



PRELIMINARY INFORMATION FORM (PIF) for INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES

Note: PIFs are prepared by applicants and evaluated by DHR staff and the State Review Board based on information known at the time of preparation. Recommendations concerning PIFs are subject to change if new information becomes available.

DHR No. (to be completed by DHR staff) 030-0270

1. General Property Information

Property name: Teneriffe Farm

Property address: 2427 Tenerife Road

City or Town: Catlett

Zip code: 20119

Name of the Independent City or County where the property is located: Fauquier

Category of Property (choose only one of the following):

Building x Site Structure Object

2. Physical Aspects

Acreage: 251

Setting (choose only one of the following):

Urban Suburban Town Village Hamlet Rural x

Briefly describe the property's overall location and setting, including any notable landscape features:

Tenerife Farm is a 251 acre property, approximately 1.5 miles east of the Village of Catlett in extreme eastern Fauquier County, near the Prince William County border. Tenerife Road bisects and ends on the property, which turns into a paved asphalt driveway, which leads up to the main house and dependencies. On the north side of Cedar Run, Tenerife has 5,600 feet of frontage on the Run, just above the Daniels Dam, and is a major tributary of the Occoquan River and is part of the Potomac River watershed. Wal

Teneriffe Farm consists of a mix of open agricultural fields in the middle of the farm flanked by mature woods along its border, in particular along the edges of Cedar Run. Walnut Branch flows adjacent to the southwest border of the property and enters Cedar Run, which serves as the property's southern border for 5,600 feet. The property is well-watered. In addition to Walnut Branch and Cedar Run, there are several natural springs which feed the three manmade ponds on the property.

Teneriffe has a unique geology with significant concentrations of exposed metamorphic rock throughout the property. Stone walls line portions of various fields throughout the property. These walls completely border the main house and rear garden area, and a stone walkway leads up to the front of the main house. Terraces slope south and downhill behind the main house.

3. Architectural Description

Architectural Style(s): Federal, Greek Revival

If the property was designed by an architect, landscape architect, engineer, or other professional, please list here: _____

If the builder is known, please list here: _____

Date of construction (can be approximate): 1820s, 1880s, 1900, 1920

Narrative Description (Please do not exceed one page in describing the property):

Briefly describe the property's general characteristics, such as its current use (and historic use if different), as well as the primary building or structure on the property (such as a house, store, mill, factory, depot, bridge, etc.). Include the materials and method(s) of construction, physical appearance and condition (exterior and interior), and any additions or other major alterations.

Main House

Teneriffe Farm includes a wide array of buildings that supported a farm which has been in continuous agricultural use for more than 200 years. Today, the main house on the property is a Federal period, 2.5 story, 3 bay stone dwelling with interior end brick chimneys with corbeling on the east and west facades. The front door is centrally located, flanked by 12-over-12 double hung windows on either side of the front door, on both the first and second level. Each window utilizes repurposed iron from a wagon wheel for the lintel, which had been hammered out and cut down to size. The moderately pitched side gable roof is sheathed in standing seam metal roof and pierced by three dormer windows with 6-over-6 double hung sashes spaced symmetrically above 12-over-12 windows and front door. A set of three dormer windows are symmetrically placed on the rear (south) façade as well. The stone façade is roughly three feet thick in the original hall-parlor section of the house, which includes the western two bays of the main block. It was constructed of locally excavated stone from the property. A unique feature on the third level is large elliptical arch in the stone façade with brick detail around the arch. This once an elliptical tripartite exterior window that measured approximately 4 feet tall by 7 feet wide, which included a four-over-two double hung window in the middle flanked by two fixed multi pane side lights. This was covered over in the 1930 renovation and left exposed during the 1989 renovation after the fire.

