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United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

nventory—Nomination Form

ee instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms

and all entries applies applies by sections

	-complete applicable	sections		<del></del>
<u> 1. Nam</u>	<u> </u>			
historic Sur	nyside		·	
and/or common			·	
2. Loca	ation			
street & number	Route 673			N/A not for publication
city, town	Newsoms	N/A vicinity of	4th congressional district	(D-1)
state Virgin	ia coc	de <sub>51</sub> county	Southampton	code 175
	sification			
Category  district _X_ building(s) structure site object	Ownership public private both Public Acquisition in process being considered N/A	Status occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	Present Use  X agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:
4. Own	er of Prope	rtv		<u> </u>
	Gladys Musgrave Reine Simmons P. O. Box 3583			e President, Virgini Kational Bank
	orfolk	N/A victority.com		Virginia 23514
		uthampton County County		
city, town	Courtland		state	Virginia
6. Rep	resentation	in Existing	Surveys	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
title Virginia	a Historic Landmark	Survey	posity been determined a	elegible? yes _X_ no
1072		- That this pro-		
date 1973,	, 1980			ate county loca
depository for su	urvey records Virgini	a Historic Landmark	s Commission 221 (	Governor Street
city, town	Richmond		state	Virginia 23219

# Condition X excellent \_\_\_\_ deteriorated \_\_\_ unaltered \_\_\_ which is a constant of the constant

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

7. Description

Sunnyside is located on Rt.673 in the heart of rural Southampton County. The estate consists of the main residence and an outstanding collection of outbuildings. The house was constructed in three stages dating to ca. 1810-20, 1847, and 1870. The outbuildings date from the mid- to the late 19th century. The area surrounding the complex is still farmed.

The main two-story, wood-frame house is covered by weatherboarding and sits on a low brick foundation. As a consequence of its growth the structure has evolved into its present "T-shape" plan. Like many early Southampton County residences, the original house consisted of one room, the present dining room, which was built ca. 1810-20. In 1847 the present sitting room was added, at which time the dining room was also remodeled into its present appearance. In 1870 the front (west) block that contains the main central hall was added; minimal changes have been made since that time.

The facade (west) has an imposing, two-story, pedimented portico sheltering the main entrance. The portico is distinguished by paired fluted Doric columns. Paired Italianate-style brackets run along the eaves; similar brackets both paired and single are found on the eaves of the 1870 section. The main entrance has multi-paned rectangular sidelights and transom framing the double-door entry. The doorway is topped by a balcony with an ornamental cast-iron railing. The balcony door sidelights are similar to those below. Both the first- and second-story entries are framed by a two-story architrave that consists of symmetrically molded trim topped by a simplified Doric entablature. The south elevation has a one-story, hipped-roof porch supported by square piers. The porch shelters two entries, one with a plain architrave, the other with symmetrically molded trim. Secondary entrances with single doors are found on the remaining elevations.

The fenestration of the 1870 section consists of 6/6 hung-sash windows in plainly executed architraves topped by cornices. The windows retain their original louvred shutters. The fenestration of the older section consists principally of 9/9 hung-sash, although a variety of sash may be found on the secondary elevations. The corners of the 1870 section have fluted pilasters that terminate on the eaves in clustered brackets. Brick, single-shouldered exterior chimneys executed in American bond are found on the north and south elevations. A smaller exterior chimney is found on the east wall of the rear. A brick chimney breaks the roof line of the ca. 1847 section.

The interior remains in an excellent state of preservation. The central hall of the ca. 1870 section contains the main stair. The open-well stair has a turned newel, turned balusters, and a rounded handrail. Flanking the hall, the north and south parlors retain their original imitation-grained mantels and baseboards. The second-floor chambers' mantels and baseboards are also grained. The 1847 section retains its original Federal-style mantels. The dining room, which was updated at this time, also has its original pedestal-type wainscoting and a molded chair rail. The sitting room has a molded chair rail. The present kitchen has been extensively remodeled through its adaption into its present services. Molded architraves frame the principal doors and windows in all three sections.

