

Listed On:  
 VLR 12/02/1969  
 NRHP 06/15/1970

057-0014

57-14

Form 10-300  
 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
 INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Virginia</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Mathews</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**Cricket Hill**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**Fort Cricket Hill**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: **[REDACTED]**

CITY OR TOWN: **[REDACTED]**

STATE <b>Virginia</b>	CODE <b>45</b>	COUNTY: <b>[REDACTED]</b>	CODE <b>115</b>
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**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>deserted</u>
Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
**Estate of Mrs. Peachy Traber**

STREET AND NUMBER: **[REDACTED]**

CITY OR TOWN: **Mathews**

STATE: <b>Virginia</b>	CODE <b>45</b>
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**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:  
**Mathews County Clerk's Office**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Court Square**

CITY OR TOWN: **Mathews**

STATE: <b>Virginia</b>	CODE <b>45</b>
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**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, Archaeology Office, File 57-14**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1969**     Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Archaeology Office**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building**

CITY OR TOWN: **Richmond**

STATE: <b>Virginia</b>	CODE <b>45</b>
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: <b>Virginia</b>
COUNTY: <b>Mathews</b>
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DATE

**7. DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Fort Cricket Hill is the earthwork fortification hastily constructed by General Andrew Lewis on the mainland of Mathews (then Gloucester) County, [REDACTED] General Lewis had driven Lord Dunmore to the opposite side [REDACTED].

[REDACTED]

The fort itself now stands [REDACTED] above the ruling grade, [REDACTED]. It consists of a line of earthworks [REDACTED].

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**SIGNIFICANCE**

**PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- Pre-Columbian |  16th Century |  18th Century |  20th Century  
 15th Century |  17th Century |  19th Century

**SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)**

**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- |                                              |                                                 |                                               |                                                |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal          | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric         | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science              | _____                                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture         | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture            | _____                                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture        | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian  | _____                                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater              | _____                                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation       | _____                                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications      | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |                                               |                                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation        |                                                 |                                               |                                                |

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

After having been driven from Norfolk, John Murray, fourth Earl of Dunmore and the last royal governor of Virginia, established his headquarters on Gwynn's Island, June 1, 1776. He came here with his fleet, vowing that he would drive 'the crickets' away. However, by the time the Virginia forces under General Andrew Lewis took up their position [redacted] on July 8, the British forces were already seriously weakened by disease and starvation. On July 9 the American batteries were turned on Dunmore's fleet and camp with disastrous effect. Lord Dunmore promptly abandoned [redacted] and sailed for England.

The Battle of Fort Cricket Hill was not of great importance militarily but was of extreme significance symbolically because it ended the last vestiges of British rule in Virginia.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Andrews, Matthew Page, Virginia: The Old Dominion. New York: 1937.  
 Campbell, Charles, History of the Colony and Ancient Dominion of Virginia. Philadelphia: 1860.  
 Scribner, Robert L., "Nemesis at Gwynn's Island," Virginia Cavalcade, Vol. II, No. 4 (Spring 1953).  
Virginia: A Guide to the Old Dominion. Compiled by Writers' Program of the Work Projects Administration. New York: 1940.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
NW	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
NE						
SE						
SW						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
 Staff, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, James W. Moody, Jr., Director

ORGANIZATION: DATE  
 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission October 16, 1969

STREET AND NUMBER:  
 Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: STATE CODE  
 Richmond Virginia 45

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dr. Edward P. Alexander, Chairman  
 Title Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS