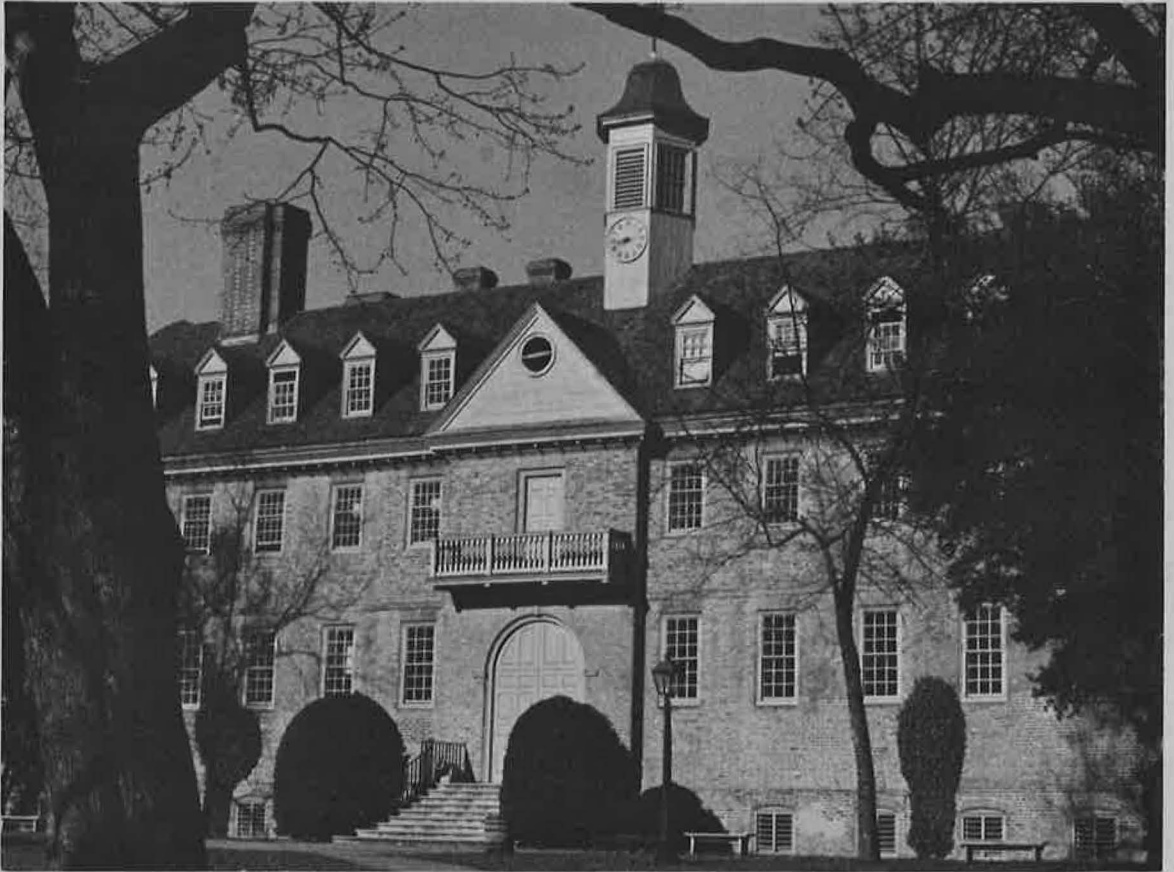


Notes on Virginia

A PUBLICATION OF THE VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

NO 12 / SPRING 1975



WREN BUILDING, College of William and Mary

Virginia Research Center For Archaeology

The Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission held its meeting for May at the College of William and Mary officially to open, the Virginia Research Center for Archaeology at the Wren Building in the historic college yard. This event symbolizes a watershed for scientific archaeology in Virginia. It was thought appropriate, therefore, to invite patrons and active participants in the fields of archaeology and history from the College of William and Mary, Colonial Williamsburg, Inc., the Virginia State Library, the University of Virginia, and other institutions to join with the VHLC and its staff in the ceremonial opening of the center. Pictures of the exhibit room and laboratory, and of first day visitors are included on pages 3, 4, and 16 of this issue of *Notes*. The exhibit room of the Research Center is open to the public from 1-5 p.m. on weekdays.

When the VHLC was established in 1966, the General Assembly also created, but did not fund, the Virginia Research Center which was to be established at Williamsburg in cooperation with the College. Since 1966 the VHLC has attempted to meet the needs of historic archaeology by hiring an historic archaeologist and a survey archaeologist as members of its own staff. During this same period the State Library supported a pilot project in pre-historic Indian archaeology; Colonial Williamsburg, Inc. maintained its archaeological office; the National Park Service sponsored colonial-site investigations on an ad hoc basis; and, finally archaeological programs were begun at several college campuses in conjunction with departments of anthropology.