Sunnyside has an outstanding collection of outbuildings, many of which date through the 19th century. The outbuildings include: a schoolhouse, schoolmaster's house, dairy, milk house, tenant's house, privy, pump house, sheds, peanut barn, a tall smokehouse,

### 8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400-1499 1500-1599 1600-1799 X 1800-1899 1900-	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic x agriculture x architecture art commerce communications		landscape architectur	re religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	ca. 1810-20;1847;187	OBuilder/Architect (	Jnknown	

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This Southampton County plantation contains one of southeastern Virginia's most complete complexes of domestic and farm outbuildings as well as an interesting architecturally evolved main residence. The earliest portion of the house, a one-room structure, was built ca. 1810-11 for Joseph Pope and was remodeled and enlarged in 1847 by his son, Harrison, one of the county's most ambitious 19th-century planters. By taking advantage of wartime conditions, Harrison Pope was able to survive the conflict a wealthy man, as symbolized by the showy porticoed front he built onto the house in 1870. Combining Greek Revival and Italianate elements, the front section is one of the few Reconstruction-period structures of any architectural pretension in the region. The domestic outbuildings, formally arranged in relation to the main house, are mostly third-quarter of the 19th-century, while the farm buildings date from 1870 and later. The preservation of the Sunnyside complex has been achieved largely through its continuous ownership by Pope family descendants.

#### HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Pope family owned property in this part of Virginia as early as 1732 when William Pope patented land on the south side of the Nottoway River. In December 1809 one of his descendants, Evans Pope, sold to his son, Joseph Pope, a tract of one hundred acres that included the present house tract. Joseph had married Sara Bursh in 1810, and a deed dated 1811 gave him permission to bring his wife's slaves into Virginia from North Carolina. This record would imply completion of the earliest part of the residence. Father and son lived adjacent to one another and died within a year of each other. Evans Pope, in his will recorded March 17, 1828, bequeathed thirty acres with no improvements to his son Joseph. The rest of the land, including his dwelling, was bequeathed to his widow and married daughted Joseph Pope, in his will recorded January 19, 1829, left a substantial estate to his widow and nine children. All three of his sons received large tracts of land; his son Harrison P. Pope, twelve years old at the time, was bequeathed "the plantation whereon I now live at his mother's death or remarriage. . ." The plantation consisted of one hundred acres and was held by Sally Pope for life since she never remarried.

The plantation accounts of Mrs. Sally Pope indicate that her son Harrison handled a large amount of the business by 1838, the year in which he reached the age of majority. He also had the responsibility of the tax accounts of his father's, Joseph Pope's, estate. In 1838 he sold the Buckland tract of land inherited from his father and invested the proceeds in the first of more than seventy-five tracts he would purchase over the next thirty-five years. Thus he methodically developed a plantation which produced great quantities of cotton, tobacco, meat, and lumber. These products were shipped overland to Petersburg, by water to the south, and by rail to Norfolk. The quantities of supplies that he imported to maintain this operation were enormous and varied.

(See Continuation Sheet #1, 2)

9. Major Bib	liographica	l Refer	ences	
Parramore, Thomas C.		y, Virginia.	Charlottesy:	ille: University of
Virginia Press, Southampton County D		8. 9. 12. 2	5. 27. 30.	
	and Tax Books 1782			(See Continuation Shee
10. Geograp	hical Data			# <sup>2</sup> ]
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11. Form Pro	epared By			
name/title Virginia Hi	storic Landmarks C	Commission St	aff	
organization Virginia H	distoria Landmarks	Commission	date October	r 1981
Organization Virginia R	ISCOILC DANGMAINS	CORRELESSION		
street & number 221 Go	vernor Street		telephone (80	04) 786-3144
city or town Richmond			state Virgin	ia 23219
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The evaluated significance o	f this property within the	state is:		
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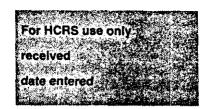
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SUNNYSIDE, Route 673, Southampton County, Virginia

Continuation sheet #1 Item number 7,8,



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#### DESCRIPTION

kitchen-laundry, and a garage. The outbuildings are wood-frame and covered with weather-boarding. The schoolhouse is located to the west of the main house and was probably constructed around 1850. The one-story, gable-roof building has an American-bond chimney, original paneled door, and louvred blinds. The "big office", or schoolmaster's house, is located directly across the yard from the schoolhouse and is visually connected to it by a white picket fence. The office is a 1½-story structure distinguished by a one-story porch. The porch's shed roof is supported by square wooden piers. The building has a brick exterior end chimney laid in American bond, louvred shutters, and a paneled door. Located to the east of the office, the dairy is a one-story structure covered by a gable roof. It has wooden vents cut in a serrated pattern. To the east of the dairy, the milk house is a small plank building set on cast-stone piers and covered by a gable roof with wooden shingles.

