

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: North Carolina	
COUNTY: Watauga	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:  
Mast Farm

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
On SR 1112, 0.4 miles east of the junction of SR 1135 and SR 1112

CITY OR TOWN:  
Valle Crucis vicinity (Tenth Congressional District, The Hon. James Broyhill

STATE: North Carolina      CODE: 37      COUNTY: Watauga      CODE: 189

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____
ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC: Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
Estate of Joe' C. Mast, c/o Miss Mary Mast

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Patterson      STATE: North Carolina      CODE: 37

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Watauga County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Boone      STATE: North Carolina      CODE: 37

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:       Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:      STATE:      CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Mast farm complex, surrounded by thickly forested hills, is situated in a small valley which opens into the rich bottomlands of the Watauga River floor plain. Consisting of ten major buildings which have remained virtually unaltered since their construction, the Mast farm is an unusually complete and well-preserved example of a typical North Carolina mountain farm of the nineteenth century.

1) The main house, built in 1885, is a two-story, gable-roof frame dwelling three bays wide and originally two bays deep with a two-story rear projection also covered by a gable roof. On either side of the main block the bays are separated by large single-shoulder exterior end chimneys which have tumbled weatherings and caps. Dominating the main (east) facade is a full-length one-story shed porch with a two-story gable-roof central section. Both levels were supported originally by wooden posts featuring decorative geometric sawn work and enclosed by a similar balustrade. Around the turn of the century the upper level of the porch was enclosed to form a sun room, several two-story additions were constructed to the rear of the main block, and the first level of the porch was extended along the sides of the house.

2) Atop a small knoll just north of the house is an eight-sided gazebo with latticework walls and a low octagonal conical roof. It was built about 1890 for the entertainment of the many summer guests who stayed at the Mast house.

3) The building whose form is most uniquely adapted to its function is the wash house, a small frame structure with a gable roof. The upper halves of the exterior walls are covered with open latticework while the lower portions are sided with clapboards. This arrangement provided the necessary ventilation for the brick furnace inside which heated the water in the large copper washing pots. A small exterior chimney on the west gable serves the furnace.

4) The spring house is also a small frame building with a gable roof. There is a porch under the roof on the north and west sides which protects the unusual stone foundation. On the west side the foundation extends out beyond the wall to form a small circular pool fed by an underground stream. A stone trough leads from the pool through the interior of the spring house from which water could be transferred easily to the main house.

5) Next to the spring house is the meat house, a tall rectangular board-and-batten structure. A small bell tower above the front of the main (south) gable lends to the building the appearance of a small chapel. The bell was rung to call the field hands to meals and when emergencies arose. The interior contains the various hooks and other equipment used in the meat-curing process.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
North Carolina	
COUNTY	
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(Number all entries)

7. 6) The woodhouse, which Thomas Waterman cited as a noteworthy example of log construction in The Early Architecture of North Carolina, is a large squared-log shelter with a wooden shingle roof. The front and both sides are open, but the gables and the rear wall are covered with wide vertical sheathing.

7) Next to the woodhouse to the west is the apple house, the most recently-constructed building in the farm complex. Finished about 1905, it is a small frame structure with a gable roof extending out over the front (south) gable end forming a porch over the entrance.

8) The weaving house, built about 1812 as a dwelling, is the oldest building on the farm. It is a two-story structure built of squared logs joined in a full dovetail. It has a gable roof covered with wooden shingles and a large single-shoulder stone chimney located on the west gable. About 1900 large windows containing two-over-two sash were cut in all four walls at the first level and in the east gable. An exterior stair on the west gable provides the only access to the second floor. Although this stair is of twentieth-century construction, it probably replaced an earlier flight since there is no indication that a stair ever existed in any other position. After the new house was completed in 1885, this building was converted to a weaving house. It served this purpose for over fifty years and still contains several looms in operating condition.

9) The blacksmith shop, a large rectangular building, includes two one-room structures under the same low gable roof separated by a central breezeway. The left pen is a frame structure covered with wide vertical boards, while the right pen is constructed of crude rounded logs joined in a half dovetail. The common roof extends out over the main (east) facade to form a low porch. The shop is one of the more interesting variations on the familiar "dog-run" plan.

10) The barn, located across SR 1112 from the main house, is the most impressive building in the farm complex. It is a large frame structure featuring a splayed gambrel roof with clipped gables. There are two long shed dormers on the front of the roof, each containing two small windows. Above each dormer at the roof ridge is a box vent with a gable roof and latticework sides. The main roof forms an open shed on the main (west) and south sides which protects the vertically sheathed walls of the main block. The gables are horizontally sheathed. The striking humped form of the barn roof emphasizes the mass of the building and effectively relates visually with the rolling hills beyond.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pro-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)

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture  | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  |  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

About 1812 David Mast is thought to have built the log house that originally served as a dwelling but is now referred to as the weaving house. This building is the oldest of the complex of buildings which make up Mast Farm. David Mast died in 1830, but his wife, Mary, remained on the farm until her death in 1873. Their son, Andrew B. Mast, who was born in the early log house in 1827, stayed on the farm, buying his brother's and sister's shares of their inheritance before his mother's death. The present main house, according to an inscription on an old picture of it, was built in 1885 by M. C. Church for Andrew B. Mast.

The Mast Farm, extensively enlarged by Andrew Mast, was owned next by his son, David Finley Mast. David F. Mast and his wife were widely known throughout North Carolina for the hospitality they dispensed to guests who boarded with them to escape the uncomfortable lowland summers and to enjoy the excellent meals they served. It was during this period that the main house was expanded to accommodate the growing number of tourists. Mrs. Mast was also well known for her weaving, which was done in the old log house. When Jessie Wilson, daughter of President Woodrow Wilson, was married, Mrs. Mast sent her a gift woven on one of her looms in the weaving house. The farm became the property of David Mast's son, Joe C. Mast, in 1936, and the house is currently owned by heirs of his estate.

The numerous buildings that make up Mast Farm, each expressive of its function, represent vividly the wide variety of operations necessary to a self-sustaining farm complex. The weaving house is particularly interesting, both because it is as Thomas T. Waterman points out, "an example of log construction which reached its finest development in North Carolina," and because it was the original dwelling around which the farm grew up. With this building as a nucleus, the farm illustrates the progression of an enterprising pioneer family from this rude early house on a small homestead to a larger, more comfortable house, the seat of much larger landholdings. The complex includes one of the most complete and best-preserved groups of nineteenth century farm buildings in western North Carolina.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Watauga County Records, Watauga County Courthouse, Boone, North Carolina, Office of the Register of Deeds. (Subgroups: Deeds and Wills).

Watauga County Records, State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina. (Subgroups: Deeds and Wills).

Waterman, Thomas Tileston. The Early Architecture of North Carolina. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1947.

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 TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0   '   "	0   '   "		36° 12' 23"	81° 46' 15"	
NE	0   '   "	0   '   "				
SE	0   '   "	0   '   "				
SW	0   '   "	0   '   "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Eight Acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
Survey and Planning Unit, John B. Wells, III, Supervisor

ORGANIZATION: State Department of Archives and History      DATE: 16 September 1971

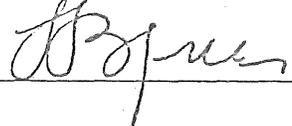
STREET AND NUMBER:  
109 East Jones Street

CITY OR TOWN: Raleigh      STATE: North Carolina      CODE: 37

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 Director, State Department of Archives and History

