

VLR-7/15/86 NRHP-12/18/86

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Cleydael (Preferred) DHL File #48-41

and/or common Quarter Neck

2. Location

street & number off Virginia Ave. 206 N/A not for publication

city, town Weedonville, vicinity of

state Virginia code 51 county King George code 099

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Cleydael Limited Partnership

street & number Route 2 Box 497

city, town Fredericksburg N/A vicinity of state Virginia

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. King George County Courthouse

street & number N/A

city, town King George, state Virginia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

File #48-41
title Division of Historic Landmarks has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1971, 1985 federal state county local

depository for survey records Division of Historic Landmarks
221 Governor Street

city, town Richmond state Virginia 23219

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION:

Cleydael, a two-story white frame house, is located adjacent to State Route 206 in King George County, Virginia. The house was erected as a summer residence by Dr. Richard H. Stuart in 1859. Cleydael has handsome proportions, a carefully balanced symmetry along the north-south axis, and a floor plan designed to promote cross ventilation that distinguishes it from most other rural houses. The house retains nearly all of the interior woodwork. The only changes to the original floor plan are two bathrooms and a lean-to kitchen added during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The exterior has had very few changes. The nomination consists of one contributing building and one non-contributing building.

DETAILED ANALYSIS:

Sited on a grassy knoll where it can catch the summer breezes and sheltered by enormous locust, elm, and walnut trees, Cleydael served as the summer residence for King George County's wealthiest resident, Dr. Richard H. Stuart. Stuart chose the site some eight miles away from his primary residence, Cedar Grove, on the Potomac River to escape the danger of malaria.

The north and south facades of the house are very similar. Both have five bays. On the ground level the 6/6 windows are taller than the 6/6 windows on the second story. The two pairs of east and west windows are twice as far from the central bay as they are from the outside corners of the house. The width of the central window with its shutters on the second story is equal to that of the tripartite entrance below it. At the center of both facades, the four panel door is flanked by narrow six paned side lights resting on a recessed panel that raises them 2½ feet off the floor. Over the side lights are narrow two paned transoms separated from the three paned transom over the door by wide flat moldings. There are modern aluminum storm doors at both entrances. The cornice has no decorative detailing.

The only differences between the north and south facades are the porches. The south facade has an entrance stoop raised on brick pillars. The flat roof is supported by four plain square on plan posts. On the north facade the wide verandah runs the entire length of the house, wraps around the northwest corner of the house, and continues to the southwest corner. The verandah sits on brick pillars. The sloping roof is supported by eleven plain square on plan posts.

The west facade has a verandah running the entire distance. One of the house's two brick chimneys is recessed into this wall. The chimney brick is exposed from the porch floor up to the attic floor level. Above the attic floor the entire gable is covered with weatherboarding. The plain cornice has broken returns. The 6/6 attic window in the gable matches one in the east facade. On the first floor a 6/6 bathroom window has been installed in part of the space originally occupied by an exterior door.

The east facade of the house is where most of the changes have been made in the house. During the nineteenth century a lean-to kitchen was added. Running most of the distance of the facade, the one story kitchen is built on a raised foundation of brick pillars with cinder blocks filling the spaces between the pillars. The main house rests on a brick foundation with only a crawl space under the dwelling. The north and south

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
			<input type="checkbox"/> science
			<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
			<input type="checkbox"/> social/humanitarian
			<input type="checkbox"/> theater
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates Ca. 1859 Builder/Architect unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Cleydael, a prominent King George County landmark, is significant both historically and architecturally. On Sunday, April 23, 1865, John Wilkes Booth sought medical assistance from Dr. Richard H. Stuart while the Stuart family was residing at Cleydael. Suspicious of who his visitors were and aware of the Lincoln assassination, Stuart refused medical assistance and sent the men away after having given them dinner. Architecturally, Cleydael has an unusual T shaped floor plan that would have promoted greater ventilation in this summer home built away from the Potomac River in a less malarial climate. Dr. Stuart, who planned Cleydael as a summer residence, was a prominent doctor and the wealthiest citizen in King George County.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Cleydael, a large, breezy, comfortable summer house was built on a thirteen hundred acre tract in King George County, Virginia, by Dr. Richard H. Stuart in 1859.¹ In December of 1845 he had purchased the parcel then known as Neck Quarter from Nathaniel Hooe.² According to local tradition Mrs. Stuart changed the name of the property from Neck Quarter to Cleydael. She was the granddaughter of Baron Stier who had owned the Chateau de Cleydael near Antwerp, Belgium.³