The VHLC program, and the general interest, was greatly enhanced in 1972 by a grant of private

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funds from Busch Properties, Inc. for survey and salvage archaeology at the Kingsmill property in James City County. This project has been extensively publicized in the general media as well as in successive issues of *Notes on Virginia*. Kingsmill has been a training ground for archaeologists, and an ongoing dramatic demonstration of the need and value of historic archaeology. It has led to the successful study of sites ranging throughout the colonial period to the early nineteenth century. This handsome and, hopefully, precedent-setting grant by the developers of Kingsmill will expire on December 31, 1975.

The General Assembly has given moral and material support for the Commonwealth's archaeological program. The VHLC is now ready, on the basis of the passed decade's experience, to administer and develop its Research Center in cooperation with the host institution, the College of William and Mary. According to legislation of 1966 and 1975, the functions of the Center are to inventory and preserve the State's archaeological sites, maintain and exhibit the State's archaeological collections, and to cooperate with the educational program of the College.

The Virginia Research Center for Archaeology at the Wren Building of the College of William and Mary was officially opened on Tuesday, May 20. The facility houses the office and laboratory of the VHLC archaeological program, as well as an exhibit room displaying artifacts recovered from Virginia sites. The exhibit room is open to the public from 1:00-5:00 p.m. on weekdays, a schedule which may be extended in the near future.

The displays include objects representative of man's continued occupation in Virginia from the paleolithic Indian period ca. 12,000-10,000 B.C. to the early nineteenth century. Featured exhibits include prehistoric artifacts recovered at the Shannon prehistoric Indian village site near Blacksburg and seventeenth century armor and ceramics from the Governor's Land Archaeological District. There will also be selected objects from recent excavations at Kingsmill Plantation, the ongoing Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission excavation near Williamsburg sponsored by Busch Properties, Inc.



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Photos (VHLC photos by Dave Restuccia)

1 Delegate Louis McMurrin addressing the guests of the VHLC and the College of William and Mary at the official opening of the Virginia Research Center for Archaeology. Seated to the right of Delegate McMurrin at the luncheon held in the Great Hall of the Wren Building are VHLC Chairman Frederick Herman and Mrs. James B. Shea, Jr., wife of the General Manager of Busch Properties, Inc.

2 Doyen of Virginia Archaeologists Ivor Noel Hume with Mrs. Noel Hume; with VHLC Executive Director Junius R. Fishburne, Jr. in right background.

3 View of Indian (prehistoric and contact period) and 17th century colonists displays in exhibit room.

4 View of exhibit room with 18th century, including Revolutionary era, displays. Eighteenth-century well display in foreground.

5 Merry Abbitt labels artifacts in the VHLC's new lab room in Wren basement. Others in picture include VHLC staff members Bly Bogley and Edward A. Chappell (right) and Mr. and Mrs. Noel Hume, center background.

6 VHLC archaeologist Edward Chappell drawing artifacts for publication on VHLC's excavation of the ca 1690 pit on the Governor's Land.

7 J. Paul Hudson, Charles H. Ryland, of VSL Board, and Dr. Ben McCary.

8 VHLC Archaeologist William Kelso describing the purpose and potential of the Virginia Research Center for Archaeology.

9 Thomas A. Graves, Jr., President of the College of William and Mary welcoming the guests to the Great Hall of the Wren Building and the opening of the Research Center.



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Life & Labor In Early Virginia

For Virginians, pride in their heritage has often found expression in an affectionate regard for the great homes and properties of the Commonwealth. Indeed, over the years, such historic and aesthetically pleasing structures as Monticello, Westover and Mount Vernon have become shrines for Americans from Maine to California. These are the places which attract visitors to Virginia, and naturally, they are the subjects of a large body of literature.

As we enter the era of the Bicentennial thousands will turn or return to the buildings associated with the lives of the Virginia Founding Fathers. This interest, however natural or laudable, does tend to distort our historical imagination, by causing a group of buildings associated with one or two brief eras to dominate our picture of life in early Virginia. Or, with the art and architectural historians, we may treat of the past through the eyes of outstanding designers and craftsmen. Such criteria, however unexceptionable of themselves, combine to suggest that a fragmentary selection of buildings and sites may be taken for the whole.

The agricultural society of Virginia's first two centuries and more was co-extensive with the area of settlement. "The whole Country," Robert Beverley could claim, was "as one Neighborhood . . . , having the same Tenures of Land, Usages and Customs." The point has been made that, given the wide range of shared experience, the landmarks of that world are, with only occasional exceptions, as relevant to the experience of one class, race, or sex as they are to another. The thesis presupposes that some attention be given to the functional aspect of the historic structures: the way or manner in which they relate to the evolving form of everyman's domestic life and labor.

While glorious and tragic epochs and heroic personages are vital aspects of the shared social and cultural heritage, they are, by definition, exceptions to the norm. The same may be said of the architecturally exquisite structure, which may stand for the ideal or aspiration of one or more generations of Virginians. It is not the Georgian or Classical lines of a Stratford Hall or Mr. Jefferson's capitol, but the economic, social, and political functions of the plantation and the institutions of government that relate to the experiences of the generality of Virginians.

