

Notes on Virginia

NUMBER 18

SPRING 1979

PUBLISHED BY THE VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION



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PUBLISHED BY THE
VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

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Cover: Westover

VIRGINIA LANDMARKS REGISTER

The VHLC is pleased to note the following additions made to the Virginia Landmarks Register during the summer and fall of 1978. The Register was established by the General Assembly in 1966 as a vehicle for identifying and encouraging appreciation of buildings, structures, districts, and sites of architectural, historical, or archaeological significance throughout the Commonwealth.

A cloth-bound copy of the *Virginia Landmarks Register* is available for \$8.95 (plus Virginia sales tax) from the printer, the Dietz Press, 109 E. Cary Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219. This volume contains brief statements on each of approximately six hundred properties included in the Register and is profusely illustrated.



Hewick, Middlesex County

Tidewater & Eastern Shore

AGECROFT, RICHMOND: Set amid landscaped grounds and gardens above the James River in the Windsor Farms residential district, Agecroft is a striking Tudor mansion significant both as a work of architecture and a product of the social and aesthetic ideals of the 1920s. The house is constructed primarily of fragments of Agecroft Hall, a post-medieval manor house which formerly stood in England. Completed in 1928, Agecroft was the home of Thomas C. Williams, a Richmond businessman, who was the developer of Windsor Farms, an exclusive residential neighborhood of the city's west end.

BEWDLEY, KING AND QUEEN COUNTY: Bewdley is an imposing L-shaped brick plantation house begun for Obadiah Marriott in the third quarter of the 18th century. Located on the banks of the Mattaponi River, the house is a typically formal expression of the Georgian style. The ruin of Marriott's estate in the wake of

Speaker John Robinson's scandal of 1766 resulted in Bewdley's being left unfinished until the early 19th century.

CLOVER LEA, HANOVER COUNTY: With its spacious grounds of broad lawns and old trees, Clover Lea presents an idealized picture of an antebellum plantation residence. Although not large compared to the Greek Revival houses of the deep South, it has, with its tall portico, high-ceiling rooms, and handsome woodwork, the stately air inherent in the Grecian mode. Erected in 1845-1846 by George Washington Bassett, representative of the fifth generation of the Bassett family in Virginia, the place remained in the family until the end of the century.

HEWICK, MIDDLESEX COUNTY: Hewick was the seat of the Robinsons, an important family in Virginia's political history for most of the Colonial period. The original 18th-century dwelling survives but



Agecroft Hall, Richmond



Clover Lea, Hanover County



Bewdley, King and Queen County

has been much remodeled. The resulting structure is interesting for illustrating the changing tastes in house forms in the early 19th century. The treelined avenue leading to the house gives the property a special aura of antiquity.

REVEILLE, RICHMOND: This picturesque early 19th-century, Federal-style country residence was built for the Southalls on land purchased by the family in 1750. This large tract has since been incorporated into the city and is a fashionable but densely developed residential area. Reveille is situated on Cary Street Road behind Reveille Methodist Church and houses the administrative offices of the church.

ROSELAND MANOR, HAMPTON: Located amid handsomely landscaped grounds along the shore of Hampton Roads, Roseland Manor is a salient example of the Queen Anne Style in its most impressive form. The house was built for the Phoebus family in 1886-87 after the designs of Arthur Crooks. Because of the economic depression in Virginia following the Civil War, houses of such scale and ostentation of this period are rare in the state.

WILTON, MIDDLESEX COUNTY: Built in 1763 by William Churchill, Wilton is one of the finest and least-altered of the late-Colonial plantation houses of Tidewater Virginia. Notable features of the house include its T-plan, fine brickwork, and fully paneled parlor. The Churchills were prominent in Middlesex County politics and were ancestors of Winston Churchill.

Piedmont & Northern Virginia

ANDERSON-FOSTER HOUSE, LOUISA COUNTY: This simple wooden dwelling survives as a well-preserved example of the middle-class vernacular houses of central Virginia. Although built in 1856, the house employs traditional architectural forms and details characteristic of Virginia houses since the 18th century. Its first occupant was a rural physician.

BELNEMUS, POWHATAN COUNTY: Belnemus was built before 1799 by James Clarke, and remodeled in the early twentieth century. The three-part "Palladian" plan, unusual roof, and elaborate interior woodwork give the plantation house outstanding architectural significance. There are numerous early outbuildings, most notably a rare mid-19th-century tobacco barn.



Reveille, Richmond



Wilton, Middlesex County



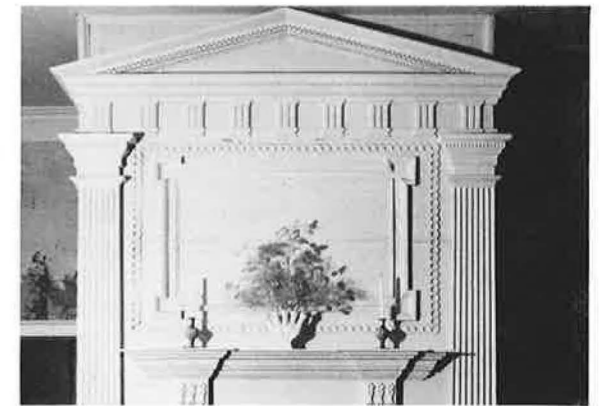
Roseland Manor, Hampton



4 Wilton, Middlesex County



Anderson-Foster House, Louisa County



Belnemus, Hall Chimneypiece, Powhatan County



Belnemus, Powhatan County

ELK HILL, GOOCHLAND COUNTY: Built by Randolph Harrison in two stages, 1835 and 1839, Elk Hill is a distinguished example of Greek Revival country houses. Built of brick rendered with scored stucco, the dwelling is situated on lands, once owned by Thomas and Martha Jefferson, overlooking the upper James River.

HILLSBORO HISTORIC DISTRICT, LOUDOUN COUNTY: This scenically located community grew in a linear fashion along a minor trade artery connecting Leesburg with Charles Town, now in West Virginia, during the early 19th century. Its residents provided economic and social services to farmers of the vicinity and the town retains a rural character. Hillsboro has many two-story, gable-roof, stone residences, illustrating the influence of Pennsylvania vernacular building types on Northern Virginia. Victorian porch and bay window additions indicate that residents remained current with architectural styles popular in urban areas.



Elk Hill, Goochland County

HUNTINGDON, CLARKE COUNTY: Located amid rolling pasture land, this commodious, well-proportioned, but architecturally unassertive stone farmhouse was erected in 1830 by John Evelyn Page, third son of John Page and Maria Horsemanden Byrd who moved to the area in 1784 during the generation-long migration by members of leading Tidewater families to lands held in Northern Virginia. Both the original five-bay house and the single-pile ell added ca. 1850 remain virtually unaltered from the time of their construction.

MIDWAY, ALBEMARLE COUNTY: Midway is a rambling farmhouse exhibiting many features characteristic of the region's early 19th-century vernacular architecture. Dominated by a long, two-story gallery, the picturesque structure is nestled in the rolling hills of the western part of the county, with the Blue Ridge Mountains forming a scenic backdrop. Originally part of a grant from George II to John Rodes, the property long remained the seat of this prominent landed county family.



Huntingdon, Clarke County



Hillsboro Historic District, Loudoun County



6 Midway, Albemarle County

MOOR GREEN, PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY: A familiar landmark of rural Prince William County, Moor Green was erected shortly before 1820 by the Hooe family. In addition to its handsome brickwork and sophisticated interior decoration, the house is distinguished by its banded American-bond side and rear walls and its flounder-roofed rear ell. These features as well as the floor plan with its separate stair for the second-floor ell room, relate the house more closely to the architecture of the Middle Atlantic States than with Tidewater Virginia.

