

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

LISTED:
VLR
03/21/2013
NRHP
06/14/2013

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Gloucester Woman's Club (Long Bridge Ordinary) (2013 Update)
Other names/site number: Edge Hill House, Edge Hill, VDHR File #036-0031, VDHR File #036-5106-083, 44GL0469
Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: 6805 Main Street
City or town: Gloucester State: VA County: Gloucester
Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: NA

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance: national statewide X local
Applicable National Register Criteria: X A B X C X D

Signature of certifying official/Title: Date
Virginia Department of Historic Resources
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
Signature of commenting official: Date
Title : State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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#### 5. Classification

##### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

##### Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 1

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**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling  
COMMERCE/TRADE/general store  
SOCIAL/clubhouse  
INDUSTRY/manufacturing facility  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL/clubhouse  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COLONIAL

EARLY REPUBLIC: Federal

LATE 19<sup>th</sup> AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Colonial Revival

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**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Foundation: BRICK; Walls: WOOD, Weatherboard; Roof: STONE, Slate & ASPHALT; Other: BRICK

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

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### Summary Paragraph

The Gloucester Woman's Club is an intact example of an evolved Virginia Tidewater dwelling, commercial building, and clubhouse situated within the Gloucester Downtown Historic District (036-5106), on a 0.82-acre lot at the important crossroads of Main Street (US 17) and John Clayton Memorial Highway (VA 14) in the community of Gloucester Courthouse. The property, historically known as Edge Hill, is located at the northeast corner of the intersection, on the slope of a broad hill that defines the eastern end of the downtown historic main street. Known locally for a portion of the twentieth century as Long Bridge Ordinary, historical research revealed that the building was a dwelling and store, and this nomination revision corrects inaccuracies in the previous 1973 nomination, providing an updated description of existing conditions. Originally built between 1750 and 1770 as a four-room, one-and-a-half story, frame side-passage residence, the colonial-era dwelling survives along with major early-to-mid-nineteenth-century Federal-style additions and mid-twentieth-century Colonial Revival improvements and repairs. From its origins as the earliest surviving private home in the Gloucester Courthouse community, and possibly the oldest standing building in the Gloucester Downtown Historic District, the Gloucester Woman's Club, or Edge Hill House, grew into a prominent local general store and commercial building during the first half of the nineteenth century, reflecting and contributing to the emergence of the courthouse village, the establishment of a wealthy professional and merchant class, and the transformation of Gloucester County's economy from one reliant on large plantation-based tobacco cultivation to one supported by small farms, grain production, and regional shipping and trade. A succession of merchants and merchant partnerships owned and/or

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resided in the house during this period, and their commercial adaptations remain the most significant stylistic and structural changes to the building. The Gloucester Woman's Club has changed little since the mid-twentieth century, incorporating the key structural and stylistic elements of the earlier Colonial, Federal, and Colonial Revival incarnations of the building. There is one secondary contributing resource: the late eighteenth- through early twentieth-century archaeological site 44GL0469. A ca. 2000 decorative wooden well house structure is the sole non-contributing resource and does not detract from the integrity of the property, while protecting an intact historic well shaft beneath.

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## Narrative Description

### **Dwelling, ca. 1770 with major 1833-1839 additions, and ca. 1913-1914 and ca. 1942-1949 renovations and small additions (contributing building)**

The Gloucester Woman's Club is located at the intersection of U.S. Route 17 and Virginia Route 14, near the eastern end of the Gloucester Downtown Historic District. The property is 0.58 miles east-southeast of the historic Gloucester Courthouse circle and 1.71 miles west-northwest of the main branch of the Ware River. Until 1964, when U.S. Route 17 was expanded to four lanes as it approaches Main Street, Ware House Road (Virginia Route 621) passed closer to the southern edge of the property. The current circular concrete drive, accessible from the reoriented Ware House Road, is in the southeast corner of the lot. A manicured, open and gently sloping lawn with mature trees surrounds the house. Brick walkways built between 1942 and 1949 provide access to the ground floor entrances. These walkways were expanded in the 1980s to incorporate planting beds. A prominent ridge runs from west to east along the north half of the property, forming the hill for which the house and surrounding area was named and into whose southern slope the brick ground floor foundation was built. A row of cedar trees at the crest of the ridge visually separates the property from the commercial lots to the north, while a fence and row of trees divide the property from the Edge Hill residential subdivision to the east. The Gloucester Woman's Club is mid- to late eighteenth-century one-and-a-half-story, frame, three-bay single-pile, side-passage dwelling that sits upon a ca. 1833-1839 brick ground floor, creating a two and a half story building. The building has two primary faces on the south and west elevations, oriented towards the two major roads at the intersection, and reflecting the changing function of the house and landscape as it transitioned from a private dwelling in the eighteenth century to mercantile and manufacturing operations in the nineteenth century, and back to a residence and private clubhouse in the twentieth century.

The Gloucester Woman's Club was built in four primary stages between ca. 1770 and the 1940s. The structure began as a frame one-and-a-half-story side-passage dwelling, identified now as the upper two stories. A frame porch on the south façade may be original, or was added by the late eighteenth to early nineteenth century. From 1833 to 1839, merchant John Field and his sons added a brick ground-floor, laid in five-to-one common bond, forming a raised foundation for the earlier frame house. This major expansion includes the exterior east gable end chimney, originally an interior chimney, and the enclosed two-story brick and frame south stair hall, modifying the earlier porch and concealing the original primary south entrance. The public and

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commercial entrance shifted to the ground floor along the west gable, and a folding panel door system was installed. This effort also includes a two-story brick and frame addition with a shed roof on the east gable end, and modifications to the south patio and gallery porch. During 1913 and 1914, slate shingles were installed on the gable roof, south gallery roof, and east shed roof, and a hipped-roof portico was added over the west gable entrance. Finally, between 1942 and 1949, the Gloucester Woman's Club constructed a frame one-story, ground-floor kitchen on the east side with a high brick foundation, added Colonial Revival-style brick garden walkways, and replaced the original beaded weatherboards with plain redwood siding. Since 1949, regular building maintenance continues to restore damaged elements and preserve the building's historic integrity.

*Exterior:*

The south elevation of the Gloucester Woman's Club displays the original façade with multiple additions. The ground floor brick foundation and columns, added to the building during the ca. 1833-1839 renovations, support an enclosed frame stair hall and gallery porch above. Penetrating the roof above the gallery porch are two gabled dormers. All of the second floor gabled dormers appear to be original to the ca. 1770 construction but contain ca. 1833-1839 wood, six-over-six, double-hung sash, with narrow Federal-period muntins. Each dormer sash underwent some repair and rebuilding in 2012. The 1833-1839 Federal-style box cornice remains intact, supported by a simple cyma recta molding with curved end brackets. The façade is interrupted by two wood, nine-over-nine, double-hung sash windows on the ground floor, and two wood, six-over-six, double-hung sash windows on the first floor. The ground floor brick patio beneath the gallery porch, paved in the 1940s, contains two wood, nine-over-nine, double-hung sash windows. On both the ground floor and first floor of the south facade's one-bay east addition (1833-1839) are batten doors, which provide secondary entrances/exits to the house. Two more batten doors are located on the east side of the enclosed south stair hall, one on the ground-floor, and one on the first-floor. The doorways highlight the unusual combination of private and public entrances necessitated by raising and converting the structure to mercantile and manufacturing operations. The gallery porch, expanded during the construction of the ground-floor, extends the full length of the building, and is supported by three brick columns. The chamfered square posts and pilasters, beveled handrail, plain square footrail, and square balusters on the porch date to the nineteenth-century. The 1942-1949 one-story brick and frame east kitchen addition has a wood, six-pane, hinged, single-sash window and a batten door on its south elevation. The door opens to a brick patio edged with a four-foot high brick wall.

The west gable reveals the 1830s brick ground-floor foundation, with two frame stories above, dating to ca. 1770. The primary public entrance shifted to this elevation during the 1830s expansion and reorientation of the building from dwelling to store. The entrance is a late nineteenth- to early twentieth-century door, with wood panels below and a four-pane window above, set into the 1830s door surround with a three-part lighted transom. A small portico added ca. 1913-1914, has a hipped asphalt-shingle roof supported by two squared posts set upon a brick retaining wall. Beside the entry is a brick staircase that ascends the hill to the north entrance. Above the ground-floor entrance, centered on the original west elevation, are two ca. 1833-1839

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wood, nine-over-nine, double-hung sash windows. The brick ground-floor extends to the south, supporting the enclosed two story stair hall. Centered on this south addition is a wood, nine-over-nine, double-hung sash window on the ground floor, and a wood, six-over-six, double-hung sash window on the first floor with late nineteenth or early twentieth century sash.