Photos

- 1 Trabue's Tavern outbuilding (school house), Chesterfield County.
- 2 Pleasant Point Laundry, Surry County.
- 3 Thorn Hill Kitchen, Rockbridge County.
- 4 The Cottage, Essex County.
- 5 Elem (Carr House), Isle of Wight County.

Historians, whatever their specialties or interests, attempt to compensate for the unequal distribution of primary sources, but the aesthetically pleasing and the grand tend to be representative of the same lettered, politically powerful, or introspective few who have left the diaries, the letters, and the books which coerce the monographs. With this in mind the scholar may ask, for example, what may be learned from a closer study of the thousands of relatively anonymous buildings and objects recorded in the Virginia Landmarks Register and survey. To the student of "material culture," such a study might shed light on, or confirm the role of, a particular cultural tradition as it influences people at a particular time or place.



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These resources would be of special interest to the student of "material culture," a term increasingly in evidence at professional conventions and in the journals. As near as the editor of *Notes* can ascertain, a student of material culture is an Hegelian who has studied folklore, anthropology, archaeology, and vernacular architecture. The basic assumption of the art is that invisible mental patterns create visible physical patterns: that artifacts are products of the mind or cultural traditions of the artist. Through the close and comprehensive study of physical patterns, the material culturist attempts to make a contribution to our knowledge and understanding of the customs, habits, and values of the persons who created and used them.



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During the past year an architectural historian with education and experience in the relevant fields has joined the VHLC staff. Reflecting on his initial months of survey work, he observed the remarkable persistence of familiar building types through time and space. The one-room "English cabin," with a gable-end chimney, a window between the door and the chimney, and an approximately square plan, for example, appeared in Virginia and other colonies in the early seventeenth century and can be found from Tidewater through far Southwest Virginia, in examples dating from early-colonial through the ante-bellum eras. [See photos 1, 2, 3, 4, and the original portion of the Crabtree-Blackwell House in Washington County, photo 8].



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The same continuity will be noted in the appearance of gable-end buildings with side lean-tos for barns and granaries [photos 5 & 6] from Isle of Wight County to the mountains of Southwest (and on into Tennessee).

Tobacco barns in Southside provide a good example of the tenacity of forms through changed conditions. Integral parts of the tobacco culture, these structures have been improved as circumstances allowed. Most now have sheet metal roofs, and have had fuel-oil burners substituted for the coal-burning fire boxes. Some now use propane, and there are barns that show evidence of all three methods of curing. Throughout these transitions, even in the day of concrete-block construction, the venerable form of the tobacco barn is retained and the structures remain recognizable as such.

Whatever the changes in the technology of tobacco curing and in the fashions and availability of building material over the centuries, tobacco barns have shared much in common. A remarkable survival is a log barn on Route 40 in Halifax County [photo 7]. It has the universal eighteen-foot-square dimension, two low opposed doors and five levels each with five tier-poles. Like most others, it has a working shed

(continued on page 6)

Photos

- 6 Crabtree-Blackwell hay barn.
- 7 Log Barn, Halifax County.

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to one side, and weatherboarded gables. In addition it retains its wooden shingles and its two low stove furnaces.

While people carry their traditions with them, these must be adapted to new conditions and incorporate useful ideas acquired from other groups. The very idea of building "English" cabins in log may be seen as the grafting of a tidewater tradition onto a central European one. Sometimes a variety of traditions can combine in a complex way to produce a single remarkable building. The Crabtree-Blackwell log house [photo 8] began as a one-story square English cabin. Later it was raised to two stories, and a further addition, a separate two-room cabin was added to the other side of the chimney.

The best-known outside—that is, non-English, non-Tidewater—cultural influences found in colonial Virginia came from Pennsylvania. The paths of these traditions can be traced visually up the Valley in such



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building forms as the fore bay barn: Woodburn in Loudoun County through Back Creek Farm, Pulaski County; and Pennsylvania-style two-story porches [see photo 9].

Material objects often give clues to trade patterns and other processes, such as suggested in the appearance of a few New England gravestones on the Eastern Shore and at Christ Church, Alexandria [see photo 10].

The ambition of the material culturist, and the point of these rudimentary remarks, is to call our attention to the farmhouses and outbuildings, the everyday objects of another time or place which have come down to us, and to see in these things not an undifferentiated mass, but a varied and often complex order capable of yielding information about the daily routines of the Virginians of an earlier day, information that might not otherwise be available.



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Photos

- 8 Crabtree-Blackwell log house, Washington County.
- 9 Kilmakronen Log House, Washington County.
- 10 New England stone, Christ Church, Alexandria.

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Virginia Landmarks Register

The VHLC staff began preparation of nominations to the Virginia Landmarks Register during the fall of 1968. Nominations are reviewed by a committee of the Commission composed of persons experienced in the fields of history, architecture, landscape architecture, and archaeology. After review and endorsement by this committee, nominations are presented to the Commission for its approval. As all Virginia landmarks are of statewide or national significance, each is nominated, in turn, to the National Register of Historic Places.

