

Property Information

Property Names

Name Explanation	Name
Historic/Current	Warrenton Horse Show Association grounds

Property Evaluation Status

Not Evaluated

Property Addresses

Current - Shirley Avenue

County/Independent City(s): Fauquier (County)

Incorporated Town(s): *No Data*

Zip Code(s): *No Data*

Magisterial District(s): *No Data*

Tax Parcel(s): *No Data*

USGS Quad(s): WARRENTON

Additional Property Information

Architecture Setting: Town

Acres: *No Data*

Site Description:

A slightly undulating landscape which harbors various buildings associated with the grooming and showing of ponies and horses.

The shed-roofed stables were built in the 1930s or 1940s. The frame walls are covered with vertical wood siding while the roof is corrugated metal. They have not been used in ten years.

The gable-roofed stables were erected in the late 1940s or 1950s. It is also a single story, wood frame building with a standing seam metal gable roof. This structure replaced an earlier stable which was located west of the shed-roofed one.

A wood frame pedestrian bridge crosses a small creek near Shirley Avenue. It was rebuilt about 15 years ago.

A vehicular concrete slab bridge crosses the same creek but further south of the property. The abutments are in poor condition and have been recently repaired.

A single-story, frame, gable-roofed building is the toilet house. It was constructed in the 1950s.

The show ring probably dates from when the first horse show was held, 1899. It retains its original form but the planted hedgerow, split rail fence, and light poles are modern additions.

Another ring for practice purposes is situated north and east of the show ring. It occupies space which was once an outdoor or natural course.

Surveyor Assessment:

The Warrenton Horse Show Association (WWSA) is reputedly the earliest stock corporation still in existence in the Commonwealth of Virginia, created on August 8, 1899. On April 18, 1900, the East Virginia Mineral and Warrenton Improvement Company sold to the WWSA "the lot containing 8.74 acres with the buildings hereon, and the desks and furniture in the school building for the sum of \$1950.00". Although an annual event has occurred on this site for nearly 100 years, the buildings and landscape features have been altered to reflect then current trends. For example, a cross-country course, a coach barn, two stables, and a gazebo used to be on the site. The circa 1945 course consisted of solid obstacles intended to provide a more realistic test of a hunter's abilities in "the field." It was removed around 1967. Altered beyond recognition, the practice ring currently occupies a portion of the former area, however, a painted white stone jump which is north and east of the show ring is the only physical reminder of the course. The buildings were demolished during the 1970s. Many of the other remaining buildings have been rebuilt and modernized such as the grandstand and 4-H barn. According to Wayne Eastham, in the summer of 1955, the grandstand was torn down and rebuilt. Last year (1994) the circa 1954 4-H barnpoles were taken down and replaced with new ones. In conclusion, there have been so many character-, setting-, and integrity-reducing alterations to the buildings and the landscape as to render the site ineligible for inclusion in the National Register under criterion C, architecture.

But, however, when criterion A is considered, if the grounds are associated with annual horse and pony shows, then the Warrenton Horse Show property takes on significance. Since 1899, the Warrenton Horse Show has been held here and since 1920, the Warrenton Pony Show, the country's first. This activity ties into the purpose of the WWSA which is "primarily to stimulate better breeding of horses and to educate the public as to the type of horse in greater demand." Kitty Slater defines the Virginia Hunt Country as the countryside around Middleburg, Upperville, The Plains, Warrenton, Leesburg, and beyond the Blue Ridge to Clarke County. During this century, a horse show circuit led owners, exhibitors, and interested persons to Upperville, Manassas, Clarke County, Warrenton, and Berryville in search of the best horses and riders. Today, only two of these sites are still used, Upperville and Warrenton. The remainder of the horse show ground sites have fallen into disuse while the modern facilities at Great Meadow near The Plains provide a central location and spacious accommodations. In conclusion, the Warrenton Horse Show Association grounds is potentially eligible for listing in the National Register under criterion A, association with an event.

