

VLR-6/21/77 NRHP-5/6/80

PH0502693

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED AUG 16 1977

DATE ENTERED

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Grapeland

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

N of town of Wardtown, Virginia; at northern end of extension of State Route 606; .7 mile NW of intersection of State Routes 606 and 183; S bank of Occohannock Creek

CITY, TOWN

Wardtown

VICINITY OF

First (Paul S. Tribble, Jr.)

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Virginia

CODE

51

COUNTY

Northampton

CODE

131

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> 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
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mrs. Ann P. Pardee

STREET & NUMBER

Grapeland

CITY, TOWN

Wardtown

VICINITY OF

STATE

Virginia

23482

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Northampton County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Eastville

STATE

Virginia

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (2) (See Continuation Sheet #1)**

TITLE

(1) Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

DATE

1969

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington, D. C.

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Grapeland, a flat, open tract of land on the banks of the Occohannock Creek in Northampton County, includes a handsome dwelling house and two early outbuildings. The two-story, three-bay, gable-roofed house is built of brick laid in exceptionally well-crafted Flemish bond and is nearly square. It has a stuccoed belt course and water table which are returned at the gable ends and stuccoed wooden lintels with "bull's-eye" paterae over each of the openings. The first-story windows have twelve-over-twelve sash, four lights wide (an unusual arrangement in Virginia), and the second-story windows are glazed with twelve-over-eight sash. Two interior end chimneys crown the roof, which is decorated at the eaves with a handsome bracketed cornice enriched with guilloches, and with gouged swags in the frieze, between pairs of brackets. The gable roof of an original porch survives on the south (land) front, but the supports are absent. A five-course, American-bond brick wing was attached to the east end of the house in the mid-nineteenth century. This is two bays long and has a low, modern gable roof replacing the original, which collapsed.

The plan of Grapeland is an unusual one. A longitudinal partition set slightly east of center separates the main (north) parlor and stair hall on the west from the narrower (south) dining room and smallest (north) chamber to the east. There is a single room in the wing.

Decoration throughout the house consists of flush and recessed-panel wainscoting of varying degrees of elaboration. In the stair passage it is flush and has a pedestal chair rail. The door and window jambs are treated as fluted pilasters and run unbroken from the floor to the head of the opening. There is a concentric plaster ceiling medallion. The open-string, L-plan stairs have a recessed-panel soffit; scrolled, pierced brackets; two rectangular balusters to a tread; Tuscan colonette newels; and a round banister. The risers are marbleized, and the wainscot is carried up the stairs with a half-banister and half newels corresponding to those on the stair rail. Most of the railing has been destroyed by vandals, but parts of every element remain, allowing an accurate assessment of the original appearance.

The northwest parlor is the largest room in the house. The recessed, applied-mold wainscot is capped by an elaborately molded chair rail, which is broken around the symmetrically molded bases and jambs of the openings. Unlike the other rooms of the house, the door and window frames here have no corner paterae; rather, the symmetrical moldings are arced around the upper corners of the openings. The mantel in this room has entablature blocks with recessed vertical ellipses supported on coupled reeded Roman Doric colonettes and supporting in turn a thick shelf. There is a central tablet with a recessed ellipse as well.

In the southeast (dining) room is a mantel bearing single Roman Doric colonettes which support plain entablature blocks and an unembellished frieze. Flush wainscoting with a symmetrically molded chair rail is carried around the room.

(See Continuation Sheet #2)

## 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES ca. 1825 - 30

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Grapeland belongs to the Eastern Shore's important group of architecturally sophisticated, Federal-period houses, a group which includes Brownsville, Happy Union, Kerr Place, Wharton Place, and several others. Among the distinguishing features of these houses are their fine proportions, precise brickwork, and handsome interior woodwork. The existence of these places serves as evidence of the Shore's continuing prosperity following the Revolution and of the availability of fine craftsmanship and design. The fact that the owners of most of the places were involved in sea trade might explain the kinship of these houses to those of Norfolk or Baltimore.