An installment of the Virginia Landmarks Register, containing brief statements on each of the then 213 registered properties, was published in July 1970. This publication, no longer in print, is supplemented, on an interim basis, through notices of new listings carried in each issue of Notes on Virginia. By the end of April 1975, 586 properties were included in the Virginia Landmarks Register. The twenty-eight most recent additions to the Register were:

TIDEWATER & EASTERN SHORE



▲ MARY WASHINGTON HOUSE, FREDERICKSBURG: George Washington bought this property in 1772, and gave it to his mother who lived here until her death in 1789. The exceptionally long composite frame residence became the property of the APVA in 1890 and was carefully restored in 1929-30.

RURAL PLAINS, HANOVER COUNTY: Rural Plains is noteworthy both for its splendid mid-eighteenth-century brickwork and for its long - nine generations - tenure in the hands of the Shelton family. Sarah Shelton brought 300 acres of Rural Plains lands to her marriage with Patrick Henry in 1754. Their so-called "Honeymoon Cottage" still stands about a mile from the Rural Plains House.

MOYSONEC SITE, NEW KENT COUNTY: As one of a small number of identifiable Chickahominy Indian villages visited by the Virginia colonists in 1606, Moysonec has early historical associations, and considerable archaeological potential.

BLENHEIM, WESTMORELAND COUNTY: The late-Georgian house at Blenheim was built by a nephew of George Washington as the successor to nearby Wakefield, the Washington family home that burned on Christmas Day, 1780. Blenheim is currently undergoing restoration after many years of neglect.



▲ ROSE HALL, VIRGINIA BEACH: Known historically as the Francis Land House, this large, gambrel-roofed brick dwelling house dates from the mid-eighteenth century and is one of a rapidly diminishing group of rural colonial buildings in the city of Virginia Beach.

VIRGINIA RANDOLPH COTTAGE, HENRICO COUNTY: Virginia Randolph [1874-1958] was a native Richmonder who devoted 57 years of her life to furthering black education in Henrico County. She is buried near this brick cottage museum which commemorates her life and career.

THE GLEBE HOUSE OF WESTOVER PARISH, CHARLES CITY COUNTY: Built during the tenure [1720-1757] of the Reverend Mr. Peter Fontaine as pastor of Westover Parish, the five-bay, brick glebe house remained church property through 1805.

FLOWERDEW HUNDRED, PRINCE GEORGE COUNTY: Although many particular plantations were established ca. 1618-1621 by authority of the Virginia Company, Flowerdew Hundred was one of only a handful that remained open following the Massacre of 1622. It remains one of the least-disturbed major archaeological localities in the United States containing colonial sites for the crucial decade of transition from Company to Royal Colony, as well as evidences of Indian occupation from ca. 8000 B.C. to 1644 A.D.

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METHODIST TABERNACLE, MATHEWS > COUNTY: This early-twentieth-century revival meeting facility has been preserved with its original furnishings and rural setting intact. It is a product of the era when the "protracted meetings" of American evangelical experience had become more routine and institutionalized.



JAMESTOWN EXPOSITION SITE BUILDINGS, NORFOLK: The nineteen remaining buildings of the 1907 Jamestown Exposition form a rare surviving collection of Edwardian exposition pavilions. The property was taken over by the United States Navy during World War I, and many of the buildings were imaginatively adapted for officers' residences.



MONTICELLO ARCADE, NORFOLK: Built in > 1907, the three-story, Beaux-Arts style Monticello Arcade is among the few remaining civic amenities of architectural significance in downtown Norfolk. It is one of the last examples of a commercial building form popular throughout nineteenth-century America wherein a multi-story building housed many small shops opening onto an interior skylighted court.

THIRD STREET BETHEL A.M.E. CHURCH, RICH-> MOND: The Virginia Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church was organized here in 1867. The simple Victorian Gothic building had been erected ten years earlier for the Bethel congregation.



< **MAGGIE L. WALKER HOUSE, RICHMOND:** This turn-of-the-century Victorian Gothic building in Jackson Ward, along with the Consolidated Bank and Trust Company, and a high school named in her honor, are the primary tangible reminders of Maggie Walker's achievements in banking, co-operative insurance, philanthropy, and education.



PIEDMONT Including Northern Virginia

WASHINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT, RAPPAHANNOCK COUNTY: Washington, the seat of Rappahannock County since the latter's formation in 1833, is architecturally a nineteenth-century community. The original grid plan for the town was prepared in 1749 by the young surveyor George Washington.

v **ST. JULIEN, SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY:** The two-story brick residence displays a refined composition and elegant detailing worthy of a much larger edifice. St. Julien was the plantation home of Francis Talia-



ferro Brooke, prominent political figure of early-republican Virginia and, ultimately, President of the Supreme Court of Appeals.

