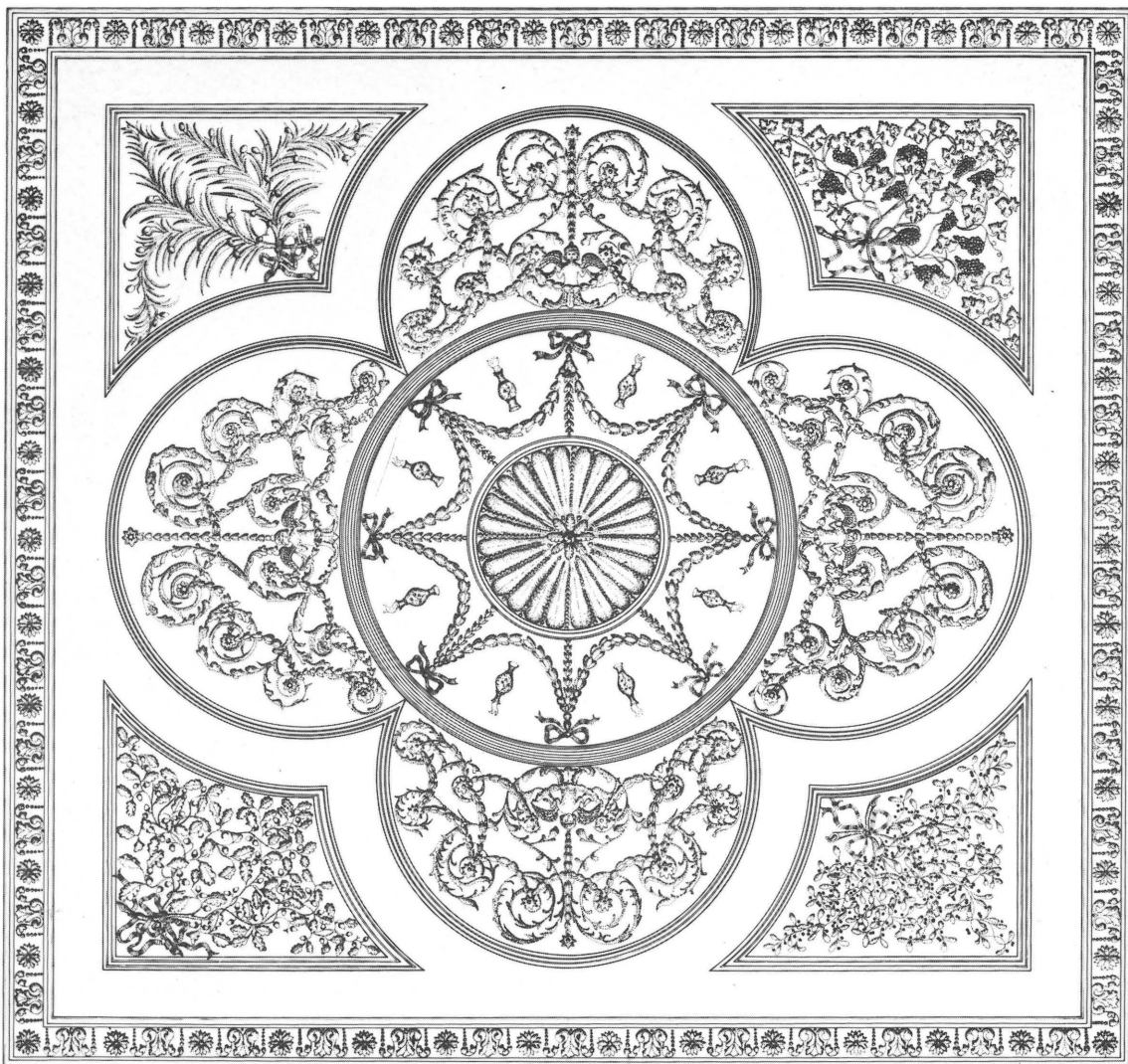


Notes on Virginia

Number 26

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Department of Conservation and Historic Resources

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Governor Appoints New Commission Members

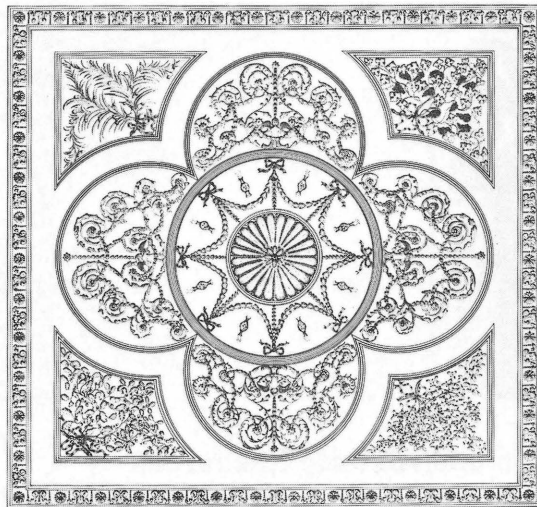
In compliance with new legislation, Governor Charles S. Robb has appointed two professional archaeologists to the Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission. **Ivor Noël Hume**, Resident Archaeologist and Director of Archaeological Interpretation for the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, has served as Vice-Chairman of the Governor's Advisory Committee for the Research Center for Historical Archaeology. Nationally prominent in the field of historical archaeology, Mr. Noël Hume is the author of three award-winning books: *Martins Hundred* (1982), *Historical Archaeology* (1969), and *Here Lies Virginia* (1963).

William M. Kelso is Resident Archaeologist for the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation at Monticello. Dr. Kelso was historical archaeologist for the Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission from 1971-1976, serving as project director for the Kingsmill Archaeological Project from 1971-1975. From 1976 to 1979, he served as the Commonwealth's first Commissioner for Archaeology. Dr. Kelso is presently a member of the State Review Board of the Division of Historic Landmarks. His most recent publication is *The Archaeology of Early Virginia Country Life: The Kingsmill Plantation, 1620-1800*. (1984).

Cover Photo

Kenmore (VA-305), Fredericksburg. Ceiling, Southeast room/the library, Elise S. Johnson, delineator, 1984. The Kenmore ceilings are among the finest of their type in America. This, one of three similarly elaborate in the house, contains symbols of the four seasons in the four corners. Thomas T. Waterman has stated that "Kenmore's magnificent series of stucco-duro ceilings are unparalleled by any other American house."

Source for the designs was Batty Langley's *BUILDER'S AND WORKMAN'S TREASURY OF DESIGNS, PLATE CLXX*. London: Printed for S. Harding, 1756.



Division of Historic Landmarks Publishes Highway Marker Guidebook

A Guidebook to Virginia's Historical Markers, is now available at bookstores and from the University Press of Virginia, Box 3608 University Station,

Charlottesville, VA. 22903. This is the first official revision of the guidebook since 1948. Selling price is \$8.95.

New Highway Markers

On behalf of the Department of Conservation and Historic Resources, the Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission has approved eight new markers and one replacement marker for inclusion in the state's historical marker system. New markers include Mitchells Presbyterian Church (F-25) in Culpeper County noting the National Register church with the interior painting rendered by Joseph Dominick Oddenino; the Civilian Conservation Corps, Company 2386 (S-29) in Chesterfield County marking the camp site of the enrollees who built the Swift Creek Recreational Area, forerunner of Pocahontas State Park during the Depression; Danville Prison # 6 (q-5-h) marking the building that served as a Confederate prison during the Civil War; William M. Tuck (U-51) in Halifax County noting the birthplace of Virginia's Governor from 1946-1950; Glen Allen (E-10) in Henrico County marking a 19th-century community north of Richmond; Frederick Delius (q-5-g), marking the Danville residence of the internationally acclaimed composer from 1885-1886; and Death of Boone's Son (E-32) in Lee County, replacing a damaged marker describing the death of Boone's son in 1773 which postponed Boone's plans for settling Kentucky. Two other markers approved were Burke's Station (E-76) in Fairfax County and the Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center (I-18) in Fishersville, Augusta County. All markers were requested and are being funded by private groups or individuals for inclusion in the state's system of marking historical sites and events along Virginia's highways.

Director's Message

Settling In

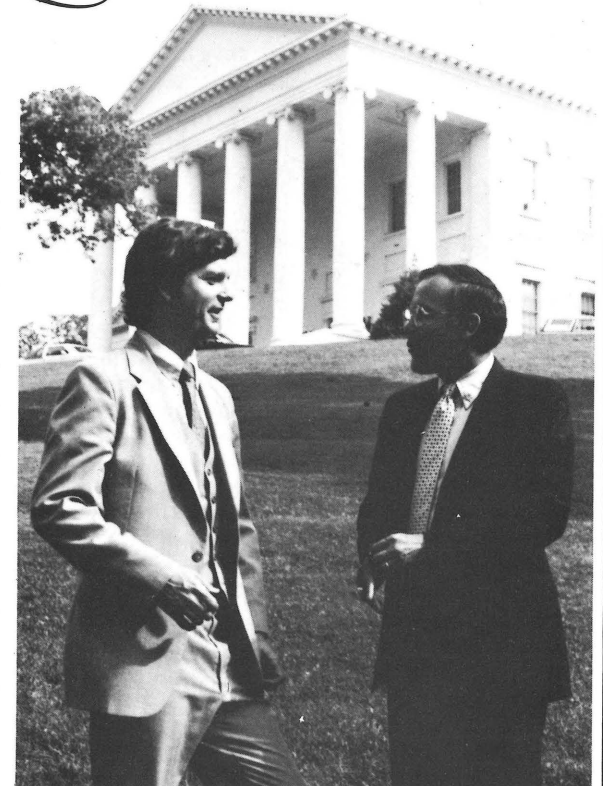


The phrase gets used a lot when we have moved to a new house, or have taken a new job, or have made some other important change. On January 1, 1985 we became the new Division of Historic Landmarks in the new Department of Conservation and Historic Resources. Since then we have been settling in.

Settling in has meant a number of things on a number of levels. It has meant learning when to say "department," when to say "division," and when still to say "commission" (the Historic Landmarks Commission does continue to exist and function as an eleven-member board appointed by the Governor). It has meant redesigning stationery and changing nomenclature in publications such as this one. It has meant getting acquainted with colleagues in the other divisions—Forestry, Parks and Recreation, Soil and Water Conservation, and Litter Control—and it has meant coming to know the names, faces, and priorities of those people who form the essential central administrative staff for this department of over six hundred people. It has meant a new boss. It has meant meetings. It has meant all those things that make a bureaucrat shudder.

More important, settling in has meant beginning to establish a vision of what the new department can and should do, and of where this division fits within that larger vision. Much of the task of formulating that vision falls to the new department head, B. C. Laynes, Jr., a city planner by training and until recently the Director of Virginia's Soil and Water Conservation Commission. By bringing a background both in planning and in conservation of resources to his new position, Bud Laynes brings the skills and sensitivity that bode well for historic preservation's place as we go forward in the new department.

While it is still too early to define a departmental identity, bits and pieces have begun to emerge. Planning has begun for a comprehensive approach to managing the natural and cultural resources within the state forests and state parks. Certainly, we will seek to build on that foundation and establish a program for a careful identification of all the resources owned by the Commonwealth. Within our own division we have become more acutely aware of the need to plan our activities in concert with those of the other divisions, so that, for example, we can schedule archaeological survey work prior to park development or seedling plantings. Conversely, a greater understanding and sense of the value of our work is already evident among the other divisions of the department.



H. Bryan Mitchell and director of the new Department of Conservation and Historic Resources, B. C. Laynes, Jr.

Another aspect of the department's identity is simply its size. Moving from a unit of thirty-five people to one of over six hundred carries with it both the anxiety over getting lost in the crowd and the hope for added strength through increased numbers. Maintaining a sense of integrity and clear purpose for divisional programs while fostering a genuine sense of belonging to a greater whole will be important to the department's success.

The shuffling of agencies and divisions that resulted in the Department of Conservation and Historic Resources created a department which focuses more clearly than its predecessors did on the conservation and management of Virginia's land resources. Establishing the department's vision in the clarity of that focus certainly presents a challenge, because that focus provides the opportunity for the Commonwealth to make a strong statement for the conservation of its important natural and cultural resources. Our success should be judged on whether we seize that opportunity, establish that clear vision, and make that strong statement.

The early signs are favorable.

H. Bryan Mitchell, Director
Division of Historic Landmarks

Tax Benefits— A Benefit for Virginia

Virginia, along with the rest of the nation, witnessed a steady loss of historic resources, particularly in urban areas, before the enactment of the Tax Reform Act of 1976 and the subsequent Economic Recovery Act of 1981. Prior federal tax laws were designed to encourage new construction or demolition of older buildings; there were virtually no incentives for rehabilitating older structures. Furthermore, federally supported urban renewal programs favored the clearance of older neighborhoods on the assumption that the creation of new building sites in the inner city would eliminate slums and encourage new construction in their place. In some instances new construction did replace the demolished buildings—in many cases it did not, and cities were left with pockets of empty land where once vital neighborhoods had stood. The majority of developers favored building in suburban areas rather than in the inner city.

The effect of urban renewal programs of the 1960s and '70s on the Commonwealth's stock of historic structures was severe. Hundreds of buildings that might have qualified for official historic certification were lost. Particularly sweeping programs of demolition and rebuilding were undertaken in the oldest sections of Norfolk and in the heart of the Alexandria Historic District. A large section of Richmond's Jackson Ward was leveled for the new Coliseum and adjacent parking space. Charlottesville, Danville, Hampton, and Staunton also embarked on programs of building clearance in their historic cores.

The preservation tax incentives, however, have helped to turn the tide so that Virginia has

recently witnessed the greatest investment in the renewal of its historic resources in the state's history. The 25 percent investment tax credit for certified rehabilitation of properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places or located within registered historic districts has made such rehabilitation economically competitive with new construction. The most important effect of these tax changes is that older urban neighborhoods, once viewed as decayed or blighted liabilities, are now seen as good investment opportunities.

There is no more vivid illustration of this phenomena than in some of the older commercial districts of several of the Commonwealth's cities. Ten years ago, Caroline Street in Fredericksburg had many of its handsome Federal buildings covered with tawdry signs. Most of the upper floors were vacant, producing no revenue either for their owners or the city. Now, with the character of the street changing steadily through certified rehabilitations, Caroline Street is becoming one of the more attractive shopping areas in the state, a handsome commercial core for one of Virginia's most historic cities. According to Susan Ford Johnson, Director of the Historic Fredericksburg Foundation, over one-third of the commercial structures in the Fredericksburg Historic District have undergone substantial rehabilitation. In the early 1970s, Shockoe Slip, on the edge of Richmond's financial district, consisted of deteriorating warehouses used for dead storage or light industry. During the past ten years, the majority of the buildings lining the district's East Cary Street have been rehabilitated with the preservation tax credits, making Shockoe Slip the prime entertainment quarter of the city.

Lisa Lahendro and Dianne Pierce inspect Tax Act project at 13 1/2 West Leigh Street in Richmond's Jackson Ward.



Roanoke's Market Historic District, scene of extensive rehabilitation in the past several years.



In Roanoke, much of the same type of activity occurred in the several blocks of commercial buildings in the City Market Historic District. Rehabilitation restored one of the city's oldest sections to the lively and colorful place it was at the turn of the century. Finally, a dramatic downtown revitalization, encouraged through the investment tax credits and the energetic efforts of the Historic Staunton Foundation, is taking place in Staunton's Beverley Historic District with major facade improvements in the central business district. Long neglected commercial buildings, some dating to the early 19th century, are being restored, becoming some of the most visually appealing structures in downtown. Before the availability of tax credits, commercial areas such as these were largely stagnant. The high cost of rehabilitation could not be justified.

It was through the initiative of the Department of the Interior that the tax laws were amended to become the vehicle for regenerating the hearts of many of our towns and cities. Accompanying the incentives was a more gentle approach to the renewal of our historic communities. Those communities fortunate enough to have preserved a large stock of older buildings find now that they are in the best position to have new life breathed into them.

The investment tax credits for certified rehabilitations are by no means a government give-away program. If very generous incentives were to be provided for the rehabilitation of historic buildings, it was imperative to assure that work performed did not adversely affect the historic or architectural integrity of the structures. Specific regulations have been developed to maintain quality control. The regulations stipulate that credits are only available when the rehabilitation follows the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*. The *Standards* is a manual of recommendations for proper treatment of the fabric of historic buildings. It also enumerates guidelines for additions and related forms of new construction. Unless the National Park Service can certify that each of the standards has been followed in a rehabilitation project, the Internal Revenue Service will not allow the tax credits to the owner. It was an intention of the National Park Service to use the preservation tax credit program to educate the public about proper rehabilitation techniques for historic buildings. The *Standards* discourage such damaging practices as sandblasting of masonry and altering a building's historic character

18 East Frederick Street in the Beverley Historic District in Staunton, before rehabilitation.



by changing window styles or removing interior woodwork.

When the investment tax credit program went into effect, many architects and contractors viewed the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation* as the imposition of government design controls that would stifle creativity. They also saw them as having the potential of making rehabilitation projects more expensive. Trying to preserve historic flooring, doorways, and other character-defining interior features was more costly than gutting the interior and leaving only the facade. However, by working with staff architects and architectural historians of the Virginia Division of Historic Landmarks and the National Park Service, many architects and contractors have seen significant improvement in the quality of their rehabilitation work. Instead of merely perpetuating the continuum of remodeling, architects and contractors are now repairing and adapting historic resources while strictly maintaining their integrity. Moldings, mantels, porches and hardware are being preserved and repaired rather than needlessly tossed out. The projects carried out under the investment tax credit program have generally been done well, assuring the proper preservation of a large stock of important buildings. Significantly, many architects and contractors have learned through working with the *Standards* a more sympathetic approach to repair and reuse of older buildings. Even if the tax credits should be terminated, a strong case can still be made for continued adherence to good rehabilitation standards.