Surveyor Recommendation: *No Data*

Primary Resource Information

Resource Category: Social/Recreational
Resource Type: Stadium
NR Resource Type: Building
Historic District Status: *No Data*
Date of Construction: 1955
Date Source: Written Data
Historic Time Period: The New Dominion (1946 - 1991)
Historic Context(s): Architecture/Landscape
Other ID Number: *No Data*
Architectural Style: Other
Form: *No Data*
Number of Stories: 2.0
Condition: Rebuilt
Threats to Resource: None Known
Cultural Affiliations: *No Data*
Cultural Affiliation Details:
No Data

Architectural Description:

Architecture Summary: This is a two story, frame, gable-roofed building with vertical wood siding and square wood posts. At the rear of the building are square, wooden storage doors. Portable gates are placed here, while the upper floor is used for viewing purposes.

Secondary Resource Information

Secondary Resource #1

Resource Category: Social/Recreational
Resource Type: Restroom Facility
Date of Construction: *No Data*
Date Source: *No Data*
Historic Time Period: *No Data*
Historic Context(s): Architecture/Landscape
Architectural Style: *No Data*
Form: *No Data*
Condition: *No Data*
Threats to Resource: *No Data*
Cultural Affiliations: *No Data*

Cultural Affiliation Details:

No Data

Architectural Description:

No Data

Number of Stories: *No Data*

Secondary Resource #2

Resource Category: Commerce/Trade
Resource Type: Communications Facility
Date of Construction: *No Data*
Date Source: *No Data*
Historic Time Period: *No Data*
Historic Context(s): Architecture/Landscape
Architectural Style: *No Data*
Form: *No Data*

Condition: *No Data*
Threats to Resource: *No Data*
Cultural Affiliations: *No Data*
Cultural Affiliation Details:
No Data
Architectural Description:
No Data

Secondary Resource #3

Resource Category: Landscape
Resource Type: Gateposts/Entry
Date of Construction: *No Data*
Date Source: *No Data*
Historic Time Period: *No Data*
Historic Context(s): Architecture/Landscape
Architectural Style: *No Data*
Form: *No Data*
Condition: *No Data*
Threats to Resource: *No Data*
Cultural Affiliations: *No Data*
Cultural Affiliation Details:
No Data
Architectural Description:
No Data

Secondary Resource #4

Resource Category: Social/Recreational
Resource Type: Shelter
Date of Construction: *No Data*
Date Source: *No Data*
Historic Time Period: *No Data*
Historic Context(s): Architecture/Landscape
Architectural Style: *No Data*
Form: *No Data*
Condition: *No Data*
Threats to Resource: *No Data*
Cultural Affiliations: *No Data*
Cultural Affiliation Details:
No Data
Architectural Description:
No Data
Number of Stories: *No Data*

Secondary Resource #5

Resource Category: Social/Recreational
Resource Type: Shelter
Date of Construction: *No Data*
Date Source: *No Data*
Historic Time Period: *No Data*
Historic Context(s): Architecture/Landscape
Architectural Style: *No Data*
Form: *No Data*
Condition: *No Data*

Threats to Resource: *No Data*
Cultural Affiliations: *No Data*
Cultural Affiliation Details:
No Data
Architectural Description:
No Data
Number of Stories: *No Data*

Secondary Resource #6

Resource Category: Social/Recreational
Resource Type: Playing Field
Date of Construction: *No Data*
Date Source: *No Data*
Historic Time Period: *No Data*
Historic Context(s): Architecture/Landscape
Architectural Style: *No Data*
Form: *No Data*
Condition: *No Data*
Threats to Resource: *No Data*
Cultural Affiliations: *No Data*
Cultural Affiliation Details:
No Data
Architectural Description:
No Data

Secondary Resource #7

Resource Category: Social/Recreational
Resource Type: Playing Field
Date of Construction: *No Data*
Date Source: *No Data*
Historic Time Period: *No Data*
Historic Context(s): Architecture/Landscape
Architectural Style: *No Data*
Form: *No Data*
Condition: *No Data*
Threats to Resource: *No Data*
Cultural Affiliations: *No Data*
Cultural Affiliation Details:
No Data
Architectural Description:
No Data

Secondary Resource #8

Resource Category: Commerce/Trade
Resource Type: Office/Office Building
Date of Construction: *No Data*
Date Source: *No Data*
Historic Time Period: *No Data*
Historic Context(s): Architecture/Landscape
Architectural Style: *No Data*
Form: *No Data*
Condition: *No Data*
Threats to Resource: *No Data*