Stuart built his summer home at this site because he believed the location some eight miles inland from the Potomac River would be much healthier for his family during the hot, muggy, Tidewater Virginia summers.⁴ Thus every summer, Stuart moved his family to Cleydael where he continued to see patients.⁵ To the rear of the house Dr. Stuart had an office and waiting room. Outside a lighted⁶ lamp guided people coming to the house for help or medical assistance at night.

The house is a fine example of mid-nineteenth century vernacular construction as practiced in rural Virginia. The unusual floor plan of intersecting halls that form a T on both floors allowed cool cross breezes in the hot Virginia summers. Moreover the passage from the staircase on the west end of the house would have allowed Dr. Stuart easy access to his office in the east end of the house. The convenience would have been especially appreciated when patients arrived at night. Stuart could leave his second floor bedroom and walk to his office without disturbing the rest of the household.

Throughout the Civil War Dr. Stuart and his family lived at Cleydael because they feared the Union forces would shell Cedar Grove. It was a concern shared by General Robert E. Lee whose two daughters stayed at Cleydael with their cousins the Stuarts after being forced to leave Arlington. Thus on Sunday night, April 23, 1865, Dr. Stuart had just finished tea with his family at Cleydael when men rode into the yard. Two men named Bryant and Cresman had brought two strangers with them. In reponse to Stuart's query about their identities, Herold replied, "We are Marylanders in want of accomodations for the night." Aware of Lincoln's assassination, Stuart was suspicious of the two strangers. Seeing both were armed

9. Major Bibliographical References

Kimmel Papers, University of Tampa, 1934.

King George County Deed Book 16.

(See Continuation Sheet #4)

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Approx. 7½

Quadrangle name King George, Va. - Md.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	8	3	1	3	4	3	0	4	2	4	2	4	9	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification VBD: Beginning at a point on the East side of a dirt road approx. 1100' NE of Va. 206, that point on Va. 206 being approx. 7000' NE of the intersection of Va. 611 with Va. 206; thence extending approx. 250' NE crossing dirt road; thence extending 500' SE following north side of dirt road; (See Continuation Sheet #4)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Karen D. Steele

organization N/A date May 1986

street & number 1517 Sunset Lane telephone (804) 359 - 0697

city or town Richmond state Virginia 23221

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

H. Bryan Mitchell, Executive Director

title Division of Historic Landmarks

date November 12, 1986

For NPS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

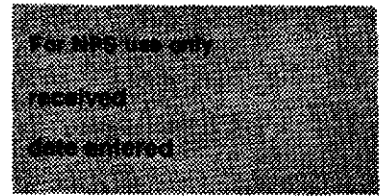
National Register of Historic Places
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Cleydael, King George, Virginia
County

Continuation sheet #1

Item number 7

Page 1



7. Description

ends of the kitchen addition are covered with the same unbeaded weatherboarding that was used on the rest of the house. The lean-to has a hip roof. Inside the original weatherboarding and chimney brick are still exposed. A porch is attached to the eastern end of the kitchen. The north end of the porch is board and batten painted white. Most of the eastern and northern sides are board and batten half way up and are screened the rest of the way to the roofline. The porch has a sloping roof separate of the kitchen

Inside Cleydael is completely symmetrical on a north-south axis. A broad hall twelve feet wide and twenty-nine feet long runs between the tripartite entrances on the north and south facades. This hall is repeated on the second floor where it originally ran between windows on the north and south facades. Early in this century the south end of the second floor hall was partitioned off to make a bathroom. Four rooms open off this hall on both floors.