Virginia's historic buildings are among its most important resources. The investment tax credit program has made it possible to return many of these buildings to the state's economic mainstream, thus enhancing our quality of life. Developers have stated that had it not been for the tax incentives, their rehabilitation of historic buildings would not have been possible. The Division of Historic Landmarks, realizing the program's potential for encouraging preservation activity, has concentrated much of its effort towards registration of urban historic districts. It has been the Division's policy to make the investment tax credits available to as many eligible property owners as possible. While the future of the preservation tax credits is uncertain at this writing, the program for the present remains a critical tool for recycling hundreds of Virginia's historic structures.

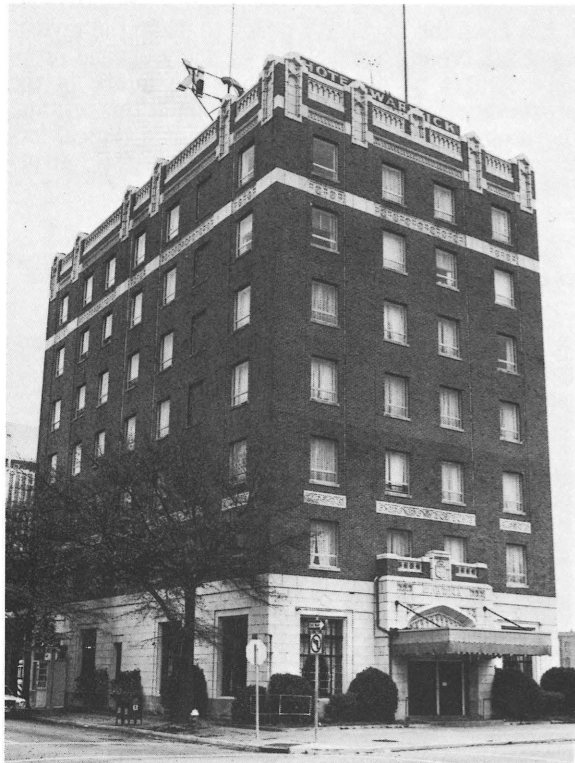
18 East Frederick Street after completion of rehabilitation project.



Rehabilitation Projects Since September 1, 1984

<p>Alexandria \$ 1,020,134</p> <p>Baden—Cazenove House 907 King Street (Alexandria Historic District)</p> <p>108 North Alfred Street (Alexandria Historic District)</p> <p>524 North Washington Street (Alexandria Historic District)</p>	<p>Lexington \$ 25,000</p> <p>The Hopkins House 120 West Nelson Street (Lexington Historic District)</p>	<p>Lynchburg \$ 342,000</p> <p>Waldron-Hancock House 211 Cabell Street (Daniels Hill Historic District)</p>	<p>Richmond \$ 5,530,000</p> <p>Stonewall Jackson School 1520 West Main Street</p> <p>Randolph School 200 S. Randolph Street</p> <p>Jackson Ward Historic District 104 West Leigh Street 409 North Madison Street 13½ West Leigh Street</p> <p>1300 West Main Street (Fan Historic District-proposed)</p> <p>1817 West Grace Street (Monument Avenue Historic District)</p> <p>1309-1317 East Main Street (Shockoe Slip Historic District)</p>	<p>Winchester \$ 34,000</p> <p>Grim House 608 South Loudoun Street (Winchester Historic District)</p> <p>40-42-44 East Picadilly Street (Winchester Historic District)</p>
<p>Charlottesville \$ 1,265,639</p> <p>Paramount Theatre 215 East Main Street (Charlottesville and Albemarle County Courthouse Historic District)</p> <p>213 Second Street (Charlottesville and Albemarle County Courthouse Historic District)</p>	<p>Martinsville \$ 190,000</p> <p>Beaver Creek Plantation Route 108</p>	<p>Newport News \$ 2,000,000</p> <p>Hotel Warwick 25th Street and West Avenue</p>	<p>Roanoke \$ 195,000</p> <p>The Boxley Building 416 South Jefferson Street</p>	<p>Augusta County \$ 200,000</p> <p>Craigsville School Railroad Avenue, Craigsville</p>
<p>Fredericksburg \$ 105,558</p> <p>George Gravatt House 108 Charlotte Street (Fredericksburg Historic District)</p> <p>St. Mary's Rectory 706 Princess Anne Street (Fredericksburg Historic District)</p>	<p>Norfolk \$ 950,000</p> <p>Lafayette School 3109 Tidewater Drive</p> <p>The Mowbray 700 Botetourt Street</p>	<p>Staunton \$ 139,000</p> <p>121-123 Greenville Avenue (Beverley Historic District)</p> <p>10-12 East Frederick Street (Beverley Historic District)</p> <p>8 East Frederick Street (Beverley Historic District-additional since 1984)</p>	<p>Loudoun County \$ 20,000</p> <p>Del Balzo House Route 9, Hillsboro (Hillsboro Historic District)</p>	<p>Shenandoah County \$ 110,000</p> <p>Stonewall Jackson Bank and Trust Congress and Old Cross Roads (New Market Historic District)</p>
<p>Danville \$ 16,000</p> <p>620 Berryman Avenue (Danville Tobacco Warehouse and Residential Historic District)</p>			<p>Warren County \$ 50,000</p> <p>Fairview Farm Route 658, Front Royal</p>	<p>TOTAL <u>\$12,192,331</u></p>

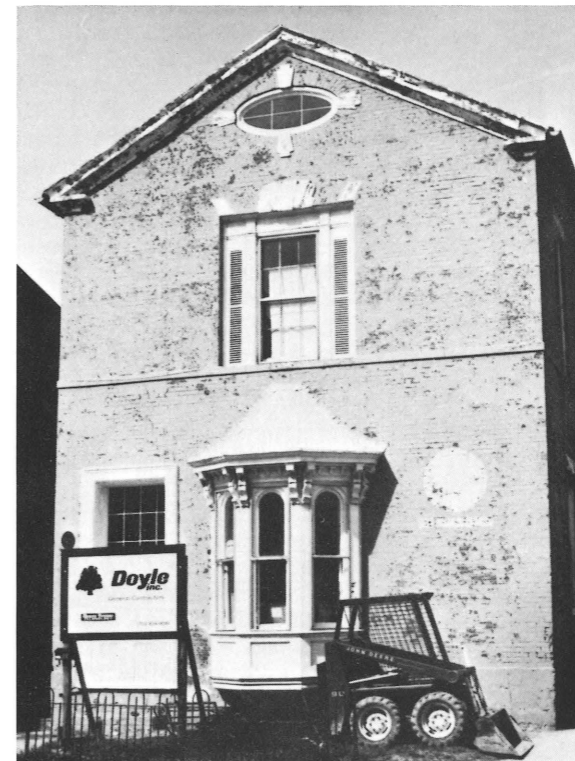
Hotel Warwick in Newport News. A certified rehabilitation in 1984.



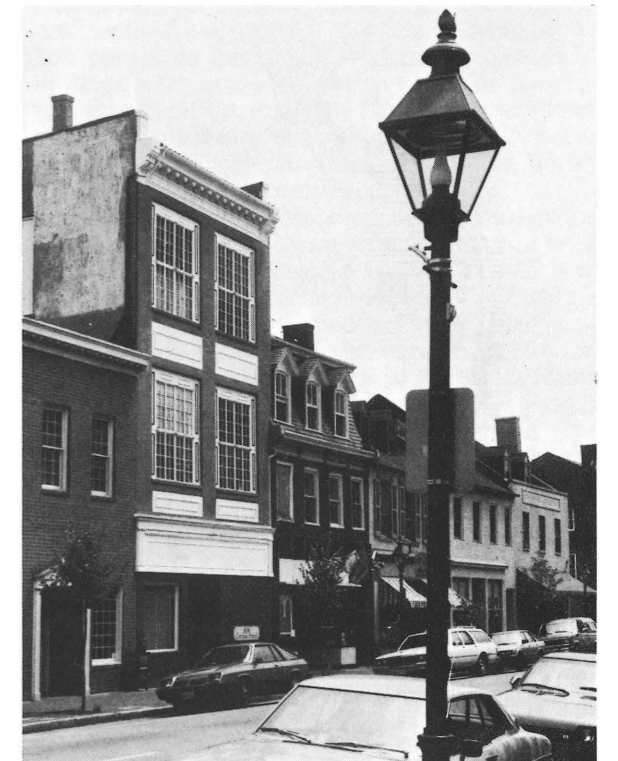
1300 West Main Street in the proposed historic district for the Fan in Richmond. Offices of Main Street Productions.



114 North Alfred Street undergoing rehabilitation in the Alexandria Historic District.



East side of Caroline Street showing restored commercial structures in the Fredericksburg Historic District.



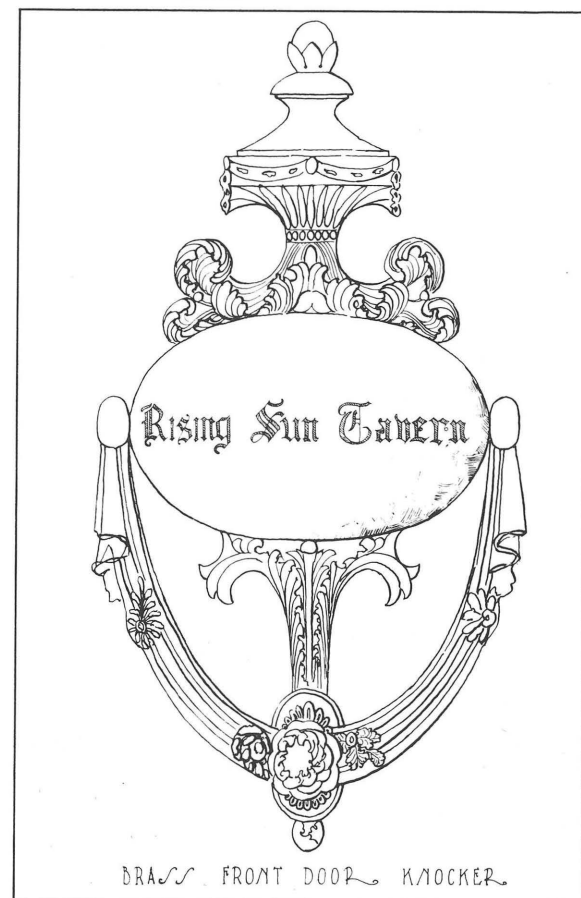
HABS in Virginia

52 Years of Documenting the Commonwealth's Architecture

Among the least familiar of the many acronyms designating various federal agencies is HABS. While few bureaucrats recognize those initials, anyone involved in the preservation and documentation of America's historic architecture knows that this euphonious combination of letters stands for the Historic American Buildings Survey. HABS is among the federal government's oldest preservation programs, dating its founding to 1933. It was established in response to an invitation issued in November of that year by the Civil Works Administration requesting Executive Departments to offer suggestions for employment relief to aid in the nation's recovery from the Depression. Drafted by Charles E. Peterson, then Chief of the National

Editor's note: Nomenclature for the state preservation office in Virginia has changed, effective January 1, 1985. "Commission," "Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission," and "VHLC," in this article were the identifying titles at the time for what is now the Division of Historic Landmarks.

Figure 1: Door knocker, Rising Sun Tavern (VA-1), Fredericksburg. A.J. Davis, delineator, 1934. The first HABS recording in Virginia was as complete as one could wish. Even the door knocker was measured and drawn.



Park Service's Eastern Division, Branch of Plans and Design, the proposal that eventually resulted in the formation of HABS was "to enlist a qualified group of architects and draftsmen to study, measure and draw up the plans, elevations and details of the important antique buildings of the United States." Within two weeks of this proposal, \$448,000 had been allocated for the program. Headquarters staff members were quickly recruited and two of the first employees were men who would become well known for their studies in Virginia's architectural history. Thomas T. Waterman, who had been with the Williamsburg restoration, became the Architectural Director, and Frederick D. Nichols was employed as one of the three staff architects just prior to his graduation from Yale in 1934.

Arrangements were made with the Library of Congress to act as the repository for the records after they had been edited in the Washington office. To facilitate the actual fieldwork, the country was divided into districts corresponding to the chapters

Figure 2: Entrance Gate, Stuart House (VA-7), Staunton, 1934. J.T. Rowe and S.J. Collins, delineators.

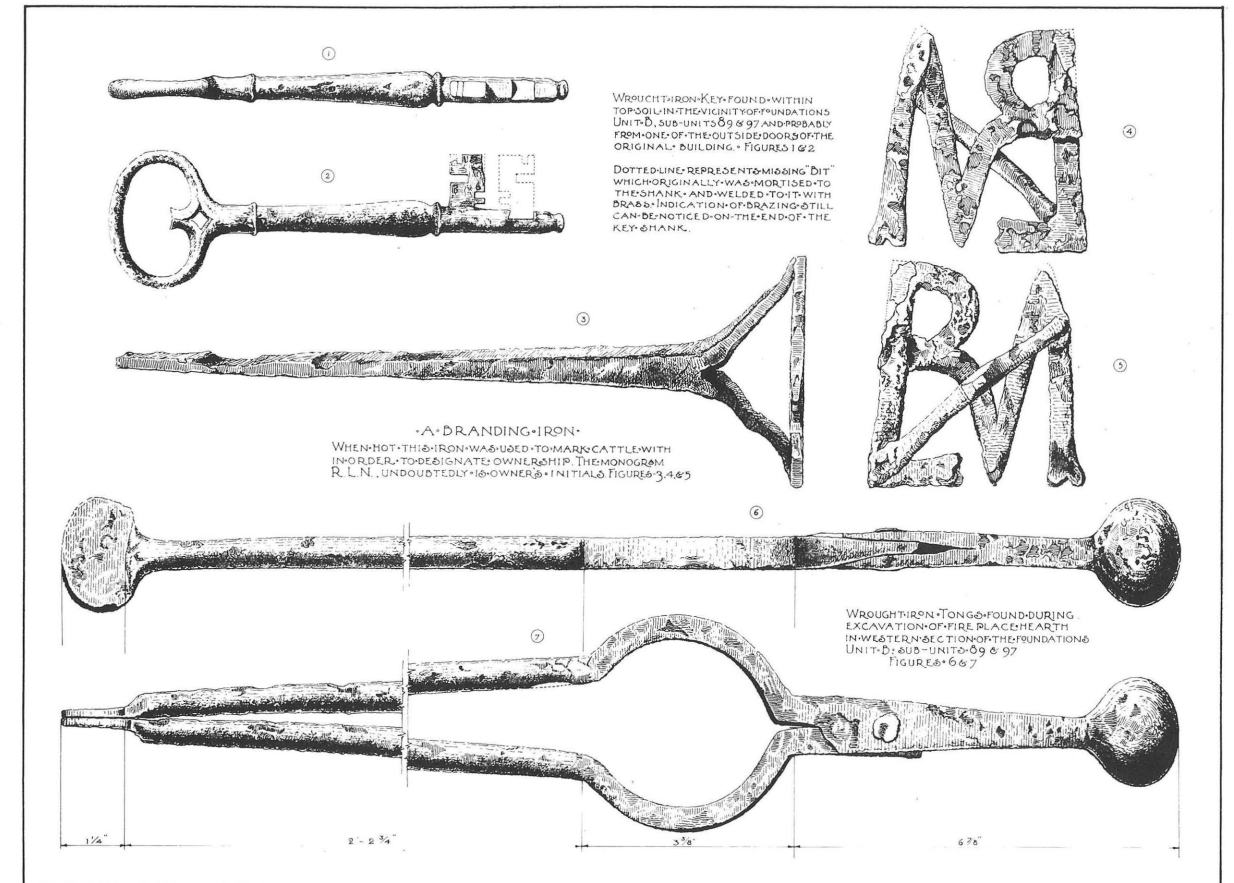
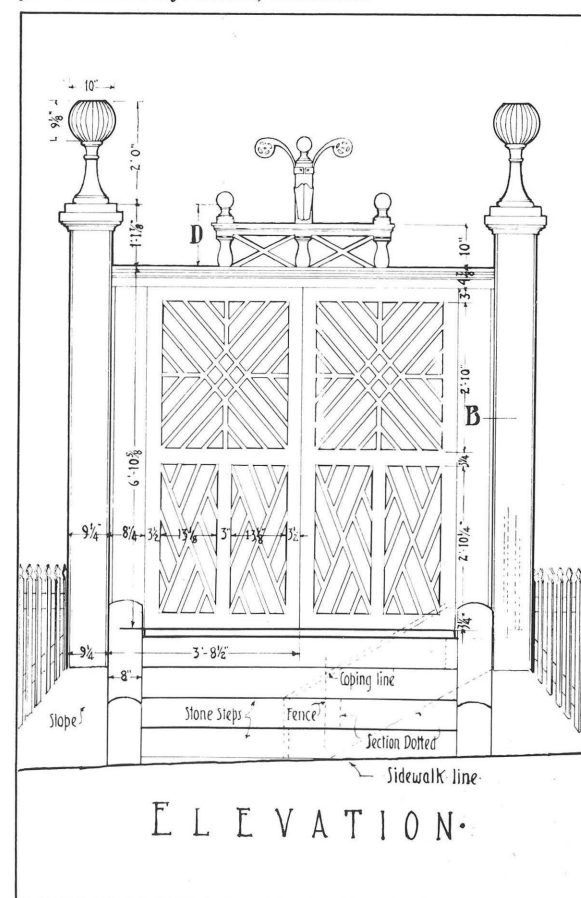


Figure 3: Architectural Remains, (VA-25), Jamestown, 1935. John T. Zaharov, delineator. Keys, fire tongs, and branding irons are among the items uncovered in the 1930s' excavations of Virginia's first settlement. Drawings such as these not only provide an extremely accurate representation, but also afford easy comparisons with drawings of objects found at other sites.

of the American Institute of Architects. Virginia was designated District #11, and Philip N. Stern of Fredericksburg was appointed District Officer. Thirty-two draftsmen were assigned to work under his supervision, to be divided into smaller squads or teams at his discretion.