The north elevation has the only exterior entrance to the original portion of the house. Located on the west end of the elevation, this ca. 1833-1839 wood batten door has vertical beaded boards on the exterior face. A post-1983 three-panel storm door protects the entrance. A brick stoop laid in stretcher bond allows access to the entrance, approximately five feet above the current ground surface. The bricks are locally made and match those of the chimney, suggesting the stoop was built in the 1833-1839 period. A modern wood railing and staircase was built on top of the brick stoop in 1983. Two ca. 1942-1949 eight-pane hinged wood, single sash windows light the ground floor. Above these are two first-floor wood, nine-over-nine, double-hung sash windows with box surrounds replaced in the mid- to late nineteenth century and sash dating to the 1940s. Two gabled dormers pierce the roof. Extending from the east end of the original house is a two story brick and frame addition with a shed roof, a ca. 1942-1949 wood, six-pane, hinged single sash window on the ground floor, and a wood, six-over-six, double-hung sash window on the first floor. East of that addition is the frame kitchen on a brick foundation with one wood, six-pane, hinged single sash window and a standing seam metal roof. Surrounding the foundation along the north elevation is a drain system, graded and paved in brick in the 1980s.

The east elevation is dominated by the chimney and two shed roof additions. The chimney was rebuilt as an exterior gable-end stack in its current position during the 1833-1839 expansion. The corbeled chimney is laid in locally-made stretcher-bond bricks. Two narrow second-story gable windows are on either side of the chimney. The window openings are original, but the wood, four-over-four, double-hung sash are early- to mid-twentieth-century replacements. The two wood, six-over-six, double-hung sash windows on the first-floor east addition are in their original locations but the sashes are early- to mid-twentieth-century replacements. The 1833-1839 brick ground-floor portion of the building is largely concealed from view by the kitchen addition and its enclosed brick patio, but one wood, six-over-six, double-hung sash window, an early- to mid-twentieth-century replacement, is visible at the southeast corner. The kitchen addition has two wood six-pane, hinged, single-sash windows.

#### *Ground Floor:*

The entrance hall, measuring 8 feet, 5.25 inches by 17 feet, 8.25 inches, is entered through the primary door on the west elevation. The exterior walls throughout the 1833-1839 section of the ground-floor are three bricks thick (approx. 13 inches). The entire ground floor, except for the kitchen, has nine foot-high ceilings with random-width pine floorboards, plastered walls, and moldings consisting of narrow, beaded backboards and cyma moldings for door surrounds, and beaded, splayed flush panels for window surrounds. A doorway is located at the southwest end of the entrance hall, opening into the south stair-hall. Comprising the entire east wall of the entrance hall is a folding panel door system dividing the hall from the principal ground floor meeting and mercantile room, measuring 21 feet, 8.5 inches long by 17 feet, 8.25 inches wide. A

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single beam runs north to south along the ceiling the full width of the ground-floor space and is supported by four vertical posts, creating the impression of squared columns supporting a plain box capital, all of which are trimmed with a corner bead. Two of the columns are flush with the north and south walls while the two central columns span a ten-foot-wide opening. Two fixed six-panel wall segments flank the ten-foot opening, while a center pair of folding six-panel wall segments can close to divide the two rooms or fold open into the west entrance hall to create one large room. Matching the other formal Federal-style details on the ground floor, the highly specialized folding door system is indicative of the commercial use of the building during the nineteenth century following its 1830s installation.

The floor of the west entrance hall and principal meeting/store room consists of random-width antique pine boards installed between 1942 and 1949, replacing the earlier wood floor. Paneled wainscoting, two panels high with cyma molding, is present throughout the meeting/store room and entrance hall. The wainscoting is original on all walls except the north, where it was rebuilt following early- to mid-twentieth-century repairs that also added the two north windows. The Federal-style mantel on the east wall is characterized by reeded columns and a three-block beaded double panel supporting a wide overhanging shelf. The matching wainscoting flanking the mantel is three-panels high. Door openings beside the mantel, leading to the pantry, are asymmetrically placed to accommodate the chimney stack, which is closer to the north wall than the south. The north door is an early nineteenth-century four-panel wood door with narrow vertical panels similar to the folding doors and mantel while the south door is a ca. 1833-1839 batten door. On the south wall are two Federal period wood, nine-over-nine, double-hung sash windows and a batten door leading to the south stair-hall.

The pantry measures 9 feet, 2.75 inches by 17 feet, 6.25 inches. The pantry dates to the 1830s, but most of the visible elements date to the 1913-1914 and 1942-1949 renovations. One exception is the Federal-period exterior south batten door, which bears an early-to-mid-nineteenth-century wrought iron slide bolt. Two windows originally pierced the east wall. The southern window is a twentieth-century sash window in its original opening, while the northern window opening is now a doorway into the 1942-1949 kitchen addition, measuring 7 feet, 2.75 inches long by 12 feet, 3 inches wide. There are four six-pane single-sash windows, one each on the north and south walls, and two on the east wall. With the exception of the south door, a Federal-period batten door, all the kitchen fixtures date to the mid-twentieth century or later.

The south stair hall, at the southwest corner of the building and measuring 17 feet, 10.75 inches by 8 feet, 11.25 inches, is accessed by two interior and one exterior doorways. The east entrance is a double batten door, about 4.5 feet wide and comprised of two hinged battens, which opens from the exterior patio. This door has original wrought iron slide bolts. Both interior doors, opening to the entrance hall and to the meeting/store room, are recessed flush panel batten doors, with the panel side facing the less formal stair hall. The door to the entrance hall has a Federal-period iron box lock, while the door to the meeting/store room has Victorian hardware. The two windows on the south wall and one on the west wall are original early nineteenth-century wood, nine-over-nine, double-hung sash. Rising from west to east along the north wall is the staircase to the first floor. Under the east end of the stair is a late nineteenth-century two-panel door with



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Victorian-period hardware that accesses a storage closet. The stair's original plain, Federal-period turned balustrade and newel, square balusters, open stringers, and pine treads are intact.

*First Floor:*

The first floor stair hall measures 19 feet, 1.5 inches long by 9 feet, 6.5 inches wide. The Federal-period floor boards, oriented north-south, range from three to four inches in width, and are face-nailed with cut nails and some wire nails. The plastered ceiling slopes south following the pitch of the shed roof. The exterior windows, set in plain box surrounds, are early-to-mid-nineteenth-century wood, six-over-six, double-hung sash, with two on the south wall and one on the west wall. Adjacent to the top of the staircase, on the east wall, is an approximately four-foot-wide batten door, with late nineteenth- to early twentieth-century hardware, leading to the gallery porch. Above the staircase landing on the interior north wall is an intact eighteenth-century window. This window and wall were part of the original south facade until the porch was added and then enclosed by the stair hall addition ca.1833-1839. Running the length of the stairwell is a specialized rail, similar to the lower balustrade with squared balusters and square posts with flat ogee-molded capitals that incorporates an original custom-built 3.8-foot square desk above part of the stairwell. The desk consists of tongue-and-groove boards affixed to the rail by iron braces and a baseboard nailed to the north wall. To protect papers from sliding off, an additional rail was built with similar balusters running along the east edge of the desk to the north wall. The rail is connected to a post mortised into the main rail and buttressed by curved metal braces. The east, south, and west walls have a three-inch beaded baseboard.

At the northwest end of the stair-hall is the original exterior entrance, which leads to the west side-passage, measuring 9 feet, 5.5 inches by 19 feet, 1.75 inches. The door has been removed or relocated to another area of the house, and some of the surround was later altered, but the original four-part lighted transom remains. The west side-passage floor is primarily early nineteenth-century regular-width boards oriented east-west and face nailed with cut nails and some wire nails. Trim in the passage consists of a beaded baseboard and chair rail, stylistically appropriate to the eighteenth century. Centered on the west wall is an intact early nineteenth-century wood, nine-over-nine, double-hung sash window. At the north end of the room, a Federal-period batten door leads to the exterior. Rising south to north along the east wall is the original stair to the second floor. The closet door beneath the north end of the stair, a four-panel wood door with a molded and beaded surround, is one of three original eighteenth-century doors in the house and one of two in its original frame. The closed-string stair is an elegant example of mid-eighteenth-century regional style and construction, framed nearly 1.5 feet away from the north wall and approximately six inches away from the west wall on its upper run. A chamfered square newel supports a capital continuous in profile with the balustrade rail, which features a distinctive double-bead and rounded ogee. Ornate turned balusters climb along a beaded stair skirt, and the staircase is wide and gently pitched.

