

Listed On:  
VLR 09/18/1979  
NRHP 12/31/1979

FHR-8-300 (11-78)

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCPS use only  
received  
date entered

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

**1. Name**

historic Indian Land  
and/or common Rose Hill (preferred)

**2. Location**

street & number [redacted] not for publication  
city, town Capron X vicinity of Fourth (Robert W. Daniel, Jr.) congressional district  
state Virginia code 51 county Southampton code 175

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" 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	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<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 J. Richard Kello  
street & number  
city, town Courtland vicinity of state Virginia [redacted]

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Southampton County Courthouse  
street & number  
city, town Courtland state Virginia

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys (2) (See Continuation Sheet #1**

(1) Virginia State Library Archaeological Survey title  
has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no  
date 1955, 1956 federal  state  county  local  
depository for survey records Virginia Research Center for Archaeology, Wren Kitchen, William & Mary College of  
city, town Williamsburg state Virginia 23186

## 7. Description

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

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Rose Hill is a two-story, single-pile frame house set on a brick underpinning laid in three-course American bond with rodded joints. Flanking the house is a pair of brick exterior end chimneys. The south chimney is laid in six-to-nine-course American bond, while that on the north is laid in five-course American bond with tiled weatherings and rodded joints. Both appear to have been rebuilt early in the history of the house. The windows are glazed with 9/9 sash, and those on the front are fitted with louvred blinds. A dentil cornice embellished the eaves of the roof, which is covered with standing-seam sheet metal. The one-story tetrastyle porch with Tuscan columns that covers the three central bays of the facade was added ca. 1900.

The plan of Rose Hill is a traditional one. The first floor consists of a single room on either side of a central passage. The winder stairs are entered from the passage but rise in the chamber. On the second floor this plan is varied by reducing the passage to the width of the stairs to allow for a central chamber and by setting off a passage along the front of the house to provide direct access from the north and south chambers to the stair. A lean-to room was added to the rear of the (first-floor) hall in the mid-19th century, and a one-story kitchen was added to the rear of the chamber in the early 20th century.

The interior decoration of Rose Hill is among the most striking in Southside Virginia. The handsome and well-executed mantels and wainscoting retain their original painting, graining and marbleizing throughout. In the hall (north room), the mantel consists of an architrave frame and a plain shelf with tall fascia. The two are connected by three fluted blocks separated by recessed frieze panels. The architrave is marbled, while the blocks and the shelf are grained in imitation of bird's-eye maple and the panels are painted green. Recessed-panel wainscoting with a pedestal chair rail is carried around the room. The chair rail is grained while the stiles and rails of the wainscoting are painted grey with green panels and a marbled baseboard. The door to the mid-19th-century ell has Greek Revival details and is painted in the stronger colors favored at mid-century. The two-panel, vertical-panel door is grained, while the frame is painted bright blue. The six-panel, raised-panel door to the passage is grained in a rough imitation of mahogany and has HL hinges and a Russell Irwin iron box lock.

The passage has red exterior double doors, consisting of pairs of three-panel, raised-panel leaves. These doors are fastened with a wooden bar and have never had locks or latches. The wainscot is similar to that in the hall and is painted according to the same color scheme.

The chamber also has wainscoting and painting similar to that in the hall. The black-painted mantel consists of an architrave frame and molded shelf with an intervening pulvinated frieze. To the left of it is a closet with double ten-light glass doors. In place of glass, the bottom tier of lights in each door has a board grained and painted with a quadrant panel, thus shielding the bottom shelf from view. This arrangement is an original feature. A four-panel, recessed-panel door, grained and painted with quadrant panels, serves the closet under the stair. The door to the ell is painted red and retains its original iron lock and HL hinges.

Of equal interest with the paint is the roof structure consisting of a bayed roof with four king-post trusses. These trusses are constructed normally except that they are braced downward to the longitudinal girder and have tenoned into them a large ridge pole which supports the common rafters. This system is a unique example in the state, so far as is known. Furthermore, all of the members of this roof are unusually large. The use of a king-post roof of such large dimensions and unusual features on an early 19th-century, single-pile house is noteworthy, as the tendency in that period was for very minimal structural systems.

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input checked="" 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 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** C. 1805-15      **Builder/Architect** Unknown

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The present house at Rose Hill is among the earliest and best preserved "I" houses in Southampton County. The land on which the house stands was deeded to John T. Blow by the Nottoway Indian Tribe in 1792. Contemporary records and modern archaeological research establish the continuous occupancy of what is now Rose Hill and environs by Indians during the Colonial era. Surface digs of the area during the 1950s<sup>1</sup> confirm the existence of Indian-European contact and trade during the 17th and 18th centuries. As recently as the early 20th century, Indians gathered on the Rose Hill property for religious and cultural purposes.<sup>2</sup> Archaeological survey to date has been limited to surface and near-surface exploration. More comprehensive archaeology is indicated.