A flurry of directives soon issued from Washington as plans for the scope and conduct of the survey were refined. Bulletin #3, dated December 20, 1933, clarified the term "antique buildings" of the initial proposal. The bad news was that anything later than 1860 was "verboten," although allowances could be made for later buildings of exceptional architectural merit or historical interest. The good news was that, within the chronological limits, all building types were to be considered, including "barns, bridges, mills, toll houses [and] jails." Additionally, priority was to be given to buildings which were in "imminent danger of destruction or material alteration." Each structure recorded was to be assigned an identifying HABS number.

Armed with these instructions, Virginia's first HABS teams went into the field—or at least down the street! HABS numbers VA-1 and VA-2 were given to the Rising Sun Tavern and the Mary Washington House respectively, each only a pleasant stroll from Mr. Stern's Fredericksburg office (fig. 1). Soon, however, the teams ventured farther afield and took to heart the directive to record the full range of Virginia's historic architecture. Covered bridges were already a vanishing species in the 1930s, and Trent's Bridge (VA-13) over the Willis River in Cumberland County was recorded with two

sheets of measured drawings and two photographs. Even before that, intrepid troops had crossed the Blue Ridge, and one of the first projects tackled in the Valley was a gate: the well-known Chinese Chippendale entrance to the Archibald Stuart House in Staunton (VA-7) (fig. 2). Having cut their architectural teeth above ground, the teams soon tested their mettle on things subterranean. A number of drawings were made in 1934 and 1935 of the artifacts then being excavated by National Park Service archaeologists at Jamestown (fig. 3), while 27 drawings were produced of the ruins of Mansfield, a mid-18th-century mansion near Fredericksburg.

Meanwhile, progress continued in Washington as well as in the field. Arrangements that had been made between the National Park Service and both the Library of Congress and the American Institute of Architects were confirmed and made permanent in a "Tripartite Agreement" that became effective on July 23, 1934. So sound and practical were its terms that the agreement still serves as the modus operandi of the Survey. By this agreement, the National Park Service administers the program, the American Institute of Architects provides professional advice, and the Library maintains the collection and makes the records available to the public.

It should be kept in mind that the initial HABS program was one conceived by architects for architects. Historical data and photographs, now so integral to HABS documentation, were given short shrift. Bulletin #4, issued on December 22, 1933, contained only two short paragraphs relating to data. Draftsmen were instructed to jot down the "facts

regarding the history of the building within the knowledge of the occupants," not always a reliable method of conducting research! Regarding photographs, District #11 was allocated the grand total of \$75.00 for "film supplies and the developing thereof" in 1934. Fortunately, the early Virginia recorders didn't adhere to these limitations, and both Richmond and Williamsburg benefited from early photographic efforts. Some of the Williamsburg photographs show the structures prior to their restoration, while many of the Richmond buildings

have since been demolished.

Given all this recording activity in the early days of the Survey, it may come as a surprise to learn how few of Virginia's major domestic examples of 18th-century Georgian architecture were documented. It would not be until the 1970s and '80s, for example, that mansions such as Carter's Grove, Westover, Kenmore, and Gunston Hall would be recorded. At least a partial reason for this seeming neglect of some of the Commonwealth's most important architectural treasures can be found in the

Figure 4: HABS form, Seven Islands, Buckingham County, VA. The HABS collection contains over 3,000 of these one-page inventory forms.

1. STATE Virginia COUNTY Buckingham TOWN OR VICINITY New Canton STREET NO.		2. NAME Seven Islands		HABS PRIORITY 1 2 3	
3. HABS SURVEY NO. AIA		4. ORIGINAL OWNER John Nicholas PRESENT OWNER R. H. Spencer, Jr. DATE OR PERIOD 1847 STYLE Greek Revival ARCHITECT BUILDER Mr. Nicholas ORIGINAL USE Home PRESENT USE Home CONSTRUCTION Frame NO. OF STOR. 2 1/2 NOTABLE FEATURES - Fine entablature on the portico nice stairway			
5. TO BE FILLED IN BY THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS INDEX NO. NEGATIVE FILE PUBLISHED PHOTOS PUBLISHED DWGS.		6. HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE & DESCRIPTION Col. John Nicholas was a confederate soldier. The horse on which General Stuart rode			
7. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE (OTHER)		8. VAL. TO NATION STATE COMMUNITY OTHER			
9. POSSIBLE USE		10. NEIGHBORHOOD CONDITIONS ZONED CLASS			
11. AVAILABLE FILES MEASURED DRAWINGS OLD PHOTOS OTHER FIELD REPORTS RESEARCH REPORTS		12. OPEN TO PUBLIC FEE CONTROL BY			
13. REFERENCES: AUTHOR, TITLE AND PAGES Today & Yesterday in the Heart of Va. published by The Farmville Herald pp. 270-282 DATE 1935		14. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER Fleming McMullin, Jr. 2627-B Jefferson Park Circle Charlottesville, Virginia DATE OF RECORD 7/18/57			
CONTINUE ADDITIONAL DATA, PHOTOGRAPHS, COMMENTS, SKETCH OR MAP IN SPACE BELOW					
At New Canton, 2 miles off Rt. #60 on #652, turn right on P.R.					
6. during the Civil War was raised at Seven Islands. The Seven Islands School for Boys was here at this house.					

previously quoted Bulletin #3, which instructed the District officers not to include structures that were "in the custody of a state or municipal government, a historical or patriotic society, or in other ownership which [was] sufficiently alive to its responsibility as a custodian . . ."

Although the HABS program was greatly reduced in scope after the early Depression years, it received permanent authorization with the passage of the Historic Sites, Buildings, and Antiquities Act of 1935. From 1936 to 1941, the program was funded by the Works Progress Administration. In 1938 a National Catalog was published, and three years later a greatly expanded edition was issued. This 1941 catalog listed 2,693 structures throughout the nation that had been documented with over 23,000 sheets of drawings. Virginia was represented in this catalog with 521 entries, almost one fifth of the entire collection. The introduction to the 1941 catalog noted the fact that "buildings of preeminent architectural and historical importance are often not to be found in the Survey." Although the introduction sought to reassure its audience that "in most cases partial records of these exist elsewhere," it also warned that "the wholesale destruction that has recently been wrought abroad brings home the necessity of recording fully and scrupulously" such major monuments.

During the years of World War II and continuing into the 1950s, the Survey existed almost more in theory than in fact, and it was largely through donations of records produced by architects that the program survived in any viable fashion. In Virginia, however, one HABS-related event made the 1940s brighter than in most states. This was the publication of Thomas Waterman's *Mansions of Virginia* in 1945. Using a number of HABS photographs and relying on data obtained from his years with the Survey, Waterman declared in his Postscript that it was "imperative to preserve records of existing buildings and . . . to deposit them in suitable repositories such as the Historic American Buildings Survey."

HABS got its second wind in 1957 when the National Park Service launched its *Mission 66* program, an ambitious undertaking in which all properties under its jurisdiction were to be refurbished by 1966, the fiftieth anniversary of the service's founding. In historical parks, this meant the restoration of buildings that had received very desultory treatment during the war years; and of course the first step in any well programmed restoration was to obtain adequate measured drawings of the existing fabric.

Inasmuch as the machinery of HABS, which was a part of the Park Service, already existed, part of the reason for its resurgence was to produce the records necessary for the Mission 66 restorations. Fortunately, by the late 1950s, a number of changes had occurred that would result in new methods to produce these records. Unemployment was no longer endemic to the architectural profession, so that a decision was made to hire student architects during their summer vacations. Working under the supervision of professors of architecture or licensed architects, the students were able to obtain academic credits for their work. In addition to obtaining excellent labor at relatively low cost, it was expected—and has since proven to be the case—that exposure to historic architecture would encourage many HABS alumni to become ardent preservationists. These first student summer teams were so

successful that this approach continues to provide the majority of records that HABS currently obtains. Actually, Virginia did not benefit to any great degree from the Mission 66 program, though one of the nation's major recordings was just over the state line in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, where the entire village that witnessed John Brown's raid is a National Historical Park.

In addition to the *Mission 66* projects, other recording efforts were begun in the late 1950s. The 1958 Alexandria project was one of the earliest of another direction in recording that has since become a popular means of obtaining accurate documentation on historic structures—the photo-data project. Realizing that only a small percentage of buildings could be measured and drawn each summer, HABS has conducted other projects in which only photographs and written historical and architectural data are obtained. Usually, a local historical organization provides the data, while HABS sponsors the photography.

Another means of obtaining data that was also developed during this period of resurgence was the HABS Inventory (or HABS I). This one-page form contains a brief summary description and history, a sketch plan, and a small photograph of each structure. Virginia has over 3,000 HABS I's—the largest of any state, thanks to a grant to the University of Virginia funded through the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Between 1957 and 1963, students in Professor Nichols' classes at the University canvassed the entire Commonwealth to prepare these inventories. Housed with the regular HABS collection at the library of Congress, these records constitute a major resource for many of Virginia's lesser-known historic properties and formed the basis for the Division of Historic Landmarks' archives. (Fig. 4)

With the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act in 1966, HABS gained new allies across the country to assist in its mission of preservation through documentation. Among other provisions, the Act called for the creation of state preservation agencies to identify and nominate historic properties to the National Register of Historic Places. Virginia's General Assembly had already acted by establishing the Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission (now the Division of Historic Landmarks) as the official agency earlier that year. It took only a brief time for the Commission staff and HABS to become acquainted. A meeting in March 1967 between James W. Moody, Jr., first Executive Director of the Commission, and James Massey, then chief of HABS, resulted in an agreement between the two agencies to explore at least three avenues in which they could cooperate to identify and document further Virginia's architectural heritage. They agreed to pursue the establishment of a measured drawings program with the University of Virginia, to publish a Virginia HABS catalog, and to sponsor cooperative recording projects. The first to be accomplished was the last mentioned—cooperative projects. On July 4, 1967, a Memorandum of Agreement was signed whereby the Commission staff would provide the written data and HABS the photography to document a selected group of structures in Richmond. Included were a number of threatened cast-iron commercial buildings on Main Street (fig. 5), the Jefferson Hotel, and James Monroe's Tomb in Hollywood Cemetery.

After the Richmond project, VHLC and HABS joined with the Petersburg National Battlefield and

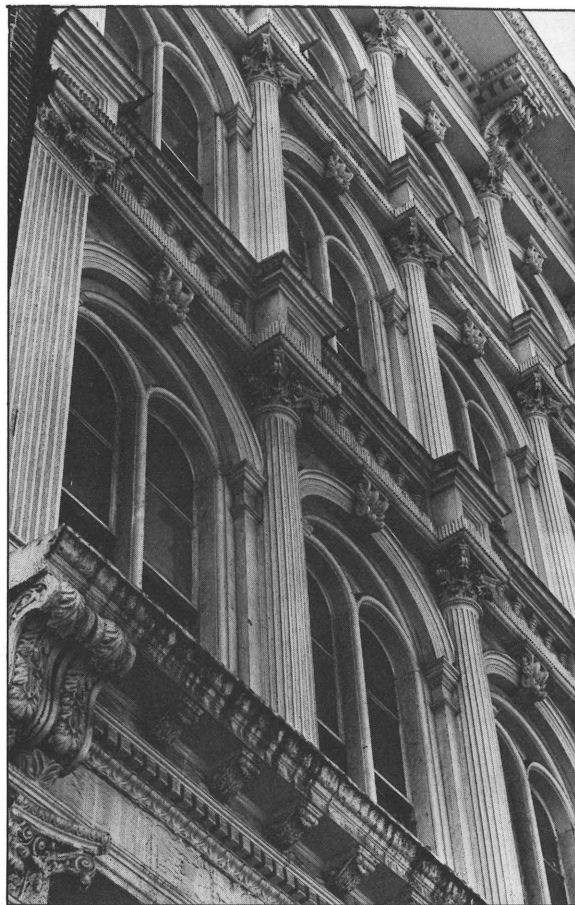


Figure 5: *Donnan-Asher Iron Front Building, East Main Street, Richmond (VA-853), Edward F. Heite, photographer VHLC, 1969. Unlike many of its companion cast-iron buildings on Richmond's Main Street which have been demolished, this fine example has been well preserved.*

the Historic Petersburg Foundation, Inc. in 1968 to undertake a full-scale summer project in the Cockade City. This successful effort not only documented some of the city's major monuments, such as the Exchange and the Old Farmer's Market, but also included a number of vernacular structures (fig. 6). The Petersburg summer project inaugurated a series of summer projects in Virginia, and while a number of these were cosponsored by the Commission, other agencies have also become involved. The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the boards of historic house museums, and private owners of historic properties are among those having projects. In July 1968 the Rockbridge Chapter of the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities conducted a photo-data project in the Lexington area, and drawings were made later of many of the buildings. The Stratford project was undertaken in 1969. Although HABS already had forty-five photographs of the mansion and its dependencies, the ancestral seat of the Lee family in Westmoreland County had never been drawn. Sponsored entirely by the Robert E. Lee Memorial Foundation, the project resulted in two sets of drawings—one showing the "as is" condition of the house, the other set with annotations differentiating original features from those dating from various restorations conducted by the Foundation (fig. 7). HABS still points with pride to the Stratford drawings as an exemplary recording of a major building.

While covered bridges, canal structures, and mills

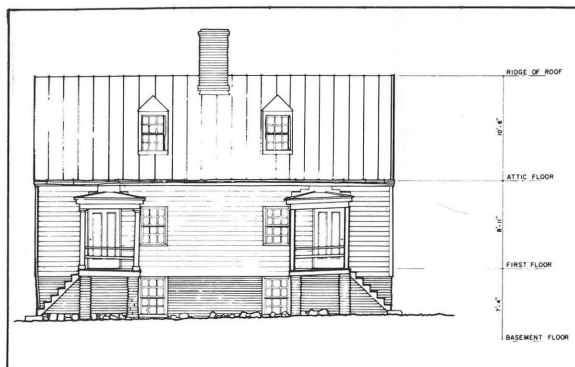


Figure 6: *Double House (VA-645), Petersburg, 1968, Thomas Sanford, delineator. This c. 1835 cottage is part of a building complex on Hurt and Plum streets and Grove Avenue known collectively as Pig Alley. HABS drawings tell it like it is. If a porch sags, then that deformation is shown on the drawing.*

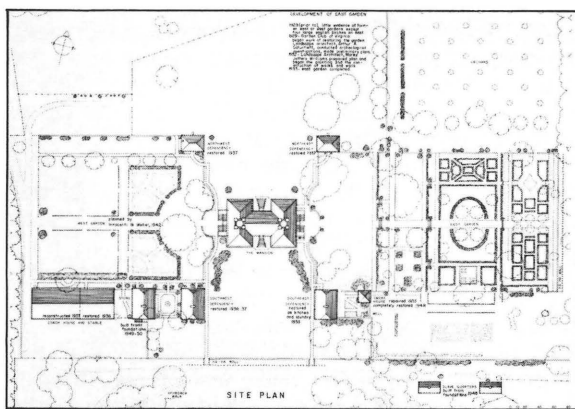


Figure 7: *Stratford Hall (VA-307), Westmoreland County, 1969. Site plan by Melvin Rotsch, delineator. One of 34 drawings of the Lee family seat, this site plan contains notes on the restoration of the garden and dependencies.*

had been recorded under HABS auspices, by 1969 it was clear that a program specifically "engineered" to their study was needed. The Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) was launched to insure that adequate documentation would be made of these resources. The first statewide inventory conducted by HAER was in Virginia in 1970 with the University of Virginia providing drafting space and students and the VHLC contributing funds to cover salaries. (Fig. 8)

The University of Virginia joined another HABS team in 1971 to record early buildings on Virginia's Eastern Shore. Among the most significant structures recorded were Pear Valley and Winona in Northampton County, both phenomenal survivors of 17th-century construction methods. (Fig. 9)

The National Trust for Historic Preservation owns several Virginia properties, and all of them, except the very recently acquired Montpelier, were recorded by HABS teams in the 1970s. The first, Belle Grove, was included in a 1972 project sponsored by Historic Winchester and the Winchester-Frederick County Historical Society. In 1973 the Trust sponsored a team to document Oatlands, the ca. 1805 Carter family mansion south of Leesburg in Loudoun County (Fig. 10). Two years later, Woodlawn, also built ca. 1805, the Fairfax County home of George Washington's adopted granddaughter, was recorded.