PATOWMACK CANAL AT GREAT FALLS HISTORIC DISTRICT, FAIRFAX COUNTY: The Patowmack Company was organized in 1785 to make the Potomac River navigable for trade from Georgetown to Harper's Ferry, as part of an effort by Maryland and Virginia to bring western trade to the Chesapeake region. The canal, one of the earliest in the country to have locks, was innovative from an engineering standpoint. George Washington, a prime mover in Potomac River improvements projects, served as the company's first presi-



Moor Green, Prince William County

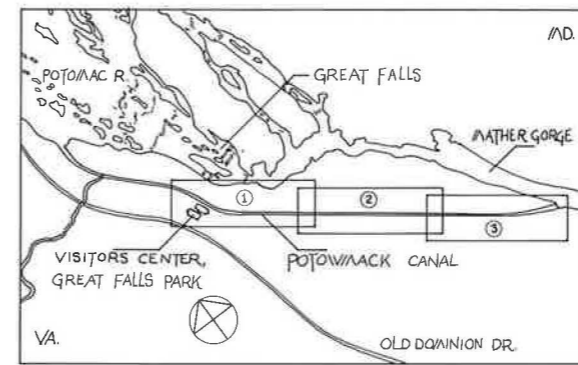
dent. The district contains numerous archaeological sites relating to the now-vanished village of Matildaville which sprang up at Great Falls.

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY IN VIRGINIA, ALEXANDRIA: Located on a hill overlooking the Potomac River, the Protestant Episcopal Seminary is one of the oldest and noblest institutions for the education of priests in the ministry of the American Episcopal Church. Set on a well-landscaped campus, the buildings of the seminary stand as a tribute to the talents of their architects and to the architectural taste of the Episcopal Church during the course of their erection in the 19th century. The focal point of the complex, Aspinwall Hall, is an outstanding work of the antebellum architect Norris Starkweather.

SOMERSET CHRISTIAN CHURCH, ORANGE COUNTY: Located off historic and scenic Route 20, this Italianate style structure has survived in an unaltered state of preservation from its construction in the 1850s. The structure differs from other area



Theological Seminary in Virginia, Alexandria



Patowmack Canal, Fairfax County



7 Somerset Christian Church, Orange County

churches both in its size and stylistic departure from the more conventional Gothic and Greek Revival ecclesiastical architecture of the period.

WAVERLEY, FAUQUIER COUNTY: Waverley, an architectural landmark on the scenic road between Middleburg and The Plains, is protected by historic and scenic easements. The structure, evolving from an 18th-century stone cottage, significantly enlarged and embellished during antebellum times, reflects changing architectural modes of the region as well as the changing tastes and needs of its occupants. The house was restored in the 1940s by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Furness who employed the fashionable Chicago architect David Adler to direct the work.

WILLOW GROVE, ORANGE COUNTY: Built in the late 18th century for Joseph Clark, the original frame residence at Willow Grove was substantially enlarged in 1848 by the addition of a brick wing and monumental Tuscan portico. The resulting structure stands as an impressive example of the influence of Thomas Jefferson's Classical Revival style on the country homes of Piedmont Virginia. The visual quality of the house is enhanced by its scenic pastoral setting.



Willow Grove, Orange County



Waverley, Fauquier County

Southside Virginia

BEECHWOOD, SOUTHAMPTON COUNTY: In recent years the home of former Governor Colgate W. Darden, Beechwood was long associated with the Denson-Pretlow family. This rambling, two-story frame structure illustrates many aspects of the architectural history of southeastern Virginia in its complicated structural evolution and handsome decoration.

CITY POINT HISTORIC DISTRICT, HOPEWELL: Historically significant as one of the oldest continuously occupied settlements in America, this site at the confluence of the Appomattox and James Rivers became an important late-Colonial-era port. General Grant made his military headquarters here, at Appomattox Manor, for ten crucial months of the Civil War. During the First World War, City Point was a war-supplies boom town. The neighborhood contains buildings dating from the late 18th century through the early 20th century.

DAN'S HILL, PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY: Situated in a densely wooded area north of the Dan River, Dan's Hill includes a well-preserved plantation complex. The residence is a handsome example of Southside Virginia's Federal-style architecture, with notable brickwork and interior appointments. Built by the Wilson family during the second decade of the 19th century, the house bears a strong stylistic resemblance to the work of James DeJarnett, a Pittsylvania County builder of the era.

GLENNMARY, HALIFAX COUNTY: Although located on the Glenn family's spacious Dan River estate, Glennmary erected 1837-40, resembles in its facade and plan the more urbane Greek Revival townhouses of contemporary Richmond and Petersburg. The master mason, Dabney Cosby built Glennmary and other fine residences in southern Virginia following his prolonged apprenticeship with Thomas Jefferson during construction of the University of Virginia.



Beechwood, Southampton County



Dan's Hill, Pittsylvania County



Porter House, City Point Historic District, Hopewell



Glennmary, Halifax County



Old Merchants and Farmers Bank Building, Emporia



Redfield, Halifax County



Penn-Wyatt House, Danville



Tarover, Halifax County

OLD MERCHANTS AND FARMERS BANK BUILDING, EMPORIA: The Old Merchants and Farmers Bank Building, completed in 1902, is a miniature version of the imposing commercial structures that gave turn-of-the-century America's main streets such visually delightful ostentation. Even such a diminutive structure could project a sense of monumentality through the use of a mansard roof and a richly-ornamented sheet-metal cornice.

PENN-WYATT HOUSE, DANVILLE: Located within the Danville Historic District, perhaps the finest and most concentrated collection of Victorian and Edwardian residential architecture in Virginia, the Penn-Wyatt House is an especially notable example of the great mansions built along Main Street during the city's postbellum tobacco and textile boom. James Gabriel Penn, the builder of the house, came to Danville in 1868 and established himself as a tobacco-commission merchant.

REDFIELD, HALIFAX COUNTY: Redfield is a dignified Classical Villa-style residence combining architectural elements from both the Greek Revival and the Italianate. The formal design conveys a sense of both grandeur and dignity. The formality is carried to the interior which boasts a monumental central stair. The house was erected in the years 1855-57 and originally served as the home of the prosperous planter John R. Edmunds.

TAROVER, HALIFAX COUNTY: Situated along River Road in the rolling hills of Halifax County, Tarover is a Gothic Revival villa built in 1855-56 for Thomas Bruce. The house was most probably designed by the architect John E. Johnson who designed Staunton Hill, a Gothic-style house built for another member of the Bruce family. Tarover is ranked among Virginia's outstanding examples of Romantic Revival architecture.



Chapel Hill, Augusta County

Mountain & Valley

BURKE'S GARDEN CENTRAL CHURCH AND CEMETERY, TAZEWELL COUNTY: The late-18th century migration by Germans to Southwest Virginia advanced as far as the vicinity of Burke's Garden, a picturesque bowl-like valley atop Garden Mountain, where Central Church and cemetery developed in the 1820s. The cemetery is of particular historical interest, as it contains a collection of Germanic gravestones carved in the 1820s and 1830s. Some of the early 20th-century stones continue this tradition of handcraftsmanship.

CHAPEL HILL, AUGUSTA COUNTY: Built around 1834 for John Knight Churchman, Chapel Hill is an interesting combination of vernacular and academic architectural motifs. This blending of architectural traditions is typical of Shenandoah Valley farmhouses and gives them a charm otherwise lacking in stylistically purer works. Interesting features of the house include its fine brickwork, its original interior wood graining and marbleizing, and the rare and exceptionally well-preserved French scenic wallpaper in the parlor.



11 German Headstone, Burke's Garden, Tazewell County

OLD CHRISTIANSBURG INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE, MONTGOMERY COUNTY: The Old Christiansburg Industrial Institute (Hill School) and the Schaeffer Memorial Baptist Church stand as prime monuments in the social, educational and religious history of the black community of Montgomery County. Through the early efforts of Capt. Charles S. Schaeffer, formal instruction was begun for blacks in 1866—incidentally, several years before the public school system served the county at large. Technical, academic, and religious training were emphasized during Schaeffer's thirty-year affiliation. In 1895 the program was revamped in line with those pioneered at Tuskegee and Hampton.

OLD COURT HOUSE, BUENA VISTA: The period 1889-1891 witnessed a tremendous land boom in the central part of Virginia's Shenandoah Valley, a phenomenon contributing to the establishment of several new towns including Buena Vista. Erected in 1890, at the height of the "boom," the Old Court House originally served as the land office for the company that developed the

town. An interesting example of late Victorian public architecture, it later became the town's courthouse, and it is now the public library.