WEEMS-BOTTS HOUSE, PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY: Significant for its association with the names and professional activities of two prominent

Virginians, the [Parson] Weems-Botts House is a rare surviving structure from the old Potomac port town of Dumfries. Owned successively by the bibliophile Weems, Benjamin Botts, and the latter's equally prominent sons, Charles Tyler and John Minor Botts, the property is now publically owned and being restored for use as a museum.

MOUNT ATHOS, CAMPBELL COUNTY: Built ca. 1800 for William J. Lewis, Mount Athos was one of the most prominent plantation houses of the region until it burned in 1876. It remains a highly picturesque and enigmatic ruin dramatically sited on a steep ridge overlooking the James River.

QUAKER MEETING HOUSE, LYNCHBURG: Completed in 1798, near the site of its predecessors, this was the third South River Friends Meeting House. The building's significance is enhanced by the adjacent burying ground which includes the graves of John Lynch, his mother Sarah, and other Friends (or Quakers) prominently associated with the settlement of Campbell County and the founding of Lynchburg. The rubble stone structure is of a type almost universal for rural Friends meeting houses of the era.

ROKEBY, LOUDOUN COUNTY: Built during the late-colonial period for Charles Binns, Sr., first Clerk of the Circuit Court of Loudoun County, Rokeby is a distinguished example of Georgian architecture. The cellar is of particular interest in that its brick vault may have housed the Declaration of Independence and related documents during the British occupation of Washington in the summer of 1814.

SOUTHSIDE

WALLACE HOUSE, PETERSBURG: Built in the Italianate style on what was then Petersburg's most fashionable residential street, for Thomas Wallace, a prosperous merchant and lawyer of the late-ante-bellum era, the Wallace House served briefly as headquarters for Ulysses S. Grant who conferred here with President Lincoln on April 3, 1865.



TRABUE'S TAVERN, CHESTERFIELD COUNTY: The Trabues were among the principal coal-mine proprietors in the Midlothian area and maintained at their home a tavern that was patronized both by travelers along the Buckingham Road and workers from the mines in the vicinity. The property retains a significant portion of the core of the old plantation, including four early-nineteenth century outbuildings and the family cemetery.

RICHMOND VIEW, CHESTERFIELD COUNTY: The dwelling house at Richmond View has a center-chimney plan extremely rare for its time in Virginia. The property, part of an early-seventeenth century land grant, was sold ca. 1804-1805 to Dr. William Tazewell and the house built soon thereafter.

< **NORWOOD, POWHATAN COUNTY:** The focal point of Norwood Plantation is its stately dwelling house, a two-story brick structure surrounded by an informally landscaped park. The main house was built in the late-eighteenth century and considerably enlarged and remodeled in 1835.

MOUNTAIN AND VALLEY

ORKNEY SPRINGS HOTEL, SHENANDOAH COUNTY: Orkney Springs, at the base of the Alleghany Mountains, was numbered among the Commonwealth's most famous mineral spas during the 1870s and 1880s. Although "the waters" at Orkney had long been renowned for their revivifying qualities, the spa itself was one of the last of the famous mineral resorts to be commercially developed.

MEEMS BOTTOM BRIDGE, SHENANDOAH COUNTY: This 204-foot single-span Burr Truss covered bridge survives in a good state of repair and is used daily by local traffic. Erected 1893-1894, the bridge is supported by massive stone abutments which extend a full ten feet below the bed of the river. The rectangular-cut limestone blocks were quarried locally, and the bridge's timbers cut and fashioned at the nearby farm of General G. S. Meems.

PHOENIX BRIDGE, BOTETOURT COUNTY: The Phoenix Bridge Company was a major prefabricator of wrought-iron bridges such as this one across Craig Creek in the scenic vicinity of Eagle Rock. As with similar structures placed throughout rural America during the years following the Civil War, the fanciful decorative elements of this bridge are notable.

NEWBERN HISTORIC DISTRICT, PULASKI COUNTY: Now a quiet residential community picturesquely sited among rolling fields, Newbern retains the linear form of an early-nineteenth-century turnpike town. Many of the remaining buildings date from the period 1839-1895 when Newbern was the seat of Pulaski County. The courthouse itself was destroyed by fire in 1893.

THORN HILL, ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY: The Flemish-bond brick residence at Thorn Hill, a high ridge to the south of Lexington, was built ca. 1792 for Col. John Bowyer. The property commands a sweeping view of the Valley.



▲ BACK CREEK FARM, PULASKI COUNTY: Joseph Cloyd established his residence here after the Revolution and the farm remained in the family until 1930. The fine early-republican dwelling house is accompanied by a notable collection of early out-buildings, including a stone and timber barn.

Gazette

May 12 to May 18, 1975 was NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION WEEK and, by proclamation of Mayor Thomas J. Bliley, Jr., Historic Preservation Week in Richmond. Among the highlights of the week in Richmond was Dr. William J. Murtagh's appearance as guest speaker at the luncheon sponsored by the Commonwealth Council. Dr. Murtagh, Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places spoke of the goals and achievements of the preservation community over the past decade.