In 1973 another of the goals that the Commission and HABS had set in the documentation of Virginia's architectural heritage—the establishment

of a measured drawings program at the University of Virginia—was achieved by Professor K. Edward Lay, who began a course initially entitled "Studies in Vernacular Architecture." Now in its twelfth year, and more appropriately titled "Measured Drawings," this program has amassed an impressive corpus of documentation on Virginia architecture. Early each semester, Professor Lay shows the students slides of buildings that are available for recording, and the students then select among them. To date, ninety buildings have been documented by 140 students. Their drawings number exactly 600, and these, along with written architectural and historical data, have been donated to HABS. Though many buildings recorded are within easy driving distance of Charlottesville, some are as far afield as Essex County in the Tidewater. Some students have eschewed vernacular buildings to concentrate on more formal designs. Included in this latter group are the Jefferson-designed structures at the University, which had received scant documentation over the years. In 1984 Harry J. Bradley III and Mary A. Reuman-Redenbaugh were awarded jointly the 1984 Peterson Prize for their drawings of Pavilion IV (Fig. 11) mentioned in *Notes* 25. This prize, named for the founder of HABS, is a cash award given annually to the student(s) whose donated drawings are judged to be the best received by the Survey. In 1984 ninety-six drawings were entered in the competition for the prize.

The efforts of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation in cosponsoring HABS projects in Virginia commenced in 1975 with the recording of Carter's Grove and have continued to the present. Among the well known Williamsburg buildings drawn by recent HABS teams are Bruton Parish Church, the Public Records Office, and the St. George Tucker House. The Foundation is currently documenting early agricultural buildings throughout Tidewater Virginia. These drawings will be invaluable in insuring that future reconstructions of service outbuildings in the restored area of Williamsburg will be done as authentically as possible (Fig. 12).

Although HABS and the Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission had formally committed themselves in 1967 to cosponsoring a Virginia Catalog, it was not until 1976 that this major undertaking was achieved. Published by the University Press of Virginia, the catalog contains listings for over 900 structures, as well as the name and address of each structure recorded with a HABS form.

Among the many ways in which the Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission encourages preservation of Virginia's historic resources is the preservation easement program. As any work on properties that have easements must be approved by the Commission, it is important that accurate records be made to document the appearance and condition of the property at the time the easement is executed. With these records, the appropriateness of future alterations can be evaluated and monitored.

The Landmarks Commission's first easement was Old Mansion in Bowling Green, Caroline County, in 1969. Fortunately, this important house had not changed appreciably since it was documented by HABS in 1936 with 16 sheets of drawings. The majority of properties for which easements have since been accepted had not been drawn, however, and in 1978, the Commission inaugurated a program to see that accurate records were made. Westover, one of the most familiar of Virgin-

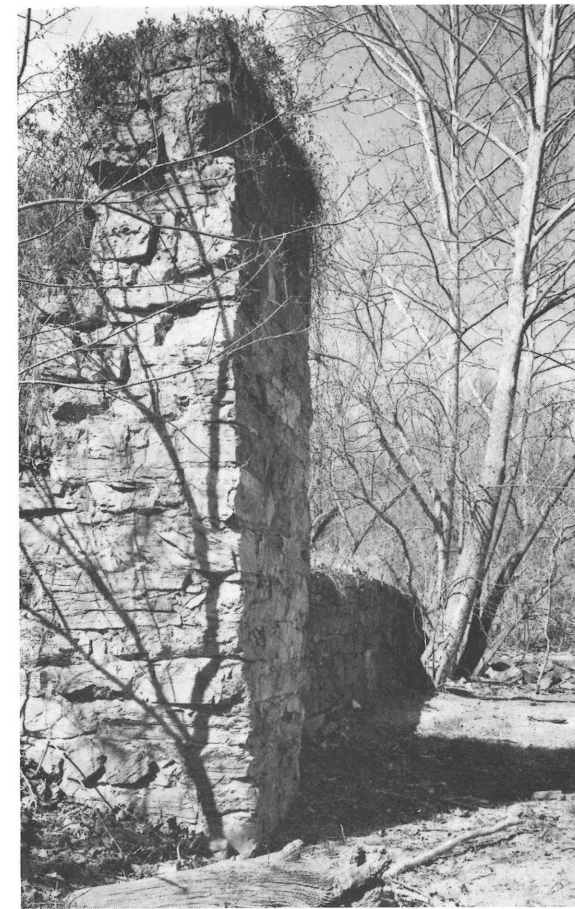


Figure 8: *James River and Kanawha Canal, South River Dam (HAER no. VA-22), Lexington, vicinity, 1971, Jack E. Boucher, photographer. The ruins of this massive structure were among the examples of Virginia's engineering heritage recorded by the initial HAER inventory.*

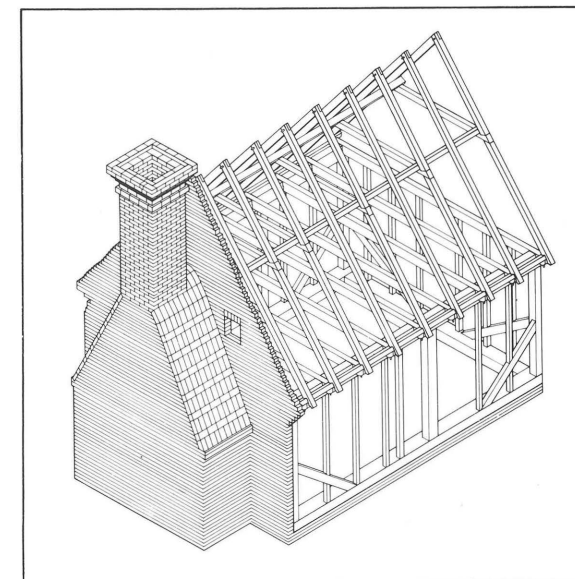


Figure 9: *Pear Valley (VA-960), Northampton County, 1971. Daniel Donovan, delineator. This isometric drawing provides an easily understood picture of the structural framing techniques employed in this early yeoman's cottage.*

ia's major 18th-century houses, was the subject of the first HABS summer team to record easement properties (Fig. 13). The Westover project was followed in successive summers by teams in Gloucester County (1979) and at Berkeley Plantation in Charles City County (1980). In all of these



Figure 10: *Oatlands (VA-949-A)*, Loudoun County, 1973. William Edmund Barrett, photographer.

easement recordings the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation generously participated by furnishing drafting space, equipment, and professional advice while VHLC staff assisted with the historical research. It is hoped that drawings can be made in the near future for remaining properties under easement to the Commonwealth.

Meanwhile, recording has continued on a number of other major Virginia landmarks. In 1981 the Board of Regents of Gunston Hall, the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America, sponsored a team that measured this masterpiece of 18th-century architecture and decoration. Then, in 1983, Blandfield, the prodigious five-part Georgian mansion of the Beverley family of Essex County, was recorded. These drawings are being used in the restoration that is being done at Blandfield by the current owners, Mr. and Mrs. James C. Wheat, Jr.

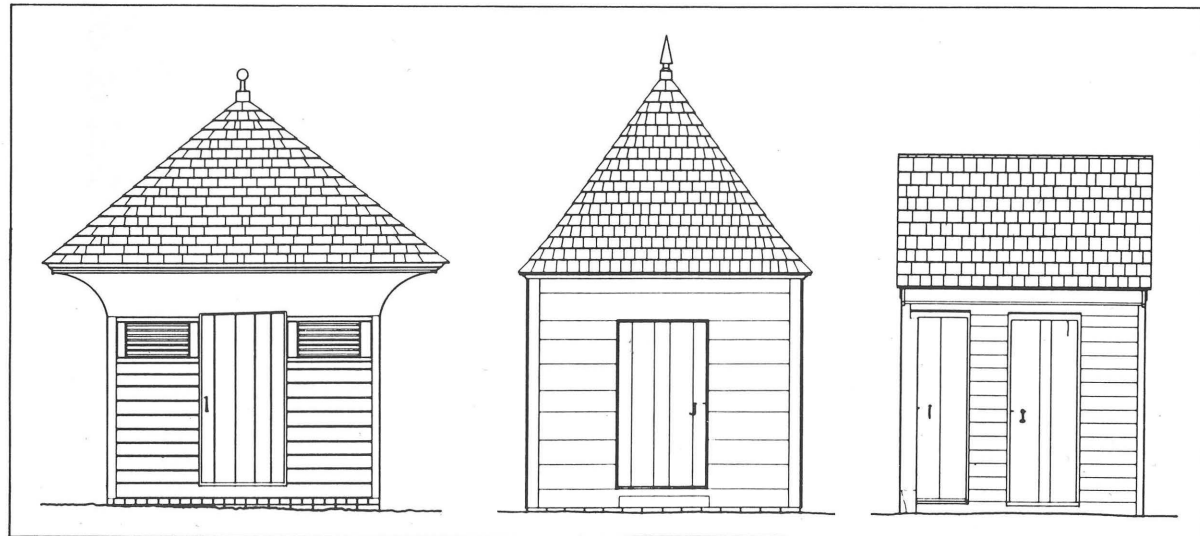
During the summer of 1984, two more properties were the subjects of HABS summer teams: Kenmore at Fredericksburg and the White House of the Confederacy in Richmond (Fig. 14). Both were supervised from the HABS Washington office by staff architect Paul Dolinsky. The documentation of

Kenmore was done in cooperation with the Kenmore Association, Inc., with a grant from the Commonwealth of Virginia administered by VHLC. Measuring and then drawing Kenmore's phenomenal plaster ceilings were a challenge to the team, but a glance at the cover of this issue shows how well they

Figure 11: *Pavilion IV, University of Virginia (VA-193-K)*, Charlottesville, 1984. Harold J. Bradley III, delineator. This elevation drawing was one of a set of 10 sheets that won for its delineator the HABS 1984 Peterson Prize.



Figure 12: *Archibald Blair Dairy, Smokehouse, and Privy (VA-196)*, Williamsburg, 1980. Willie Graham and David T. Marsh, delineators. These modest structures are among the few original outbuildings in Virginia's Colonial capital. The drawings can serve to demonstrate typical features and details in future reconstructions of similar buildings.



succeeded. The concurrent work done at the White House of the Confederacy was the first major HABS drawing project undertaken in Richmond since 1940. Sponsored by the Museum of the Confederacy and directed by Douglas J. Harnsberger, formerly architect at the Landmarks Commission, the team produced drawings that will be used as part of a permanent display on the history and development of this important building. At the conclusion of the project, the Museum of the Confederacy sponsored a seminar entitled "New Visions of Neoclassical Richmond." The HABS drawings played an important role in this effort to reassess attributions and to study further this pivotal chapter of Richmond's architectural history. It was the sort of use that HABS drawings should be put to more often.

Plans are currently underway to record two more Virginia buildings during the summer of 1985. Although the builder/owner went on record as claiming that it would be "the best dwelling house in the state, except that of Monticello," Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest is relatively unknown. The Bedford County retreat has recently been acquired by the Corporation for Jefferson's Poplar Forest, which is launching a drive to restore it for public visitation. The house retains its original octagonal shape, but much of the trim and detail were installed after a fire in 1845. HABS drawings can record these added features, which may ultimately be removed. The drawings will assist restoration architects in determining locations for necessary mechanical equipment and protective systems.

More recently, plans have been solidified to record another important Richmond landmark. A HABS team will prepare drawings of the early 19th-century Wickham-Valentine House this summer.

From its inception the HABS collection at the Library of Congress has been open to the public, and all of the Survey's records are reproducible and free of any copyright restrictions. As a result of a major in-house project during the summers of 1983 and 1984, all the Virginia records have been transmitted to the Library of Congress and are available for use. Inquiries regarding the collection should be directed in writing to: Chief, Manuscripts Division, Room LM 102, James Madison Building, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C. 20540.

In spite of all the buildings and records that this article has discussed, not to mention many others, much remains to be done to insure that a truly comprehensive record of America's historic architecture will be made. Two obvious lacunae in Virginia are Portsmouth, which has made such strides in preservation in recent years (see *Notes #25*), and Roanoke. Except for the one-page HABS forms, Portsmouth has not one entry in the collection, while Roanoke has only one: its early 20th-century Municipal Building. Unfortunately, the litany of unrepresented places, even in Virginia, could go on far too long.

HABS is a mendicant order, and depends on interested cosponsors to fund the projects that enable it to continue to build its collection. The Survey welcomes inquiries regarding its program; they should be addressed to Chief, Historic American Buildings Survey, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127. Only with the assistance of others can we continue our mission to preserve—through proper documentation—our priceless architectural heritage.

S. Allen Chambers

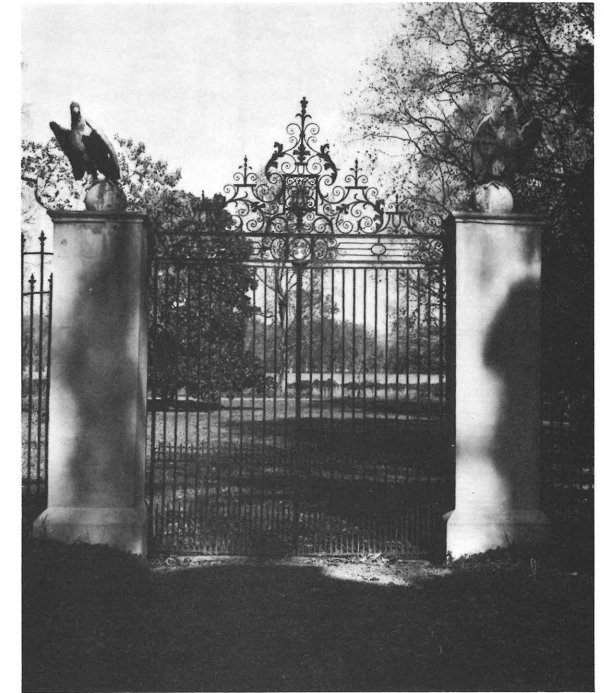


Figure 13: *Westover (VA-402)*, Charles City County, 1978.

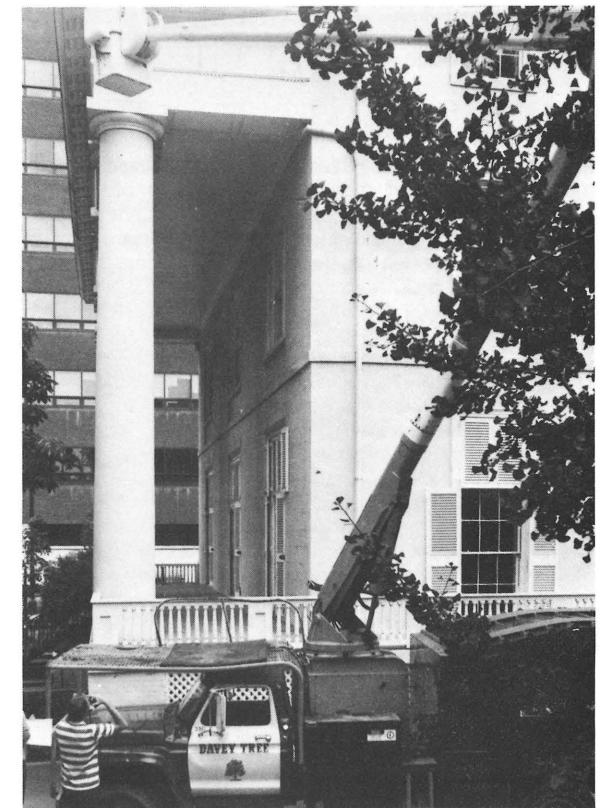


Figure 14: A HABS team at work at the White House of the Confederacy, (VA-861), Richmond, 1984. In order to measure the cornice, roof, and monitor on the roof of the structure, it was necessary for team members to be hoisted by a "cherry picker," contracted for from a local landscaping firm.

S. Allen Chambers, Jr., is an architectural historian with the Historic American Buildings Survey in Washington. Prior to his work at HABS, he was with the National Register of Historic Places, and before that, with the architectural/restoration firm of J. Everette Fauber, Jr., FAIA. He is a graduate of Princeton University, and has a Master's degree in Architectural History from the University of Virginia. A native of Lynchburg, he is the author of *Lynchburg: An Architectural History* (University Press of Virginia, 1981).

The Virginia Landmarks Register

The Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission is pleased to note the following additions made to the Virginia Landmarks Register since the fall of 1984. As the state's official list of properties worthy of preservation, the Register embraces buildings, structures, sites, and districts prominently identified with Virginia history and culture from prehistoric times to the present. Since the General Assembly established the Register in 1966, recognition of more than 1,000 places has directed public attention to Virginia's extraordinary legacy from the past and greatly encouraged the preservation efforts of state, local, and private agencies and groups. All of the properties here listed have been nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

A cloth-bound copy of the **Virginia Landmarks Register** (published in 1976) 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 about each of approximately 600 properties and is profusely illustrated.

Although already recognized by both the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places, recent efforts have resulted in an expanded significance statement for the **Alexandria Historic District** by focusing attention on the structures dating from the first third of the 20th century. Included are early 20th-century residences rendered in a variety of styles including American Foursquare, Bungalow, Neo-Classical, and Second Empire. Examples of these styles include the 500 block of North Washington Street and the 700 block of Oronoco Street. Other buildings singled out for attention are those in the district's commercial centers, particularly the Art-Deco Virginia Public Service Building, the Neo-Classical Post Office and the Burke and Herbert Bank at 625 King Street. Also included is the former Ford Plant designed by Albert Kahn, built in Alexandria because of the city's excellent access to transportation lines. The factory stands today as an important example of early modern architecture in Alexandria.