At the base of the stair is the entrance to the club room. The door is a Federal-period recessed flush panel batten door and the plain box surround dates to the late nineteenth- or early twentieth-century. The club room, an elegant primary formal living space, is the largest room in

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the building, measuring 22 feet, 6.75 inches long by 19 feet, 5 inches wide and bears evidence of each period of the house's evolution. Mid-to-late-eighteenth-century elements include a largely intact floor comprised of approximately one-inch-thick, quarter-sawn, random-width pine boards face-nailed to the joists with a combination of wrought, cut, and wire nails, with apparent spline joints and a 1913-1914 surface finish. Along the ceiling is the only cornice in the house, a substantial and formal mid-to-late-eighteenth-century cornice with complicated profile. Also dating to this period are the two south wood, nine-over-nine, double-hung sash windows, one of which is visible from the upper south stair-hall. The surrounds are carefully set into the lower fascia of the cornice, but cut noticeably into the later wainscoting below. The wainscoting has a Federal/Roman Revival-style pedestal cap and a baseboard with a small bead and cove. The wainscoting was removed from the north wall during the 1942-1949 renovations, and the two north windows are mid-twentieth-century replacements. Cuts in the cornice and floorboards at the east end of the room indicate where the chimney was altered from an interior chimney with side closets to an exterior chimney. The Greek Revival-mantel was likely installed soon after the major Field family alterations. A door south of the fireplace leads to the east room addition. The door, which is heavily scratched and shows signs of graining, is an eighteenth-century six-panel wood door with a later plain box surround. The exterior surface is noticeably weathered, suggesting that this door may have originally been an exterior door in the side-passage hall.

The east addition contains a lounge room, measuring 9 feet, 9.5 inches long by 14 feet wide, and a bathroom, measuring 9 feet, 9.5 inches long by 5.5 feet wide. The floors are antique boards installed during the 1942-1949 renovations on top of the original boards. The beaded baseboard is similar to the trim in the club room, only shorter. A small fireplace with no mantel was cut into the east side of the chimney stack. The windows, one on the north wall and two on the east wall were re-worked in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. On the south wall a Federal-period batten door with Victorian-period hardware, opens to the gallery porch.

*Second Floor:*

The closed-string stair rises north to a broad landing, and then rises south to the second-floor, where the rail continues to the east chamber entrance. This portion of the upper passage is lighted by one Federal-period wood, nine-over-nine, double-hung sash window centered on the west gable end and two dormers, one each on the north and south walls. The trim consists of eighteenth-century corner boards and baseboards, and the floorboards are mostly original one-inch-thick, quarter-sawn, random-width pine face-nailed to the joists with wrought, cut, and wire nails. The door to the east chamber is the third original eighteenth-century door in the house, matching the first-floor entrance from the club room to the east addition. This six-panel door retains its original frame, trim, and iron H-L hinges, with a visible impression of the original 4-inch by 7-inch iron box lock. The chamber retains its eighteenth-century flooring and trim, along with the north and south dormer openings. At the east end of the room, cut floor boards mark the original location of the fireplace and side closets. The firebox is plain brick with a black painted surface and no mantel. The two east windows, flanking the fireplace, are Federal-period openings with later sash. The roof framing visible in the attic is common rafters pegged without

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a ridge pole, and contains nineteenth- and early twentieth-century members, repaired and braced during the 1913-1914 roof replacement. Most of the ceiling joists are original.

*SECONDARY RESOURCES:*

**1. Edge Hill House/Gloucester Woman's Club archaeological site/44GL0469, mid-18<sup>th</sup> century to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century (contributing site)**

Surrounding the house and occupying the entire 0.82-acre lot is archaeological site 44GL0469. Material culture concentrations include broad areas of eighteenth-century domestic refuse in the east and south yard, characterized by creamware, pearlware, and green wine bottle glass, and nineteenth- and twentieth-century building rubble and metal-working refuse in the south half of the property. Features and intact stratified cultural deposits include the foundations of a late nineteenth-to-early-twentieth-century building, northwest of the house on the hilltop, and an early nineteenth-century brick well in the south front yard. Other intact strata include deep midden deposits around the well and in the southeast yard. Located at a central crossroads in Gloucester County, the site includes the physical remains of the old Ware House Road in the front yard.

**2. Well house, ca. 1985 (non-contributing structure)**

A ca. 1985 wooden replica well house structure is situated in the front south lawn. The well house is portable and decorative, consisting of a frame box with a simple asphalt-shingle gable roof or well cover. This structure covers the remains of an intact, early brick well shaft that was archaeologically investigated in the 1980s. This structure does not detract from the integrity of the property.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

COMMERCE

INDUSTRY

SOCIAL HISTORY

ARCHITECTURE

ARCHAEOLOGY

**Period of Significance**

ca. 1770-1962

**Significant Dates**

1770 – earliest documented resident owner, Solomon Tomlinson

1805-1816 – transition from residence to store

1833 – John Field's brick ground floor and wing additions started

1839 – John Field's additions finished by sons Thomas and Charles Field

1850 – transition from store to carriage-making shop

1911 – establishment of Gloucester Agricultural Association

1913-1914 – establishment of Gloucester Woman's Club and renovations

1920 – sale of property to Gloucester Woman's Club

1942-1949 – last major architectural additions

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

Euro-American

**Architect/Builder**

Field, John (addition)

Field, Charles C. & Thomas W. (addition)

Gloucester Woman's Club (addition)

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Gloucester Woman's Club is a significant building, property, and archaeological site that preserves a complex history showcasing three centuries of changes that transformed the region from a frontier settlement of tobacco plantations to a bustling twenty-first-century village, county seat, and transportation nexus. The property witnessed these changes and helped direct them through its evolution from a private dwelling, to a mercantile and industrial operation, to its longest-held function as the headquarters of a publicly-oriented civic organization. The period of significance spans from ca. 1770 to 1962, from its earliest documented ownership by Solomon Tomlinson to its final owners, The Gloucester Woman's Club, who completed their last major changes in the mid-twentieth century and have maintained the historic and archaeological integrity of the property. The property is significant locally under Criteria A, C, and D for providing information vital to understanding the early exploration and settlement of Gloucester County; the growth of commerce and industry, particularly during the nineteenth-century; the social history of the various families, store owners, merchants, and artisans who owned, lived and/or worked on the property; its architectural evolution and preservation of many intact architectural details; and its demonstrated potential to provide valuable information through archaeology that can supplement and enrich the history of this signature property. The Gloucester Woman's Club not only stewards the preservation of this important historic resource, they have played a vital role throughout the twentieth century as a pioneering social and civic organization that opened its doors to Gloucester citizens as a library, community meeting place, and non-profit historic site. Their role over the past century, and with the assistance of the non-profit Long Bridge Ordinary Foundation (formed in 1980), highlights the many different, but important, contributions that the property has made, and continues to make, to Gloucester County's and Virginia's history.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

**Criterion A: Community Planning and Development**

Located on the slopes of Edge Hill in downtown Gloucester Court House, Virginia, the Gloucester Woman's Club, since the mid- to late eighteenth century, has occupied an important geographic position at the east end of the Gloucester Downtown Historic District (VDHR File Number 036-5106), at the intersection of Main Street and the county road to Mathews (VA Route 14). Based on its architecture and surviving documentation, it is the earliest surviving dwelling and non-public building in the town. The building's location and early history played an important role in the late eighteenth-century development of the Gloucester Court House community from an isolated colonial courthouse complex, surrounded by farm land, to a proto-urban residential and commercial center, with a planned grid of lots and streets. Gloucester County was formed from York County in 1651, but the earliest land patents in the area date to the 1630s and 1640s, including a 1649 grant to Secretary of the Colony Richard Kemp

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encompassing the area that would become the Court House village.<sup>1</sup> Between 1650<sup>2</sup> and 1684 the area escheated and was re-patented by Edmund Gwyn.<sup>3</sup> Settlement increased in the region and the tobacco-based economy expanded.<sup>4</sup> After Bacon's Rebellion in 1676, semi-urban communities developed at Gloucester Town, on Tindall's Point near the mouth of the York River, and Yorktown, located across the York River.<sup>5</sup> Encouraged by the colony's investments in new towns and anticipating or responding to the growth in the County, Edmund Gwyn conveyed to the people of Gloucester County a 6-acre portion of his land in 1680 for the purpose of building a new courthouse. Local historians conclude that this second courthouse was located in the vicinity of the standing 1766 courthouse building, the county's third courthouse building.<sup>6</sup>

Already the most populous county in Virginia by the end of the seventeenth century, Gloucester County continued to experience economic and population growth, both free and enslaved, while a small number of landholders solidified their control of the county politically and economically through their ownership of large tracts of land and monopolizing parish and county offices. Economic opportunity presented itself to entrepreneurs with the development of taverns, ordinaries, and other venues for accommodation and entertainment around the courthouse by 1750. The two earliest surviving plats of the Gloucester Courthouse area, both from 1754, show a cluster of buildings near the courthouse, including the old and new prison, an ordinary, a house, and a farm and mill complex to the southeast, located near the modern VA Route 14 bridge over Lewis Run.<sup>7</sup> None of these buildings remain standing, but they illustrate the beginning of a rapid period of mid-to-late-eighteenth-century town development in which the Gloucester Woman's Club was likely built, specifically along the Great Road, which ran roughly northwest to southeast following the current Main Street.<sup>8</sup>