Cultural Affiliations: *No Data*

Cultural Affiliation Details:
No Data

Architectural Description:
No Data

Number of Stories: *No Data*

Secondary Resource #9

Resource Category: Agriculture/Subsistence

Resource Type: Stable

Date of Construction: *No Data*

Date Source: *No Data*

Historic Time Period: *No Data*

Historic Context(s): Architecture/Landscape

Architectural Style: *No Data*

Form: *No Data*

Condition: *No Data*

Threats to Resource: *No Data*

Cultural Affiliations: *No Data*

Cultural Affiliation Details:
No Data

Architectural Description:
No Data

Number of Stories: *No Data*

Secondary Resource #10

Resource Category: Agriculture/Subsistence

Resource Type: Stable

Date of Construction: *No Data*

Date Source: *No Data*

Historic Time Period: *No Data*

Historic Context(s): Architecture/Landscape

Architectural Style: *No Data*

Form: *No Data*

Condition: *No Data*

Threats to Resource: *No Data*

Cultural Affiliations: *No Data*

Cultural Affiliation Details:
No Data

Architectural Description:
No Data

Number of Stories: *No Data*

Secondary Resource #11

Resource Category: Transportation

Resource Type: Bridge

Date of Construction: *No Data*

Date Source: *No Data*

Historic Time Period: *No Data*

Historic Context(s): Architecture/Landscape

Architectural Style: *No Data*

Form: *No Data*

Condition: *No Data*

Threats to Resource: *No Data*
Cultural Affiliations: *No Data*
Cultural Affiliation Details:
No Data
Architectural Description:
No Data
Bridge Structure Number: *No Data*
Bridge Type: *No Data*
VDOT Bridge ID: *No Data*
Name of Entity Crossed: *No Data*
Number of Spans: *No Data*
Number of Lanes Crossed: *No Data*
Type of Entity Crossed: *No Data*
Current Use: *No Data*

Secondary Resource #12

Resource Category: Transportation
Resource Type: Bridge
Date of Construction: *No Data*
Date Source: *No Data*
Historic Time Period: *No Data*
Historic Context(s): Architecture/Landscape
Architectural Style: *No Data*
Form: *No Data*
Condition: *No Data*
Threats to Resource: *No Data*
Cultural Affiliations: *No Data*
Cultural Affiliation Details:
No Data
Architectural Description:
No Data
Bridge Structure Number: *No Data*
Bridge Type: *No Data*
VDOT Bridge ID: *No Data*
Name of Entity Crossed: *No Data*
Number of Spans: *No Data*
Number of Lanes Crossed: *No Data*
Type of Entity Crossed: *No Data*
Current Use: *No Data*

Historic District Information

Historic District Name: *No Data*
Local Historic District Name: *No Data*
Historic District Significance: *No Data*

CRM Events

Event Type: Survey:Phase I/Reconnaissance

Project Review File Number: 7029-156-F01, 101, C502
Investigator: VDOT-Ross, Helen P.
Organization/Company: Unknown (DSS)
Photographic Media: *No Data*
Survey Date: 2/10/1995
Dhr Library Report Number: Warrenton Horse Show Grounds
Project Staff/Notes:

No Data

Project Bibliographic Information:

Name: Slater, Kitty
DHR CRM Report Number: The Hunt Country of America
Record Type: Book
Bibliographic Notes: Arco Publishing Co. Inc., New York, NY, revised edition 1987.

Name: Scott, Laurel
DHR CRM Report Number: Warrenton Horse Show Grounds
Record Type: Article
Bibliographic Notes: In Fauquier, volume 6, No. 2, Summer 1993.

Name: Fauquier County
DHR CRM Report Number: Grantee Index
Record Type: Deed
Bibliographic Notes: Deed Book 91, page 357.

Name: Ross, Helen
DHR CRM Report Number: Interview
Record Type: Oral History/Interview
Bibliographic Notes: Wayne Easom, insurance agent, telephone interview, February 8, 1995.

Name: Ross, Helen
DHR CRM Report Number: Interview
Record Type: Oral History/Interview
Bibliographic Notes: Helen Wiley, past president of Warrenton Horse Show, telephone interview, February 10, 1995.

Bibliographic Information

Bibliography:

No Data

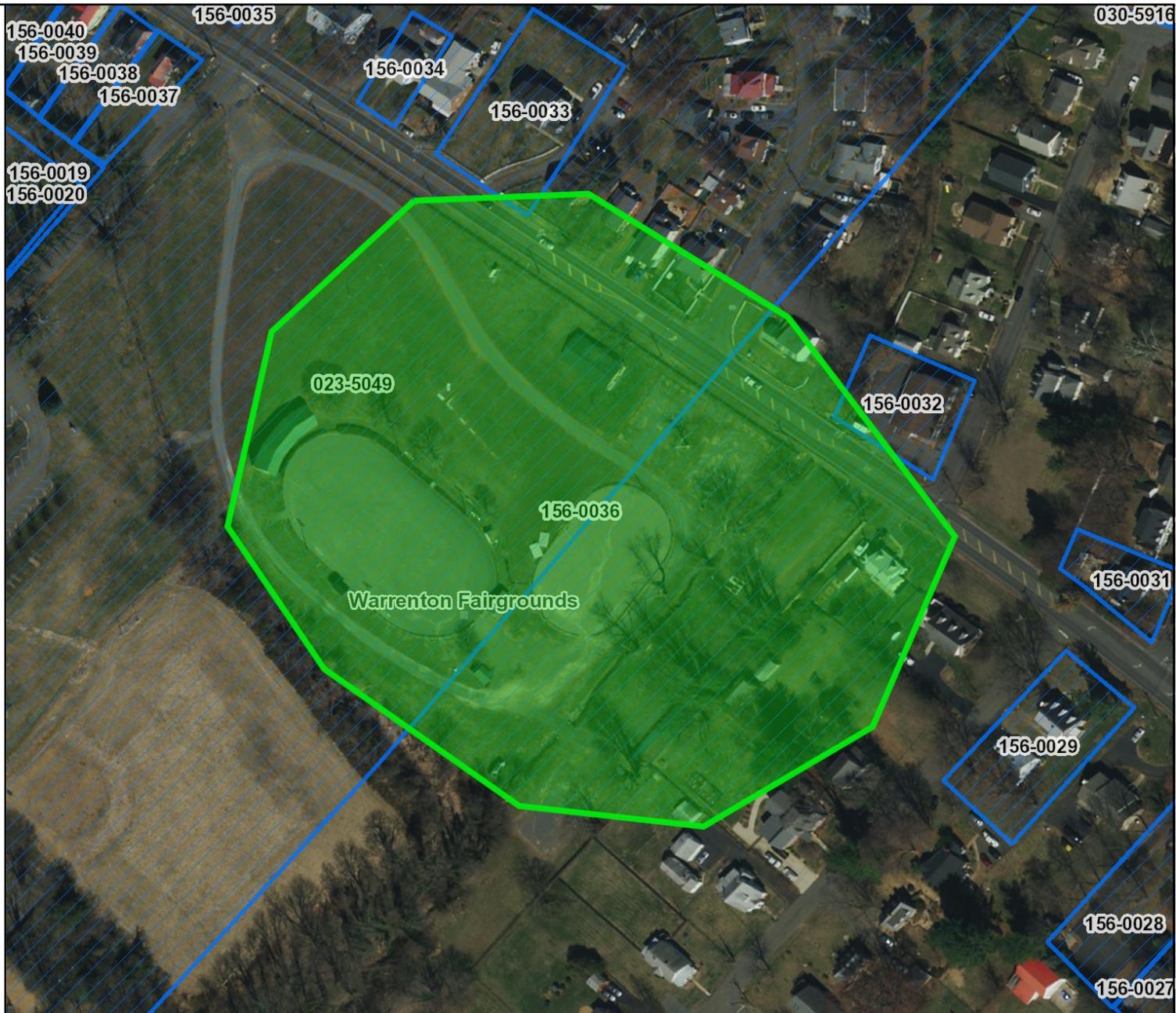
Property Notes:

No Data

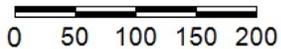


Legend

- Architecture Resources
- Architecture Labels
- Individual Historic District Properties
- Archaeological Resources
- Archaeology Labels
- DHR Easements
- USGS GIS Place names
- County Boundaries



Feet



1:2,500 / 1"=208 Feet

Title: Architecture Labels

Date: 3/8/2022

DISCLAIMER: Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years from a variety of sources and the representation depicted is a cumulative view of field observations over time and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general information purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses. Map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". More information is available in the DHR Archives located at DHR's Richmond office.

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