GLEN MAURY, ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY: Glen Maury is situated just outside of the western border of the city of Buena Vista. Built in 1830-31 on a tract of land which Elisha Paxton acquired from the heirs of William Paxton, the house is a significant and well-preserved example of late-Federal architecture as built in the Shenandoah Valley. Certain architectural features found on the house are suggestive of the work of Valley builders John Jordan of Lexington or Samuel Darst.

KENNEDY-WADE MILL, ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY: Probably built early in the 19th century and rebuilt in 1873, the Kennedy-Wade Mill is Rockbridge County's most complete operable grist mill. The building is a reminder of an industry which was once vital to the grain-growing agrarian economy of the Shenandoah Valley. Preserved in the picturesque structure is an interesting collection of mill machinery.

LEXINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, LEXINGTON: The Lexington Presbyterian Church is a monumental, temple-form structure of stuccoed brick with wooden detailing, located at the corner of Main and Nelson Streets in Lexington. Erected in 1843 for the Lexington Presbyterian congregation, the church is a distinguished example of Greek Revival ecclesiastical architecture. Designed by one of the foremost 19th-century American architects, Thomas U. Walter, the church is one of his finer Virginia works which include the Tabb Street Presbyterian Church in Petersburg and the First Baptist Church in Richmond.

MILLER-KITE HOUSE, ROCKINGHAM COUNTY: This substantial L-plan, brick house was erected in 1827 for Henry Miller, Jr., direct descendant of the earliest known European settler west of the Blue Ridge. Built by Samuel Gibbons in 1827, the handsome brickwork, frontispiece doorway, and German-influenced interior woodwork are outstanding features. General Jackson is believed to have used the house as headquarters during his Valley Campaign.

PORT REPUBLIC HISTORIC DISTRICT, ROCKINGHAM COUNTY: This small, grid-plan town in eastern Rockingham County was founded in 1802 and was once a booming river port. It served as the shipping point for the agricultural and industrial products of the upper Shenandoah Valley. Through the town's collection of buildings one can trace the history of the community's growth to its decline in the early 20th century. Port Republic also gave its name to an important Civil War battle fought in the countryside just to the north.

SHARON LUTHERAN CHURCH AND CEMETERY, BLAND COUNTY: This complex descends from the large-scale German settlement of Wythe County and more specifically from a union church established here in 1821. The cemetery contains a significant number of Germanic gravestones, documenting the rich material folk culture of the settlers. The present church structure dates from ca. 1883 and retains a handsome, little-altered, Eastlake-style interior.



Old Christiansburg Industrial Institute, Montgomery County



Glen Maury, Rockbridge County



Lexington Presbyterian Church, Lexington



Dundore House, Port Republic, Rockingham County



Old Court House, Buena Vista



12 Kennedy-Wade Mill, Rockbridge County



Miller-Kite House, Elkton, Rockingham County



13 Sharon Lutheran Church and Cemetery, Bland County



Stone House, Rockbridge County



Snapp House, Shenandoah County



Sites House, Rockingham County



Joshua Wilton House, Harrisonburg

STONE HOUSE, ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY: Situated on the outskirts of Lexington, Stone House is a characteristic example of the early formal architecture of the region. Built for politically successful Zachariah Johnston in 1797, the house reflects the talents of its builder, John Spear and prosperity of its owner.

SITES HOUSE, ROCKINGHAM COUNTY: This is one of the most elaborate and best preserved of the few surviving, large central-chimney farmhouses of a style brought to Virginia by settlers of Central European origins. Built ca. 1800 by Christian Sites the property was owned by the Kline family from 1870 to 1976. The stone house preserves its German-style three-room plan and most of the original woodwork.

SNAPP HOUSE, SHENANDOAH COUNTY: This late 18th-century frame farmhouse is a rare surviving example of the Continental central-chimney dwellings built by German-speaking settlers in the Shenandoah Valley. The Germanic tradition is evident in such features as the hillside setting, four-room or *Kreuzhaus* plan, and complex roof framing. An early 19th-century stone wing and the remains of a springhouse/kitchen add to the picture of early German-American life in the Valley.

JOSHUA WILTON HOUSE, HARRISONBURG: Conspicuously located on Harrisonburg's South Main Street the Wilton House ranks among the Valley's more notable examples of Victorian domestic architecture. Erected by Joshua Wilton a local merchant, in 1890, the house illustrates how such late 19th-century houses lent prestige to their owners while providing embellishment to the town.



Zion Cemetery, Wythe County

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH CEMETERY, WYTHER COUNTY: Forty-two hand-carved gravestones at Zion Lutheran Church date from the 1830s. Their distinctive shapes and ornamentation make them excellent examples of the cultural traditions of the German settlers of far Southwest Virginia. Many of the motifs are similar to those on other German gravestones in the region.



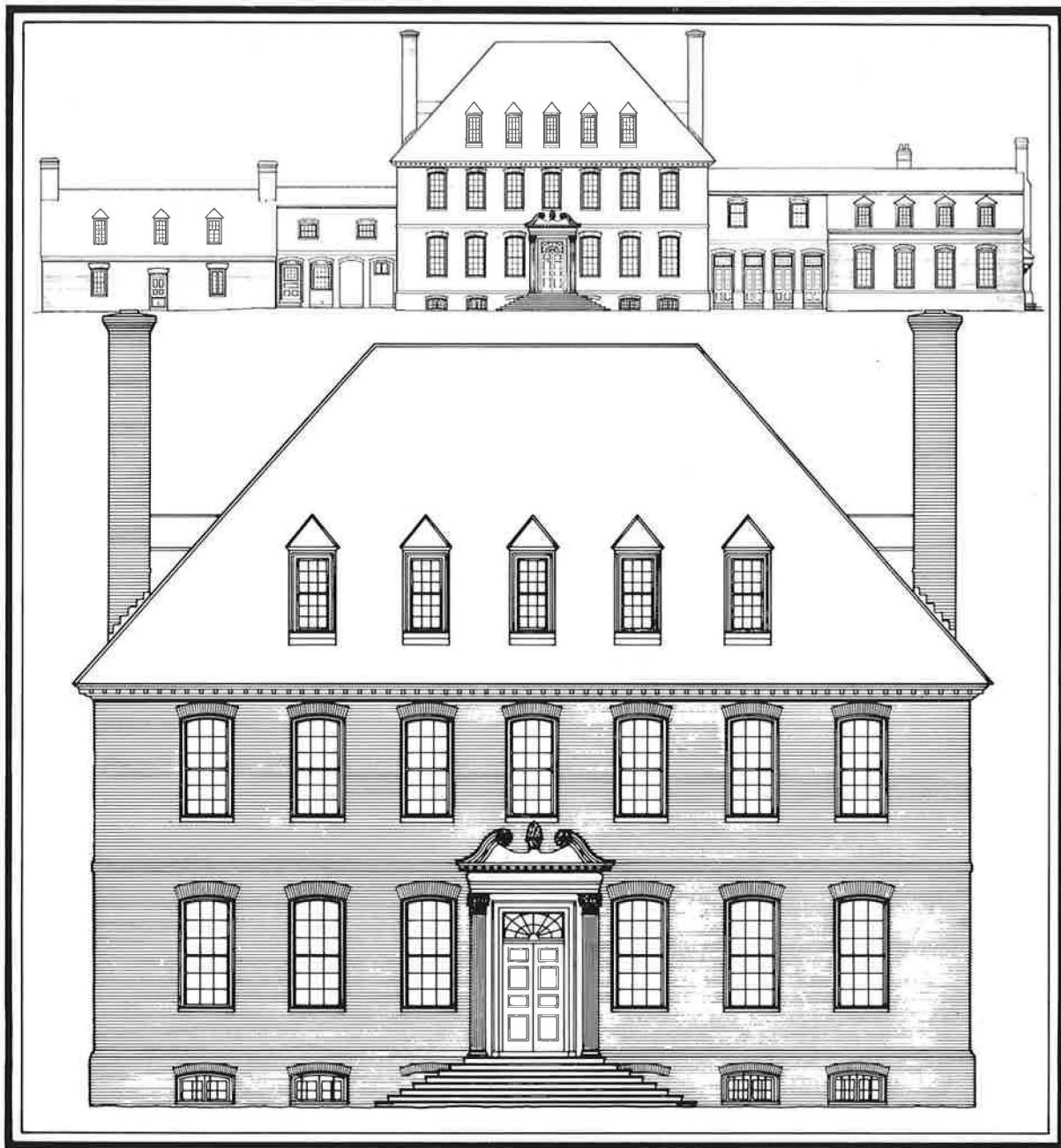
Farmer's Delight, Loudoun County

Easements Granted To The VHLC

An easement guaranteeing the permanent preservation of Farmer's Delight, the Loudoun County estate of Ambassador George C. McGhee, was accepted jointly by the VHLC and the Virginia Outdoors Foundation in November. Farmer's Delight is listed on both the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register. Under the terms of the easement the ca. 1800 brick house and nearly 150 acres of scenic farmland will be preserved against adverse change.