The house remained as a two bay wide, two-and-a-half story home until about 1930, when the Colvin family renovated the house, adding a dining room to the east of the hall with a galley style kitchen extending along its south side, six dormer windows and an interior brick chimney on the east end. The first indoor bathroom for the house was added at this time as well. In the 1960s, the screened in porch was removed off the front of the house and Neoclassical-style full width and height porch was added with squared wood, two story columns. To the east of the main house is three bay, two story frame with brick façade building, connected to the main house through an interior door. It originally stood as a one story, three bay frame building with interior chimney until the 1960s. At that time, a brick façade was added to the frame structure. In 1987, a projecting gable window on the north façade was added and a small addition added to the south (rear) façade, to accommodate a second level.

The main house caught fire in 1987 and consumed most of the interior. The eastern frame with brick façade, portion, was left untouched. The entire original stone structural system and foundation, along with some of the interior brick work and chimneys survived. The interior of the house, including windows, interior trim and floors were replaced with in-kind historic materials to match as closely as possible the original material. The interior timber structural system was rebuilt with heart pine beams from a historic warehouse in Baltimore. The

replacement windows were 12-over-12 as the original ones and taken from another early 19th century house in Fauquier. Some of the original bricks crumbled from prolonged heat exposure. Those were replaced with bricks made from hand, using materials found on site.

Exterior Kitchen

In addition to the main house, there are several additional historic buildings which tell the story of the farm's evolution and growth over time. An original exterior kitchen, which family tradition holds was housing for enslaved workers, is situated perpendicular to the main house and its corner almost touches the rear corner of the frame-with-brick-façade addition to the main house, creating a semi-connected, intimate space. It is possible that the brick façade, frame addition may have originally served as a covered walkway to connect the main house to the exterior kitchen.

The frame kitchen is a three bay, two story building with a large exterior stone chimney building clad with a standing seam metal roof. It is covered in hardiboard cement siding, but the original beaded weatherboard siding is still intact underneath. It is supported by a continuous dry laid stone foundation. The interior layout of kitchen began as a one story, two room structure. This section of the kitchen is probably contemporary with the main house, c. 1820. Previous surveyors date the second story addition to 1914, but the existing staircase appears to be older, so the second story likely dates to the mid to late 19th century. At the time the second story was added, brick was added to the top of the chimney to bring its height above the roof level. The building is accessed through a centrally located single leaf entrance filled with a metal-framed storm door covering a four panel wooden door, which likely dates to the mid 19th century. Fenestration includes 6-over-6 double hung vinyl replacement windows. A projecting one bay addition built circa 2000 on the north side of the house creates an ell.

The interior layout includes a small entryway with a staircase directly adjacent to the front door, a hearth room to the south and a modern kitchen (originally living quarters) to the north. The massive stone hearth with its iron crane is still intact in the hearth room. The original wooden lintel had succumbed to rot and was removed and replaced in 2016 with a 200 year old hand hewn piece of oak. Baseboard trim and window surrounds likely date to the mid 19th century. The stone hearth with mill stone in situ is original. It was repointed in 2016. There are at least two layers of wood floors intact in the main room with the open hearth. Upstairs, there are two rooms off the staircase to the south and north. Both upstairs bedrooms retain their original wood floors.

In 2016, the present owners built a two story addition off the rear (west) of the building adding an additional room on each the first and second levels.

Access to the cellar under the kitchen is from the west façade. Inspection of the underpinning revealed hewn timbers and logs (some with intact bark edge) supporting the structure. Future wood analysis may reveal an earlier date for the structure.

Smoke House

Built circa 1820, the one story, one bay frame smokehouse stands south of the main house and exterior kitchen. A single leaf vertical panel wood door is centrally located on the north façade. Fenestration includes 6-over-6 double hung wooden windows on the east and west facades. The building is clad in weatherboard siding with corner boards and covered with a standing seam metal roof. A cupola which once served as the exhaust vent pierces the roofline, is centrally located and appears to have its original windows boarded over. On the south façade an intake vent is still visible. It is supported by a dry laid stone foundation.