The Allied Arts Building on Church Street in downtown Lynchburg is one of Virginia's most impressive expressions of the Art Deco-Skyscraper style in the early 20th century. Designed by Lynchburg architects Stanhope Johnson and Addison Staples, it is a steel-frame structure clad in a combination of yellow brick and locally quarried greenstone. Effective combinations of these materials in varying proportions visually divide the building into three major components: base, office shaft, and capital. Although the Allied Arts Building is no longer the city's tallest structure as it was upon completion in 1931, it still commands a dominant position on the downtown skyline of Lynchburg. It continues to provide office space for many of the city's leading business leaders, lawyers, and doctors.

The Ball's Bluff Battlefield and National Cemetery are of national significance as the site of the latest in a series of Union defeats in the first year of the Civil War which raised serious questions in Congress as to how the Civil War was to be conducted. These concerns led Congress to establish the Joint Committee on the Conduct

of the War. The membership of the committee, packed with Radicals, exercised its investigative and quasi-judicial power in such a manner through the war as to have a major role in the advancement or destruction of several senior officers' careers. The Committee provided the congressional leadership for the Radicals who saw the war as a revolution and not merely a struggle to restore the Union. Ball's Bluff was the battle that served as a catalyst in rallying congressional support for the establishment of the Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War, and thus its ramifications were political rather than military. The National Cemetery was established in December, 1865 as the final resting place for fifty-four Union soldiers.

A thematic nomination, entitled **Public Schools in Augusta County, Virginia, 1870-1940**, (see article p. 28), is the result of an intensive countywide survey of educational buildings and includes the outstanding examples of this fast-disappearing resource in the Commonwealth. The nomination traces the history of rural public education in Augusta County beginning with adoption of the Underwood Constitution in 1869 which mandated the establishment of a system of free public schools in Virginia to open for the 1870-71 school year. Nineteen examples of different building forms and styles were chosen for inclusion in the nomination including seven one-room schools, three two-room schools, one three-room school, and ten consolidated schools. The selected schools illustrate the evolution of school building forms, from the locally planned and built one- and two-room schools to the larger consolidated schools based on specifications furnished by the State Board of Education. Augusta County schools singled out for recognition are: Glebe Schoolhouse in the Summerdean vicinity (1850-1860); Walker's Creek Schoolhouse in the Newport vicinity (1850-1870); Moffett's Creek Schoolhouse, also in the Newport vicinity (1873-1880s); Westview Schoolhouse in the Weyers Cave area (1874, 1885-1890); Mount Meridian Schoolhouse (1886); and Estaline Schoolhouse in the Estaline Valley (1909). Mount Zion Schoolhouse in the Mount Solon vicinity (1870s) and the Verona School in Verona are the repre-

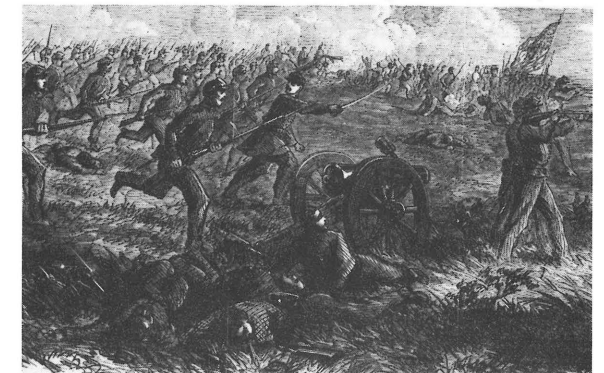


United States Post Office and Courthouse, Alexandria Historic District (expanded significance)

Allied Arts Building, Lynchburg. Credit: Richard Cheek



Battle of Balls Bluff, Loudoun County. Sketch by A. Waud, Esquire, dated October 1, 1861 which appeared in The Official and Illustrated War Record, 1898. Credit: Virginia State Library.



Verona School in the Augusta County Rural Schools thematic nomination. Built in 1911, it illustrates the three-room plan. It was later enlarged.





Beaver Creek Plantation, Martinsville vicinity of Henry County. East facade. Credit: Emma Jane Saxe.



Chamberlin Hotel. Fort Monroe Historic District, Hampton.



Christiansburg Depot, located in the Cambria section of Christiansburg, Montgomery County.



Home for Confederate Women. Located on North Shepherd Street in Richmond near the Virginia Museum.



Carter Family Thematic Nomination, Hiltons, Scott County. View of A. P. Carter Homeplace.



Carter Family Thematic Nomination. Mount Vernon Methodist Church.



Franklin Historic District. 300 Lee Street.



Grand marble stair to mezzanine level at east end of lobby of Hotel Danville. Credit: Alan Dalton

sentative two- and three-room schools. Consolidated schools include Mount Sidney School (1912); Middlebrook Grade School (1916); Weyers Cave School (1916-1917); Craigsville School (1917); Middlebrook High School (1922); New Hope High School (1925); Crimora School (1927); North River High School (1930); Deerfield School (1937); and the Augusta County Training School (1938).

Beaver Creek Plantation, a 19th-century Greek Revival mansion located north of Martinsville is historically significant for its association with the development of southside Virginia's tobacco plantation economy on a large scale. Occupation of the land dates from 1776 when Colonel George Hairston built a brick house on the site. Marshall Hairston inherited the plantation and house from his father, and in 1839 when the original house burned, built the core of the present dwelling. The large Classical Revival front wings and portico were added in the early 20th century, reflecting the contemporary design styles of that time with emphasis on conservative taste.

The Carter Family Thematic Nomination focuses on buildings associated with the lives of A. P., Sara, and Maybelle Carter, important collectors, performers, and composers of mountain music and major figures in the hillbilly music revival of the 20th century. The primary unifying theme is historical in nature, based on buildings directly associated with these original Carter family members. The selected properties are the A. P. Carter Homeplace, the A. P. Carter Store, the A. P. and Sara Carter House, the Maybelle and Ezra Carter House, and the Mount Vernon Methodist Church. Typical vernacular architecture, these buildings all serve as representative examples of Scott County's rural architecture from 1890 to 1945. Despite their fairly recent arrival on the traditional music scene in the 1920s, the original Carter family has been recognized by folklorists and historians for their tremendous influence on American folk music. Their re-

cording career, which began in 1927, came at a formative time in the hillbilly music industry as it was building a new regional popular music on a folk base. Under A. P.'s leadership, the Carter Family was instrumental in transforming their expression of Virginia folk music from a local phenomenon into a regional one.

The Chamberlin Hotel, completed in 1928, is the work of prominent Richmond architect Marcellus Wright, Sr., who also designed the John Marshall Hotel and the Mosque Auditorium in Richmond. Wright's Chamberlin, an example of a Beaux-Arts interpretation of the Georgian mode, reflects the English colonial heritage of the Peninsula as well as the influence of the associated firm of Warren and Wetmore. The Chamberlin served as the only resort hotel on the Chesapeake Bay for many years as well as housing for military officers and their families during World War II. Anti-aircraft batteries replaced the ornate Neo-Georgian cupolas on the Chamberlin towers to provide for defense of Fort Monroe and Hampton Roads. The Chamberlin is the fourth in a series of resort hotels housing visitors to Fort Monroe. The present building was financed in part by the Vanderbilt family through their hotel company, and the hotel opened as the Chamberlin-Vanderbilt in 1928. The Chamberlin Hotel is located in the Fort Monroe Historic District. (NR 1966, VLR 1969).

The Christiansburg Depot, one of only two known surviving railroad structures erected during the Reconstruction period in Southwest Virginia, occupies a prominent site at the railroad crossing in Cambria, a community now within the town limits of Christiansburg. Since the construction of a new passenger station nearby in 1906, the building has been known locally as the Cambria Freight Station. The frame Italianate structure is significant not only because it is one of the oldest depots in the state, but also because it embodies elements of high style architecture made popular by the pattern books of the period.

Christiansburg Depot with its imposing central tower, overhanging eaves, and deep bracketed frieze, is a prominent commercial landmark in the region as well as being the most impressive structure in the Cambria community.

The Franklin Historic District is situated at the head of navigation of the Blackwater River. The village of Franklin arose between 1835 and 1840 on the Southampton County side of the Portsmouth and Roanoke railroad bridge. By the mid-19th century, the development of rail transportation and river commerce in southeastern Virginia made Franklin an important commercial depot for agricultural products of the region. During the last third of the 19th century, Franklin became widely known as the headquarters of the Union Camp Corporation. The majority of the buildings included in the district date to the economic resurgence of the town in the late 19th century. Picturesque streetscapes of high style and vernacular residences are seen throughout the large neighborhood west of the downtown area. Because of a large fire in 1881, most of the structures in the commercial area date from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Examples of Italianate and Colonial Revival styles are particularly well represented in the commercial architecture along Main Street. The Franklin Historic District maintains an exceptional level of architectural integrity.

The Home for Confederate Women, located in Richmond in the vicinity of the Virginia Museum, is an excellent example of Federal Revival architecture in Virginia. The building, with its fine exterior and interior detailing, is based on James Hoban's design for the White House, the inspiration for a number of architectural works in the Federal Revival style associated with women. Designed by locally prominent architect, Merrill Lee, the home was chartered by the General Assembly in 1898 and was the first institution of its kind to be founded in the state in recognition of the loyal women of the Confederacy. The

present home, completed in 1932, has served for half a century as a memorial to the wives, widows, daughters, and female descendants of Confederate veterans. The person most responsible for the building of the present home was Mrs. Andrew Jackson Montague, wife of the Governor. Her persistence resulted in the construction of the present home and annual funding from the State which continued until 1982.

The Hotel Danville, which includes remnants of Danville's Municipal Building and City Market (1890), is a Neo-Adamesque building erected in 1927 and described as "an architectural and visual landmark contributing a cosmopolitan character to downtown Danville . . ." It is reflective of the local development forces which accompanied the national economic boom of the 1920s. Both the consolidation of the tobacco warehousing and processing industry and the rise of the textile industry along the Dan River combined to create an atmosphere of prosperity which called for construction of a quality multipurpose high-rise structure in the City of Danville. The owner and developer of the Hotel Danville was the firm of Clements, Chism, and Parker, Inc. The firm, which originated in Danville in the 1880s, was the city's largest retail furniture enterprise and occupied the greatest amount of commercial space in the Hotel Danville. The hotel was easily accessible to travelers and businessmen disembarking from the nearby Southern Railroad passenger station. The western portion of the building originally incorporated a motion picture theatre and also housed Danville's first commercial radio station. Today, the Hotel Danville has been adapted for high-rise housing and continues its role as one of the most dominant structures in the city.

Intervale, one of the oldest brick farmhouses in the Churchville area of Augusta County, is an excellent example of Augusta County's domestic architecture in the early 19th century. The interior is highlighted by a vibrant,



Intervale, Churchville vicinity of Augusta County. First-floor staircase showing fine woodwork attributed to Christian Baer.



Intervale, Churchville vicinity of Augusta County.



James River Dam, one of the James River and Kanawha Canal landmarks in Lynchburg. Credit: Central Virginia Images, Tom Graves, Jr.

decorative style of woodwork inspired by the early German settlers. The eagle designs on the three original mantels aid in attributing the woodwork to Christian Baer, a German joiner and cabinetmaker who settled in the Churchville community in 1809. Intervale was built for Jonathan Shirley. In 1841, it was sold to George A. Shuey whose family occupied the house for over 100 years. Also included in the nominated property are a bank barn and a two-level spring house.

Lynchburg properties included in the **James River and Kanawha Canal thematic nomination** are the Lower Basin and Ninth Street Bridge, the Blackwater Creek Aqueduct between the Norfolk-Southern railroad tracks and the Chessie System tracks, and the Waterworks Dam, James River Dam, (also known as Scots Dam), and Guard Locks at the lower end of Daniel's Island (formally Cabell's Island). The James River and Kanawha Canal was one of the nation's major commercial and transportation arteries during the mid-19th century. Lynchburg was the terminus of the "First Grand Division" which extended 146.5 miles from Richmond to the feeder dam just above Lynchburg. This section was opened to traffic in December 1840, and was the only one of the three divisions ever completed. During the 1850s, the canal enjoyed its greatest prosperity and assisted in Lynchburg's development as the major commercial and industrial center of the Piedmont region. With the development of the railroads, use of the canal declined, and in 1880 the newly organized Richmond and Alleghany Railway Company was authorized to take over the canal company's property. The remaining structures and sites of the canal system through Lynchburg provide important information on the development of engineering and transportation technology and in addition are key monuments to the commercial development of the state.

The Major David Graham House, prominently sited on a hill overlooking the intersection of Virginia routes 619

and 626 in Wythe County, was built in 1840, with additions dating to 1855, 1870 and 1890. It is a 2½-story wood and brick structure of immense proportions. The architecture of the house provides a chronicle of the architectural taste of a successful southwestern Virginia family during the last two-thirds of the 19th century. The earliest portion of the house was standing by 1840, constructed by the successful entrepreneur, David Graham for his large family. Graham operated mines, furnaces, a forge, and a mill in his iron manufacturing endeavors. He is remembered as a shrewd businessman in the pioneer age of the iron industry in Wythe County which has resulted in his identification as the first ironmaster of southwestern Virginia. The home is named for Graham's son, Major David Graham, who saw service in the Civil War and, during the later stages of the conflict, supervised production at his father's forge, supplying "gun metal of the highest quality" to the famous Tredegar Ironworks in Richmond. Major Graham remodeled the house in the post-war period, adding the hip-on-hip roof, towers and dormers.

The Otter Creek Archaeological Site, a prehistoric hamlet, dates from the last half of the Late Woodland Period (AD 1300-1650). It contains undisturbed prehistoric cultural features and well-preserved faunal and floral remains that could contribute significant information on regional environmental adaptation and settlement patterns during this period. Its location on a remote upland spur of the Blue Ridge is highly unusual for this region. It is possible that this strategic location can provide data that helps to identify networks of communication and trade connecting Dan River related cultures on both sides of the Blue Ridge Mountains. The discovery of fired lumps of pottery clay and soil fragments suggests onsite manufacture of vessels and pipes.

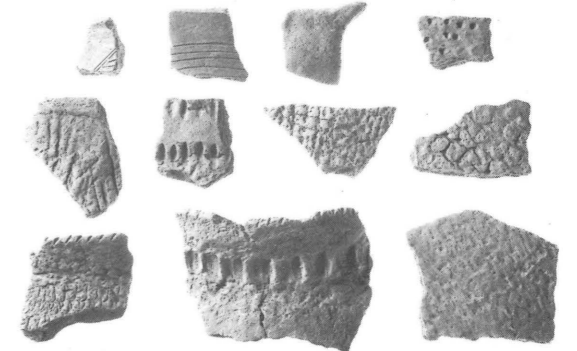
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Alexandria, is architecturally significant as the only surviving Gothic Revival-



Major David Graham House, Wythe County.



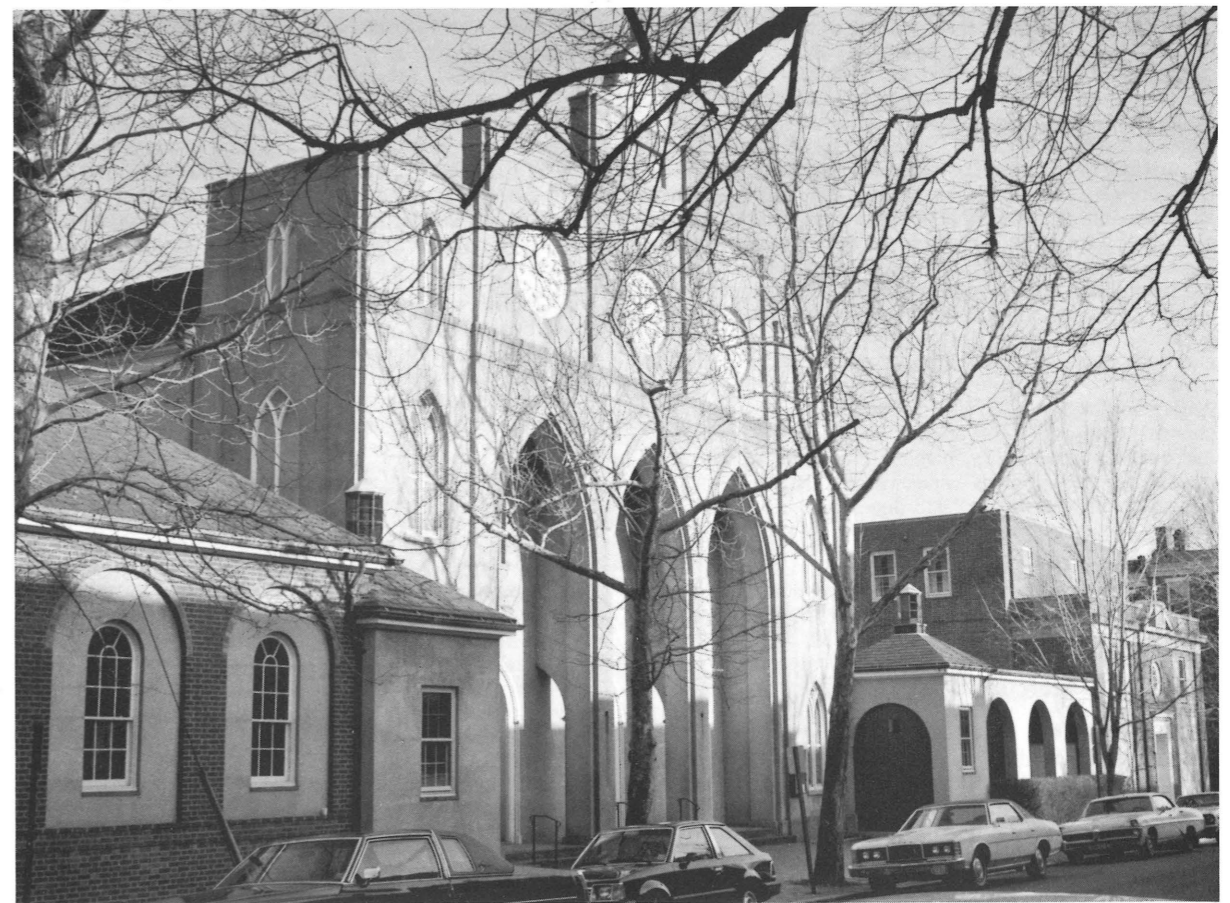
Otter Creek Archaeological Site, Franklin County; looking northwest to site which is located on the end of tree-covered ridge.