The Commission has also been given an easement on Waverley, the residence of Mrs. Thomas Furness near Middleburg. The house was added to the Virginia Landmarks Register in mid-1978 and is described in more detail in the Register section of *Notes*. An easement on Waverley's farmlands and vineyard was previously accepted by the Virginia Outdoors Foundation.

Additional information on the Commission's easement program and its benefits for owners of historic properties can be obtained by writing to the attention of Calder Loth, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, 221 Governor Street, Richmond, Va., 23219.



Westover Recorded by the Historic American Buildings Survey

Through the cooperation of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation and a grant from the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities and Public Policy, the VHLC has been able to record Westover, Charles City County, through measured drawings and photographs. A team of five draftsmen spent the summer measuring and drawing the 18th-century mansion, outbuildings, and gardens. When completed, the project will consist of over thirty sheets of drawings, approximately 100 photographs, a detailed architectural description and historical documentation, all of which will be deposited in the HABS collection in the Li-

brary of Congress with copies at the VHLC. The photography is being sponsored by Mrs. Bruce Crane Fisher, owner of Westover, and historical research is being conducted by Margaret Peters, VHLC staff historian. The project organizer is Calder Loth, VHLC Senior Architectural Historian, and Susan Dornbush of HABS is supervising the measured drawings.

Westover was built in the early 18th century for William Byrd, II, and is regarded as one of the finest examples of Georgian architecture in America. A historic preservation easement on the estate was granted to the Commission by Mrs. Fisher in 1974.

Historic Preservation Grants-In-Aid

The Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission administers a federally funded grant program allowing for reimbursement of up-to-50% of the cost to acquire and/or develop Virginia properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places. This program was established by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and is sponsored by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service (HCRS) of the United States Department of the Interior. It is offered in Virginia as a part of the VHLC's continuing service to the owners and administrators of registered landmarks properties.

Matching funds are apportioned annually among the states and territories by the Secretary of the Interior. Following notification by the Department of the Interior—currently during the late fall, although pending federal calendar changes may cause this to be rescheduled to the mid summer—the VHLC meets to assign Virginia's allotment. The Commission awarded \$722,125 in fiscal year 1979 funds to twenty-seven (of ninety-eight) grant applicants on the basis of federal and state priorities. Federal objectives require that funding priority be given to projects that:

- 1) provide for more than 50 percent of the total cost of the project in non-federal funds;
- 2) serve to catalyze significant non-federal investment in preserving resources which would not otherwise be preserved;
- 3) are located in an urban (25,000+ population) area or neighborhood;
- 4) incorporate energy conserving techniques;
- 5) benefit minority, low-income, and/or handicapped people;
- 6) conserve archaeological resources;
- 7) preserve National Historic Landmarks (to be distinguished from the National Register of Historic Places);
- 8) preserve endangered properties;
- 9) involve creation or utilization of non-profit revolving funds;
- 10), benefit cultural resources, the preserva-

tion of which will also contribute to the conservation or enhancement of natural or recreational resources.

The VHLC notifies successful applicants for Historic Preservation Grants-in-Aid of the amount and conditions of their grants. Work for which these funds are expected may not be begun, nor contractual obligations made, prior to final federal review and written approval of the project being issued to the successful applicant (technically known as the "sub-grantee"). Because this is a federally funded program all federal standards for procurement of goods and services apply to grant recipients as they proceed with their projects.

Applications

The time frame suggested above must be allowed for in planning an application under this program. Preliminary inquiries which represent firm and feasible plans for work to be undertaken on National Register properties are welcomed at any time. The VHLC staff will supply grant information and applications upon request. Matching grants-in-aid can be used to fund up to fifty percent (50%) of the cost to acquire, protect, stabilize, preserve, rehabilitate, restore or reconstruct registered properties. For elaboration on these terms, see "Historic Preservations Grants-in-Aid for Acquisition and Development Projects," a leaflet available through the VHLC.

This Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service publication also provides a synopsis of "The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Preservation Projects". The VHLC has circulating copies of the complete "Standards", a working paper developed for use by federal and state preservation staffs in planning and overseeing grant-assisted projects. Applicants should become aware of the demanding regulations governing work performance, reimbursement of approved expenditures, and subsequent maintenance and administration of the property. (continued on page 18)

Pre-Development Obligations

Depending on the nature of the project, successful applicants may have to provide the following information:

For Acquisition

- 1) two independent appraisals of the property's fair market value,
- 2) preservation objectives,
- 3) time schedule and budget for acquisition;

For Development/Construction

- 1) qualified architectural plans, specifications, instructions and contracts for bidders, working drawings and related reports,
- 2) historic justification for proposed treatment or changes to structure,
- 3) feasibility study indicating historic and economic justification for proposed use of property,
- 4) itemized cost estimates for each phase.

Fees for historical research, archaeological research, architectural design, engineering surveys, legal assistance, professional project supervision, and appraisals for acquisition may be incurred. These will qualify for retroactive reimbursement as pre-development costs provided the project work is approved and provided also that the pre-development work was approved by the VHLC.

Obligations During The Project

Once the VHLC and the sub-grantee have exchanged letters of agreement specifying terms of the grant and final project approval has been given by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service, contracts may be signed and work begun. All work shall be governed by a *written fixed-price* contract between sub-grantee and building contractor. Except where the VHLC and HCERS have specifically granted a waiver due to emergency circumstances, bids for contracts in excess of \$10,000 must be publically solicited by advertisement in newspapers or trade journals.

Itemized statements and receipted bills must be obtained from all contractors, subcontractors, and suppliers. It is solely on the basis of paid receipted bills for goods and services rendered that reimbursement of up-to-50% of approved expenditures will be made. Where donated services and materials are to be considered as expenditures, there must be thorough documentation and a clear basis for translating the donation into cash value.

It is the intention of the VHLC to work with the Register property owner to assure maximum protection and improvement of the historic, architectural, or archaeological values which were the basis for their receiving a grant-in-aid. VHLC staff will monitor work in progress to assist the sub-grantee in assuring compliance with contract provisions. A formal completion report will be prepared for each project by VHLC staff. Each project assisted under this program is also subject to federal audit.

Project Completion and Beyond

Recipients of Historic Preservation Grants-in-Aid must agree to maintain the property without substantial alteration for a specified number of years. Unless the grant supported work is visible from the public right-of-way, the property must also be opened to the public no less than twelve (12) days each year. The form and length of these agreements differ according to the amount of grant assistance. A letter of agreement is sufficient where grant assistance amounted to \$5,000 or less. A formal covenant, or binding preservation agreement, is attached to the property deed for periods ranging from five to twenty years where larger grants have been used.

Archaeological Projects

These matching grants-in-aid are also available for the preservation of archaeological sites on the National Register. Applications are invited from institutions and individuals. Because funding is limited, priority is given to applicants able to demonstrate the urgency of proposed research or development. The threat of destruction or deterioration of a site and the public benefit of research are taken into consideration when making grant awards each year.

Applications must contain precise statements of the goals and objectives of the work, its significance in light of past or current research, results of preliminary survey work, evidence of an available professional staff, and written permission from the landowner. Applications must include a thorough budget with documentation for the source of matching funds and there must be some clear statement of future development and publication plans. Renewal applications must be accompanied by detailed progress reports.



Restoring the Gallery of Monumental Church, Richmond

Restoration underway on the Peter Francisco House, Buckingham County



Regional Offices

The VHLC has established regional offices in various parts of the State to facilitate completion of its comprehensive inventory of buildings and sites of historic, architectural, or archeological significance. These offices have been established in cooperation with educational institutions or local political jurisdictions. The VHLC has committed a portion of its federal survey and planning grant, in addition to supervisory and archival services, to this project.

All places inventoried are located on U.S. Geological Survey maps. Data description sheets are prepared for each site to facilitate local historic and prehistoric research useful in planning. Buildings and other structures are thoroughly photographed. Information is submitted to the VHLC—or, for archaeology, to the VRCA at Williamsburg—by means of quarterly meetings and reports. The first quarterly summaries are encouraging: the archaeological offices have reported on public participation programs and regional research designs, in addition to adding over 600 new site locations to the inventory. Data sheets and photographs of nearly 200 buildings have been filed with the Richmond office.

The inventory of standing structures is being conducted on a county-by-county basis, with emphasis being placed on those counties that have been inadequately covered in past surveys. When the six currently planned archaeological offices are established, there will be an archaeological regional office for each section of the state. The regional offices now established (*cooperating institution noted in parentheses*) are:

Archaeology

(City of Alexandria)
Pamela Cressey, Terry Klein, Survey
Archaeologists
City Hall, Box 178
Alexandria, Virginia 22313
750-5798

(Thunderbird Research Corporation)
Joan Walker, Survey Archaeologist
Route 1, Box 432
Front Royal, Virginia 22630
635-7337

Randolph Turner, Survey Archaeologist
Department of Sociology
(Emory and Henry College)
Emory, Virginia 24327
944-3121

James Wood, Survey Archaeologist
Department of Sociology & Anthropology
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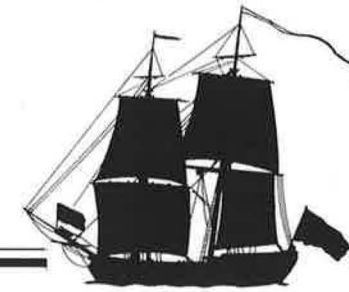
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The Search For Cornwallis' Sunken Fleet



On the morning of October 10, 1978, nautical archaeologists from the Virginia Research Center for Archaeology carried a steel cable into the York River. Minutes later, as a large crowd of newsmen and spectators cheered, a muddy, encrusted, dripping iron cannon was pulled from the water. The cannon was the last major artifact recovered during a successful summer survey by the Research Center. The story began, however, nearly two hundred years earlier.

In October 1781 the southern British Army under the command of Lord Corn-

wallis lay trapped at Yorktown under siege by allied American and French forces. Cornwallis' 8,000 man army, supported by a large fleet of transport and merchant ships and five small warships, was blockaded by the French under Admiral De Grasse at the river mouth.

Coupled with an intensive siege by allied land batteries, the blockade forced Lord Cornwallis to surrender on October 19th, by which time the bottom of the York River was littered with British ships. Of some twenty-six vessels unaccounted for in the records, at

Recovery of cannon from York River, October 10, 1978



least fourteen had been scuttled by Cornwallis along the Yorktown shore to discourage an amphibious assault by French naval forces.

The Battle of Yorktown was the last major battle of the American Revolution. Peace returned, and Yorktown again became a small Tidewater port town. The sunken ships were forgotten and left to decay for the next century-and-one-half.

In 1934 the National Park Service and The Mariners Museum set out to locate and salvage Cornwallis' fleet. A hard-hat diver, operating from a wooden barge, soon found the remains of a wooden ship just a few hundred feet from shore near Ballard Street. From it and another vessel near Gloucester Point divers recovered iron cannon and shot, bottles, pewter ware, ship timbers and fittings and an assortment of smaller objects, many of which were placed in the Yorktown Park Service visitor's center and The Mariners Museum, evidence that Cornwallis' ships still remained relatively intact.

Methods for underwater archaeology were not established then, so the recovery did not include a scientific study of the ships' hulls and artifacts, or even their location, orientation, and state of preservation. Arti-

facts were not separated by site, and, since technology of the day did not allow for adequate conservation, many objects have deteriorated since removal from the protective river mud.

Further sporadic attempts to locate and salvage ships in the Yorktown area occurred, but there were no large-scale excavations until forty years later when a group of sport divers discovered a large wooden hull off Cornwallis' Cave. When word spread during the summer of 1975 that large quantities of well-preserved artifacts could be recovered there, many divers converged on the site to contribute to the deterioration of the shipwreck and its contents. Their activities attracted the attention of state and federal agencies. Aware that the wrecks being threatened were listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Virginia Research Center for Archaeology authorized a brief survey of the Cornwallis Cave vessel in mid-October 1975. Identification of the remains of a large wooden-hulled ship, a major section of its bow exposed to the elements, focused local newspaper attention on the Cornwallis ships and on the danger that further pillage of the site would result in irretrievable loss of valuable archaeological

data. The Virginia Marine Patrol warned divers that the wrecks were state property, not to be disturbed without written permission, and several Virginia lawmakers drafted bills for the protection of underwater historic property. In July 1976 a special underwater antiquities law, predecessor to the Virginia Antiquities Law, went into effect.

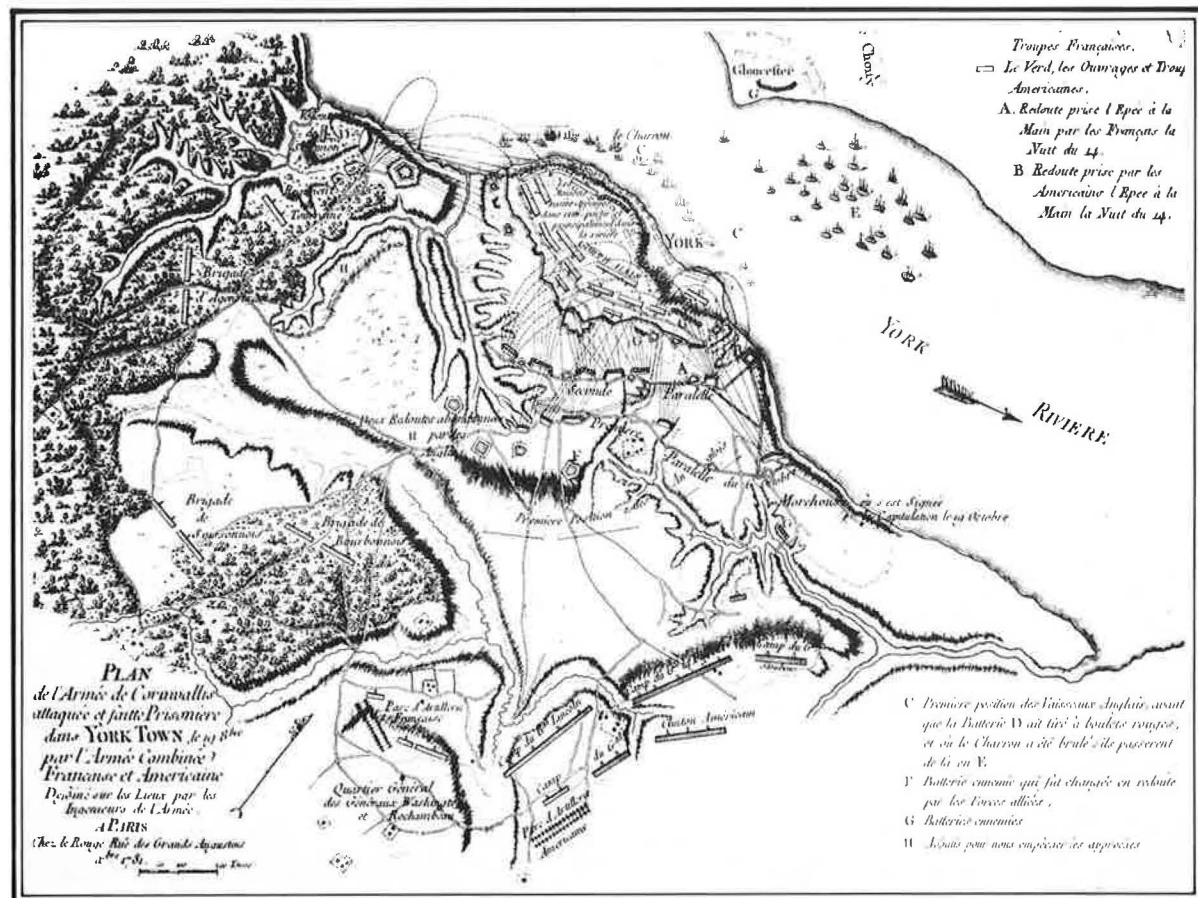
Bicentennial 1976 saw an intensive effort to learn more about the York River shipwrecks. In April the Research Center conducted a survey near Yorktown with the help of The Mariners Museum and the David Taylor Naval Ship Research and Development Center in Annapolis, Maryland. Navy personnel, using sensitive magnetic detection equipment, located a number of areas where the presence of shipwrecks containing ferrous metals such as cannon, shot, fittings and bolts were indicated. The areas were recorded for future study.