Barn Complex

The barn complex consists of a c.1880s frame, side gabled three bay barn with a milking parlor added along its northern façade and a silo on the western façade of the milking parlor, creating visually an elongated barn from the front view. Along the northern façade of the milking parlor are six evenly spaced vinyl replacement six-over-six windows, a wooden door above the windows and one window just below the gable at the top. A vertical paneled wood door is located at the end of northern tip of the western façade for an exterior entrance to the milking parlor. The exterior retains its original lap siding, exterior doors, unique terracotta tiled silo and stone foundation, but the windows are vinyl, six-over-six replacements. The interior of the original part of the barn is divided into three spaces, including a long, open central bay, flanked by two partially closed bays on either side. The southern bay is framed and enclosed with two vertical paneled doors on an original sliding tract. Within the enclosed area are partitions for four horse stalls. Dutch doors are still intact for these stalls and can be seen along the exterior southern facade. The northern bay is partially open and likely once used as storage for equipment or vehicles, with the rear portion of the bay also enclosed with cribbed horizontal siding and a vertical paneled door on a sliding tract. Both sliding doors have the original sliding mechanisms – the system on the southern bay doors was made by the Ney Manufacturing Company and the system on the northern bay door is F.E. Myers and Bro. The original interior structural system is intact - timber frame with mostly hand hewn timbers for the corner and intermediate posts as well as some of the braces and used bridle, lap joints and wooden pegs to secure the heavy timber. The original hay carrier system still runs along the ridge of the barn and is tied directly to the rafters. The milking parlor is accessed through an interior door on the northern end of the barn and includes a concrete ramp and walkway separating milking stalls. The west side of the parlor includes 12 stalls with 11 on the east side. The silo is of a unique design, made with terracotta glazed tiles fired locally at Teneriffe Roller Mills just below the farm on Cedar Run. It retains all of its original material and is covered with a hipped, dome roof of standing seam metal.

Attached to the north end of the barn complex is a long, low shed with animal stalls that open east into a fenced field. This shed likely dates to the 1930s.

Water Tower

Built around 1900, Teneriffe includes a one bay, three story frame water tower which includes a centrally located single leaf, wood framed door on the main level. There are twelve pane wooden casement window at the second and third levels on the front (north) façade and the rear façade features three twelve-pane fixed wooden windows, one on each of the three stories. The east and west facades have no windows. The building is covered by a front gable standing seam metal roof, supported by a rubble stone foundation. The building is clad in weatherboard siding with corner boards.

Chicken House Complex

Constructed in four distinct periods between approximately 1880 and 1920, the chicken house complex is a one bay wide three room deep frame structure that is clad in original weatherboard siding, covered with front gable standing seam metal roof and supported by dry laid stone foundation. Fenestration includes 6-over-6 vinyl windows on the front (west) and south facades and three batten doors with original hinges on the western and eastern ends of the south façade and eastern end of the north facade. The wood framing of the interior spaces is visible. In the first room built circa 1880, the lumber is a combination of hewn and sawn wood with a combination of cut nails and possibly wooden pegs to secure the framing members. Walls are treated with a whitewash. Given overall massing and height of the first room, it is unlikely this was built as a chicken house and probably served an alternative purpose. A second room was added onto the complex around 1920, this space has interior framing evident on the north wall, with original weatherboard siding from the first room serving as the west wall. There are nesting boxes still intact along the lower end of the north east walls. A third room was added on shortly after the second room, likely at the same time animal stalls were added onto the south façade of the third room and a privy added to the east façade of the complex. Both the second and third

rooms have shed roofs that slope to the north. The 1920s portion of the complex retains its original siding. The one seater frame privy extends off the east of the complex with a batten style door and rests on a hewn timber foundation.

In a bullet list, include any outbuildings or secondary resources or major landscape features (such as barns, sheds, dam and mill pond, storage tanks, scales, railroad spurs, etc.), including their condition and their estimated construction dates.