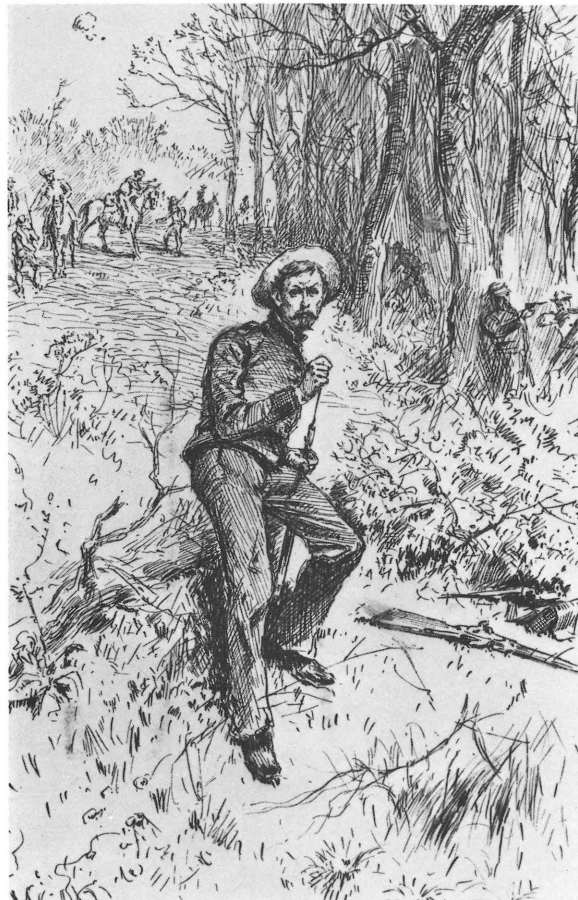


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Otter Creek Archaeological Site, Franklin County. Dan River ware ceramics.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 228 South Pitt Street, Alexandria.





Saylers Creek Battlefield, Amelia and Prince Edward counties. Sketch by William Ludwell Sheppard portraying a soldier's last shot for want of ammunition in Detailed Minutiae . . . by Carlton McCarthy. Richmond, 1882. Credit: Virginia State Library.

style structure designed by noted architect Benjamin Henry Latrobe which has retained most of the elements of its original design. This 1817 building is also important for the roles it has played in the religious and social-humanitarian life of Alexandria. Located only six miles from the heart of the nation's capital, St. Paul's has radiated life and energy into the community as the scene of the founding of the Virginia Theological Seminary and the Alexandria Hospital. Its Sunday School was the first in the nation to contribute to a foreign mission. It served as the site for the consecration of three bishops as well as for baptisms, marriages, and funerals of Washington, Fairfax and Lewis family members. As the center of town life on many occasions, it welcomed lectures, patriotic observances, Diocesan councils, and charitable endeavors. During the Civil War, St. Paul's suffered an incident without parallel in American history when its minister was arrested in the chancel. Changes to the original building have been minimal over its long history, highlighted by the addition of a number of stained-glass windows and the application of stucco to the exterior in 1923 due to the original plaster having badly deteriorated by that time.

The Sayler's Creek Battlefield was the site of the last major engagement between the armies under General Robert E. Lee and Ulysses S. Grant before the surrender at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865. It is believed that the largest surrender of an army without terms took place following this battle. The military engagements were commanded by some of the most famous military leaders of both the northern and southern forces. They included such notables as Richard S. Ewell, Joseph B. Kershaw, G.W.C. Lee, Richard H. Anderson, George E. Pickett, Bushrod R. Johnson, and John B. Gordon for the Confederacy; and Horatio G. Wright, Philip H. Sheridan, Wesley Merritt, George A. Custer, George Crook, and Andrews A. Humphreys for the Union. The success of the Federal forces here led to the final downfall of Lee's army



Southwest Historic District, Roanoke. View looking southeast at the 800 Block of Campbell Avenue.



Southwest Historic District, Roanoke. View of 534-540 Mountain Avenue, looking southeast.

three days later. In reporting his victory to President Lincoln, Sheridan (by way of General Grant) wrote, "If the thing is pressed, I think that Lee will surrender." Lincoln replied, "Let the thing be pressed." The Battle of Hillsman's Farm, the Battle of Marshall's Crossroads, and the Battle of Lockett's Farm were the three main actions of this battle. The Hillsman House and the Lockett House have been preserved and are part of the interpretive programs for the battlefield. The Sayler's Creek Historical Battlefield State Park occupies about one-fourth of the registered site.

The Southwest Historic District is a large urban residential neighborhood located in the southwest quadrant of the City of Roanoke. Developed primarily between the years 1882 and 1930, a period of tremendous growth and prosperity in the city's early history, the compact area is the most architecturally cohesive residential neighborhood of the inner city. There are three distinct neighborhoods in the district: Old Southwest, Mountain View, and Hurt Park. The Southwest Historic District is known for its remarkable collection of turn-of-the-century and early 20th-century residences ranging from modest bungalows to large mansions. The district developed in response to the tremendous demand for housing during Roanoke's early prosperous years. It was the address of workmen as well as officials of the Norfolk and Western Railway, and there are few residential neighborhoods in the state containing such a large number of examples of upper- and middle-class housing of the period. Of the nearly 1700 structures in the district, only ninety have been judged non-contributing, testament to the outstanding integrity of this residential neighborhood in the 20th century.

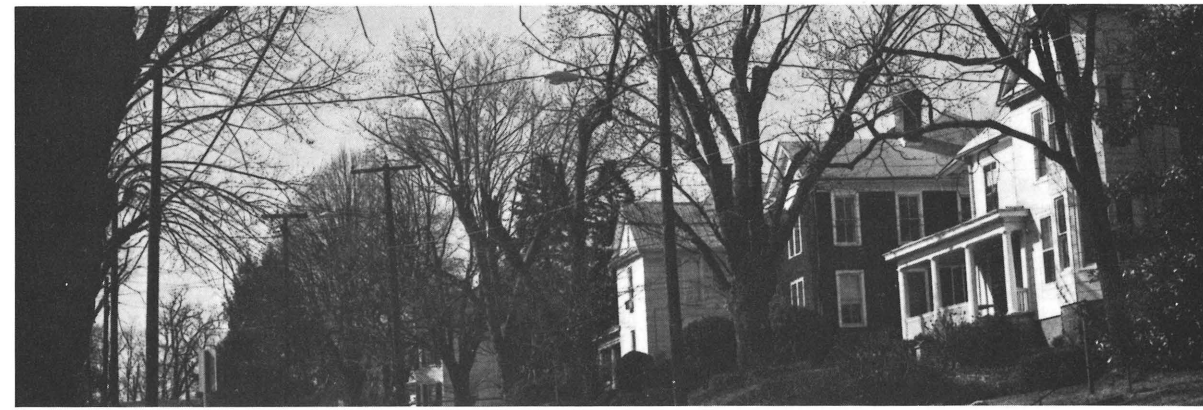
Walkerton is located on Mountain Road in the northwestern section of Henrico County. It is probably the largest and best preserved antebellum dwelling-tavern in central Virginia. Walkerton was built in 1825 for John



Walkerton, Mountain Road in Henrico County.



Williamsville, Hanover County.



Wertland Street Historic District, Charlottesville. Looking west from 1021 Wertland Street. Credit: Charlottesville Department of Community Development.

Walker or possibly one of his heirs to serve travelers along the Mountain Road, once a major route between Richmond and the western Piedmont. Stagecoaches stopped at Walkerton regularly before the Civil War, and as late as 1900, a large carriage shed and stable stood in the backyard. The tavern-dwelling is a 2½-story brick structure with early wooden porches on three sides. The house contains several unusual architectural features, including two separate three-story stairways; a rare, original enclosed service porch; and a unique hinged swinging wooden partition that allowed one of the upstairs rooms to be enlarged into a ballroom. Four early outbuildings remain in the yard, including a detached servants' quarters and a smokehouse.

The Wertland Street Historic District is significant because of its historic and architectural associations with both Charlottesville and the University of Virginia. Beginning with the 1830 construction of the Wertebaker House, home of the University's second librarian, through current times as a residential area for faculty and students, the development of Wertland Street has closely paralleled the growth of the University. Containing the most undisturbed and cohesive collection of Victorian vernacular design houses left in Charlottesville, the district has remained relatively unchanged for seventy years, avoiding the forces of change that have altered the area surrounding it and many of the other neighborhoods near the University of Virginia. While the recently listed Rugby Road-University Corner Historic District includes many significant buildings that reflect the history of the University over more than a 100-year period, nowhere else in Charlottesville is the history and architecture of turn-of-the-century Charlottesville as well preserved and self-contained as in the Wertland Street Historic District.

Williamsville, located on an elevated site on Route 615 in Hanover County, is a formal, two-story Flemish bond

"I" house constructed between 1794 and 1803. Considered one of the best preserved Federal-style dwellings in the county, Williamsville's interior millwork is notable for the elegance of its design. Benjamin Ellett and John Haw were the builders of Williamsville which, because of its site on the highest hill in the area, served as headquarters for generals Grant, Hooker and Meade during prolonged attacks on Richmond during the Civil War. George William Pollard was the first owner of Williamsville and served as the clerk of Hanover County from 1781 to 1824. Extant records, including insurance policies, financial records, and building receipts, make this 18th-century property one of the best documented in the area.

Virginia's Vanishing Past

Everything that is known about Virginia's prehistoric past and a substantial amount of her history before the Civil War is being recorded through archaeological research. This information is critical in the historic period for many Virginia counties since the fires which consumed much of the Confederate capital of Richmond in 1865 also destroyed records taken there for safekeeping. Increasingly rapid development, particularly east of the Fall Line and in Northern Virginia, is gradually eliminating our rich inventory of significant archaeological resources, thereby removing the last source of information for understanding the past.

This priceless heritage is nonrenewable. Once sites are destroyed, we are denied the opportunity to experience our past through artifacts and the meaning they bear when scientifically recovered. Beyond field recovery, the current lack of resources does not permit the laboratory treatment and stabilization of decaying, metal artifacts from historic sites, so that even if they are saved initially, they are eventually lost to corrosion.

The situation that exists where both identified and unidentified archaeological sites are being lost cannot be solved by applications for research grants. With its limited staff and budget, the Division of Historic Landmarks' Research Center for Archaeology has attempted to mitigate adverse effects on valuable archaeological sites, using an extensive network of volunteers throughout the state. Even with the assistance of the Council of Virginia Archaeologists and the Archaeological Society of Virginia, the program is unable to meet the needs. What follows are examples of both the threats to archaeological sites and the high quality of information being lost where salvage efforts are not possible.

Without man's assistance, natural erosion, most evident in the coastal zones, has taken its toll of archaeological sites. Researchers have concluded that most, if not all, the original fortified settlement at Jamestown was washed away by the James River. What survives is the archeologically revealed townscape which grew beyond the limits of the fort as the colonial capital expanded over the island in the 17th century.

The discovery of isolated well shafts upriver in Surry County and downriver in James City County and Newport News serves as clear witness to the extent of shoreline loss. Each of these salvaged wells was found independent of any other occupational evidence, indicating that their position in former landscapes was inland from the main houses and outbuildings. Comparisons of well positions on contemporary 17th-century sites whose plans do survive intact show that as much as one hundred

feet of land and associated habitation information has been lost in each case. Elsewhere, the foundations of a substantial brick building overhanging a thirty-foot cliff along the James River at Basse's Choice in Isle of Wight County show the measured loss of one foot of bank every year due to wind and water erosion.

Effects of construction are more obvious than natural erosion. Reasons for selecting certain sites for the establishment of settlements are as applicable today as in the past, making it likely that sites of former habitation will again be selected for contemporary housing projects. Whether in the prehistoric or historic periods, elevated, well-drained locations with access to bodies of water were preferred and are now the first and most desirable locations a developer will choose for residential use. For this reason and because few, if any, historic preservation laws apply to contractors, heavy site losses are inevitable in areas of rapid urbanization. Most evident are the coastal locations east of Richmond where nearly half of the construction in the state is occurring.

One example of the quality of prehistoric sites being lost is the Great Neck site in Virginia Beach. Located along the waters of Broad Bay, a very small yet significant sample of a site two miles in length, occupied for the past 12,000 years, was recorded. Within the impressions of a closely set timber palisade were the remains of the first two longhouses identified in the Tidewater area. These structures were similar to those illustrated for the area by the English in the late 16th century. Although the site is now destroyed, analysis of the artifacts continues. Additionally, the unique longhouse plans were put to immediate practical use by the Maryland Humanities Council and the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs who created a reproduction longhouse in 1984 for the 350th anniversary of Maryland's settlement.

Surrounded by dense residential settlement, the Baldrup site in Newport News located along the north shore of the Warwick River is currently being researched as developers survey streets and utility lines across its acreage. No sooner had the site been nominated to the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places, the undeveloped farmland was subdivided for residential use. Its significance lies in the early 17th-century date of initial occupation when it was patented in 1626 by planter William Claiborne. The tract was owned in succession by North Carolina Governor Samuel Stephens, two Virginia governors, Sir John Harvey and Sir William Berkeley, and both the Cole and Cary families. All figured prominently in the affairs of the colonies. With the financial assistance of the

developer, excavations have already revealed the outline of a wooden building with an associated semi-subterranean pit house very similar to recent discoveries by Noël Hume in a project sponsored by the National Geographic Society at nearby Martin's Hundred in James City County.

Also threatened within the last year was the site of "Enchanted Castle," the elaborate 18th-century house of Lieutenant Governor Alexander Spotswood in Orange County. Situated in an undeveloped wooded tract along the Rapidan River, the site had been identified and subsequently added to the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places in 1978. Early last year a new owner was preparing to build directly on the mansion site, but through the joint efforts of the Division of Historic Landmarks, the Orange County Historical Society, and Historic Gordonsville, Inc. he was first persuaded to move his homesite elsewhere and eventually to sell the parcel to Historic Gordonsville. This assured preservation of the significant site by permanently removing it from the residential development plan. Nearly lost were the remains of one of the most important and well preserved mansions and associated landscape in Virginia. In addition to revealing the plan of the house and adjoining structures, excavations by Division archaeological staff and volunteers from the area, revealed a complete fireback which bears the "Indian Queen" crest of the Colony of Virginia which may have been manufactured at Spotswood's Massoponax furnace near Fredericksburg. (See *Notes #25*) With the site now protected, long-range research projects can be

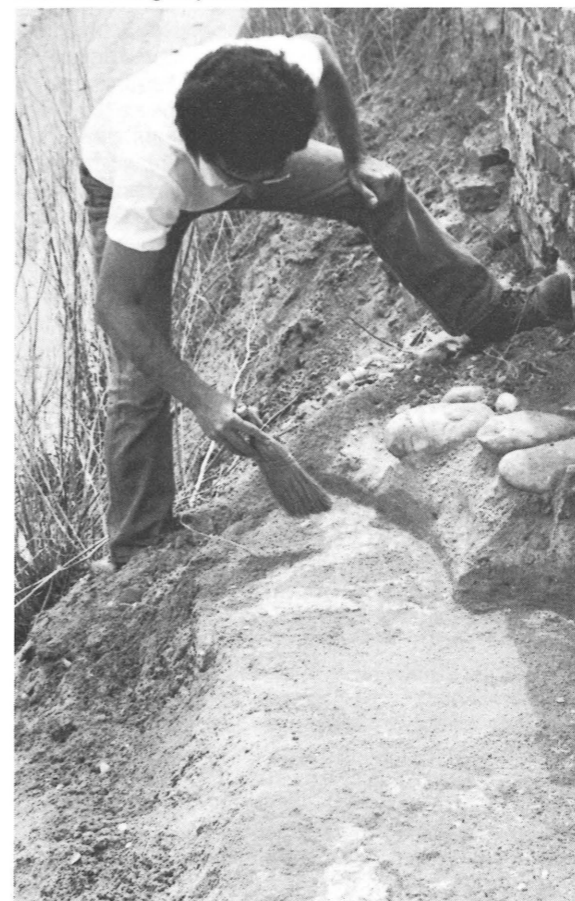
planned in the coming years, and funds can be sought to finance the effort.

Despite the loss of numerous sites to development each year, the most extensive destruction occurs in mining operations. Whether strip mining for coal in the western part of the state or open pit graveling in the east, these enterprises uniformly remove not only all traces of entire site complexes but also their natural settings and the context of related nearby sites.

While information is limited on the effects these methods have on sites in the coal mining region, the results are more easily measured in the more intensively surveyed areas east of the Fall Line. In particular, systematic mining for gravel along the north bank of the James River from Richmond to Charles City County has removed numerous sites. Among the range of resources threatened are two groups which are critical to our understanding of Virginia's early years: the Powhatan Indian villages depicted by Captain John Smith on his map of 1610 and the Virginia Company of London settlements of the first quarter of the 17th century.