Recognizing the significance of the project, the Virginia General Assembly voted an emergency appropriation that enabled the Research Center to contract with the American Institute of Nautical Archaeology in June 1976 for an intensive survey of the Cornwallis Cave Wreck, to determine the extent of hull remains and make recom-

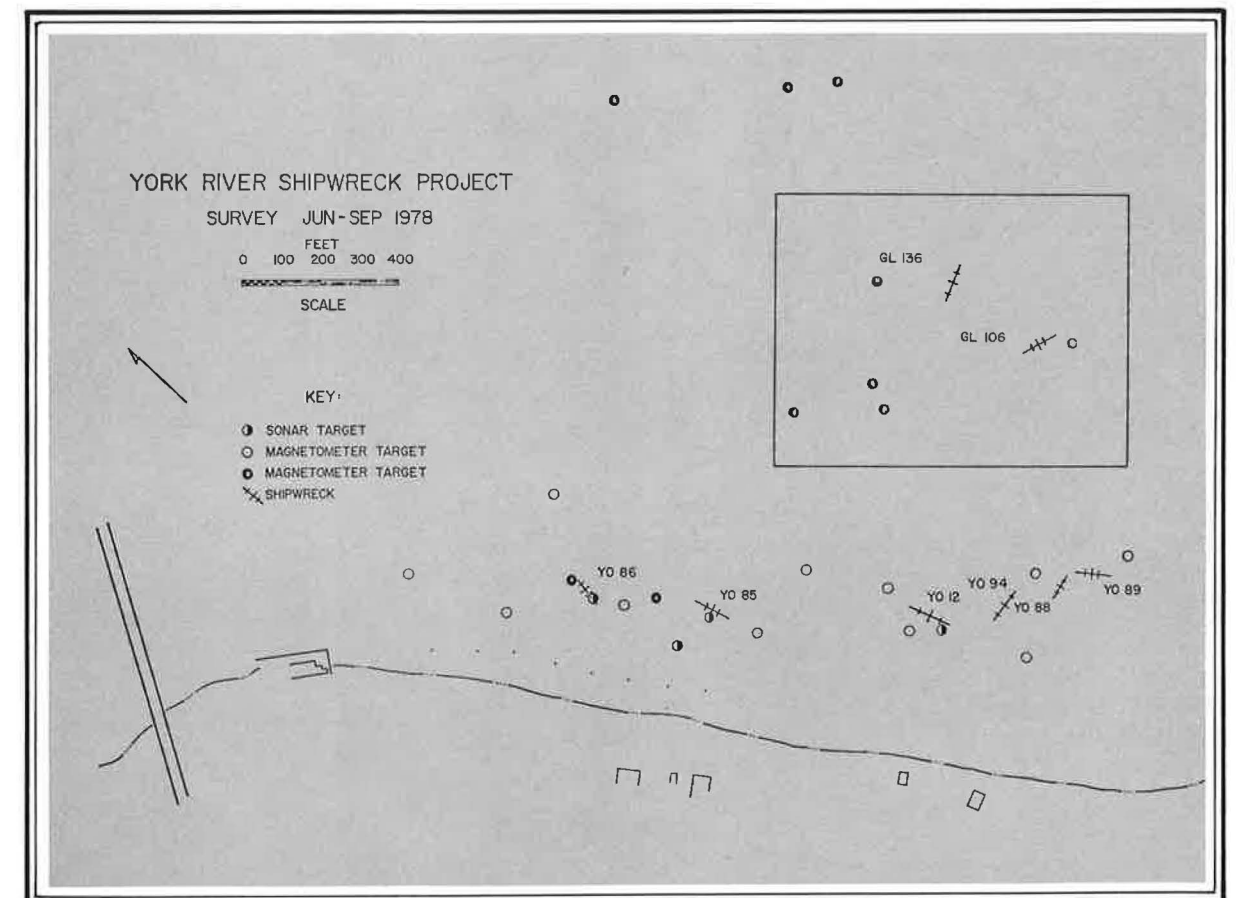
mendations for additional work. This survey revealed that approximately ten per cent remained of a ship originally about 118 feet long. Several bulkheads, visible near the bow, indicated compartments for storage of ship's equipment and supplies. The survey report stated that the wreck was significant because few ships of this period remained in any form, fewer still of such historic significance, but the site surveyor concluded, "if another, better preserved vessel from the period can be located, I would recommend concentrating efforts in that direction."

Data from the 1976 magnetometer survey, combined with historical data compiled by John O. Sands of The Mariners Museum, led Research Center archaeologists to conclude that the possibility of locating other shipwrecks from the British fleet was great enough to warrant an intensive, comprehensive survey of the York River near Yorktown. In 1977 the Navy team assisted in a second magnetometer survey, this time locating additional "targets" in the deeper mid-river water. In early 1978, with a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the support of the Yorktown Victory Center and the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, the York River

Plan of Yorktown during the siege, October, 1781, by a Frenchman



Courtesy the Mariners Museum, Newport News, Virginia



Shipwreck Project began.

The first phase of the project was a side-scanning and bottom-penetrating sonar survey in the area where previous research indicated the highest potential for shipwrecks. The sonar prints out a "map" of the river bottom, indicating by dark blotches any objects protruding from the bottom. The sonar confirmed that a number of large objects lay in the river, in deep and in shallow water, off both the Yorktown and Gloucester Point shores. Using combined data from the sonar, the magnetometer and historical research, a team of eight archaeologists began investigating these underwater sites in late June, diving with conventional self-contained underwater breathing apparatus (SCUBA). Large areas of river bottom were searched systematically, using an underwater grid system. With visibility rarely better than 1-2 feet, divers worked largely by feel alone, searching for wooden timbers, stone ballast or artifacts which might indicate the presence of a buried shipwreck.

Two badly deteriorated wrecks were located just off the Yorktown beach in about twenty-five feet of water, one extending down the sloping edge of the river's deep channel, its deepest timbers lying at a fifty-foot depth. One of the remains may have

been the site salvaged in 1934-35, which recovered artifacts had indicated was probably the 24-gun HMS FOWEY.

On Labor Day two more wrecks were discovered, lying close together on a soft mud bottom several hundred yards east of the first two. Both appeared in excellent condition, one of them undoubtedly the best preserved 18th-century shipwreck yet discovered in America, with an estimated 40% of its hull intact. Such architectural features as breast hooks, deck beams and knees, bulkheads and the stumps of two masts were recognizable. A test pit cut into the hull with an airlift (a device which uses suction to remove silt and overburden from a site), provided a number of artifacts dating to the Revolutionary War period and yielded additional information about the hull itself.

Later a third wreck was located, just to the west. This one, too, seems in good condition, with a large section of hawser (heavy hemp anchor rope) still lying inside the hull. These three wrecks, together with the first two and the Cornwallis cave wreck comprise six identified shipwrecks lying along the Yorktown shore.

Meanwhile a second team of archaeologists searching simultaneously on the Gloucester Point side of the river discov-

ered two more sites. At one, divers encountered numerous large amorphous clumps. Measurements of one confirmed the suspicion that the object was an iron cannon of the type carried on 18th-century ships. Since little was known about the vessel or the extent of preservation of its metal fittings and equipment, plans were made to raise the cannon for analysis. By coincidence the date the nautical archaeological team raised the 1100-pound cannon from what was probably one of Cornwallis' scuttled merchant ships was October 10th, the 197th anniversary of the day it sank.