- Federal period main house, c. 1823 (rebuilt after fire c. 1987), good condition
- 3 bay 2, story frame Tenant house/Kitchen/Quarters for enslaved workers, c. 1820, good condition
- 1 bay, 1 story frame Smoke house/meat house, c. 1820, good condition
- 1 bay, 3 story frame Water Tower, c. 1900, good condition
- Office building, c. 1920, good condition
- 1 story, 1 bay frame 4-seater privy, c. 1900, fair condition
- Chicken house complex, c. 1880-1920, fair condition
- Dairy barn complex with silo, c. 1880-1920, good condition
- Frame boathouse, c. 1920, fair condition
- Dry laid stone walls, c. 1800, fair condition
- Earthen terraces, c. 1820s, poor condition
- Concrete block well house, 1940, good condition
- Frame well house, 1920, poor condition
- Garage, c. 1980, good condition
- Stone gate posts, c. 1950, good condition
- Pond, c. 1960, good condition
- One story frame pole shed, c. 1920, fair condition
- Cemetery with one burial circa 1997, additional burials post 1997, good condition
- Frame dock in pond, c. 2000, good condition
- Machine shed, c. 2010, good condition

4. Property's History and Significance (Please do not exceed one page)

Briefly explain the property's historic importance, such as significant events, persons, and/or families associated with the property.

If the property is important for its architecture, engineering, landscape architecture, or other aspects of design, please include a brief explanation of this aspect.

Teneriffe Farm is a small portion of what was originally the 30,000 acre Brent Town Tract, historically Stafford County, now portions of Prince William and Fauquier Counties. Brent Town was eventually subdivided and present day Teneriffe became part of the Hayward tract, of which Pilgrim's Rest was also a part. The tract was passed down to Thomas Fitzhugh (1725-1768) and his son, Thomas (1754-1820). The latter Thomas sold 650 acres of this tract to William Stuart on 27 August 1810. Family tradition holds that the main house and exterior kitchen date to the 18th century – additional research may be able to identify if these resources were possibly built by Thomas Fitzhugh as an overseers house and quarters as part of a leased farm on his extensive plantation.

In his will, William Stuart divided his lands between two of his daughters, Ann Eliza and Catherine Matilda. The 650 acres plus the 12 acre mill property on the opposite side of Cedar Run was allotted to Catherine Matilda Hord is described as "the land where Mrs. Hord now resides," whereas the other tract of 755 acres allotted to Ann Eliza, known as Bloomsbury, is where William Stuart resided. Based upon this information, the main house at Tenerife was likely built for William Stuart's daughter, Catherine Matilda, as she lived there with her husband, Thomas, until they sold the property to Thomas Fowke in 1842. At least three of the buildings on the property date to the Stuart/Hord ownership, including the main house, kitchen/tenant house and smoke house. The terraces that slope south from the main house toward Cedar Run were probably built shortly after the house with dirt excavated from the cellar.

Thomas Fowke and his wife, Ann, were the next occupant owners of Teneriffe and likely resided here from 1843 until Thomas' death in 1871. During their ownership, the Fowke's were likely responsible for adding the second story to the exterior kitchen. Following Thomas's death, the property was embroiled in a chain of chancery cases regarding legitimate ownership, with the heirs of Thomas and Catherine Hord arguing that William Stuart had intended the property to stay in the Hord ownership. James and Elizabeth Curry owned the property from 1884 to 1911. During the Curry ownership, several additional buildings were constructed including the original part of the barn, water tower, 4-seater privy and possibly first two rooms of the chicken house complex. In 1911, the Currys sold the property to Ernest M. Colvin, son of William Colvin who established the rail stop known as Colvin Station, later renamed Catlett. Ernest M. Colvin was a general practitioner and a full time farmer. Ernest and his wife, Addie Lynn, and later their son, Melvin H. Colvin, Sr., who was a dentist with his practice Washington, DC., transformed the farm into their country estate while continuing to maintain agricultural production. During the Colvin ownership, the eastern wing of the main house was added, adding a third bay for symmetry to the façade of the main house. They made improvements to the exterior kitchen/tenant house, moved a building to its current location near the barn complex from northern corner of the property to serve as a farm manager's office, expanded the barn complex into its current configuration and added additional spaces to the chicken complex. They also built the boathouse on Cedar Run. Melvin H. Colvin III and family still own the property and manage it as a working farm.

The rolling fields, stone walls and spatial arrangement of the numerous agricultural buildings convey the property's more than 200 year use as a continuously operating farm. Crop and livestock diversification sustained the many families who called the farm home. Slave labor was crucial to the farm's productivity and indeed on a larger scale the greater Fauquier County economy. Enslaved Black Americans were employed in large numbers. During the Hord ownership at least 44 enslaved individuals lived and worked here and buildings including the main house, exterior kitchen/tenant house and smoke house date to this period. Thomas Fowke's

ownership of the farm, he owned eight enslaved African-Americans. Additional research may reveal an even longer history of slave labor at Teneriffe during Thomas Fitzhugh and William Stuart's ownership of the property.

Typical of mid-19th century farmers, Fowke owned between 3 and 4 horses from 1850 to 1870, 3-4 milk cows as well as other cattle, 6 sheep and 11 hogs. The fields were mostly growing corn, wheat, hay, barley and potatoes. In 1870, the value of livestock at Teneriffe jumped to \$450.

At the beginning of the 20th century, farmers began to improve their dairy operations through the standardization of a dairy barn plan as well as using separate spaces for the milk process, milk storage and feed storage. This trend is evident at Teneriffe with the expansion of a milking parlor and feed silo constructed from locally made terracotta tiles, which were constructed around 1920. Teneriffe continued dairy operations into the 1980s. By 1980, farmers in Fauquier and more widely throughout Virginia were experiencing supply surplus and reduction in cost of milk, at the same time production costs were increasing. The Federal government offered a buyout program to the Colvin family at that time, as part of a larger effort to lower milk supply and increase product prices. The Colvins participated in the buyout program and the dairy operations at Teneriffe ended in the mid 1980s.

In spite of the main house experiencing lost interior integrity in the post-fire reconstruction, the stone exterior walls of the house and remaining buildings on the property remain intact with slight alterations. Taken as a whole, the property provides a unique example of the evolution of a farm over 200 years, from an early 19th century plantation that employed slave labor, to late 19th century farm that developed technological advances in the post-slavery economy to an early 20th century shift in agricultural practices with its adoption as a dairy farm.

Please list all sources of information used to research the history of the property, such as deeds, census and tax records, and/or published articles and books. (It is not necessary to attach lengthy articles or family genealogies to this form.)

- Fauquier County Deed Book 18, Page 49, Thomas and Ann Fitzhugh to William Stewart, 650 acres, 27 August 1810
- Fauquier County Will Book 13, Page 43-47, Will of William Stewart, Jr, Admitted to Record 23 June 1835
- Fauquier County Deed Book 42, Page 442, Thomas and Catherine Hord to Thomas H. Fowke, 661 acres, 21 September 1842
- Fauquier County Deed Book 36, Page 178, Thomas and Catherine Hord to Stephen McCormick (trustee), "tract...called Teneriffe," 26 July 1835
- Fauquier County Deed Book 75, Page 101, James Brooke, special commissioner and Dave W Lockett and wife to James Curry, 327 acres, 2 roods 29 poles, 16 July 1884
- Fauquier County Deed Book 77, Page 445, James Curry to Thomas Curry, ½ int in 327 acre tract, 15 March 1887
- Fauquier County Deed Book 83, Page 308, James Curry to Elizabeth Curry, 327 acres, 1 December 1892
- Fauquier County Deed Book 105, Page 362, Elizabeth and James Curry to E.M. Colvin, 327 acres, 2 roods, 29 poles, 24 April 1911
- Interview with Owner, Melvin Colvin III, 1 July 2026
- Historic Context on Fauquier County's Dairy Farms, The Louis Berger Group, January 2012, accessed online at https://www.dhr.virginia.gov/pdf_files/SpecialCollections/FQ-076_DairyFarmContext_2012_LBG_report.pdf
- U.S. Census Bureau, Fauquier County, Virginia, Turner's District Agriculture Schedule, 11 September 1850, Page 227-228, Row 5, "Thomas Fowke"
- U.S. Census Bureau, Fauquier County, Virginia, NE Revenue District, Agriculture Schedule, 4 August 1860, Page 17-18, Row 12, "Thomas Fowke"
- U.S. Census Bureau, Fauquier County, Virginia, Cedar Run Township Agriculture Schedule, 18 June 1870, Page 9-10, Row 34, "Thomas Fowke"