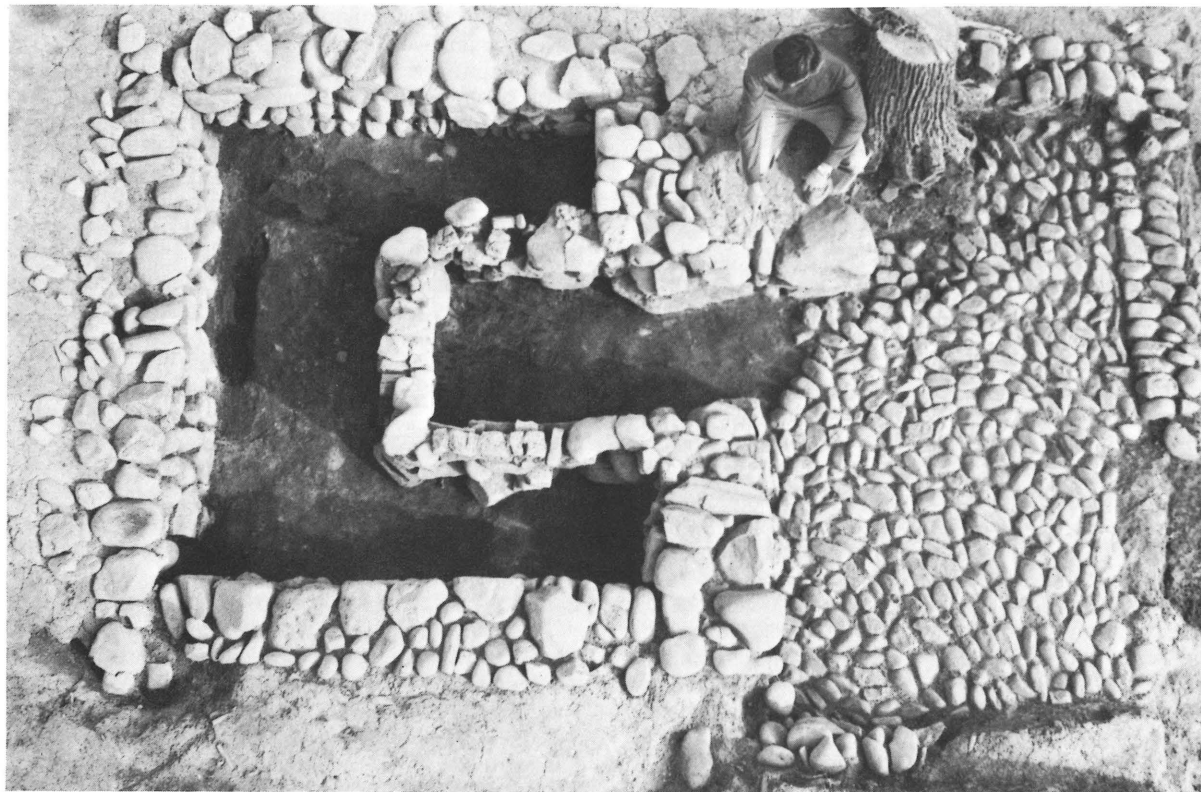
A number of somewhat later sites have been rescued from mining in the vicinity of Shirley Plantation in Charles City County. Gravel mining recently was carried out on two tracts of land in an area over a mile square adjacent to the north shore of the James River. In order to reach gravel, heavy equipment systematically cut parallel trenches, first removing topsoil and then subsoil, carrying the excavations to depths of thirty-feet before reaching the gravel beds. After topsoil was removed, many cul-

Remnants of 18th-century brick dwelling eroding away from 30' bank overlooking the James River.



Crane lifts in tact canal boat from excavations of the James River—Kanawha Canal turning basin in downtown Richmond. Credit: Bill Lane, Richmond Newspapers





Unique 17th-century cobble grain oven or kiln with central flue and work floor to right discovered in Charles City County and now destroyed.

tural deposits were discovered.

With the generous cooperation of Lone Star Industries and volunteer assistance from the archaeological community, important information was salvaged from several sites. In one location a previously undocumented fifty-three-foot long 18th-century brick mansion was uncovered. At another site, occupied by Walter Aston ca. 1620-1660, important architectural and artifactual discoveries associated with early crafts were made. The only known example of a 17th-century English grain oven or kiln in the New World was recorded here before the site was destroyed.

Less extensive in horizontal coverage but as destructive in depth, urban commercial construction requiring substantial footings is likely to reveal very fragmentary information of former habitation or land uses. The possibility always exists, however, that deeper deposits will survive such construction. This was precisely the case in downtown Richmond where recent excavation to a depth of twenty feet below street level exposed the bottom of a section of the James River and Kanawha Canal system turning basin abandoned in the late 19th century and subsequently filled. With encouragement from the developer, a strictly volunteer effort by the Archaeological Society of Virginia and the Virginia Canals and Navigation Society gathered information on a very important collection of vessels that once plied Virginia waters. The turning basin was significant in 19th-century commercial history since it was the location where shallow draft vessels carrying goods from the interior transferred their cargoes to deep-draft vessels which moved the freight east. This rare and impressive glimpse into Virginia's early transportation system provided the opportunity for the comparative study of a wide range of craft preserved in their wet buried environment, from

colliers to bateaux to luxurious packets. The graveyard yielded the oldest known canal boat in the United States.

State sponsored construction has also adversely affected highly significant archaeological sites which have been recorded as much as possible without delaying construction. Perhaps the most graphic example was at Gloucester Point where in an area covering less than three acres, easily the most extensive assemblage of archaeological deposits yet discovered by Virginia state archaeologists, were revealed. Spanning three centuries of our state and nation's history, the occupation included residential, commercial, and military features dating from the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries. A Native American burial was also rescued along with portions of a Revolutionary War graveyard. Unique among the discoveries were a 17th-century warehouse and a succession of superimposed forts dating from the late 17th century, the Yorktown Campaign of 1781, and the 1862 Civil War engagements at Gloucester Point. (See Notes #25 for detailed discussion of Gloucester Point).

The preceding examples of sites nearly lost and only partially rescued under adverse conditions were cases where state and federal preservation laws did not come into play requiring owners to save the resources. Action was needed immediately with whatever resources were available. Since professional archaeology is both a labor intensive and a time consuming activity, there is an inherent tension in emergency situations such as these when little time and few trained excavators are available. Normally high standards of excavation used on protected sites must be altered, sometimes drastically, to maximize information retrieval as the resources are being lost. Ideally, background research should precede fieldwork with laboratory processing and con-



Archaeologist inspecting 19th-century boat remains on the bottom of the James River Kanawha Canal turning basin in downtown Richmond.

servation of artifacts following; but under current capabilities neither is done justice since before one site can be completed another is invariably being threatened or destroyed.

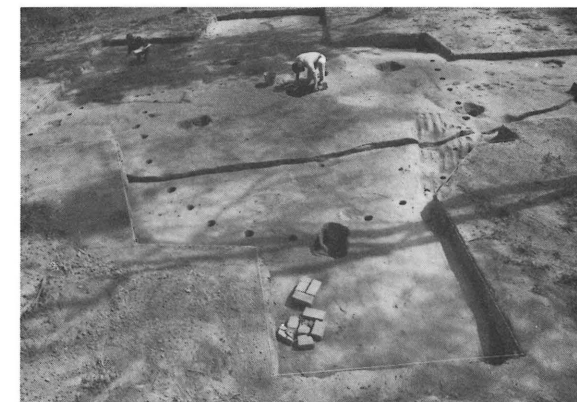
Whether prehistoric or historic, if significant archaeological sites cannot be avoided in the face of development, excavations often begin with the removal of topsoil, exposing settlement plans or layout of dwellings and associated cultural features. Then, with the plan known and recorded, and time permitting, refined deposits are selected for sampling to provide a chronology of initial use, duration of occupation, and abandonment. Answers to the questions of the functions of the site are also sought. For example, if the site was prehistoric, an effort is made to determine whether it was a temporary camp or a year-round settlement. Once these elements of information are retrieved, the only site components excavated are those which cannot be duplicated elsewhere. In sum, the objective is not to excavate completely any site nor is it simply to collect artifacts for the sake of collecting. Careful decisions based on informed priorities must be made on the spot as recovery work progresses, resulting in the retrieval of only the most critical information.

With an inventory of over 16,000 known sites and a survey program that is locating 2,500 new sites each year, Virginia's data base is rapidly expanding. However, an unusually high number of irreplaceable sites of the highest calibre, which are either eligible for or already listed on the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places, are steadily being lost.

Alain C. Outlaw
State Archaeologist
April 1985



Former site of three centuries of forts and elements of a Colonial town plan along the York River at Gloucester Point, Gloucester County.



Archaeologists excavating cultural deposit within the interior of a pattern of small excavated post impressions marking the former location of a prehistoric longhouse in a residential development at Virginia Beach.



Rescuing a 17th-century site within the path of mining operations in Charles City County along the north shore of the James River.

Previously undocumented 18th-century mansion recorded near Shirley Plantation in Charles City County.



Augusta County Schools Selected For State's First Thematic Nomination

The years between 1870 and 1940 in Virginia, from the establishment of the free public school system through the early consolidation movement, proved to be a critical period in the development of rural education. According to historian William Link, rural schools were "transformed in character from local, semi-autonomous institutions which existed largely outside of formal governmental structures to ones which incorporated and reflected a new bureaucratic conception of government." This transformation affected all aspects of the rural school experience, from the selection of teachers and design of the curriculum to the construction and location of school buildings. Progressive-era reformers, viewing the network of one- and two-room schools across the state, were instrumental in introducing changes to modernize Virginia's schools, helping them keep pace with urban and northern schools. Virginia incorporated many of these reforms into its educational programs in the early decades of the 20th century, most notably the consolidation of smaller schools, the development of high schools, the improvement and diversification of the curriculum, and the construction of more modern, better equipped school buildings.

School buildings clearly illustrate within a concrete form the actual local response to statewide educational policies. Unfortunately only a sampling of Virginia's country schools remains, as many have been subject to demolition or heavy remodeling. What is missing even more than the buildings themselves is the underlying historical context to help interpret the significance of these scattered survivals. To address these problems, the Division of Historic Landmarks proposed a thematic study of rural educational buildings to aid in both the identification and evaluation of these threatened resources.

The DHL's first thematic National Register nomination, entitled "Public Schools in Augusta County, Virginia, 1870 to 1940," and completed in December 1984, reflects a new direction for the Division's survey, register, and planning programs. The project was initiated as a pilot study of the thematic format and was undertaken with clear ideas about the needs of our Division. The DHL had recognized the need to move in the direction of thematic nominations, since a thematic format can more closely integrate survey and planning activities with the register program. The education theme was chosen because the Survey and Register staff and the State Review Board had noted a lack of historical context in which to evaluate educational buildings proposed for the Register. The evaluation of school buildings with more obvious architectural significance—such as universities, seminaries, and urban schools with clear cut references to architec-

tural styles—had not posed a major problem. However, there were no guidelines for rating the more commonplace country schools with local historical significance. Requests for registration always raised questions regarding how representative or how significant the particular example was. Country schools make up the largest category of educational resources in the state, yet are the most poorly represented on the Register. It was hoped that a thematic nomination for rural schools could address these questions and add a much needed balance to the Register.

In addition to the lack of historical context, it had become clear that educational buildings were a highly threatened class of resources. Most older rural schools are no longer in use, and many have already been razed. Those that remain are continually being remodeled or threatened with demolition. The smaller, one-, two-, and three-room schools have most often been remodeled into dwellings, usually at considerable expense to their integrity. Consolidated schools pose special problems in reuse because of their large spaces, so that they often remain vacant and deteriorating. No doubt the few older consolidated schools in use will soon be closed as most counties replace them with modern buildings. In all cases, the threats to these surplus schools are immediate.

To accomplish a comprehensive and in-depth study on rural education, the thematic nomination focuses on only one county. Augusta County was selected for this study because it had recently been surveyed intensively by a DHL staff architectural historian, and the survey data had been evaluated for the state preservation plan. In the analysis of recorded educational buildings, the Augusta County report recommended a thematic nomination to include representative examples of all public schools, from the one-room schools to the early consolidated schools. After the survey and evaluation were completed, the DHL received a request to consider an individual consolidated school in Augusta for registration. In response to this request, the State Review Board decided that the Craigsville School should be included in a thematic rather than an individual nomination. A thematic nomination offered an excellent opportunity to follow up on the intensive county survey by registering numerous properties recognized in that survey as significant.

According to National Register guidelines, a thematic group is one which includes a "finite group of resources related to one another in a clearly distinguishable way." The resources may be related by a single historical person, event, or developmental force; they may be of one building type or use, or designed by a single architect; or they may be of a



Craigsville Colored School: Two-room schoolhouse built according to guidelines and plans for the Division of School Buildings in the 1920s. 1932 Insurance Survey.



Crimora School: Fourth phase of consolidated school construction; the central auditorium that was used from 1929 to 1940 in the county. 1932 Insurance photograph.

Glebe Schoolhouse: One-room schoolhouse, early private school integrated into public school network.



single archaeological site form or related to a particular set of archaeological research problems. Thematic groups may be found in a county, in a specific region of the state, in the state as a whole, or even in a cluster of several states. The specific theme chosen for the DHL's first nomination focused on public schools, since few documented private schools were identified by the county survey. The time period begins with the establishment of the public schools in Virginia in 1870 and extends through 1940, which served as a watershed in the design and construction of the county's school buildings. Selected examples of one-room schools, two- and three-room schools, and larger consolidated schools were chosen to illustrate the evolution of school building forms from the locally planned and built one- and two-room schools to the larger consolidated schools based on plans and specifications furnished by the State Department of Education.

In preparing a thematic nomination, the first steps involved developing the historical context and completing the identification activities. In both steps the Division sought significant public participation. The Augusta survey and evaluation report had identified the most helpful local contacts, such as the Augusta County Historical Society and the County School Board. Numerous individuals who had assisted with the county survey and were knowledgeable about the histories of their towns and villages were also helpful resources. The DHL sought active public participation in the register process to encourage a strong local role in the subsequent protection of these resources.

The development of the historical context is the

cornerstone of any thematic nomination. While some historical studies had already focused on the social and legislative history of education in Virginia, none had included a close examination of the school buildings themselves. In addressing this matter, the local context particularly needed expansion. The annual reports of the State Superintendent provided a wealth of material on a county-by-county basis. Local histories, an 1885 Atlas, and deed and tax records helped to identify many of the county's schools. The Augusta County School Board enthusiastically shared the information in their files, ranging from 1932 and 1949 fire insurance surveys, with photographs and descriptions, to plans for the original construction and later additions to its early 20th-century schools. The Historical Society had collected a number of historical photographs, which they also loaned for the study.

One of the major goals of the research was to determine the potential pool of resources that would be included within the defined theme. Using all the historical sources, a list of over two hundred schools built between 1870 and 1940 was developed. Then, the number of surviving schools had to be determined. It was clear at the outset that not all of the county schools had been surveyed, since the survey had been designed to record only a sampling of all types. Consequently, this historical research led to additional survey. Previously surveyed buildings needed to be reexamined for current conditions and descriptions. Public participation was essential in locating unsurveyed buildings. Through local contacts and subsequent field checks, the sites of extant schools could be determined, especially where pho-

New Hope Elementary School: First stage of consolidated schools (resembling local domestic architecture). 1932 Fire Insurance Survey.



tographic documentation remained. A catalogue of all the known examples was essential in outlining and describing the forms that could be expected for each of these classes.

Following completion of the survey, the best examples from each class were selected for the nomination. The thematic guidelines require that the nomination explicitly outline the National Register criteria and standards of integrity used in this evaluation process. Two criteria proved most useful in evaluating educational resources. The criterion related largely to historical significance encompasses properties related to "events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history." To qualify under this criterion, the schools had to illustrate an important historic development in the county, such as the improvement of black schools or the first efforts at consolidation. The criterion which focuses on architectural value provides for properties that "embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction." Educational resources included under this criterion could either illustrate a pattern common to their class of resources or reflect individuality or variation within this theme. All nominated schools had to be eligible under one of these criteria but not necessarily both, although it was anticipated that several of the schools would be significant both architecturally and historically. All of the extant schools were evaluated according to these criteria, using the historical context and the descriptions of each of the three classes.

The buildings which met these criteria were then evaluated to determine whether they pos-

sessed integrity according to the theme. The National Register outlines seven ways in which integrity should be determined: location, setting, feeling, association, workmanship, design, and materials. Several kinds of integrity were considered essential for educational buildings, namely location, setting, feeling, and association. The original location, well preserved setting, and appropriate feeling should all be present to convey the function of the school building and to illustrate its role in the community. For a building to have integrity of association, it should either display a typical, unusual, or rare plan or type; or reflect an important historical event, such as the development of vocational education or the improvement of black education. In evaluating the three remaining standards of integrity involving a building's physical condition, namely workmanship, design, and materials, each school needs to be compared to others within its class. For example, the fact that few one-room schools survive unaltered justifies accepting a lower standard of physical integrity for this category than for consolidated schools, which survive in larger numbers and in better condition. Consequently, the nomination set up specific standards of physical integrity for each of the three classes, outlining the features that must be present. Using these seven standards of integrity, nineteen buildings were selected for the nomination: three examples of two-room schools, one three-room school, and ten consolidated schools.