The other Gloucester Point wreck, upon examination, revealed copper-sheathed hull planking such as generally covered warships below the waterline to protect the wooden hull against marine borers. The wreck has been tentatively identified as the remains of Cornwallis' single 44-gun frigate, CHARON.

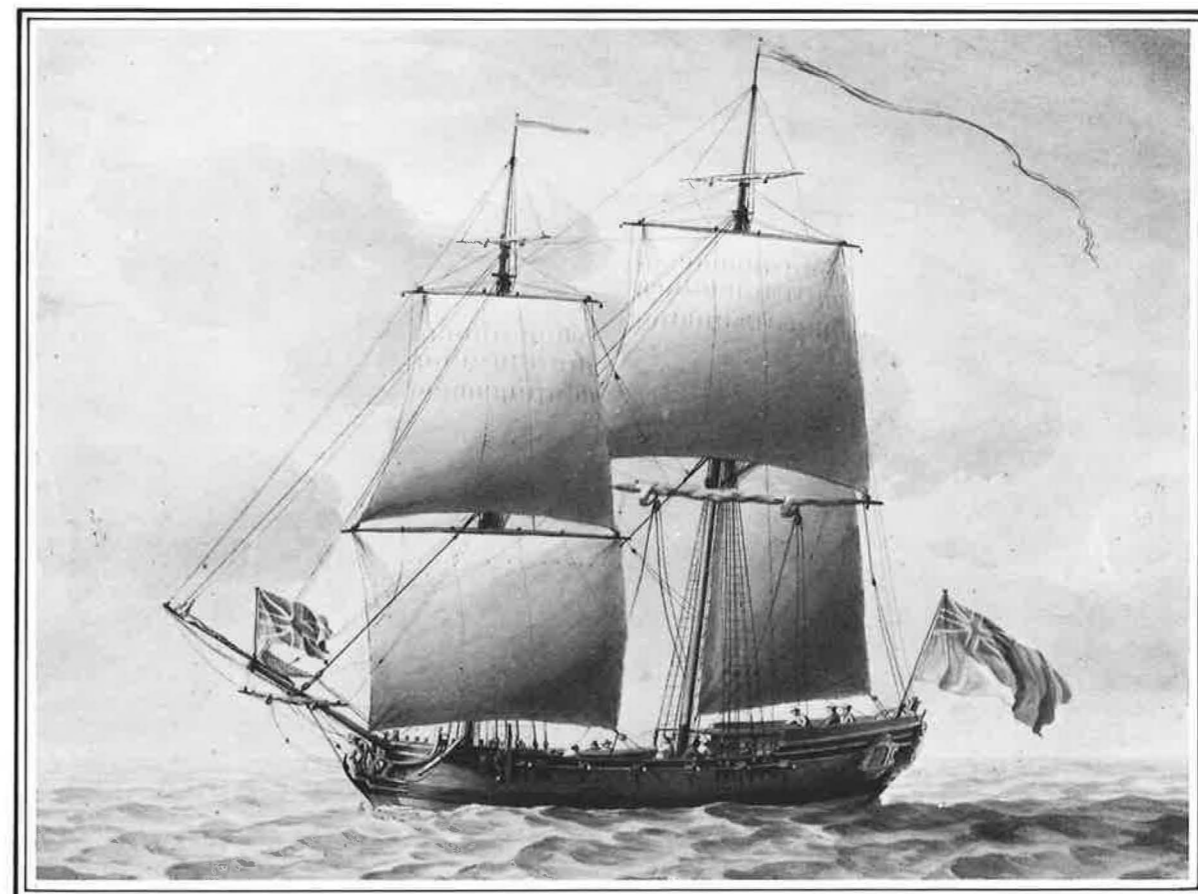
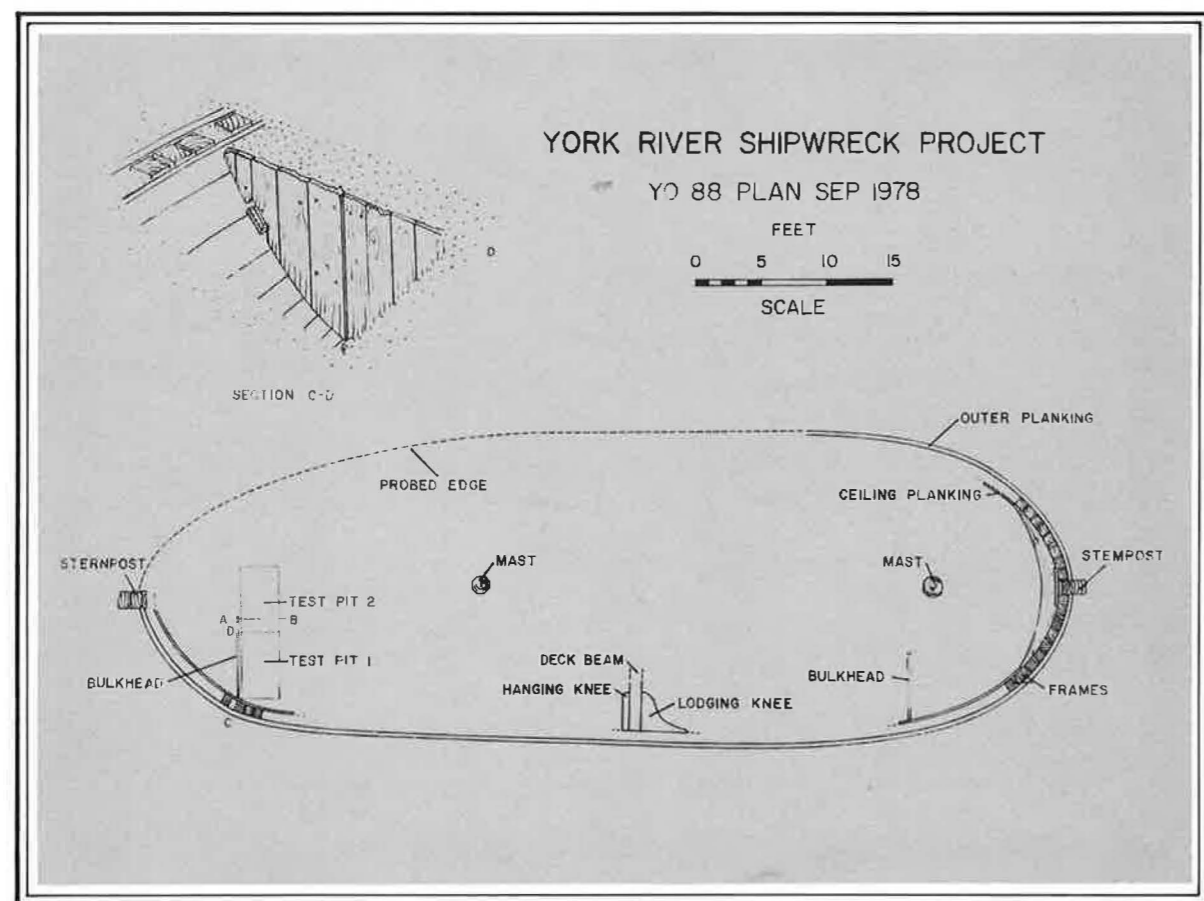
Diving operations continued through the fall in an effort to locate additional shipwrecks for analysis next spring. Plans for 1979 include rescue salvage excavations of the original two wrecks discovered, since both lie close to the river channel where continuing channel erosion threatens to wash them away. Advanced planning will

determine the best methods and equipment for excavation of the most significant shipwreck. Archaeologists are considering construction of a cofferdam around the entire wreck to protect operations against marine borers, jellyfish, currents and silting, and so that the water surrounding the operation can be filtered to improve visibility for photography and accurate measuring. Access to the site might be by pier from the nearby shore, an arrangement which would also permit the public to watch an in-progress archaeological excavation.

With identification of eight shipwrecks dating to the American Revolution, the York River Shipwreck Project is moving ahead successfully. The collection of related 18th-century shipwrecks is unique, and data from the ships will add to knowledge of ship construction and shipboard life during the period of our country's struggle for freedom. The excellent condition of the cannon and many wooden and leather artifacts add to optimism that this project will provide the public with an exciting glimpse into the little-known naval actions which led to American independence.