For the second summer, the City of Petersburg is undertaking an inventory of architecturally and historically significant structures in its downtown area with the goal of completing this survey by autumn. Mr. Jeffrey Marshall O'Dell, assisted by Mr. Reid Reams, is conducting this study with the guidance of VHLC staff.

Under the leadership of Mr. Ronald E. Shibley, Director of Historic Fredericksburg Foundation, Inc., a group of historic preservation professionals from

across the state have been meeting informally to share information and discuss mutual problems and solutions in the preservation field. Subjects for discussion have included the need for new legislation and the dissemination of proper preservation techniques. Those persons interested in this worthwhile venture may contact Mr. Shibley at P. O. Box 162, Fredericksburg, Virginia 22401.

VHLC Assistant Director Tucker H. Hill spoke to the Society of Colonial Wars in the Commonwealth of Virginia on the occasion of their annual meeting on May 14, 1975 in Richmond. Mr. Hill was also the guest speaker at the newly formed Brunswick County Historical Society on May 22nd.

During the past-several months, VHLC Architectural Historian Calder Loth has delivered lectures before the Sarah Winston Henry Branch of the APVA in Lynchburg, architectural students at the University of Virginia, and a conference of State Preservation Officers at Washington.

IN MEMORIAM

STANLEY W. ABBOTT

STANLEY W. ABBOTT OF WILLIAMSBURG, AN ORIGINAL MEMBER OF THE VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION, DIED ON MAY 23, 1975. MR. ABBOTT WAS A LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT WHOSE PROFESSIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMONWEALTH RANGE IN TIME AND PLACE FROM ASSISTING IN THE DESIGN OF THE BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY THROUGH DESIGN OF THE JAMES RIVER PARK IN RICHMOND TO NUMEROUS PROJECTS BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE IN THE WILLIAMSBURG-JAMESTOWN-YORKTOWN AREA.

AS A MEMBER OF THE VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION DURING ITS FORMATIVE PERIOD, AND AS ITS CHAIRMAN IN 1972-1973, STANLEY ABBOTT WAS A MAJOR FACTOR IN THE SUCCESSES OF THE COMMISSION AND OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION GENERALLY IN THE COMMONWEALTH. AT ALL TIMES DURING HIS TENURE, 1966-1975, MR. ABBOTT WAS GENEROUS AND GRACIOUS IN CONTRIBUTING HIS TIME AND TALENT IN SUPPORT OF THE COMMISSION'S STAFF.

During a 32-year long career with the National Park Service, Stanley W. Abbott served as acting superintendent of the Blue Ridge Parkway and as superintendent for the Colonial National Park at Yorktown. He also helped to organize the 1957 Jamestown celebration. Following his retirement from the Park Service he undertook the private practice of landscape design, restoration, and counseling.

He was a Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects, a trustee for the Jamestown Foundation and a member of the board of the Jamestown Corporation. He was also a member of the Jamestown Committee of the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities. For twelve years he served as president of the Yorktown Day Association.

He received the Department of the Interior's Distinguished Service Award and a citation from the Virginia Chapter of American Institute of Architects for his contribution to conservation and development in the Commonwealth. "Distinguished Service to the conservation and development of the Commonwealth" was the sum of his three careers—with the National Park Service, in private practice, and as a member of the VHLC.

Brickwork Restoration

Calder Loth
Architectural Historian

The VHLC wishes to caution all owners of historic properties against sandblasting old brickwork for cleaning or paint removal. Sandblasting is a destructive process and should not be used on old buildings *UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES*. Old handmade bricks are not as thoroughly burned as modern bricks; they have a hard outer crust but a relatively soft interior. When subjected to sand blasting the outer crust is removed leaving the interior to deteriorate through erosion and frost action. Sand-

blasting also leaves the surface of the bricks deeply pitted, thus disfiguring the building's appearance. Sandblasting damages or destroys original mortar joints causing considerable loss to the building's architectural integrity. Brickwork that has been sandblasted usually requires complete repointing (a needless expense), and unless care is taken to match the original mortar joints in color, size, and shape the building's original character can be severely altered.

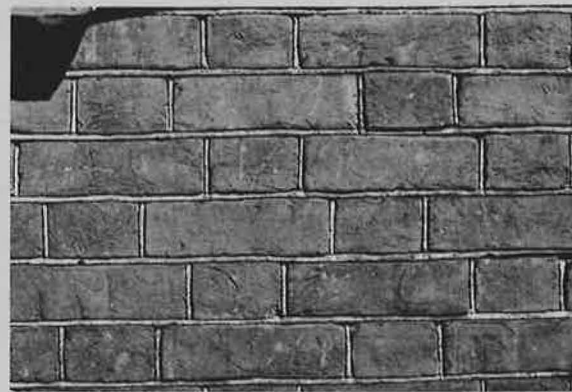


Early-nineteenth-century brickwork that has been sandblasted and repointed with no care taken to match the original joints.