Taken as a thematic group, the nineteen nominated schools reflect, in a material form, the history of Augusta County education. The first schools were most clearly one-room buildings, which followed

New Hope High School: Third phase of consolidated school construction, early example of central auditorium plan built in mid-20s, plan from Division of School Buildings. 1932 photograph.



fairly similar designs across the state. Most of the early public schools were brick or log, and these often proved to be older private schoolhouses used in the first few years of the public system. The county began to build its own schools in the 1880s and 1890s that were typically of frame construction. As early as the 1880s, graded schools of two and sometimes three rooms were built in the smaller towns and villages. These graded schools exhibited more variety in form, because they could be built in their graded form or enlarged from earlier one-room designs. Since local patrons had considerable influence over the construction and operation of rural schools in the late 19th century, a great variety of forms and styles survives.

As the state began to increase its control over public education in the early 20th century, the design of rural school buildings clearly changed. In the teens, the State Department of Education began providing plans and outlining specifications for school buildings. In 1920, the Division of School Buildings was formally established for this function. Between 1920 and 1946, counties were required to obtain plans for new construction and additions through this service. As a result, buildings became more standardized across the state. The consolidated country school was envisioned as a more progressive environment offering a broader curriculum that included agriculture and home economics. Schools could then better train students to embrace the new vision of

New Hope Agricultural Shop: Vocational education. 1932 Insurance photograph.



Cotopax Schoolhouse: two-room schoolhouse built at one time, following standard form. 1932 Insurance photograph.



country life. Consequently, the state plans included more diversified spaces, such as auditoriums, gymnasiums, community centers, offices, libraries, chemical laboratories, and agriculture shops. The financial incentives for school construction enacted by the state legislature in 1906, 1908, and 1916 stimulated the construction of these modern school buildings.

For rural public schools this nomination represents the first attempt to provide a context and criteria for identifying and evaluating their significance as cultural resources. While specific to Augusta County, the historical context and architectural analysis will be helpful to other counties as well, since all localities were subject to State Board of Education regulations.

For Augusta County, public participation in the schools nomination has already enriched local knowledge of educational history. The School Board is considering incorporating information from the study into its school curriculum. The Augusta County Historical Society is currently publishing a two-part article on the historical and architectural developments outlined in the nomination. Some protection efforts have also begun to surface. The owners of the Craigsville Graded School have taken advantage of the investment tax credits to rehabilitate that long

abandoned building into apartments.

For the Division of Historic Landmarks completion of the Augusta nomination has confirmed the richness apparent in the thematic approach. The project illustrates how useful a thematic study can be in giving order to data collected in previous local surveys, in revealing gaps in the historical and material record, and in furnishing register criteria of general applicability to whole classes of historic resources. By design the thematic format assures the registration of locally significant resources that might otherwise be excluded from consideration for their lack of obvious architectural or antiquarian interest. In finished form, a thematic nomination becomes an important planning tool, offering practical guidance to decision makers who face difficult choices about which historic properties are most worthy of preservation and continued use. The Division is pleased that historians and planners in the National Park Service who have reviewed the report regard the Augusta study as a model thematic nomination deserving of emulation in future survey and planning efforts in the Commonwealth.

Ann McCleary
Regional Architectural Historian
Division of Historic Landmarks

Round Hill Schoolhouse: black schoolhouse showing familiar form for all of the early (1880s-1890s) schoolhouses in the county. 1949 Fire Insurance Policy.



Additional State Grant Awards Made by General Assembly

Wythe County Historical Society for Haller Giboney Rock House	\$10,000	Chesterfield Historical Society for Magnolia Grange restoration	\$10,000
Montgomery Museum and Lewis Miller Regional Art Center for the Pepper House restoration	\$ 5,000	A.P.V.A. for assistance in maintaining certain historic landmarks throughout the Commonwealth	\$70,000



Magnolia Grange, located across the road from the Chesterfield County Courthouse, was built in 1823 by William Winfree. The Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors has voted to purchase the house for use as a county museum and arts center. The Chesterfield County Historical Society has agreed to raise \$100,000 of the purchase price and is conducting additional research on this 19th-century mansion.

Salem Historical Society for Williams-Brown House and Store, restoration and relocation	\$ 5,000	National Tobacco Textile Museum in Danville for renovations	\$40,000
Warren Heritage Society, for continued rehabilitation of the Belle Boyd Cottage, Front Royal	\$20,000	These awards represent additional grants made by the General Assembly in their 1985 short session. For details on the State Grant program, see <i>Notes #</i> <i>25.</i>	



The Williams-Brown House and Store located at 523 East Main St. in Salem, is slated for relocation to another site on East Main Street just 400 yards east of the present site. State grant awards will supplement funds from the City of Salem and the Salem Historical Society.

New Easements



The Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, on behalf of the Commonwealth, has accepted an historic easement on **Columbia**, located on West Grace Street in Richmond. The easement was granted by Robert A. Buerlein and Judith S. Buerlein. Columbia is a Flemish-bonded brick residence

built for Philip Haxall in 1817/18. Later the Federal-style structure housed the University of Richmond and then the law school of the university. Plans call for occupation of the building by the American Historical Foundation. The structure is also being rehabilitated for office use using investment tax credits.



Rocklands, a 2,224-acre estate in Orange County has been protected through a preservation easement granted jointly to the Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission and the Virginia Outdoors Foundation by Mrs. Doris Neale. The Georgian-Revival style dwelling was constructed in 1906 and remod-

eled in 1933 by the noted architect, William Lawrence Bottomley. The easement will protect in perpetuity this scenic and historic area of Orange County from commercial and industrial development.

Notes on Landmarks

Upper Brandon, a Prince George County, Virginia federal style plantation house built in 1825, has been purchased by the James River Corporation of Richmond. Plans call for the possible establishment of a training center for company employees with the early 19th-century house preserved as an integral part of the development.

Work has been completed on the restoration of **Mitchells Presbyterian Church** in Culpeper County. (VLR, 1980, NR, 1980). \$170,000 was raised to restore the crumbling plaster and repair serious structural problems that threatened the trompe-l'oeil frescoes rendered by Joseph Dominick Oddenino in the 19th century.

The Elkton Historical Society in Rockingham County has agreed to plans for restoration of the **Miller-Kite House**, in Elkton. (VLR, 1978, NR, 1979). The house in Elkton, where Stonewall Jackson once

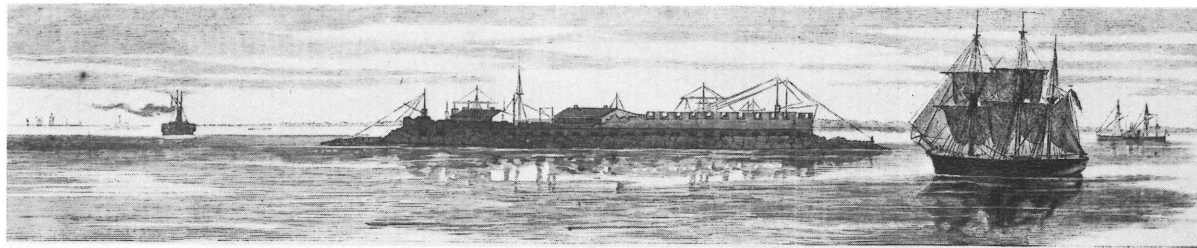
made his headquarters during the Valley Campaign, was built in 1827 with an addition made in 1840. The restored house will be used as a community center and museum of early Elkton history.

Colonial Williamsburg has opened to the public its most recent reconstruction—the **Public Hospital for Persons of Insane and Disordered Minds**. Originally built in 1770, it was the first hospital in America specifically designed to care for the mentally ill. The reconstruction represents a significant departure in Colonial Williamsburg's traditional presentations of only 18th-century life since care of the mentally ill in the 19th-century is portrayed as well.

Extensive renovation in conjunction with Staunton's facade improvement program is planned for the three buildings occupied by the **Staunton News Leader** at 11-19 North Central Avenue. Also included in the project is the interior renovation of the

Mitchells Presbyterian Church, Culpeper County: Oddenino murals restored. Credit: William E. Barrett (1984)





Fort Wool, Hampton: Photograph from Harper's Weekly, (1864). Credit: Virginia State Library.



The Windsor Railroad Station, Isle of Wight County: Credit: C. F. Robinson.

classified advertising and circulation departments. Drawings for the facade were completed by the Historic Staunton Foundation in 1982.

The **Fort Ward Museum** in Alexandria has received one of thirty-six Awards of Merit from the American Association for State and Local History for its Civil War history outreach program. The Award of Merit is made by the national history organization to individuals and agencies demonstrating excellence in programs or achievements in the field of state and local history.

The A.P.V.A. has signed a long-term lease with the heirs of the late Dora Travis Armistead for the **Armistead House** on Duke of Gloucester Street, Williamsburg. The Armistead is one of only two houses not owned by the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation on Duke of Gloucester. Plans for use of the Queen Anne style house built in the 1890s have not yet been determined, but an A.P.V.A. spokesman said that the house will remain in tact. The A.P.V.A. was founded in Williamsburg in 1899.

Fort Wool, a 19th-century military installation in Hampton Roads, was opened this spring to visitors

by the City of Hampton. The island property, visible to travelers from the Hampton Roads Tunnel, is listed on both the Virginia and National registers. It has long associations with the defense system in Hampton Roads and was begun in 1819 with young Robert E. Lee supervising some of the construction. Plans have been made to take tourists to the island fort by boat.

The Town of **Abingdon** has announced plans for the rehabilitation of the town's **railroad depot** for a community center. In addition to funds provided by the town, private funds are being sought for the rehabilitation project.

The **Windsor Railroad Station** in Isle of Wight County will now be moved to the town of Wakefield. Plans of the Windsor Ruritan Club to move the station to another site in Windsor and restore the 1866 structure as a regional library were turned down by the Windsor Town Council.

The **Lynchburg** Historical Foundation has officially launched its **Main Street Facade Improvement Program**. Goal of the program, according to spokesman for the LHF, is "to provide incentives to



Roseland Manor, Hampton: 1978 photograph of mansion destroyed by fire this spring.

the Main Street property owners to make appropriate restorations of their facades." Three Lynchburg banks—Sovran, United Virginia, and Central National—have agreed to issue low interest loans to Main Street property owners who wish to participate in the program. Technical assistance will be provided by the Division of Historic Landmarks.

The Division's Research Center for Archaeology is the recent recipient of an important archaeological gift from the Iowa Office of State Archaeology. Included are seven shell necklaces and a shell gorget from the late Woodland Period. Four of the necklaces and the gorget were discovered in the **Broadford** area of Smyth County in the 1930s while the other necklaces were found at the **Patowmek Site** in Stafford County. The artifacts will be curated for research and exhibit at the Research Center in Yorktown.

The historic **Manchester Cotton and Wool Manufacturing Company** building, located at the south end of Richmond's 14th Street Bridge, was heavily damaged by fire late last fall. Fortunately, the 1837-40 section of the structure was the least damaged.

The antebellum structure is well known from its rendering in contemporary drawings of the burning of Richmond in 1865 in *Harper's Weekly*.

An unusual method of financing a rehabilitation project is being used by the Martin Agency, Inc., a Richmond advertising firm. The agency, which has already rehabilitated the old Elks Home in the **Monument Avenue Historic District**, is offering limited partnerships to its own employees in a venture to rehabilitate the Shenandoah, a four story apartment building across from the Elks Home. Funding for a portion of the project has been obtained through revenue bonds from the Richmond Industrial Development Authority with the additional \$850,000 coming from employee investment.

Roseland Manor, a ninety-nine year old mansion in the Phoebus area of Hampton, was destroyed by fire this spring. The damage was so extensive that the exterior brick walls of the mansion which had been compared to the sumptuous residences of Newport, Rhode Island, had to be pulled down. The structure had recently been rehabilitated for use as offices.

Around the State

The Preservation Alliance of Virginia and the Division of Historic Landmarks sponsored their first annual Spring Preservation Workshops in April at Montpelier in Orange County. The two-day event included presentations on Montpelier itself, the most recent acquisition of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The program included a discussion of the house during the tenure of James and Dolley Madison and plans for preparing Montpelier for its formal opening to the public in 1987. The second day of the conference featured small workshops for two large groups of the preservation constituency in Virginia: private historical organizations and architectural review boards. Over two hundred preservationists attended.

The Museum of the Confederacy, Richmond residence of Jefferson Davis during the Civil War,

has received an \$86,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The funded project, entitled "Victory in Defeat: the Jefferson Davis Family and the Ritual of the Lost Cause," is being directed by **Tucker H. Hill**, former Executive Director of the Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission. The NEH grant will underwrite the design and installation of a permanent exhibit and the publication of a catalogue and interpretive guide. The guide will examine the lives of Jefferson Davis and his family as well as the movement generally known as the "Lost Cause." The catalogue and interpretive guide will include a summary of the exhibit accompanied by photographs, contemporary prints, and drawings prepared by the Historic American Building Survey in the summer of 1984. The opening of the exhibit is scheduled for June, 1985 and publication of the catalogue and guide slated for late fall.



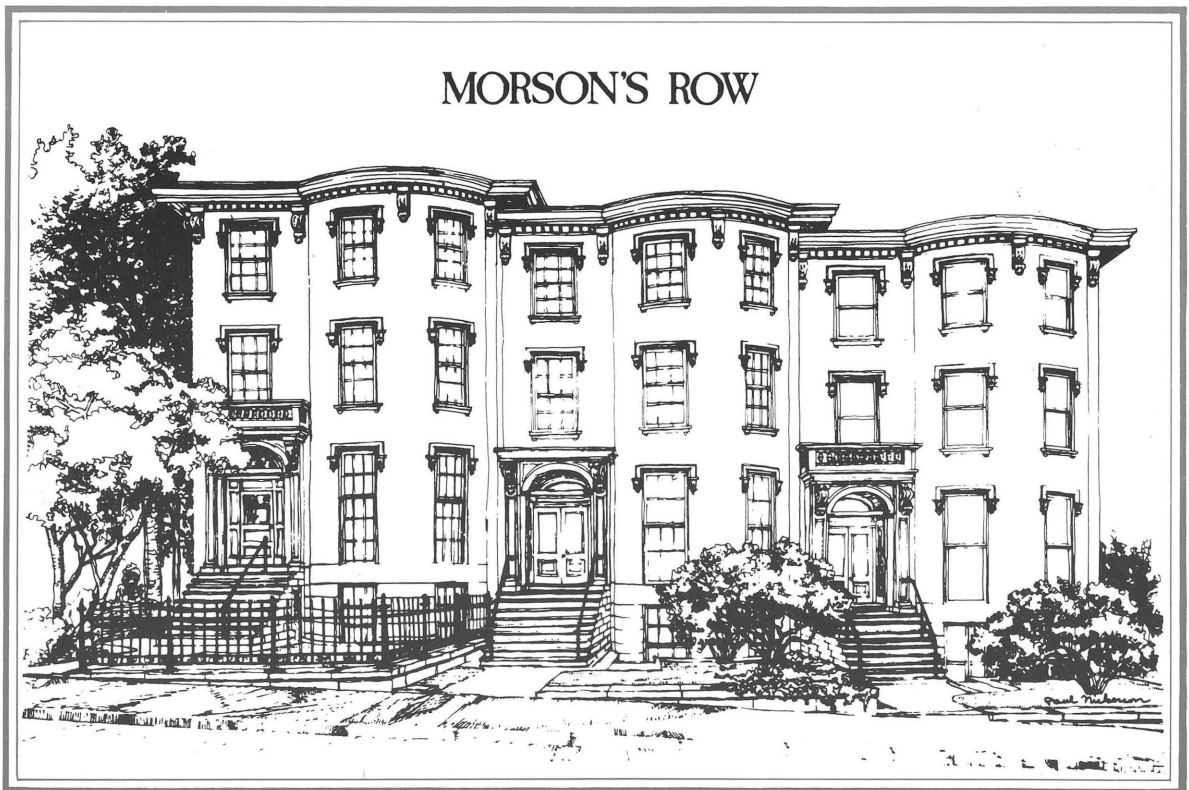
Shockoe Slip Historic District, Richmond: Richmond fire fighters battle March fire in the 1300 block of East Cary Street. Warehouse in the rear was destroyed but structure facing on East Cary was saved.

Three fires within a week's time in March caused extensive damage to buildings in Richmond's **Shockoe Valley and Tobacco Row Historic District** and the **Shockoe Slip Historic District**. On March 16, a four-alarm fire severely damaged a specialty food company building (c. 1890) at 1422-28 East Cary Street. On March 19, a small fire caused severe damage to an unoccupied structure at 1814 East Main Street. The most catastrophic fire occurred March 21 in the Shockoe Slip Historic District, destroying the Southern Railway Supply Company warehouse, the headquarters of the Southern Railway Supply Company at 1321 East Main Street, and

damaging the Liberty Press Building on 14th Street, another warehouse on Exchange Alley, and a commercial structure on East Cary Street. 1321 East Main was built in 1868-73 and designed by Richmond architect, Marion J. Dimmock. Damage was also sustained by a large rehabilitation project underway at 1305-1317 E. Main Street. (See *Notes # 24*, p. 6 for photo). Excellent work by Richmond firefighters prevented the fire from spreading further on the important block in the historic district which has seen substantial rehabilitation of its 19th-century buildings in the last ten years.

Notes on Virginia

MORSON'S ROW



Division of Historic Landmarks
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Richmond, Virginia 23219

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