—By John Broadwater,
Nautical Archaeologist

Typical 18th Century Brig suggested by wreck YO88





A Survey of Current Pre-historic Archaeological Activity



During 1978 the number of prehistoric sites recorded at the VRCA has more than doubled to 4800, a growth that will probably recur in 1979. This explosion of site locations dramatically illustrates the shift from past emphasis on large-scale excavation of a few chosen sites to a program of wholesale identification, survey, and testing of significant prehistoric sites within the Commonwealth. The anticipated goal of developing a comprehensive site conservation and preservation plan has been stimulated by a quantum increase in the number of required environmental impact surveys, and federal directives for and assistance in performing a state-wide inventory of archaeological sites. Though the program is tempered by periodic necessity for "rescue" operations on sites threatened by development, current planning is directed toward the identification and evaluation of those sites most worthy of preservation.

Surveys in a portion of the South Holston Lake area, a portion of the Gathright Lake area, and various smaller surveys throughout the Commonwealth have made important contributions to the site inventories maintained by the VRCA and to overall development of settlement pattern and locational predictive models. The South Holston Lake survey, carried out with the assistance of the Wolf Hills Chapter of the Archaeological Society of Virginia, located over sixty varied sites dating from the Early Archaic through the Late Woodland periods, a timespan of 10,000 years. The drawn-lake operation yielded important information about the effects of long-term inundation on archaeological sites.

Survey on the 650 acre tract along the Elizabeth River slated for development as the Portsmouth Refinery resulted in the recording of thirteen sites. Intensive testing of the one relatively intact site revealed

evidence of intermittent occupation during the Middle and Late Archaic periods (from c. 4500-1800 B.C.), with extensive occupation during the Early and Middle Woodland. Examples of Currituck Beaker, Accokeek, and Stony Creek wares from the Early Woodland, and Mockley Ware from the Middle Woodland, were found in association with shell deposits displaying variable concentrations and species composition through time. Future excavations at the site should yield valuable information about changing cultural adaptation in response to rising sea level and concomitant areal environmental changes. Further light may also be shed on the little-understood early Currituck Beaker wares found at this site and others in Tidewater Virginia and North Carolina.

Surveys of Crump Memorial Park in Henrico County and a portion of the upper reaches of the Gathright Lake in Bath and Alleghany Counties located approximately twenty small sites in upland and low-order stream environments. Surveys in these and other previously studied marginal environments where resource availability was low or singularly restricted are adding a new dimension to settlement pattern studies. By locating, plotting and studying the relationships such small sites have to larger, more intensively occupied sites of the same time period, the VRCA hopes to be able to produce a more complete analysis of the prehistoric occupation of Virginia.

To date, excavations that combine research with rescue have been conducted at Portsmouth Refinery site, White Bank Park in Colonial Heights, the Buzzard Rock site in Roanoke, Croaker Landing in the newly developed York River State Park, the Crab Orchard site just west of Tazewell, and the Culler site in Page County.

Three small blufftop sites were excavated

in the White Bank Park confines. Primary activities at all three dated from the Late Archaic Savannah River period, and centered on exploitation of the varied microenvironments of this Fall Zone location, particularly the replenishment of stone tools from abundant quartzite cobble deposits there. Ceramics from later occupations of the main White Bank Park site indicate continued periodic use of the area by Piedmont and Coastal Plain groups, drawn to this rich diverse area of closely juxtaposed, easily exploitable resources.

Excavations at the Buzzard Park site at Roanoke (now in the path of a highway project) produced evidence of sporadic occupation from 4000 B.C. until 1000 A.D. Radiocarbon dating indicated more intensive settlement during the period 1000-1300 A.D., when the earliest Dan River hamlet yet excavated in Virginia flourished there. Two circular house patterns, a possible longhouse pattern, and several butchering and hide preparation areas were found in association with midden deposits left by the Dan River occupants. The dates obtained and the intra-site settlement pattern data recovered shed new light on the lives of these Late Woodland agricultural people.

During the winter of 1978 preliminary excavations into an Early and Middle Woodland period stratified midden were carried out at the Croaker Landing site, in New River State Park. Located at the base of a bluff overlooking the York River, the site contained a series of superposed shell deposits, pits and pottery bearing levels, illustrating a developmental sequence previously unrecorded in a single site in Tidewater. Sherds of flat bottomed vessels with either shell or grog (prefired clay) tempering, similar to Currituck wares found in Northeastern North Carolina and the Hampton Roads area, were found in strata below those yielding Early Woodland Pope's Creek ware and Middle Woodland Mockley ware, two types common to the lower Potomac and Tidewater Maryland. Oyster, mussel, scallop, and periwinkle shells and a variety of land-based faunal remains, predominantly of box turtle and deer, were found in various strata and are currently being analyzed. Future full-scale excavations of this important site should enable us to understand better early pottery manufacture and changing resource exploitative strategies during the period c. 1000 B.C.-500 A.D.

In response to threatened destruction

View of test trenches at the Croaker Landing site, 44JC 70. Note the various shell and midden layers.



from proposed construction of a new county building, rescue excavations were conducted during spring and early summer at the Pisgah site, 44 Tz 1, near Tazewell. VRCA personnel were ably assisted by members of the Appalachian Highlands, Roanoke Area, Upper New River and Wolf Hills Chapters of the Archaeological Society of Virginia. Previous excavation of portions of the site, (in 1971 and 1973,) had revealed a complex and long-lived Late Woodland stockaded village, the largest known in the Commonwealth. The recent excavations, centered at the western edge of the c. 600 foot diameter site, revealed several large, circular houses, numerous storage pits, trash pits, burials, and a portion of the palisade or stockade line. This last had apparently been rebuilt three times during the occupation of the expanding village.

In addition, the remains of a rectangular, semi-subterranean structure approximately 40 by 65 feet were discovered just outside the palisade. The first structure of its type found in Virginia, it contained evidence of rebuilding, signifying prolonged use. A series of benches cut into the subsoil foundation of the building suggested use as a ceremonial or meeting house by the six-

teenth and seventeenth century occupants of this Late Woodland village.

Work at 44 Tz 1 was suspended when county officials decided to postpone construction of the proposed building. The excavation area was backfilled to preserve those features left unexcavated, and will be reinvestigated under future problem oriented research.

Highway construction forced the testing and subsequent rescue excavation of a portion of a Woodland and Historic period site near Luray in Page County. The Culler site, located on Hawksbill Creek, a short distance above its confluence with the South Fork of Shenandoah River, was excavated in August. Only a narrow section of highway right-of-way was dug, but this strip contained the foundation and cellar of a late eighteenth-century cabin, and stratified deposits from both historic and prehistoric occupations. Analysis of points and sherds showed that the bulk of prehistoric occupation took place during the Middle Woodland period, with occasional use of the site during both the Early and Late Woodland periods. Pottery, while conforming to the general description of Albemarle (crushed stone tempered wares), displayed a remarkable diversity of tempering materials with many combinations and permutations of chert, jasper, quartzite, shale, quartz, graywacke, and other materials. Considering the quantity and variety of points and pottery vessels found, it seems likely that the site was well known to Woodland sub-cultures who occupied it periodically as a base for hunting forays, and to replenish their stone toolkits from abundant on-site cobble deposits.

In addition to its expanded programs of site location and assessment, conservation and preservation planning, and rescue operations, the VRCA is currently administering Federal grants for Acquisition and Development and Survey and Planning. During 1978 excavations by Dr. William M. Gardner at the Thunderbird and Fifty sites, in the Thunderbird Archaeological District, were funded on a matching basis, and survey and testing programs along the lower Potomac received partial funding through two Survey and Planning grants awarded to Stephen Potter and Gregory Waselkov, doctoral candidates in archaeology. The VHLC-VRCA is pleased to support and encourage sound archaeological research within the Commonwealth.

—Prepared by William P. Boyer, Jr.,
Senior Pre-historic Archaeologist

Late Woodland flexed, double interment at 44 Tz1.



MORSON'S ROW



Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

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