Upon completion of the new courthouse in 1766, Edmund Gwyn's heirs, John Rootes and Sarah Read Rootes, began selling the surrounding colonial patent lands. The highest bidder was John Fox.<sup>9</sup> In 1769 Fox successfully petitioned the House of Burgesses to charter the courthouse community on his lands as the new Town of Botetourt, and he began selling lots while also acquiring the remaining 550 acres of the Rootes' land, south/southwest of Main Street, in 1771.<sup>10</sup> The subdivision and development of the new town is evident in a 1774 plat which shows eight town blocks along with the courthouse, two ordinaries, two stores, and a clubhouse.<sup>11</sup> Although the 1774 plat does not depict the east end of Main Street, the earliest documentation of a resident owner at the Gloucester Woman's Club is in 1770, when Solomon Tomlinson owned 25 acres including and surrounding the nominated property.<sup>12</sup> The loss of many of the County's records and complications surrounding the sale of the Gwyn estate make it difficult to determine precisely when and from whom Tomlinson purchased the Edge Hill property.<sup>13</sup> The architectural details and tax records together strongly suggest that the house was already standing in 1770 and that Tomlinson was living there.<sup>14</sup>

Solomon Tomlinson's 25 acres were valued at five pounds sterling and he was taxed one shilling and six pence in 1782, amounts comparable to developed contemporary urban lots in Botetourt Town.<sup>15</sup> Little is known about Tomlinson, or why he does not appear in the albeit spotty records of the 1780s.<sup>16</sup> In 1791, Tomlinson had three adult enslaved workers in his household, and records indicate that he was an upwardly mobile member of Gloucester's growing middle class,

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acquiring another five enslaved workers just before his death by 1815.<sup>17</sup> Solomon Tomlinson conveyed his property at Edge Hill to Isabella Thompson in 1800.<sup>18</sup> She acquired several neighboring tracts, 30.5 acres in total during her lifetime.<sup>19</sup> The precise size and composition of Isabella Thompson's household is unknown, but between 1801 and her death in 1805, five enslaved workers lived in her household, with no adult white males present.<sup>20</sup> Her estate, represented by merchants John and Thomas Smith, sold the property to merchant William Robins in 1816.<sup>21</sup> It is possible that Robins and/or the Smith partners may have rented the house from Isabella Thompson and her heirs between 1800 and 1815, or from Solomon Tomlinson before 1800, but it is clear that neither Thompson nor Tomlinson purchased retail merchant or tavern-keeper licenses at any point during their ownership of Edge Hill.<sup>22</sup> The building was most likely a private dwelling until Isabella Thompson's death in 1805, architecturally the earliest local example of an upper middle-class urban residence of the period and expressive of the transformation of the Gloucester Court House community into an established town with increasing trade, population, land subdivision, and social mobility.

### **Criterion A: Commerce**

The Gloucester Woman's Club was a retail store during the first half of the nineteenth century. It represents the development of a mercantile economy in Gloucester County and the downtown Gloucester Court House community during the Federal and antebellum periods. The architecture and historical associations of the property illustrate the importance of retail stores as social and economic institutions of credit and marketplaces for local and imported goods. Sometime between 1805 and 1816, the private home transitioned to a commercial office and/or store, and merchants John and Thomas Smith, heirs or administrators of Isabella Thompson's estate, conveyed the property to merchant William Robins in 1816.<sup>23</sup> The house's location at the intersection of Gloucester's Main Street with the county road to Ware Church and Mathews County figured prominently in these merchants' decisions to use the building as a store, along with its position as the closest store to Ware House landing.<sup>24</sup> Ware House landing, an important wharf and eighteenth-century tobacco inspection facility at the point of Deacon's Neck on the Ware River, is 1.7 miles east-southeast of Edge Hill.<sup>25</sup> There were several other mercantile businesses in downtown Gloucester at the end of the eighteenth century and first half of the nineteenth century, as evidenced by the "Whiting" and "Cosbey" stores labeled on Francis Tomkies' 1774 Court House plat, and by the 1804-1847 annual lists of retail merchants licensed to do business in Gloucester County.<sup>26</sup> Of these businesses, the Gloucester Woman's Club is the oldest documented antebellum store still standing in the Downtown Historic District.<sup>27</sup> Its role in the development of commerce in Gloucester is characterized by a succession of merchant owners whose business partnerships, often with one another and with other Gloucester store-keepers, illuminate the lives and circumstances of the emerging mercantile and professional middle class and the networks and strategies they maintained to remain financially stable during the first half of the nineteenth century.

While the nature of the relationship between merchant Thomas Smith and Isabella Thompson is undocumented, Smith's business activities were diverse and are well documented.<sup>28</sup> Thomas Smith of Airville plantation, Gloucester County, was a prominent merchant and Burgess and first



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obtained a license for the retail firm Thomas Smith & Co. in 1807; this is the first year the tax assessor recorded Smith as living near the courthouse.<sup>29</sup> The opening of the firm was contemporary with a brief period of heightened commercial activity and retail competition in Gloucester County, as 33 individual merchants and firms applied for licenses in 1806.<sup>30</sup> It is unclear whether Thomas Smith was living in or doing business in the Gloucester Woman's Club as early as 1807, but it is evident that he had a modest household at the courthouse.<sup>31</sup> His conveyance of the Edge Hill property to established merchant William Robins, via attorney John Dixon, suggests that Smith's company relied on Robins for merchandise or credit in the early growth of his firm, weathering the effects of the War of 1812 on commerce, and that Robins accepted the well-apportioned and advantageously located house as payment for these debts.

William Robins, born in 1770 at Point Lookout on Robins Neck in Gloucester County, was licensed as a merchant as early as 1804 and was a wealthy man by the time he acquired Edge Hill in 1816. Robins owned five other properties in the county, and headed a large household with 34 enslaved workers above the age of twelve, with two carriages and nine horses available for traveling and conducting business throughout the county.<sup>32</sup> Robins' second wife, Juliana Pryor, with whom he had eight children, was the daughter of Christopher Pryor, a trading agent for a Scottish tobacco firm and the owner of the Ware House plantation at Deacon's Neck encompassing Ware House landing.<sup>33</sup> Although Robins did not maintain his retail license after 1810, he was still trading as a merchant while he owned Edge Hill.<sup>34</sup> Robins and other local store owners regularly purchased merchandise from each other, often on credit, to keep their inventories supplied. This practice, along with frequent temporary partnerships formed between merchants, reveals efforts on the part of Gloucester's antebellum businessmen to foster mercantile competition while mutually ensuring the stability of their profession, with smaller merchants operating as agents or suppliers for larger firms.<sup>35</sup>

Despite these entrepreneurial attempts to mitigate against recession and inflation, merchants were not immune to adverse economic conditions, and the Panic of 1819 led to a general decline in commercial activity in Gloucester County through much of the 1820s, and led also to a series of lawsuits between merchants seeking remuneration for unpaid credit, merchandise, and property.<sup>36</sup> In the process, ownership of the Gloucester Woman's Club changed three times between 1821 and 1832, but remarkably, the records of the lawsuits and transactions between merchants indicate that the Edge Hill House remained in operation as a store throughout the economic recession and that its various owners, in the midst of litigation, were actually connected by partnerships, leases, and family relationships that give the property a continuity of commercial history for the first half of the century. At the onset of the recession, William Robins had augmented his wealth and influence, completing a term as Sheriff (1819-1820) and accumulating 780 acres while he headed a household of six family members, one free African-American man named Jack Gregory, and 34 enslaved workers, 33 of whom were men.<sup>37</sup> In 1820, Robins sold 5 acres of the 30.5-acre Edge Hill property, described as "Forest Land," to Christopher Whiting, his son-in-law, and in May 1821 he sold the remaining 25.5-acre property, described as "The Hill," with \$381.25 in assessed building value, to John Hobday.<sup>38</sup> Although it might appear that Robins was divesting himself of the store, John Hobday made him the

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mortgagee of the purchase, and later in the same month, Robins sued John Hobday and Thomas Cary jointly to secure a debt, suggesting that Robins still had a financial interest in the store.<sup>39</sup>