The house was erected for Edward W. Addison shortly after his purchase of the property (350 acres) from the White family in 1825. He had it set in a commanding position above terraced gardens leading down to Occohannock Creek, one of the many navigable tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay. The exterior was embellished with such Federal motifs as richly detailed bracketed cornices and plastered belt courses, while the interior was decorated with carved mantels, plaster cornices, and a fine Federal stair. The whole interior was enriched with an elaborate scheme of marbleizing and graining. Much of this painted decoration survives on the second floor and ranks among the state's outstanding examples of the art.

Grapeland remained in the Addison family until 1875 when the home tract was sold to Elizabeth A. Turner who gave it to Mary E. Turner, wife of John T. Wilkins. In 1880, the Wilkinses sold it to Elijah J. White of St. Louis who several years later sold it to George Holtzgrewe also of St. Louis. In 1894 it was acquired by Leonidas R. Doughty whose family held the property until recent years. Prior to its latest acquisition, by Mrs. Ann Pardee, the house was abandoned and had fallen prey to vandals. It is currently undergoing a careful restoration.

CL

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Whitelaw, Ralph T. Virginia's Eastern Shore. Richmond, Va.: Virginia Historical Society, 1951.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 14 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Jamesville, Va.

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 

1	8	4	2	2	1	4	0	4	1	5	5	6	1	0
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B 

1	8	4	2	2	2	2	0	4	1	5	5	3	0	0
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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C 

1	8	4	2	2	0	4	0	4	1	5	5	2	7	0
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D 

1	8	4	2	1	9	9	0	4	1	5	5	5	3	0
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E 

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H 

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION Beginning at a point on S bank of Occohannock Creek at S side of mouth of feeder stream and 4200' NNW of intersection of State routes 183 and 606; thence extending about 1050' SE, then about 600' WSW, then about 850' NNW to S bank of said creek, thence extending about 600' NE along said bank to point of origin.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE

May 1977

STREET & NUMBER

221 Governor Street

TELEPHONE

(804) 786-3144

CITY OR TOWN

Richmond

STATE

Virginia

# 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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

*Tucker Hill*

Resubmitted 12-28-79

TITLE

Tucker Hill, Executive Director  
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE JUN 21 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

FOR HCRS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Grapeland, Northampton Co., Va.

CONTINUATION SHEET #2                      ITEM NUMBER 7      PAGE 1

(7) DESCRIPTION

A mantel similar to that in the southeast room is used in the northeast chamber. There is a pedestal chair rail in this room, but no wainscot. Remnants of a Victorian stenciled frieze survive on the walls.

The second floor is notable for its surviving painted decoration. The northwest chamber has pink trim with a green wainscot and marbled baseboard. In the southwest room, the baseboard and attic stair risers are marbled, and an arch with fluted Roman Doric pilasters frames the doorway to a passage which leads to the rear rooms. Marbled baseboards and a grained door embellish the southeast room, which is further enriched by a mantel with an unusual fylfot cross in its frieze.

Two early outbuildings survive. A much-altered, central chimney, four-bay, frame kitchen building, which was attached to the house for a time, has been moved from a position near the house to one several hundred feet northeast of it. An equal distance east of the house stands a rare, early nineteenth-century frame stable, square in plan. The gable-end entry building is in an advanced state of dilapidation, but it retains its original stalls and many other early fittings.

