

THE WILLIAM AND MARY COTTAGE

121 Landon Lane, Orange, Virginia

This 18th century style cottage was built in 1930 by William & Mary Browning. In 1972, Mrs. W. R. Taliaferro of Spring Hill, Culpeper County, acquired the property; she was a cousin of the current owner's parents, Mr. & Mrs. Henry B. Micks, and bequeathed it to them in 1985. The family retained the property, and the current owners took up permanent residence in 2014. The large center hall divides the one room deep structure and is graced with four portraits representing four generations of DeJarnettes from the owner's father to great-great grandfather, Elliot Hawes DeJarnette of Spring Grove Plantation, Caroline County. A surprising view of the Rapidan Valley and Jerdone Mountain can be enjoyed from the enlarged closed-in porch entered from the hall. The kitchen has been recently updated in a French country motif with white over blue cabinets, bead-board wall covering, and a large window in the breakfast nook, to take advantage of the view. Original art, painted by a friend of the owners', harkens to the Northern Neck. The house is furnished with many family pieces, some from Pine Forest in Spotsylvania County, a later residence of the DeJarnette clan. Many fine pieces were handcrafted by the owner's father who remodeled the pre-existing garage into a garden house and workshop. All structures feature matching standing-seam metal roofs. The original louvered shutters were replaced with a board-and-batten style fabricated by the owner to enhance the cottage look. The three-acre plot includes boxwood terraces, a summer house (built by the owner), a three-bay pole barn, and tool shed, all behind the house. A native species meadow lies farther below. The front lawn is bordered by boxwoods, dogwoods, and three tall holly trees. Daffodil and iris beds bring spring color to every part of the property.

- *Mr. & Mrs. Henry B. Micks, Jr., owners*