Thomas Cary was a middle-class Gloucester merchant, ferry-keeper, and later an ordinary keeper, whose sister, Elizabeth Courtney Cary, was William Robins' daughter-in-law.<sup>40</sup> Cary's partner, John Hobday, was in his mid-twenties, a man of modest means who had sold his land at Gloucester Town to move to the Court House after buying Edge Hill, and who headed a household of eight, including three enslaved workers, with three members of the household engaged in manufacturing.<sup>41</sup> Several individuals were in debt to Hobday, and in 1822 and 1823 he sued a number of merchants, including William Shackelford, William Robins, Benjamin and Thomas M. Seawell, and the estate of Seymour Powell.<sup>42</sup> The litigation between area merchants was increasing in frequency and complexity, as William Robins, the assignee of a Williamsburg-based firm, Cole & Sheldon, simultaneously sued John B. Berry and Thomas M. Seawell as well as the brothers John B., Benjamin, and Thomas M. Seawell.<sup>43</sup> The bonds of kinship and business partnership were tested to their limits in the economic turmoil of the time, and in this fray, John Hobday sold the Gloucester Woman's Club building to the firm Cole & Sheldon by the end of 1823.<sup>44</sup>

Roscow Cole and Jacob C. Sheldon were successful retail merchants in Williamsburg since 1819 and in business in Gloucester as early as 1820, working in some form of partnership with William Robins and possibly renting Edge Hill from John Hobday before buying the property.<sup>45</sup> Around the time of the purchase, late in 1823, Roscow Cole, Jacob C. Sheldon, and Lawrence Stubbs obtained a license "to sell by retail ardent spirits," and from 1824 to 1826, Cole, Sheldon, and Stubbs maintained a license as general retailers, with James Robins Stubbs as a partner.<sup>46</sup> During these years, the Stubbs were the only men associated with the firm who had taxable personal property in Gloucester County, and James R. Stubbs was possibly the storekeeper or local manager of the business, as he signed many receipts of sale.<sup>47</sup> In 1825, James R. Stubbs, William Robins' nephew, married Maria Robins, William Robins' daughter, further solidifying the financial and kinship ties that remained central to the successful operation of the Edge Hill store.<sup>48</sup> Jacob Sheldon, although a resident of Williamsburg, also had ties to Gloucester, as he was married to Harriett Peyton Dixon, the daughter of John Dixon, who had acted as attorney during the transfer of the Edge Hill property between merchants Thomas Smith and William Robins.<sup>49</sup> Procession records show that Thomas Smith continued to operate his store next door to Cole, Sheldon & Stubbs during this period, illustrating the importance of the intersection at Edge Hill and of commercial competition in downtown Gloucester.<sup>50</sup>

As general retailers, Cole, Sheldon, and Stubbs offered a variety of specialty imports and manufactured goods to the residents of Gloucester County, including not only spirits but also clothing, cheese, coffee, molasses, fish, fruit, hardware, and an assortment of agricultural produce.<sup>51</sup> James R. Stubbs and his wife Maria both died in early 1827, but Cole and Sheldon kept the store open as partners, assuming responsibility for the local property taxes and suits against other local merchants, while William Robins administered his nephew's estate, both personal and commercial.<sup>52</sup> In 1828, Jacob Sheldon took on full management of the Williamsburg store, trading as Sheldon & Company, while Roscow Cole managed the

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Gloucester store at Edge Hill, trading as Roscow Cole & Co.<sup>53</sup> Cole remained a resident of Williamsburg but paid taxes for his household at Edge Hill, where three enslaved workers lived.<sup>54</sup> Cole travelled to and from his two homes with his gig and harness and kept a retail license in Gloucester through 1830, selling the property in 1831 to Gloucester merchant and former Deputy Sheriff John Field, of the firm Field and Banks.<sup>55</sup>

John Field, who owned Edge Hill from 1831 until his death in 1837, was the most successful merchant to own the property, as evidenced by extensive records of transactions with local residents and Baltimore import/export suppliers and most notably in his investments in the property itself, which included the most extensive building and renovation in the history of the house.<sup>56</sup> John Field was a relatively wealthy member of the upper middle class who had served the County as Deputy Sheriff from 1823 through 1830, at which point he had a rather large household of twelve and a workforce of 59 enslaved individuals, and a homestead with a dozen horses, a carriage, and a riding gig.<sup>57</sup> He had done business with Cole & Sheldon and Thomas Smith & Company as early as 1825.<sup>58</sup> Upon buying Edge Hill, then known as "The Hill," Field owned several other Gloucester County properties, totaling 678 acres, including a mill and a home plantation.<sup>59</sup> The year 1831 witnessed a rebound in commercial activity in Gloucester, with 26 licensed merchants trading and selling, and the 1830s would continue to be a period of economic stability for merchants.<sup>60</sup>

As if to commemorate the success and persistence of Edge Hill as a commercial establishment through the preceding hard times, in 1833 John Field began a major architectural expansion of the building, adding the commercial Federal-style ground floor and other Federal-style details, an undertaking which gave the building the appearance it maintains today. In the 1833 tax assessments, the value of buildings at Edge Hill rose from \$381.25 to \$1,581.25.<sup>61</sup> In 1831 and 1832, Field partnered with merchant William Banks as Field & Banks, and from 1833 through 1836 he managed the firm on his own.<sup>62</sup> John Field traded frequently with other merchants and ship captains, and like his predecessors, he was involved in several suits with these businessmen, including a suit in which Roscow Cole was his opponent and another in which Cole was his representative.<sup>63</sup> In 1835, Field had an unidentified clerk working for the store and in the same year he purchased the adjacent "Bakehouse" property to the north of Edge Hill, doubling the size of the commercial property.<sup>64</sup> Local historians have speculated that Field's ownership of the bake house, next to his store, means that he sold supplies for merchant ships, although it is just as likely that baked goods were one commodity he sold to both local residents and ship merchants, as it is documented that he sold goods imported by ship to Gloucester and may have also facilitated the sale of Gloucester goods to merchants outside of the county.<sup>65</sup> In 1837, Field was involved as an agent in the sale of the Belroi-area "Stubbs Tavern and Store & Co." to merchant Thomas R. Borum; this latter store was located at the rural crossroads of Belroi, approximately four miles southwest of Edge Hill and Gloucester Court House.<sup>66</sup> Field died on March 26, 1837, and his estate remained intact through 1840, while the store property passed to his sons Charles C. Field and Thomas W. Field.<sup>67</sup>

Charles and Thomas Field were the last retail merchants to own the Edge Hill House, although they likely shared use of the commercial space with their brother, John C. Field, who was also

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licensed as a merchant in Gloucester.<sup>68</sup> The firm "Booth & Field," licensed from 1837 to 1839, was a partnership between George Booth and John C. Field.<sup>69</sup> In 1839, the assessed value of buildings on the 26.5-acre Edge Hill property rose from \$1,581.25 to \$2,500 while the assessed value of buildings on the 26.5-acre Bakehouse property fell from \$97.50 to \$25.00. A comparison of eight other Gloucester County properties, many in the immediate vicinity of Edge Hill and Gloucester Courthouse, shows that most properties experienced no change in assessed building value, suggesting that the Field heirs either finished the major improvements their father started in 1833 or that the tax assessor did not levy taxes on the previously completed additions until after John Field's death.<sup>70</sup> Field left large rural tracts to his widow, Ann W. C. Field, and his son, John C. Field.<sup>71</sup> Charles and Thomas Field appeared in the personal property tax lists jointly from 1842 through 1844, when the property was identified as "The Store" in the land tax books, and in 1843 the Field brothers obtained a retail license as partners.<sup>72</sup> In 1845 Ann W. C. Field died and Charles sold his interest in the combined 53-acre "Edge Hill & Bake House" property to his brother Thomas.<sup>73</sup> The two brothers continued to run the store as partners, however, obtaining another joint license in 1847, a year of heightened commercial activity in Gloucester County, while their brother John C. Field ran an ordinary and bowling alley elsewhere near Gloucester Court House.<sup>74</sup> Thomas W. Field owned one enslaved worker who was age 16 or older, while Charles C. Field had a household of thirteen enslaved workers and a farmstead with five horses and a carriage.<sup>75</sup> By 1848, Thomas was using the carriage, presumably as the primary store manager, and in 1849 Thomas W. Field had a clerk living with him at the house.<sup>76</sup> In 1850, Field sold the 53-acre Edge Hill property to Henry P. Taliaferro, marking the shift of the building from a commercial retail store to a carriage-manufacturing shop.<sup>77</sup>

### **Criterion A: Industry**

As a carriage-manufacturing shop and the residence of three successive coach-makers during the second half of the nineteenth century, the Gloucester Woman's Club represents the resilience of small industries in particular, and of the Gloucester Court House community in general, during the Civil War and subsequent agricultural and economic decline in Gloucester County. The architectural design and location, and the long establishment of commerce on the site combined to make the Gloucester Woman's Club suitable for the production and sale of coaches and for housing the skilled coach-makers, painters, blacksmiths, and apprentices who were necessary for the successful operation of such a shop. Like the retail merchants who preceded them, the various coach-makers who owned the Gloucester Woman's Club knew one another well, often working for one another's shops as tradesmen or apprentices, and their use of the property illustrates the persistence of local trade and manufacturing in difficult financial conditions and importance of transportation-related industries in connecting downtown Gloucester and rural Gloucester County to regional markets.

The first coach-maker to own the property was Henry P. Taliaferro, who purchased the 53-acre parcel from merchant Thomas W. Field in 1850.<sup>78</sup> Henry P. Taliaferro was 29 years old and with his wife, Emily A. Taliaferro, the couple lived at the property with their 2-year-old son, 4-month-old daughter, and several free white male workers: blacksmith Charles Harper, age 20; wheelwright Robert Moore, age 21; painter William Iverson, age 19; coach-maker Thomas

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Clemens, age 16; coach-maker Augustine Ware, age 18; and coach-maker John Stokes (or Stalker), age 18.<sup>79</sup> Four enslaved individuals also lived in the household.<sup>80</sup> The Industrial Schedule of the 1850 Census identifies six coach-making firms in Gloucester County, while the Population Schedule adds further detail, identifying 18 individual coach-makers, six of whom were apprentices, and several blacksmiths, painters, and other tradesmen who were employed by coach-makers.<sup>81</sup> Henry P. Taliaferro ran one of the county's largest coach-making operations, making coaches and harnesses, with \$4,990 in real estate and personal property invested in the business, and a total staff of seven workers. The Industrial Schedule records the raw materials of Taliaferro's shop: lumber, iron, paint, leather, and cloth. Taliaferro's firm made a total of \$4,000 in income in 1849, with \$1,900 worth of carriages and buggies manufactured that year, and \$2,100 in repairs, making his business at Edge Hill the most successful in the county in both coach manufacturing and carriage repairs.<sup>82</sup> County records from the 1850s illustrate that Henry P. Taliaferro was a relatively affluent manufacturer, capable of maintaining a comfortable household while also investing capital in his business and buying clothing and supplies for his workers.<sup>83</sup>

Henry P. Taliaferro sold the Edge Hill property to coach-maker Thomas A. Moss, previously of nearby York County, in 1856. Moss, age 23, lived with his wife Lucy, one young child, one adult free white male above age 16 (possibly an apprentice or his brother), and four enslaved individuals.<sup>84</sup> Thomas A. Moss continued operating a coach-making business at the house, and the personal property tax book for that year contains an additional entry for "Thomas Moss and Brothers," a household of three males over age 16, who had \$500 in manufacturing capital and \$500 in personal property.<sup>85</sup> The Moss brothers' manufacturing capital increased from \$500 to \$1,000 and, interestingly, Henry P. Taliaferro, whose taxable personal property remained the same during these years, had no capital invested in his business.<sup>86</sup> Later census records confirm that Taliaferro was still working as a coach-maker, suggesting that he employed Thomas A. Moss as a supervising coach-maker or manager and that Taliaferro continued to manufacture carriages at Edge Hill even though Moss owned the property.<sup>87</sup> The coach-making shop at Edge Hill, like the retail store that preceded it, was maintained by a series of owners who were often business partners or co-workers, and further evidence that Moss and Taliaferro had such an arrangement comes from the relocation of Moss to Williamsburg sometime before 1860, while he was still paying taxes on Edge Hill. Moss moved with his wife, four children, carpenter Alphonso Moreland, coach-maker E.T. Clemens, and Clemens' wife Elizabeth.<sup>88</sup> Taliaferro remained in Gloucester County as a coach-maker with a staff of nine workers, including six men and three women. Even though he invested \$800 in his manufacturing and made \$3,000 in income, neither he nor Moss were described as having any taxable real estate in the 1860 Census.<sup>89</sup> The 1862 Gloucester County Land Tax Book and a later 1871 Gloucester County Chancery Suit reveal that Thomas A. Moss had sold the Edge Hill property or some portion of interest in the property to coach-maker Lawrence S. Stubbs sometime before relocating to Williamsburg, but the deed was destroyed during the Civil War along with many other Gloucester County documents. These sources also indicate that Moss and Stubbs had formed a business partnership.<sup>90</sup>

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Lawrence S. Stubbs ran one of three Gloucester County coach-making firms identified in the 1860 Industrial Schedule, along with the firms of Henry P. Taliaferro and George W. Adams, but the 1860 Population Schedule lists a total of 22 individual coach-makers, ten of whom were apprentices working for Stubbs.<sup>91</sup> Stubbs and Moss sold the profitable 58-acre Edge Hill property to coach-maker Eli Thomas Clements in January 1861.<sup>92</sup> Eli T. Clements had recently lived and worked in the household of Thomas Moss in Williamsburg and likely worked in the Gloucester household of Henry P. Taliaferro in 1850.<sup>93</sup> As a first-time householder at the onset of the Civil War, Eli T. Clements had a workforce of two enslaved individuals.<sup>94</sup> Clements served as a musician in the 26th Virginia Infantry during the Civil War, and his unit, comprised of men from the counties of Gloucester, King and Queen, and Mathews, was engaged in the Seven Days' Battles in June 1862 before being transferred to the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida until 1864.<sup>95</sup> The previous coach-making owners of Edge Hill, Henry P. Taliaferro and Thomas A. Moss, also served in Confederate infantry regiments during the war, as commerce diminished and as manufacturing and agricultural efforts shifted to the war effort.<sup>96</sup> During the general economic decline that immediately followed the war, the growth of local businesses and industries was slow, but Eli T. Clements managed to gradually augment his household by working as a coach-maker.<sup>97</sup> In 1867, Eli and Elizabeth Clements sold 25 acres of their land at Edge Hill to George and Lucy Seawell, an African-American couple.<sup>98</sup> This northern section of the property, on the north side of Lewis Run, contained no buildings, and the Seawells agreed to pay for the property in installments.<sup>99</sup> George Seawell subdivided and sold the land that year to George W. Cox.<sup>100</sup> In the process, a survey plat was produced, and this drawing shows the course of the road to Ware Church (modern Route 14) as it crosses Lewis Run over "Long Bridge."<sup>101</sup> This landscape feature is partly responsible for the local tradition that the Gloucester Woman's Club was once called the Long Bridge Ordinary, although the historical evidence presented here and in other recent research shows that it was a successful store and carriage-making shop, but not licensed as a tavern.<sup>102</sup>

By 1870, Eli T. Clements was working as an employee in George W. Cox's Carriage, Blacksmith, and Wheelwright shop near the courthouse, suggesting that the Gloucester Woman's Club may have begun the transition back to a residence, with more of the manufacturing work being completed elsewhere.<sup>103</sup> Economic pressures led many Gloucester County residents to propose the relocation of the courthouse to the Ware House landing. This movement ultimately failed, resulting in the sale and subdivision of the land on either side of Main Street. Advertisements and survey plats were drawn, clearly illustrating several of the county's carriage makers', blacksmiths', and wheelwrights' lots on the north side of the courthouse circle, forming a concentrated manufacturing zone downtown and leaving the Gloucester Woman's Club for the family of Eli and Elizabeth Clements.<sup>104</sup> The couple lived alone in the house with their four children and no working staff.<sup>105</sup> The 1870 Population Schedule identifies eight individual coach-makers, while the Industrial Schedule identifies seven coach-making businesses in Gloucester County, highlighting the out-migration from the Tidewater region following the war, and the smaller scale of manufacturing.<sup>106</sup> Most of the shop owners had only one hired worker, except for Lawrence S. Stubbs with two and George W. Cox with three, including E.T. Clements.<sup>107</sup>

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Like many in the county at the time, Clements owed debts to several individuals, and in 1871 he took advantage of the Virginia homestead exemption to protect his estate from creditors' claims or suits, listing his 33-acre Edge Hill property, worth \$1,000. In 1872 he petitioned the County court for a new deed to replace the document that had been lost during the war.<sup>108</sup> In 1873, Clements conveyed all his real and personal estate to John S. Cooke, Trustee of Elizabeth V. Clements, noting in the deed that he wished for his family's estate to remain intact despite a judgment obtained against him for debts he owed to his employer George W. Cox and several Gloucester merchants.<sup>109</sup> The Clements family continued to reside in the house.<sup>110</sup> Eli T. Clements was one of five coach-makers living in Gloucester County in 1880, and as he was not listed as an employee in anyone else's firm, he may have returned to small-scale manufacturing or repair work at Edge Hill.<sup>111</sup> By 1882, Clements had paid his debts, releasing the property to Elizabeth V. Clements, and in 1890, their 25-year-old son Edward J. Clements, now also a coach-maker, married Betty Ware, daughter of his coach-making business partner, William S. Ware.<sup>112</sup> Between 1891 and 1906, Eli T. Clements died and his son Edward and wife Elizabeth relocated to West Point, Virginia, where they were living in 1910 when they petitioned Gloucester County court for a new Trustee so they could sell the property.<sup>113</sup> The Clements family rented the Gloucester Woman's Club to the family of Arthur and Josephine Richardson, an African-American couple with ten children.<sup>114</sup> In May 1910, Elizabeth V. Clements and her Trustee, Henry W. Lane, sold the newly re-surveyed 40-acre Edge Hill property to William J. Burlee of Port Richmond, New York, who continued renting to the Richardson family. The departure of the Clements family from the Gloucester Woman's Club and from Gloucester County marked the end of a half-century of association with coach-makers who lived and worked in the house, maintaining the historic domestic and commercial functions of the building while struggling to run local manufacturing businesses during the difficult late nineteenth century in Virginia's small towns and rural communities.<sup>115</sup>

### **Criterion A: Social History**

The adaptation of the house at Edge Hill, from a private residence, retail store, and carriage shop, to a civic women's club in the early twentieth century marks another important transition in the history of the property and of broader Gloucester County social history. The establishment of the Gloucester Woman's Club in 1913, and its continuous residency at Edge Hill to the present, have contributed to the development of social and civic life in Gloucester County and the Downtown Historic District. The house and property are significant for representing the growth of women's civil rights, public participation, and collectivism during America's Progressive Era, and the concomitant improvement of the local economy and the appearance of local historic preservation in the early-to-mid-twentieth century. Prior to the rise of the women's suffrage movement and the establishment of private social clubs for women, women across the United States had been discouraged from public speaking and political activity. The Progressive Era emphasis on institutional and cultural reform complemented the women's club movement's demonstration of personal improvement, education, fundraising, and social organizing, ultimately giving women a new and effective voice and giving the Progressive movement the talents, energies, and numbers of the women's club movement, with the most profound impacts occurring at the local level.<sup>116</sup> The Gloucester Woman's Club is one of the oldest voluntary civic organizations still running in

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the county and its role in the development of social life and community improvement is characterized by the Club's historic commitment to public programs, education, opportunities for women and girls, and the preservation and interpretation of the Gloucester Woman's Club building and other Gloucester County historic sites.

The genesis of the Gloucester Woman's Club, and their ownership and use of Edge Hill, is connected to the origins of the Gloucester Agricultural Association, another important early twentieth-century Gloucester civic organization that was short-lived compared to the Woman's Club. On June 27, 1906, newlyweds John Marshall Lewis and Marie Louise Hargrove Lewis, of West Point, Virginia, traveled to Gloucester so Mr. Lewis could accept a position as banker at L.E. Mumford Banking Company. As they drove through the intersection of Main Street and VA Route 14, Marie H. Lewis noticed the house at Edge Hill and asked her husband to stop. Upon examination, she observed that, "the old building was in a sad state of repair," but she was entranced by the house and from that point forward expressed to her husband continued interest in acquiring and renovating the house, whose owners were no longer living in Gloucester County. In turn, J. Marshall Lewis encouraged William J. Burlee to buy the 40-acre property from Elizabeth V. Clements in 1910.<sup>117</sup> William J. Burlee was a successful shipbuilder from New York who came to Gloucester County in 1904 to buy White Marsh plantation, where he relocated with his mother, Bridget Burlee. His relocation and investment in the rural Virginia properties was typical of many affluent northerners who were buying property and becoming involved in politics and finance in the former Confederate states at the end of the nineteenth century.<sup>118</sup> Burlee, like Lewis, later became a president of the Bank of Gloucester and the two were colleagues, members of a group of influential and socially active men looking for a place to establish a County Fair and Fairgrounds.<sup>119</sup> Burlee sold the Edge Hill property to Lewis on January 2, 1911, and the same day Lewis conveyed the property in a Deed of Trust to W.A. Robinson, Trustee of William J. Burlee, to whom Lewis was in debt.<sup>120</sup> The house remained in need of repair but this would soon change.<sup>121</sup>

In November 1911, the Farmers' Cooperative Demonstration group, with William J. Burlee as its chair, agreed to form an organization called the Gloucester Agricultural Association for, "advancing the agricultural interests of our county in every way."<sup>122</sup> Specifically, the Association (also known as the Gloucester Agricultural Society) had as its goals the improvement of farming and cooperation between farmers, the establishment of a county fair, the annual election of a Board of Managers with officers responsible for specific tasks, and cooperation with the women and schoolchildren of the county in making the fairs successful. The Association voted Burlee the first Vice President and Lewis the first Treasurer and a member of the committee for finding a fairground location. By February 1912, the Association had appointed a Household Committee, made up of three of the board members' wives, and this group was responsible for organizing the fair's women's exhibits.<sup>123</sup> The first "Gloucester County and School Fair" was held at Botetourt High School in 1912, but by the spring of 1913, Lewis and his wife had paid their debts to William J. Burlee and, with full title to the property, sold the 40-acre Edge Hill property to the Gloucester Agricultural Association for use as the County Fairgrounds.<sup>124</sup> The Association, with bank presidents on its board, had no difficulty obtaining a mortgage on the property from the Bank of Gloucester that same year.<sup>125</sup>



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The Gloucester County Fairs encouraged participation and interaction between children and adults, men and women, and travelers and local citizens, both white and black, thus contributing to local African-American community leader (and neighbor) T.C. Walker's vision for increased education, land ownership, and entrepreneurship for Gloucester's African-American population.<sup>126</sup> There were two additional important consequences to the Agricultural Association's purchase of Edge Hill, beyond the selection of a dedicated county fairground. First, immediately upon purchasing the property, the Association members renovated the house, and in 1914 the assessed value of the buildings increased from \$200 to \$2,000, including the construction of a County Fair building to the north of the historic house.<sup>127</sup> The repairs to the house included the installation of the slate roof, the addition of a portico over the west gable entrance, the refinishing of the first-floor club room floor, and the creation of a walkway around the house and from the house to the fairgrounds.<sup>128</sup> Second, the women's committee of the Agricultural Association met in March of 1913 to draft a constitution for a new organization, the Gloucester Woman's Club, and Marie H. Lewis, who first saw the potential for the renovation and re-use of the house at Edge Hill in 1906, was one of the founding members.<sup>129</sup> Historic records indicate that the woman's club was for white women and no evidence of racial integration in the club's membership or activities during the historic period has been discovered. In May of that year, the Woman's Club began furnishing the ground floor of the building as their meeting place, and on October 4<sup>th</sup>, the Club officially opened with a membership of 75 and with Mrs. H.O. Sanders as the first President.<sup>130</sup> For the next several years, the Gloucester Agricultural Association and Gloucester Woman's Club shared the property, with the Woman's Club agreeing to rent the ground floor and provide a rest room for women at the County Fair.<sup>131</sup>

While the Agricultural Association hired a caretaker for the house, Mr. Willie Smith, who lived in the second-floor chamber, the Woman's Club immediately offered programs for its members and the public, starting Saturday afternoon tea fundraisers, hosting craft and historic exhibits, and offering refreshments during "open house" hours on court days. In 1915, the Club began hosting Saturday night dances and rented space to Mary Kemp, who started a circulating library in the building, and to the Botetourt Club for their meetings. The success of the library led the Club to formally establish a Saturday afternoon circulating library for local residents in 1916. In 1917, the Eighth Company of the Virginia Coast Artillery encamped on the fairgrounds and used the club rooms, Victrola, and library, while the Woman's Club also offered their space as a hospital for those too ill to leave Gloucester with the company. In 1918 they offered meeting space for every war relief society in the county.<sup>132</sup> The Woman's Club became incorporated independently of the Agricultural Association that year and the Association resolved to sell the house to the Woman's Club while retaining the fairgrounds.<sup>133</sup> In 1919, the Club established the tradition of hosting an annual New Year's Day open house and in November of that year they served a Welcome Home Dinner to 200 returning World War I soldiers of Mathews and Gloucester Counties.<sup>134</sup> On April 28, 1920, the Gloucester Agricultural Association and Bank of Gloucester sold the house and a 0.9-acre lot surrounding it to the Gloucester Woman's Club. A plat by R.A. Folkes was recorded with the deed, showing the "club house," the "tank" (a water tank next to a windmill not shown on the plat), the public roads to the west and south, and stipple marks indicating the location of the old exterior kitchen.<sup>135</sup>

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The Gloucester Agricultural Association stopped holding County Fairs at Edge Hill sometime before 1928 when they sold their 39-acre property.<sup>136</sup> The Woman's Club's commitment to the preservation and restoration of the house continued, with the installation of plumbing in 1925, a ground-floor kitchen and first-floor bathroom, and the installation of electricity in 1930, which provided an opportunity to repair wainscoting on the north wall of the ground floor. With these improvements to the house in place, the Club expanded its public programs, opening their circulating library to rural schools, placing books in five locations in Gloucester County in 1932, and hosting exhibits by local artists in 1935. The Club's dedication to preservation was not limited to the Gloucester Woman's Club building, and in 1939 they were also custodians of the Walter Reed Birthplace in Belroi. In 1940, the American Red Cross used the club's rooms for sewing projects and in 1941, the Club sponsored the county's first Girl Scout Troop in collaboration with the Parent-Teacher's Association at Botetourt High School. As they had done in the first World War, the Woman's Club provided the house as a first aid station in April 1942.