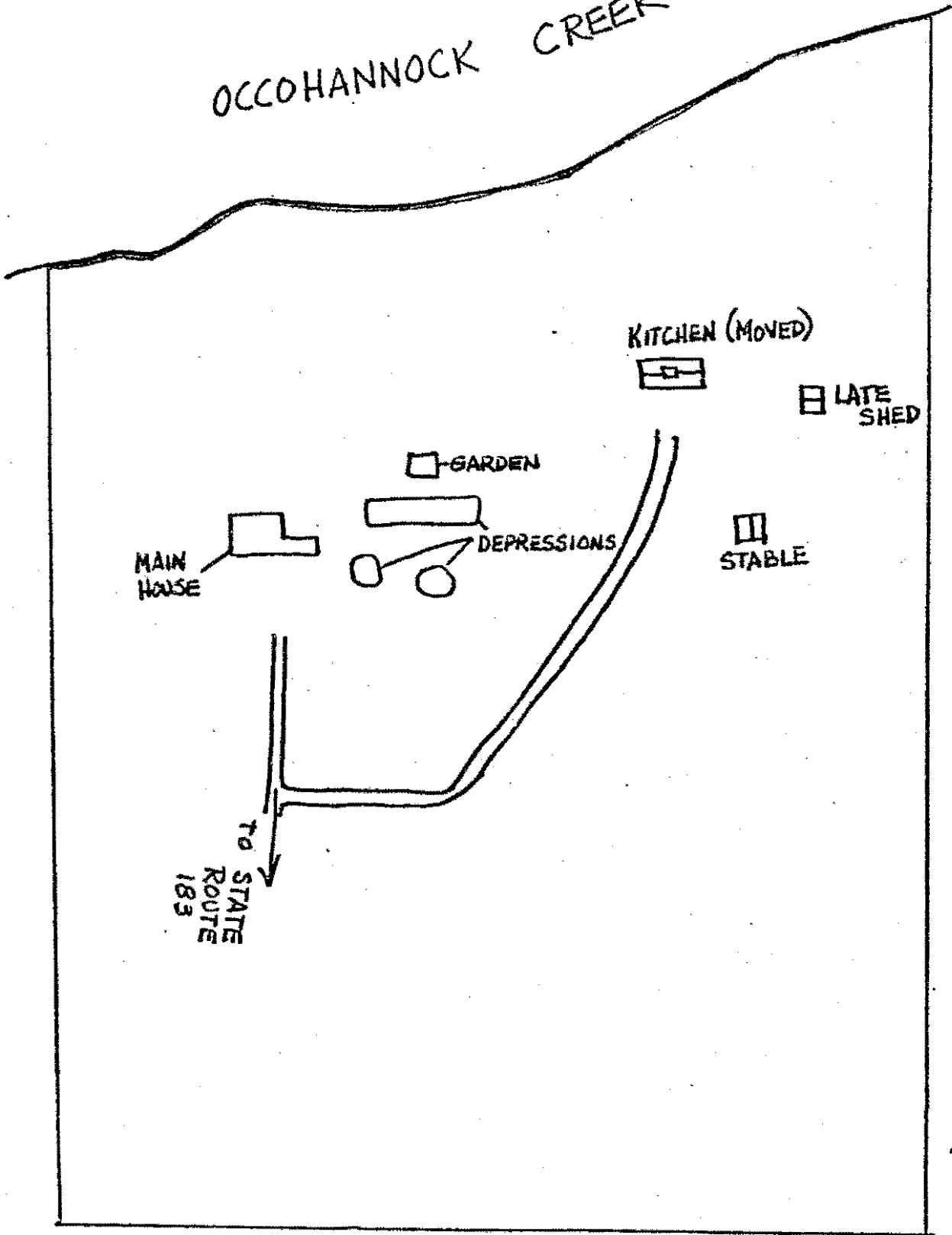
Stretching along an eastern line drawn between the house and the stable are three depressions approximately 20 x 30 feet. Southeast of the eastern one is a much larger depression, about 30 x 40 feet. North of the stable are the remains of a course-and-a-half brick underpinning of undetermined size, identified by the owner as the ruins of another stable. The early, much-worn road to the old landing passes between the stable and the easternmost of the three aligned depressions.

DU

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The 14 acres of both tree-covered and open land which comprise the Grapeland property border on the south bank of Occohannock Creek and provide a commanding setting for this estate. The nominated acreage incorporates the immediate grounds, the terraced yard, existing outbuildings, sites of destroyed outbuildings, and the waterfront.