The southeast and southwest rooms on both floors measure sixteen feet wide by nineteen and one half feet long. All four rooms have fireplaces that project into the room. According to local tradition, this fireplace arrangement gave maximum warmth to the house. On both floors, the northeast and northwest rooms measure nineteen feet by nine feet. On the first floor these rooms along with the central passage form an enfilade that once connected to exterior doors in the east and west facades. On the second floor the passage runs from the top of the stairs to the east wall.

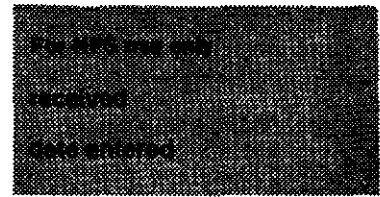
Both the southeast and southwest parlors have two 6/6 windows. There are deep chimneys set into the rooms. The mantelpieces have fluted pilasters resting on pedestals. Fluted moldings divide the face of the mantel shelf into ten panels. The outer two panels are one half the width of the others. The fireplaces have been bricked in. The chimneys are used for space heaters. There are thin ceiling moldings as well. The floors are random width hard pine with boards measuring from three and one half inches to five and one half inches.

The northeast parlor has the only chair railing in the house. The three sided molding is more crudely treated than the rest of the moldings in the house. It may have been added later.

The southwest parlor has a door leading to a modern bathroom which occupies the space under the stairs.

(See Continuation Sheet #2)

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Cleydael, King George, Virginia

Continuation sheet #2

Item number 7,8

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7. DESCRIPTION: Architectural Analysis

The northeast room is part of the enfilade that originally ran along the north facade of the house. It has deep baseboards matching those of the two parlors. There is ceiling molding as well. The passage now leads to the lean-to kitchen.

The northwest room of the house contains the staircase. Originally there was an exterior door in the west wall under the second run of the staircase. However the space is now occupied by a bathroom. The staircase has walnut treads, balusters, and railing that are stained dark. The risers are painted white. The stairs travel across both windows. The end of each step has a simplified scroll design attached to it. At the landings the fascia board is ornamented with symmetrical designs of simple paired scrolls adapted from the design at the end of the stairs. Each scroll was cut separately and then nailed into place.

On the southeast and southwest corners are bedrooms of identical proportions to the parlors below them. The fireplaces that project into these rooms have been bricked up. The mantel shelves are simple planed boards resting on unadorned brackets. Both rooms have deep baseboards and ceiling moldings to match those on the first floor. The floors are random width pine.

The northeast room has the same baseboard as the rest of the house, but no ceiling molding. Traditionally it has been called the trunk room.

The lean-to kitchen was added during the 19th century. The interior wall has the original weatherboarding and chimney brick exposed.

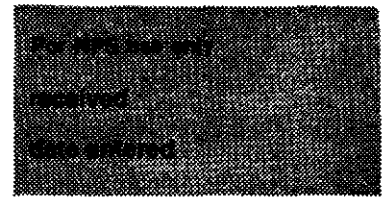
Approached from the north by a narrow lane through the fields, Cleydael is set in a lawn with enormous locust, walnut, and elm trees. To the south the site is heavily wooded. To the east of the house is a barn. The one-story building was erected in the nineteenth century, but is in extremely delapidated condition and is non-contributing.

8. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

increased Stuart's concern for the safety of his family inside the house. He refused Booth's request for accommodations as well as refusing to give medical assistance on the grounds that he was a physician not a surgeon. Moreover he was convinced the limp and crutch were a ruse. Their insistence that a Dr. Mudd in Maryland had recommended him did not allay Stuart's growing uneasiness. Finally Stuart did agree to feed the two strangers. When Booth, after entering the house for supper, attempted to confide in Stuart, the doctor refused to listen. When he questioned the men who had brought Booth and Herold to Cleydael, Stuart was told they had come out of the marshes asking for him. As soon as Booth and Herold had finished their meal, they were ordered off the property and given

(See Continuation Sheet #3)

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Cleydael, King George, Virginia
Continuation sheet #3^{County}

Item number 8

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directions to the cabin of a black man who rented wagons. Perhaps he could take them to Port Conway.

