- children

Historic Furnishings Report, 2000
Massanutten Lodge, Shenandoah National Park

Sustaining Camp Life: Workers at Skyland
(short biographies; quotes about life at Skyland if available)

- cooks
- housekeepers
- servers
- entertainers
- others