OCCOHANNOCK CREEK



MAIN HOUSE

GARDEN

DEPRESSIONS

KITCHEN (MOVED)

LATE SHED

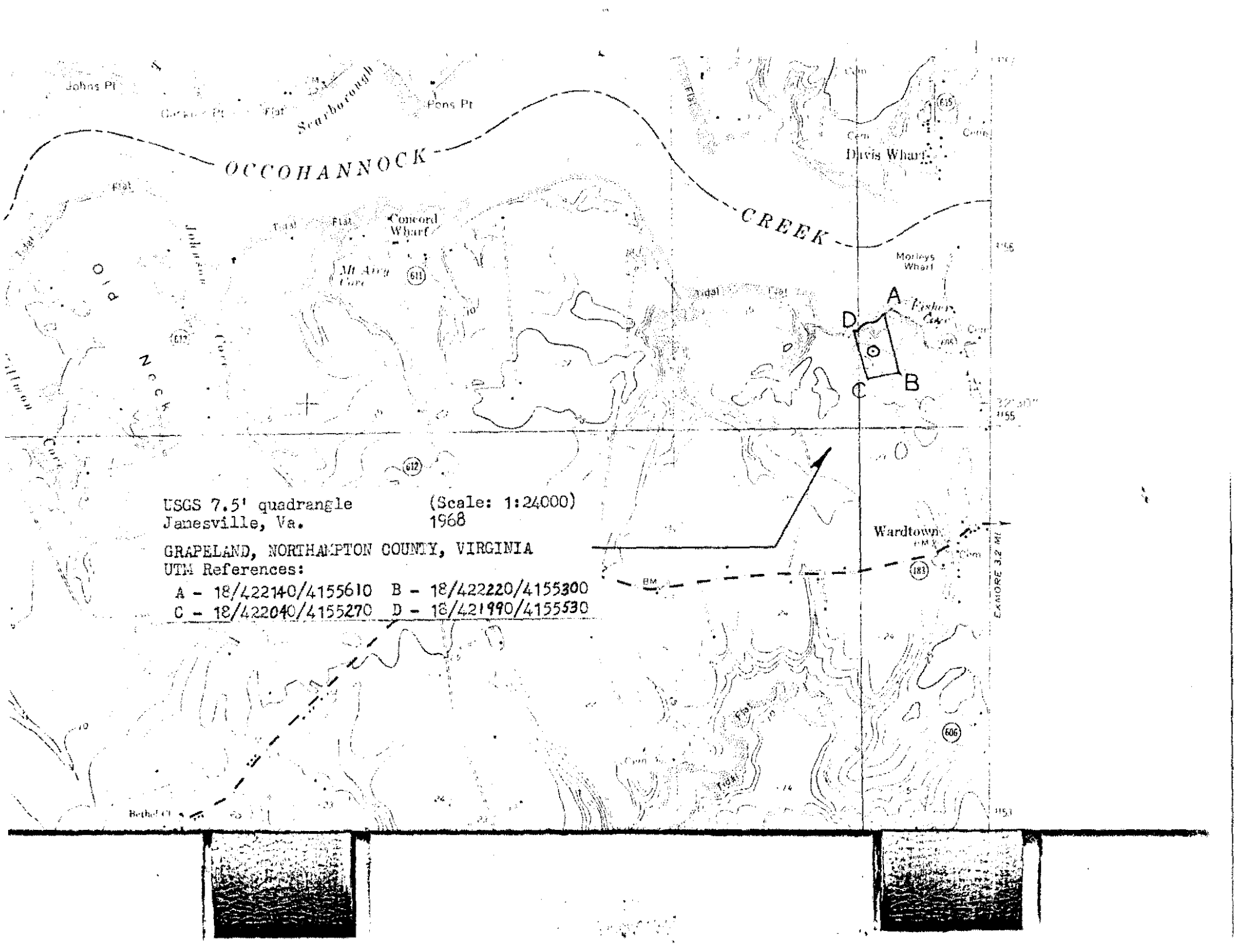
STABLE

TO STATE ROUTE 183



APPROXIMATE REGISTER BOUNDARY

GRAPELAND, NORTHAMPTON CO.  
VIRGINIA  
SKETCH MAP.. NOT TO SCALE  
VHLC 1977



USGS 7.5' quadrangle  
Janesville, Va.

(Scale: 1:24000)  
1968

GRAPELAND, NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

UTM References:

- A - 18/422140/4155610
- B - 18/422220/4155300
- C - 18/422040/4155270
- D - 18/421990/4155530