On Monday, April 24, 1865, Booth sent a bitter note along with \$2.50 to pay for his meal to Dr. Stuart. Stuart subsequently turned the note over to Col. Baker of the Union Army.

Following the Civil War, Dr. Stuart continued to spend his summers at Cleydael. When he died in May, 1889, he left the property to his daughter Ada Stuart Robb and her heirs.¹⁰ In April, 1914, William W. Randolph inherited Cleydael from his mother Ada Stuart Robb.¹¹ In August, 1918, William Randolph deeded the property to Graham D. Richardson and James O. Heflin.¹² In February, 1919, Heflin sold his portion to Graham D. Richardson.¹³ In 1934 Stanley Kimmel visited Cleydael while researching The Mad Booths of Maryland.¹⁴ He noted the lean-to kitchen had been added since the time of Dr. Stuart. After the death of Graham Richardson in October, 1956, his wife owned the property until 1976. Farmer, Turpin, and Mahon of Fredericksburg purchased it then.¹⁵ The Cleydael Limited Partnership purchased Cleydael in 1985. For many years the house has been a rental property.

¹Kimmel Papers, Merl Kelch Library, University of Tampa, 1934.

²King George County Deed Book 16, p. 450, recorded January 22, 1846.

³Statement Frank Martin, Limited Partner in Cleydael Limited Partnership, March 16, 1986.

⁴King George County Will Book, p. 416, Item 9. "I give and devise to my daughter Ada, her Heirs and assign all land I bought from the estate of the late Nathaniel Hooe, then called 'Neck Quarter' now called Cleydael, and containing some thirteen hundred acres more or less, together with the buildings there on; I built a very good house for summer use as it is more hearty than 'Cedar Grove.'"

⁵Kimmel Papers.

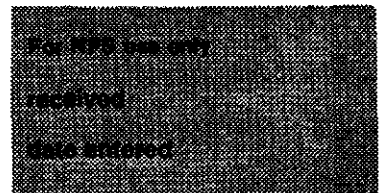
⁶Ibid.

⁷Ibid.

⁸Robert E. Lee to his daughter Annie, December 8, 1861. Reprinted in Recollections of General Lee by his son Captain Robert E. Lee, (Garden City Publishing Co., Inc., Garden City, New York, 1904) pp. 65 - 57.

⁹The following account of John Wilks Booth's visit to Cleydael is taken from Dr. Richard H. Stuart's statement in the Old Capitol Prison on May 6, 1865, Lincoln Assassination Suspects File, M-599, Reel 6, frames 0205 through 0211, National Archives, Washington, D. C.

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Cleydael, King George, Virginia
Continuation sheet #4 county

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HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- ¹⁰ King George County Will Book 5, p. 408. item 9.
- ¹¹ King George County Will Book 5, p. 141.
- ¹² King George County Deed Book 37, pp. 157-158.
- ¹³ Kimmel Papers
- ¹⁴ King George County Deed Book 37, p. 248.
- ¹⁵ Statement of Frank Martin, March 16, 1986.