Date 16 September 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

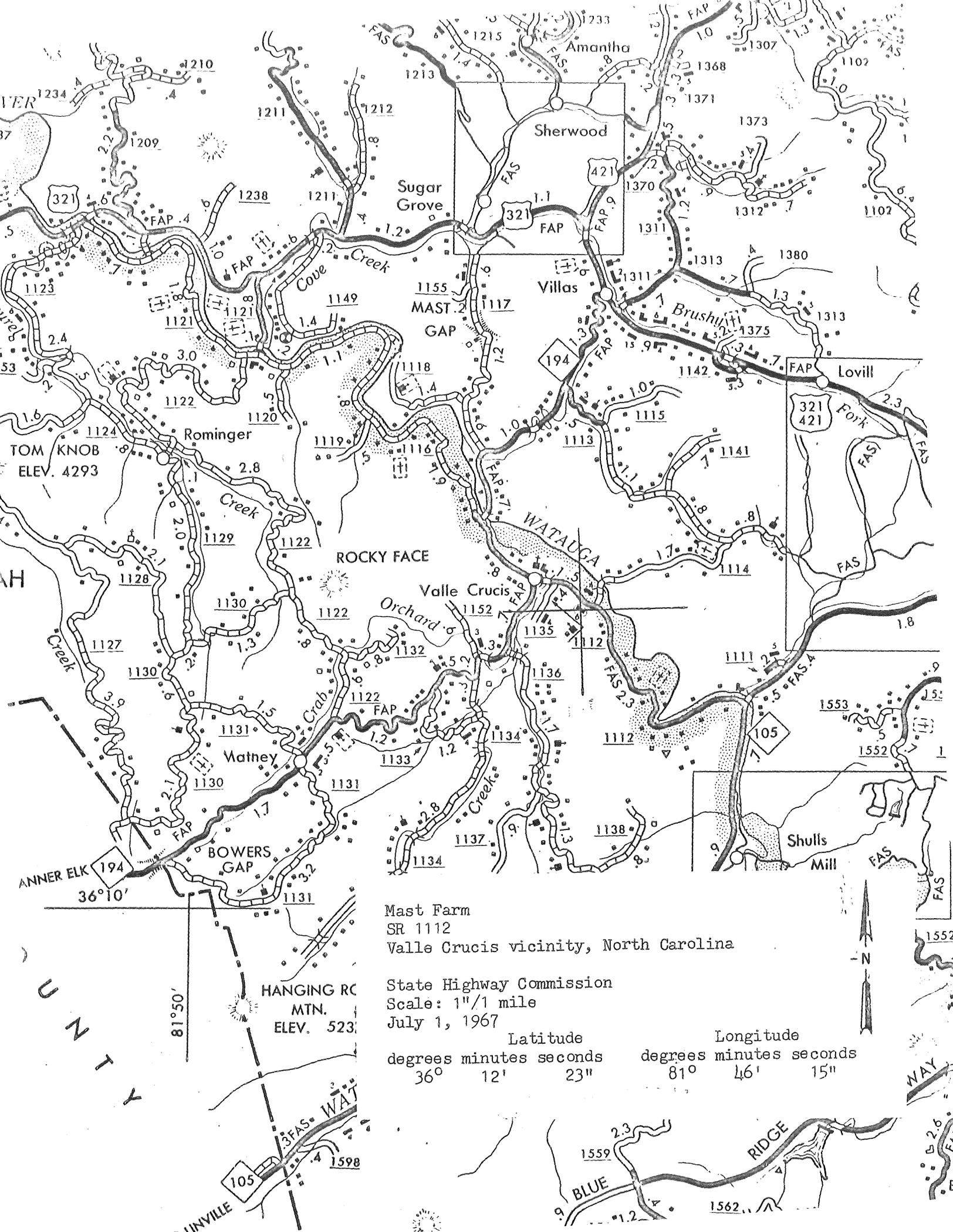
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_



Mast Farm  
 SR 1112  
 Valle Crucis vicinity, North Carolina

State Highway Commission  
 Scale: 1" / 1 mile  
 July 1, 1967

Latitude	Longitude
degrees minutes seconds	degrees minutes seconds
36° 12' 23"	81° 46' 15"

UNITS

81° 05' 18"

HANGING ROCK MTN.  
 ELEV. 523'

36° 10'

105

1598

WATKINS WAY

MINVILLE

BLUE RIDGE

1559

1562

2.3

1.2

2.6