Early-nineteenth-century brickwork that has been sandblasted, after approximately ten years of weathering.

Before deciding to remove paint it is suggested that owners ask themselves if the paint really seriously detracts from the building's appearance. Many brick buildings were painted originally (usually red with the mortar joints painted white), or have been painted longer than not. Painting brickwork is a very old tradition in Virginia, thus removing paint does not always mean returning a building's historic character. If paint must be removed it should be done chemically by an experienced firm. The VHLC will be pleased to advise in cases where landmark owners have questions about paint removal. Sandblasting has its uses but never on old brickwork.



Early-nineteenth-century brickwork that has had paint removed by chemical process with no ill effects on the bricks or original mortar joints.

Notes on Landmarks

By the terms of the will of the late J. Winston Johns, prominent Virginia preservationist, ASH LAWN, Albemarle County, has been left to the College of William and Mary. Known as Highland when it was the home of James Monroe, the property is to undergo a general renovation and be reopened with special interpretative programs.

BLENHEIM, Westmoreland County (See p. 7) is being restored by its owner Lawrence Washington Latane. The late-Georgian brick house stood neglected for several decades.

Richmond City Council has extended historic district zoning to the following registered landmarks: The Belgian Building, the Bolling Haxall House, the Coalter Cabell House, the Hancock-Wirt-Caskie House, the Leigh Street Baptist Church, the Mayo Memorial House, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church, and the Second Presbyterian Church.

CASERTA, Northampton County, an important example of Eastern Shore plantation architecture for many years owned by the Upshur family, was recently struck by lightning and destroyed by resulting fire.

The new owners of the JOHN K. BEERY FARM, Rockingham County have begun restoration of the long-abandoned house and outbuildings. Built by a Mennonite family the complex forms a remarkably complete farmstead in the vernacular style of the Valley.

The new interpretive center at KENMORE, Fredericksburg, was dedicated May 7; Senator Harry F. Byrd, Jr. was guest speaker. The building was designed by Milton Grigg, F.A.I.A.

LOCUST GROVE, the Peter Francisco home in Buckingham County is in the initial phases of a restoration program planned by the Society of Descendants of Peter Francisco. J. Everett Fauber F.A.I.A. has recently completed drawings of the house, which has stood in nearly ruinous condition for many years.

Restoration of the extensive Japanese gardens at MAYMONT, Richmond, has commenced. The former Dooley estate, now a public park, will undergo complete renovation over the next two years under the

direction of the Maymont Foundation.

Ground has been broken for the museum wing of the MUSEUM OF THE CONFEDERACY, Richmond. Following completion of the wing, the former Confederate executive mansion will be restored as a residence of the time of Jefferson Davis.

The new roofing of the Holloway House, Caroline County is complete. This project was funded in part by a grant from the Department of the Interior. The Holloway House, noted for the folk murals on its library walls, is an integral part of the PORT ROYAL HISTORIC DISTRICT.

SHERWOOD FOREST, the Charles City County home of John Tyler, has been acquired by Harrison Ruffin Tyler. Mr. Tyler, a grandson of the president, and his wife plan a complete restoration of the house and grounds prior to reopening the property to the public in 1976.

The Historic Norfolk Foundation is completing restoration for adaptive use of the TAYLOR-WHITTLE HOUSE, Norfolk. The townhouse is one of Virginia's outstanding examples of Federal-style architecture.

Restoration of the WEEMS-BOTTS HOUSE (see page 9), Dumfries, is progressing under the direction of Historic Dumfries, Virginia, Inc.

Restoration of the WISHART HOUSE, Virginia Beach, is nearing completion. A property of the A.P.V.A., the brick dwelling is a notable example of a pre-Georgian vernacular farmhouse.

THE 2900 BLOCK GROVE AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT, Richmond, is the proposed site for the construction of a high-rise apartment project to be developed by means of state and federal subsidies. The project would be built directly across the street from the Confederate Memorial Chapel, another Registered Virginia Landmark and National Register Property, and within a block of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts.

The late-eighteenth century frame WOODWARD HOUSE is being studied for use as a Bicentennial center for Richmond. The structure was recently spared from demolition in a project of the Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority.

Study and Preservation of Historic Gardens and Landscapes

The Chapter for LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE AND THE ALLIED ARTS is a recently formed affiliate of the Society of Architectural Historians and of the Garden History Society of Great Britain. The chapter was established to provide a forum for persons interested in horticultural or landscape history and architecture. Its specific goals include research and publication of materials relevant to the study and preservation of historic gardens and landscapes.