5. Property Ownership (Check as many categories as apply):

Private: ☒ Public\Local ☐ Public\State ☐ Public\Federal ☐

Current Legal Owner(s) of the Property (If the property has more than one owner, please list each below or on an additional sheet.)

name/title: Melvin H. Colvin III / Owner

organization: _____

street & number: 2427 Teneriffe Rd

city or town: Catlett state: VA zip code: 20119

e-mail: Colvinmel@me.com telephone: 301-922-2261

Legal Owner's Signature: [Signature]

Date: 07/24/2026

Department of Historic Resources
7/23/2026

Preliminary Information Form
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Note: PIFs are prepared by applicants and evaluated by DHR staff and the State Review Board based on information known at the time of preparation. Recommendations concerning PIFs are subject to change if new information becomes available.

Department of Historic Resources
8/20/2026

Preliminary Information Form
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• • *Signature required for processing all applications.* • •

In the event of corporate ownership you must provide the name and title of the appropriate contact person.

Contact person: _____

Daytime Telephone: _____

Applicant Information (Individual completing form if other than legal owner of property)

name/title: Kristie Kendall, principal

organization: Kristie Kendall, LLC

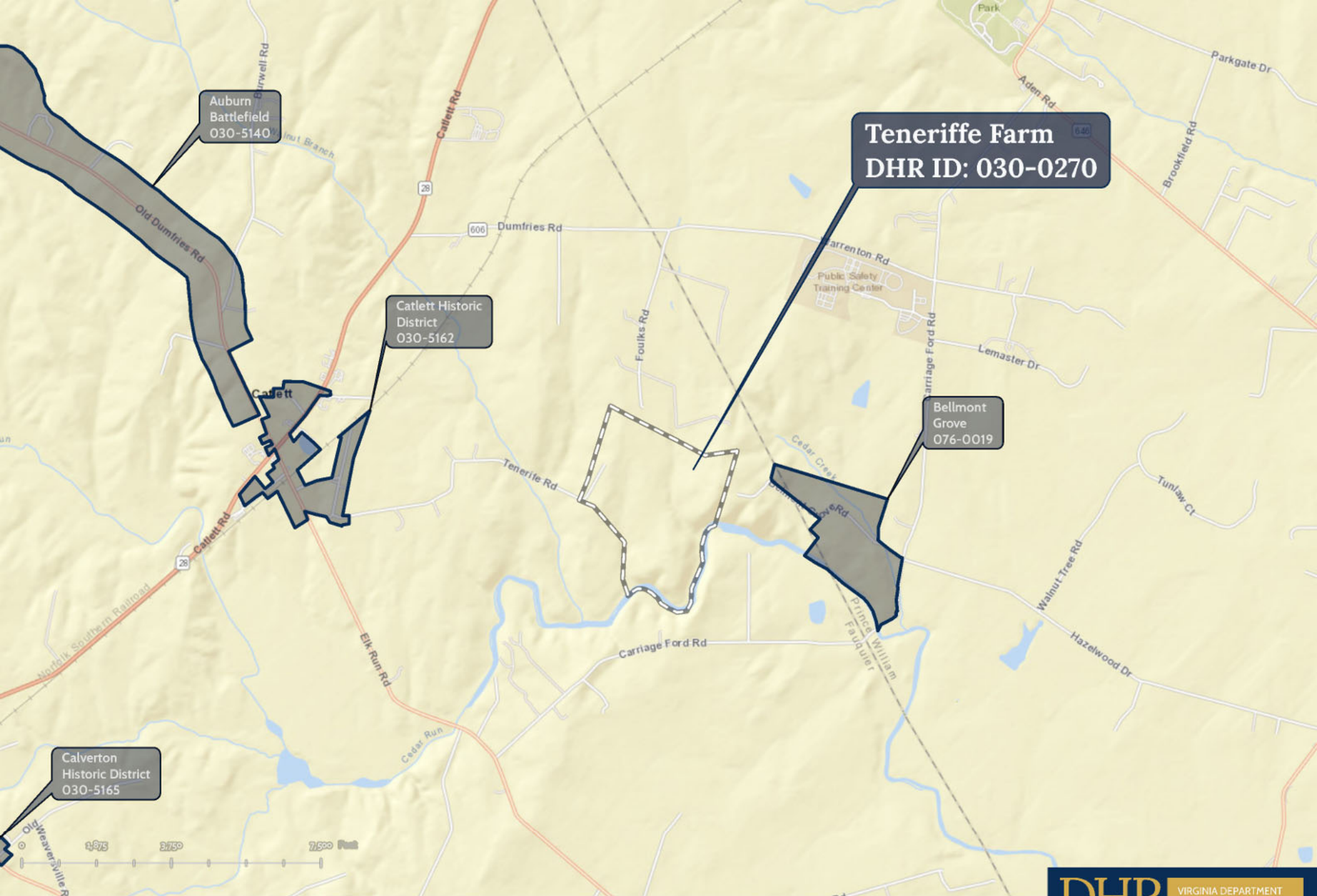
street & number: 7005 Union Mill Road

city or town: Clifton state: VA zip code: 20124

e-mail: KRISTIEKENDALL.LLC@GMAIL.COM telephone: 703-407-7507

Date: 23 July 2026

PLEASE DO NOT ATTACH CONTINUATION SHEETS TO THIS FORM. THANK YOU!