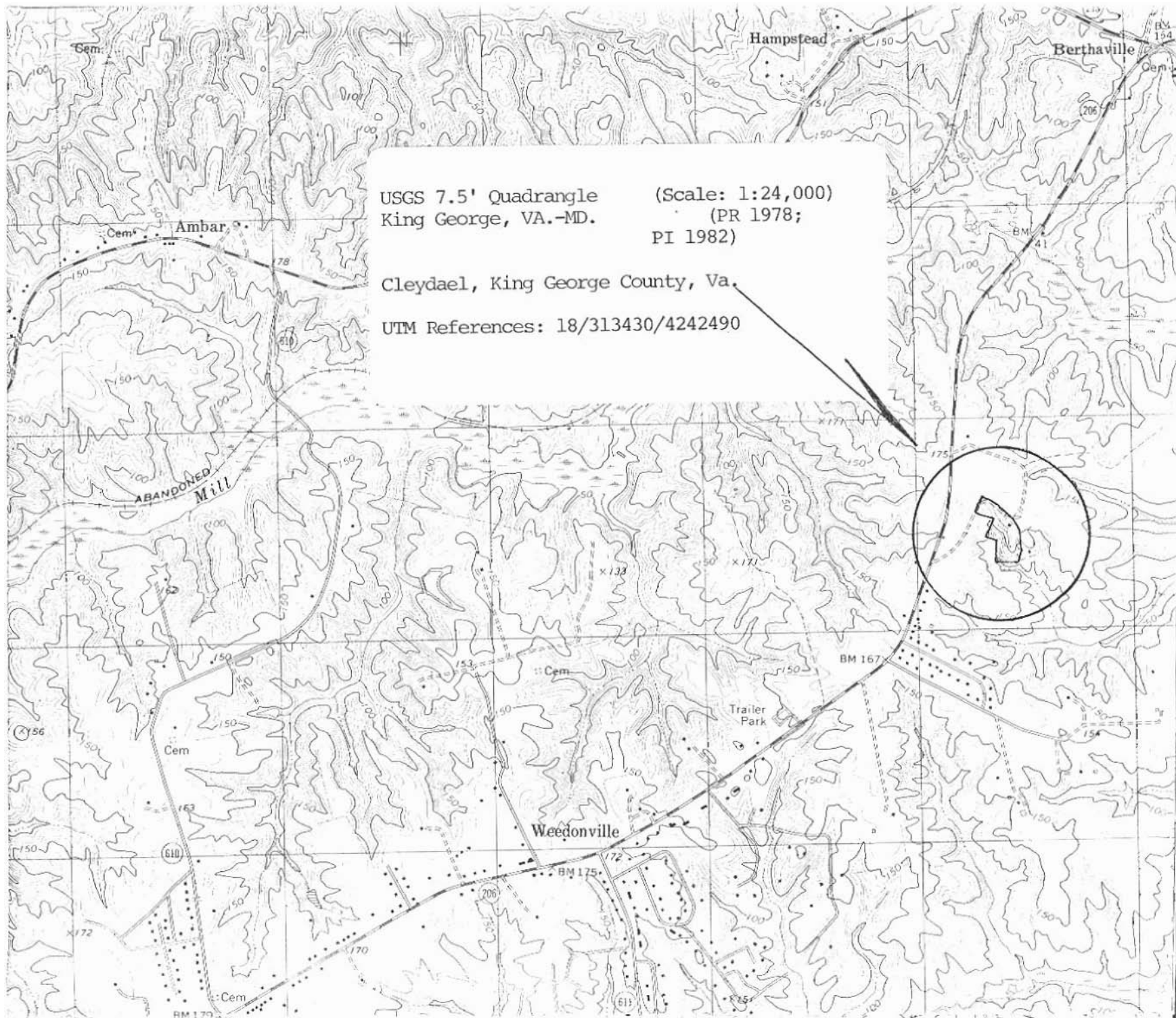
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- King George County Deed Book 37.
- King George County Will Book 5.
- Lee, Captian Robert E., Recollections of General Lee; Garden City Publishing Co., Inc., Garden City, New York: 1904.
- Martin, Frank, Oral Statement, March 16, 1986.
- Oldroyd, Osborn H., The Assassination of Abraham Lincoln, O.H. Oldroyd, Washington, D.C.: 1901.
- Stuart, Dr. Richard H., Statement in Old Capitol Prison, May 16, 1865, Lincoln Assassination Suspects File, m599, Reel 6, Frames 0205 through 0211, National Archives, Washington, D. C.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

thence extending approx. 700' SSE crossing dirt road; thence extending approx. 300' W; thence extending approx. 300' N; thence extending approx. 150' WNW; thence extending approx. 300' NE; thence extending approx. 300' WNW to point of origin.

JUSTIFICATION: The bounds have been drawn to include the house and one non-contributing out building.



USGS 7.5' Quadrangle
King George, VA.-MD.

(Scale: 1:24,000)
(PR 1978;
PI 1982)

Cleydael, King George County, Va.

UTM References: 18/313430/4242490