

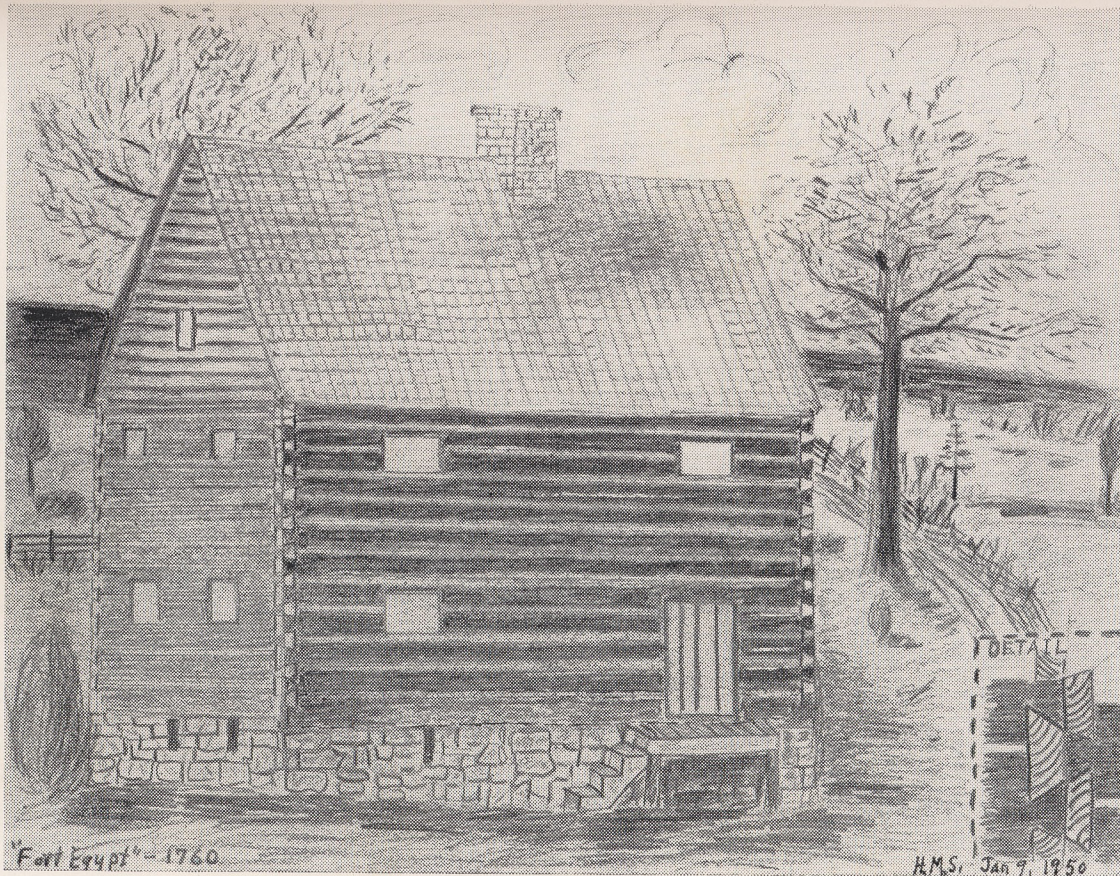
A SHORT HISTORY
OF PAGE COUNTY
VIRGINIA

BY
HARRY M. STRICKLER



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Egypt House, drawing to indicate its original appearance with high roof and small windows. Dimensions: 36 by 32 feet, 48 logs used in construction with average width of 17 or 18 inches, probably built as early as 1750.



EGYPT HOUSE, log construction, with original roof lowered, original hardware intact, present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Beery Hoover who have removed the weather-boarding and renovated the house in general. It is used as a tenant house.



CHIMNEY IN THE CENTER OF EGYPT HOUSE, 15 by 5 feet in second story. Files of the *Historic American Buildings Survey* contains eleven large sheets or designs of this house under title of "Fort Egypt."

All the old
homes here
mentioned
have similar
vaults.



In the river bottom under the spur on which these mounds were built some human bones were exposed some years ago by a freshet. (This place is in upper Massanutten on the left bank of the river.)²

5. THE BRUBAKER FARM. "On the farm of A. D. Brubaker, near the mouth of Massanutten Creek is a small spot on the bank of the level terrace where a mound is said to have stood. No elevation is now apparent, but the arrow-heads and the chippings are very plentiful."

6. THE GANDER FARM. "On the top of the hill near the house of D. H. Gander, half a mile above the White House ford and nearly opposite the mouth of Massanutten Creek, was a small stone mound which has been destroyed. On an opposite island the flood of 1870 washed out burned stones, fragments of pottery, flint chippings and several skeletons."

7. THE BOWERS FARM (in Egypt). "On the farm of J. C. Bowers, three and one-half miles west of Luray, opposite the mouth of Mill Creek, on the first ridge rising above the river, is a mound of earth and stone 30 feet in diameter and 30 inches high. On the northern side is a depression 15 by 30 feet, 2 feet deep, the slope being continuous from the bottom to the top of the mound. Most of the stone were at the central portion where several wagon loads of boulders has been carefully laid up in the form of a 'V', with the opening toward the east. From the apex to the extremity of either arm was between 12 and 13 feet. The right or southern arm rested on the undisturbed original surface. No relics or traces of bones were found in or under it. Beneath the left or northern branch was an irregular excavation filled with large stones, between which very little earth had settled. The western end of the excavation was nearly circular, 4 feet in diameter and a foot in depth, the bottom being covered with a mixture of white clay and sand, which had been put there while wet and pounded smooth and level. It was as hard as cement and under the pick split into small flakes. Traces of bony substances were found in it; three gorgets sufficiently far apart to denote that they belonged to

² Kercheval also mentions a large mound on the land of Noah Keyser, near the mouth of the Hawksbill, although considerably reduced by plowing which is yet some twelve or fourteen feet high, and upwards of sixty yards around the base.

different individuals. One similar to that illustrated in figure 10, was of green slate; another was of black slate, rectangular, with two perforations; the third, like the second in form, of black shale, much softened by moisture. A trench a foot in width joined the northeastern side of this grave to another measuring 5 to 6 feet across, with an average depth of 2 feet, the sides of which were covered with a substance similar to that on the bottom of the first. It was roughly made, with no attempt at regularity or symmetry, and contained no relics or traces of bones. An excavation a foot wide and the same in depth, with smooth, even sides and bottom, extended two and one-half feet from the eastern side; nothing was found in it. The arrangement of boulders and the peculiar shape of the grave pits in this mound were different from anything else observed in the Shenandoah Valley." (This mound is in Egypt and plainly discernible to this day. Beery Hoover owns this land now.)

8. THE BURNER FARM. "In the river bottom half a mile above the Bowers farm, near Jacob Burner's distillery, a village site was uncovered by the flood of 1870. Little information concerning these remains or the character of the art products uncovered by the freshet was obtainable." (This bottom is in Egypt Bend.)

9. THE VEENY FARM. "On a hill on the farm of Lee Veeny, half a mile above the Burner place, are two small mounds, both of which have been opened. It is reported that pottery was found in one." (The Veeny farm is near where the river and road approach each other.)

10. THE RUFFNER FARM. "For nearly a mile along the bottom lands of Reuben and Ben Ruffner, below Ruffner's ford, a mile north of Hamburg, the flood of 1870 disclosed at intervals hearths and fireplaces, probably over 200 in all. They were close to the river bank and from two to six feet in diameter. Quantities of flint and quartzite chips, burned stones, fragments of pottery, many fine arrow-heads (one flint ridge stone), and a very large black steatite platform pipe have been found."³ (Steatite is soapstone.)

³ Flint Ridge is a famous Indian quarry in Ohio.