Dating to the second half of the 19th century, the tenant's house is a two-story "L"-plan structure covered by a gable roof. It is set at some distance from the main house and has irregular fenestration and exterior end chimneys laid in American bond. A small, wooden privy covered by a gable roof is located in the area to the east of the main house. The pump house, just inside the yard of the main house, is a one-story building covered by a gable roof. Two gable-roof sheds and a peanut barn are located at the easternmost point from the main house. The peanut barn is presently used to store a planked log smokehouse that originally stood to the east of the privy. An additional, much larger smokehouse is found southeast of the main house. Attached to it are shed wings. The kitchen/laundry to the south of the house, outside the yard, is a l-story, 3-bay building covered by a gable roof. It is distinguished by two doorways, one to the kitchen and another for the laundry. Fenestration consists of hung-sash windows. The garage, to the south of the kitchen/laundry, is a 20th-century structure with two large openings for vehicles.

A picket fence encloses a yard that surrounds the main residence. Beyond the picket fence is a rail fence separating the outbuildings from the farmlands. A dinner bell that dates to the mid-19th century is found to the east of the main residence. Two wells and a hog scalding tub remain on the property. Numerous trees and shrubs planted in the 19th and early 20th centuries continue to provide a bucolic setting for the main residence and its collection of outbuildings.

RCC

#### 8. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Personal Property Tax records of 1844 indicate that Sunnyside greatly prospered under Harrison's management. He was taxed in that year for thirty slaves, ten horses, one carriage, and one clock. In 1847, the year of his marriage to Virginia A. Edwards, the tax book notes improvements on his property, including the present dining room and sitting room to the east of the 1870 main block. Greek Revival in style, these "improvements" clearly document Harrison's continued success as a planter and businessman. By 1856

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SUNNYSIDE, Route 673, Southampton County, Virginia

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#### 8. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

he is taxed for forty-six slaves, seventeen horses, thirty cattle, two carriages, one clock, one watch, and \$200 for household furniture.

The records in the Pope family Bible begin in 1862 with the marriage of Harrison P. Pope to Sally Ann Maggitt, who became Pope's second wife on October 7, 1862. At that time he owned almost four thousand acres of excellent farmland in addition to an inheritance which included the dwelling house with two hundred additional acres and a life interest in his first wife's lands. In 1866 he purchased from his mother the 200½ acre tract, including the Pope residence, for \$700. The Land Tax Book for 1871 recorded an increase in building value to \$2,500 and, in the following year, the property showed another increase in building value to \$3,000. This augmentation in the value of improvements dates the completion of the front section of the house and the addition of some of its outbuildings.

Conservative in style for the 1870s, the main block of Sunnyside reflects the architectural taste of its affluent builder. While other Virginians were recovering from the devastation of war, Harrison Pope had emerged from the conflict a richer man, having profited from the sale of contraband provisions. Just as Pope's financial state was seemingly undisturbed by the upheaval of the 1860s, so too was his architectural taste untouched by the picturesque Gothic and Italianate revivals of the 1850s and 1860s. The doorway frontispiece and cast iron at Sunnyside, for example, show the influence of earlier pattern books, specifically those of Asher Benjamin. Benjamin's works continued to encourage the construction of Greek Revival architecture long after the Greek style had passed out of fashion.

That Pope wished to maintain the lifestyle he enjoyed prior to the war is also evident in the unusually large assortment of outbuildings that surround the house. Such a building complex would have required a great number of servants at a time when most Virginia planters had yet to recover from the shock of emancipation. The outbuildings include a schoolhouse for Pope's children, an office for the schoolmaster, and a large number of buildings that served a purely domestic function. Separated by a fence from these structures is a complex of larger farm buildings, which demonstrates the continued expansion of the Pope farm in the 1870s.

Harrison Pope died on October 30, 1877, and left a wife and five children between the ages of four and fourteen years. He bequeathed "the plantation where I live" to his wife for her life then passing to their youngest son, Thomas Jackson Pope. The property has continued to descend to Pope's heirs to the present day. The main house and outbuildings survive in a well-preserved state.

VDS/RCC

#### 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Personal Property Tax Books 1844-1856. Will Books 10, 20.

Richmond, Virginia. Virginia Historical Society. Harrison Peterson Pope Papers, Southampton County. Index to Marriage Register 1750-1853.

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SUNNYSIDE, Route 673, Southampton County, Virginia

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Item number #10

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#### 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

#### Boundary Justification

The boundaries of Sunnyside's nominated property of forty-two acres are drawn to include the main residence, outbuildings, and tenant's house. When the residence was expanded by the Pope family in 1870, it was on a farm tract of 200½ acres. The nominated acreage includes only that portion of farmland defined by Route 658 and the 70 foot contour line, so chosen to give the complex sufficient surrounding open land to preserve its nural aspect.