The 17th century Weanoc (variously Wynagh, Weanock, Weyanoke) settlement of Warekeck was on what is now Rose Hill (see Binford). William Byrd visited the adjacent "Great Town" of the Nottoways when he and others surveyed the dividing line between Virginia and the Carolinas in 1728. By this time, the Nottoways (Iroquoian) had absorbed the local Weanocs (Algonquin). This process of assimilation allowed for the continuity of familial identity, as witness the Nottoway trustees who deeded the land to Blow, one of whom, "Bob Wineoak," was probably a descendant of the Indians of Warekeck.

In 1804 John T. Blow willed the land to his son Henry along with a grist mill on the north side of the mill swamp. Blow held the land until 1817, when he sold "a certain plantation, tract and parcel of land containing 825 acres on the Nottoway River" to John T. Richardson.<sup>3</sup> Mention is made in the deed to the "old Indian line." It is presumed that Richardson acquired the present house as part of the Blow plantation. In 1820 the improvements on Richardson's land are assessed at \$1,000. The property was sold by Richardson in 1828 to Charlotte Nicholson and Alexander Peete for \$4,000. By 1829 the property is charged solely to Charlotte Nicholson, who married Baily Bryant in 1831. Charlotte Bryant willed the property to David W. Nicholson in 1863. The property was acquired by James Kello in 1877 at public auction. It has remained in the Kello family to the present date.

On the area referred to in early 19th-century deeds as "Indian Land," Henry Blow erected Rose Hill between ca. 1805-1815. The house was constructed according to the traditional "I" house plan with a single large room on either side of a central-hall passage. The house is embellished with handsomely executed mantels and wainscoting which retain their original painting, graining, and marbleizing throughout. The decoration appears to have been executed when the house was initially finished and at mid-century. The dining room contains a closet with double ten-light glass doors. The bottom tier in each door has a grained and painted board. This arrangement is an original feature found only on Southside houses of the period. The house is further enhanced by a king-post roofing system, usually associated with 18th-century, hip-roof dwellings. The complex roofing construction exhibits a technology thus far unique to Virginia for a house of the period, when structural systems were simplified and minimal.

RCC/MTP

<sup>1</sup>Lewis Roberts Binford, *Archaeological and Ethno-historical Investigation...of Coastal Virginia*, pp. 244-50, 333-341, 383-389.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Binford, Lewis Roberts, "Archaeological and Ethnohistorical Investigation...of Coastal Virginia...", Ph. D. dissertation, University of Michigan, 1961. Xeroxed copy at Virginia State Library.

Byrd, William. History of the Dividing Line (1738), 1841, 1929.

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 196 acres

Quadrangle name Capron and Sebrell, Va.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A [REDACTED]  
Zone Easting Northing

B [REDACTED]  
Zone Easting Northing

C [REDACTED]

D [REDACTED]

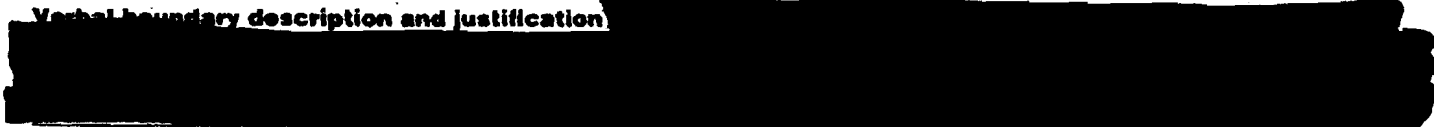
E [REDACTED]

F [REDACTED]

G [REDACTED]

H [REDACTED]

Verbal boundary description and justification



List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries (See Continuation Sheet #1)

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 September 1979

street & number 221 Governor Street telephone (804) 786-3144

city or town Richmond state Virginia 23219

## 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Tucker Hill  
Tucker Hill, Executive Director

title Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

date SEP 18 1979

For HCRS 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  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

FOR HCRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Rose Hill, Southampton County, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET #1

ITEM NUMBER 6, 7, 8, 9, PAGE 1 & 10

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

- (2) Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey  
1973, 1979 State  
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission  
221 Governor Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

7. DESCRIPTION

Outbuildings at the dwelling house include an early one-story frame office southeast of the house, a frame smokehouse to the east, and an early 20th-century frame pumphouse to the northeast.

Also on the property are several significant prehistoric archaeological sites.

DU

8. SIGNIFICANCE

<sup>3</sup>Southampton County Deed Book, 15, 1817, p. 233.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Parramore, Thomas C. Southampton County, Virginia. Charlottesville, Va.: University of Virginia Press, 1978.

Southampton County Deed Books 2, 8, 15, 18, 20, 22.

Land Tax Books, 1782-1850.

Personal Property Tax Books, 1811-1817.

Will Books, 5, 7, 18.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA



BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated property contains 196 acres including the main house, all extant outbuildings, and the sites of previous outbuildings. This acreage is a fraction of the original "Indian Land" of Henry Blow which consisted of 736 acres. The nominated property includes a sufficient portion of land so as to take in potential archaeological sites of past Indian cultures. The sites presently include those surveyed by L. R. Binford in 1955 and 1956 on the Kello property. (Sites #44 SN 4; 44 SN 18)