Semi-annual meetings will be scheduled to coincide with the programs of the Society of Architectural Historians and related groups, such as the Association for Preservation Technology and the Victorian Society. Enquiries should be addressed to:

Julia F. Davis, Research Associate
Colonial Williamsburg Foundation
Drawer C, Williamsburg, Va. 23185

The Last Train From Richmond-1975

PART II

The imminent closing of Broad and Main Street Stations in Richmond (see *Notes on Virginia*, No. 11) may be interpreted as the grand finale of a process that began ten or more years ago throughout Virginia and the nation. Buildings of every description that had served the needs of train passengers and personnel were abandoned as that service was contracted. Many similar structures fared better, being adapted for alternate use by the railway companies or others with an interest in the affected community.

The VHLC encourages the preservation of photographs and other historic materials relating to rail passenger service in the rural as well as urban areas of the Commonwealth. Persons with such documents should take steps to ensure that these will be available in the future for use by historians and others. We invite submission of such materials -- whether originals, copies, or to-be-copied-for addition to the VHLC archives.

A Knell For The Belle Broad Street Station - 1975

An application is pending before the ICC for the proposed "abandonment of all of the line of railroad of Richmond Terminal Railway Company, and the operations thereover. All of the operations of this Company are in Richmond, Virginia, in the vicinity of Broad Street Station. . . . The reason for this proposed abandonment are [sic] that Broad Street Station is currently used solely by passenger trains of National Railroad Passenger Corporation which is currently constructing a new station several miles to the north at a location on RF&P, and expects to occupy that station approximately November 1, 1975. The Terminal Company property is not used for any other purpose and includes about 63 acres of land. It is desirable to put this property to some other use. . . ."

The Mountaineer

A grand old train, with a brand new name, has commenced service south of the James, breathing some life into a few old Southside stations. Although most of the Byrds would have been comfortable with the "Pocahontas," or the "Powhatan Arrow"; Senator Robert Byrd of West Virginia, having arranged for the service, appears to have had a hand in the renaming also.



1



2



3

Photos

- Piedmont passenger stations... and attendant structure
 1 Dinwiddie Court House
 2 Cullen, Charlotte County
 3 Columbia, Fluvanna County



4



5

Photos

- 4 Doswell Station Freight Building, Hanover County
 5 Cars may be interchanged at Doswell (old Hanover Junction), but not at the point illustrated, where the C&O and the RF & P tracks cross.



6



7

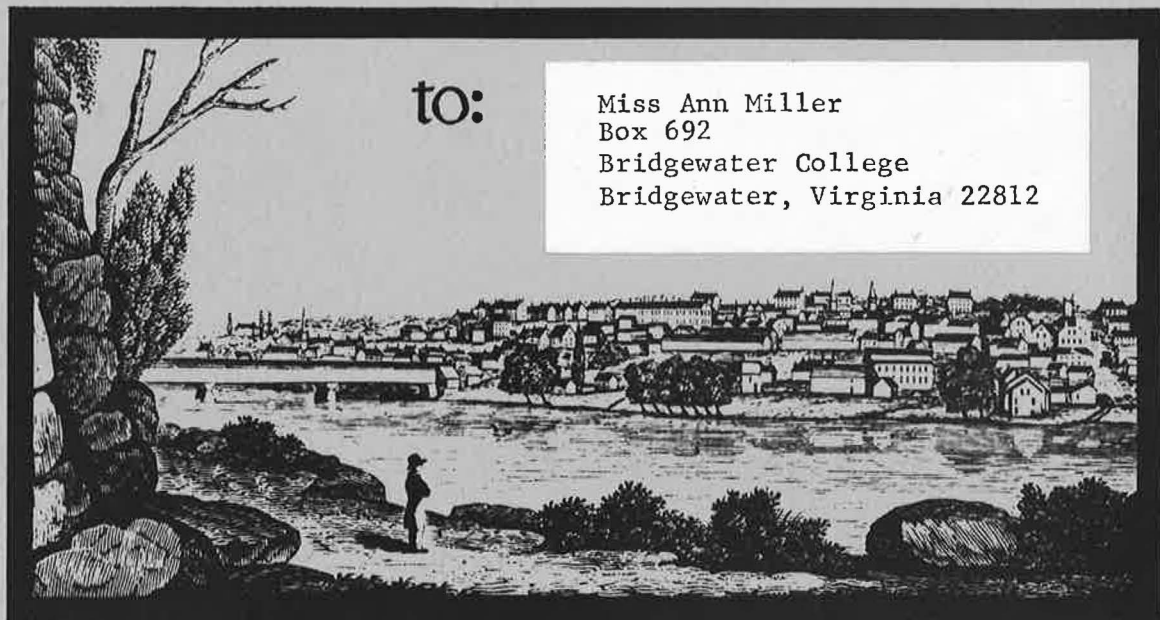
Photos

- 6 Railroad YMCA, Crewe, Nottoway County
 Similar facilities exist or existed at most railroad divisional interchanges. Operating personnel could rest here preparatory to their return trip.
 7 "Between Trains" at Farmville



Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
Morson's Row
221 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

THIRD CLASS MAIL




Miss Ann Miller
Box 692
Bridgewater College
Bridgewater, Virginia 22812

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Morson's Row
221 Governor Street
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(All photos by VHLC staff, except where noted)

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