Teneriffe Farm
Fauquier County, Virginia
DHR ID: 030-0270

-  PIF Boundary
-  Listed Architecture



Created By: D. Bascone, 8/19/2026
Sources: VDHR 2026, ESRI 2026, VDOT 2026, VGIN 2026
Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) have been gathered over many years and the representation depicted is based on the field observation date and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general illustration purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal, or other site-specific uses. The map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". Contact DHR for the most recent information as data is updated continually.



Belmont
Grove
076-0019

Teneriffe Farm
Fauquier County, Virginia
DHR ID: 030-0270

-  PIF Boundary
-  Listed Architecture



DHR VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT
OF HISTORIC RESOURCES

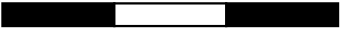
Created By: D. Boscone, 8/19/2026
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Teneriffe Farm Sketch Map 1 of 2

2427 Teneriffe Road, Catlett, VA 20119

Tax Map: 7932-71-7408; 7932-92-4743

0 50 100 150 ft



-  Teneriffe Farm
-  Property lines
-  Buildings
-  Streams
-  Roads

ID	Building
1	Main house
2	Kitchen-Tenant House
3	Smoke house
4	Water tower
5	Frame pole shed
6	4 seater privy
7	Office
8	Garage
9	Chicken house complex
10	Barn Complex
11	modern machine shed
12	Dock
13	boat house
14	frame well house
15	concrete block well house
16	stone gate posts
17	cemetery
18	dock

























































FA 2

LK
1918

H.L. COLVIN, 12/17/17

E. MITCHELL

HAZEN COLVIN

ATTN: S.



