VLR-2/20/73 NRHP-7/24/73

Form 10-33**0** (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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Virginia	
COUNTY:	
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I. General Statement:

- A. Architectural character: Woodside is a well-preserved example of a rural villa in the Greek-Revival style.
 - B. Condition of Fabric: Cood.
- II. Description of the Exterior:
- A. Overall dimensions: The house has a three-bay, two-story southeastern section with an English basement and a one and a half story 'T' wing--two bays long and three bays wide--with an English basement.
 - B. Foundations: Brick covered with stucco.
- C. Wall construction: The brick walls are covered with scored stucco colored with red and brown stripes to resemble sandstone.
- D. Porches: A three-bay shed porch shelters the southeast facade and is supported by four pairs of Tuscan piers. A single-bay porch with Tuscan piers and pilasters shelters the door at the rear of the wing.
- E. Chimneys: Two interior chimneys with brick stacks on the northwestern wall of the main block serve the rooms in the main block and two of those in the wing. Two interior chimneys in the northwestern end wall of the wing serve the remaining wing rooms.
 - F. Openings:
- 1. Doorways and doors: Both the front and the wing doorway have architrave trim and sidelights. Double doors, each with three panels, open into the hall.
- 2. Windows: Wooden double-hung windows have architrave trim and six-over-six sash. The windows opening onto the southeastern porch have six-over-nine sash and extend to the floor. The remaining windows on the main block have a cornice.
- G. Roof: The main block has a gable roof with pedimented ends; the wing has a gable roof. Both are covered with tin.
- III. Description of the Interior:
- Λ. Floor plan: Λ spacious central hall runs from the end of the wing to the southeastern doorway. In the main block, a large room opens off either side of the hall, and in the wing two rooms open on each side.
 - B. Stairway: A single-run stair with simple round balusters ascends from the basement at the point of juncture of the wing and main block. The main stair with turned balusters and a vertically panelled spandrel rises to the second floor in the hall.
 - C. Wall and coiling finish: Painted plaster.
 - D. Doorways and doors: Six-panelled grained doors have doorways with wide architrave trim.
 - E. Trim: The rooms in the main block have a small plaster cove with moldings on either side. The first floor south room plaster cornice has been replaced by a similar wood one.
 - F. Heating: There are fireplaces in every room. The original mantel in the northeastern room is black marble with a simple shelf, plain spandrels and a keystone. A similar white marble mantel in the southeastern room recently replaced the original wood mantel. Simple wood mantels frame the remaining fireplaces.

Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

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	FOR NPS USE ON	ILY
	Henrico	
COUNTY		
	Virginia	
STATE		

(Number all entries)

7. IV. Site:

- A. General setting; Woodside is set in a clearing and is approached from the southeast by a dirt lane running through a forested area. A large lawn extends from the house southeast to the woods and contains several oaks and magnolias.
- B. Outbuildings: A small frame house with a central chimney, gable roof and weathered clapboards stands southwest of the main house near the edge of the clearing. Two sheds are set south of this building in the edge of the woods.

PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	19th Century	
PECIFIC DATE(5) (If Applicab	le and Known)	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
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Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
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Communications		☐ Theater	
Conservation	☐ Music	Transportation	

Woodside is a particularly well preserved example of a Greek-Revival villa and has a distinguished and unusual feature in the scored stucco colored to simulate sandstone. A rural dwelling but not a farm house, Woodside exhibits a sophisticated character and plan attributable to its being formally designed for the Wickhams. The house and land have been associated with the prominent Richmond Wickham family throughout its long history. Its secluded setting, screened from a rapidly developing area, gives the house an added charm and appeal.

John Wickham bought the Woodside tract then called bittle Quarter, of about 640 acres on the James River, from Thomas Mann Randolph of Tuckahoe around the turn of the nineteenth century. He subsequently acquired about 1800 more acres to the east and west. John Wickham was born on Long Island in 1763, entered the British army in 1782, and was stationed in Portsmouth, Virginia. Wickham later studied at Arras, France and in Williamsburg. In Richmond, he received reknown as one of the defenders of Aaron Burr in his treason case and as the builder of what is now known as the Wickham-Valentine House.

Woodside house was built for John Wickham's son, Littleton Waller Tazewall Wickham in 1858. Tradition in the Wickham family states that the house was designed by an architect who is said to have designed four other buildings in Virginia--one at Newport News, one near Bowling Green, and two at Quantico. Although the architect's name has been lost, the simple but sophisticated exterior and the well-thought floor plan argue that an architect was indeed responsible for the house. The family tradition also asserts that the cost of construction was \$5,000.

During the War Between the States, Woodside was briefly visited by Dahlgren's cavalry, but was not harmed. Since that time the house and land, reduced to around 50 acres, has remained in the Wickham family, and is now owned by Littleton Waller Tazewell's gradson, L.M. Wickham. The house and its setting have been permanently protected by an open-space easement.

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