Realizing the increased public use of the house and the need for further architectural restoration, the Woman's Club performed a series of repairs and improvements to the building between 1942 and 1949, carefully maintaining the integrity of the historic architecture. It was during this stage of renovation, the last major architectural change to the building, that the exterior redwood siding, east ground floor kitchen, paved brick garden walkways, and restored antique ground-floor floorboards were added, although the increased tax assessment of \$2,700 was not recorded until 1957.

In 1950, the Children's Choir of Ware Episcopal Church used the building on Saturday afternoons, and from 1950 to 1953, the Gloucester Day School rented the building.<sup>137</sup> In 1964, the Club sold a small corner of right-of-way to the Commonwealth of Virginia, during the reorientation of Ware House Road and the expansion of the U.S. Route 17 approach to downtown Gloucester Court House, changing the Edge Hill acreage to its current 0.83-acre size.<sup>138</sup> In 1973, the Gloucester Woman's Club building was placed on the Virginia Historic Landmarks Register, and in 1974 it was nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.<sup>139</sup> The Gloucester Woman's Club continues to foster civic and social programs while also encouraging the study and appreciation of the house as a significant example of domestic and commercial architecture of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Several architectural studies by the Historic American Buildings Survey and the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation were completed between 1979 and 1986, and in 1980, the Long Bridge Ordinary Foundation formed as a not-for-profit organization to assist the Gloucester Woman's Club in preserving the building and promoting its history in Gloucester County.<sup>140</sup>

### **Criterion C: Architecture**

The Gloucester Woman's Club is significant as an early example of an evolved dual residential/commercial building. The architectural design and details represent the growth of the house from a mid-to-late-eighteenth-century one-and-a-half story, frame side-passage single dwelling, to a two-and-a-half story, brick and frame, commercial Federal-style store building,

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with later Colonial Revival additions and exterior treatments that were built during the adaptation of the building to a civic Woman's Club in 1913-1914 and 1942-1949. The building sequence has given the house several exterior entrances on the south, west, and north elevations, reflecting the historic private, commercial, industrial, and civic uses of the building and property and highlighting its strategic and commanding location on the southwest slope of Edge Hill at the intersection of Main Street and John Clayton Memorial Highway in the Gloucester Downtown Historic District. The house embodies the economic and social development of Gloucester Court House as an urban, mercantile, and governmental center of rural Gloucester County from the eighteenth century to the present, and it stands out amongst Gloucester County's architectural resources for its fine mid-to-late-eighteenth-century first and second floors, its early nineteenth-century commercial Federal-style ground floor, and its functional integration of domestic, commercial, and civic design elements, with the overall integrity of each of these elements conveying the evolution of the building and of the Downtown Historic District.

The earliest documented resident of the Gloucester Woman's Club building was Solomon Tomlinson in 1770.<sup>141</sup> It is difficult to determine who built the house or when, but architectural details suggest that the house could pre-date 1770, including the original first-floor staircase, which is similar to ca. 1740-1760 examples found in Virginia, and the distinctive mid-to-late-eighteenth-century trim, flooring, doors and windows found in the first and second floors.<sup>142</sup> Tomlinson conveyed the house and property to Isabella Thompson in 1800 and it remained in her estate through 1815. The house was a private residence until at least 1805, but may have become a store or the office of a store owner sometime between 1805 and 1816, when Thompson's estate sold the property to merchant William Robins. The core eighteenth-century, one-and-a-half story, frame side-passage house remaining largely unchanged until merchant John Field purchased the house/store in 1831 and undertook major changes between 1833 and 1839.<sup>143</sup> Between 1780 and 1820, one or more of the residents or merchants who owned the house appear to have made some relatively minor changes to the building, including the construction of a first-floor porch or gallery (since rebuilt and modified) running the length of the south facade, the installation of Federal/Roman Revival-style wainscoting in the principal first-floor room, and graining of at least one of the original eighteenth-century doors.

The original one-and-a-half story frame house sits on the 1833-1839 brick ground floor, retaining many of its original architectural elements and details. The closed-string stair, wide and gently pitched, is exemplary of mid-eighteenth-century regional style and construction, framed away from the north and west exterior walls, and featuring an elegant balustrade with turned balusters and a chamfered newel. Three doors in this section of the house, two on the first floor and one in the second floor chamber, are original to the eighteenth century, with characteristic classically-inspired molded surrounds; trim in both the first and second floors is also from this period. Of particular note are the substantial mid-to-late-eighteenth-century wood cornice in the first floor club room, originally a spacious formal living room, with a deep, ornamental profile, and the two original first-floor nine-over-nine double-hung sash windows, with surrounds comparable to the original door surrounds. During this early period, the house had an east interior end chimney, flanked on both sides and on both floors by closets, but later alterations to the building required the re-building of the chimney stack as an exterior end chimney. These details, along with

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historic documentation and the large dimensions of the side-passage and principal room, illustrate that this is the earliest example of an upper middle-class urban residence in the Downtown Historic District, and possibly the oldest standing building in the district. Its age aside, the Gloucester Woman's Club is stylistically and functionally distinct from the two other mid-to-late-eighteenth-century buildings in the district, the classic Georgian-style Gloucester Courthouse (VDHR #036-0021-0005), built in 1766, and the late Georgian-style Botetourt Hotel (VDHR #036-0009), built ca. 1774. Unlike some other surviving eighteenth-century buildings in Gloucester, the oldest section of the Edge Hill House is not brick or symmetrically designed with a center passage, like Dragon Ordinary (VDHR #036-0015), Little England (VDHR #036-0030), and Cappahosic House (VDHR #036-0011). The house also differs from the ca. 1757, Colonial-style, frame, two-and-a-half story Seawell's Ordinary (VDHR #036-0042), which has a center passage and a late eighteenth-century wing addition, and from the slightly later ca. 1780 Point Lookout (VDHR #036-0064), which is a two-and-a-half story, frame, side-passage double-pile dwelling, built in a more vernacular style with late nineteenth-century additions.<sup>144</sup>

The only major addition or structural and stylistic alteration to the building was the construction of the Federal-style, brick ground floor and south side and east side additions, begun by merchant John Field in 1833 and completed by 1839 by his sons Charles C. Field and Thomas W. Field, who continued to use the building as a store after their father's death in 1837. John Field, like most of the house's previous owners, was a member of Gloucester's growing professional upper middle class, but he was more successful as a merchant during his ownership of the property than any of his predecessors had been, trading widely, amassing a large personal estate, and investing in the expansion of the building. Land tax records suggest that Field's sons either finished the ambitious architectural improvements or that a final re-assessment of the improvements was not possible until two years after his death, and it is for this reason that 1833-1839 is selected as the range of dates for these changes to the house.

The 1833-1839 improvements are significant for giving the house its current floorplan and overall appearance and are also significant because of the design and construction methods that were used to transform the private dwelling into a larger, more commercially-viable store, workspace, and center for public gathering. A large single room, situated under the older frame part of the building, is divided by a folding door system, that when closed, creates a paneled wall dividing the west gable-end entrance hall from the principal room. Such folding door arrangements are rare in buildings before the mid-nineteenth century, appear nowhere else in Gloucester County, and signify the public or commercial use of the space, which served the building well in its later nineteenth-century use as a coach-making shop.<sup>145</sup> The six-panel doors and trim match the other Federal-style details of the ground floor, which include a three-block, double-panel mantel and a recessed flush panel wainscoting. The batten doors found everywhere else on this floor, and in several locations on the first floor, are also characteristic of the period and of the commercial/public use of the space. The reorientation of the house required the addition of a new primary entrance on the west gable, and a south stair-hall addition to access the first floor, and also allowed for a first-floor addition on the east gable. This adaptation of the original dwelling into a store make the Gloucester Woman's Club the only surviving antebellum store building in Gloucester County, differing substantially from the 14 extant late nineteenth-

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century stores and 26 early-to-mid-twentieth-century stores that are almost all vernacular in style and associated with rural post offices, steamship lines, or gas stations.<sup>146</sup> The early nineteenth-century, Federal-style additions and components of the Gloucester Woman's Club provide a tangible link to the emergence of urban commerce and the mercantile middle class in Gloucester County and the Downtown Historic District.

Thomas W. Field sold the house to Henry P. Taliaferro in 1850, marking the end of the house as a general retail store and the beginning of the house as a shop and home for a series of coach-makers and their apprentices, blacksmiths, and painters.<sup>147</sup> Throughout the second half of the nineteenth century, these coach-makers made remarkably few changes to the house, with the exception of repairs to windows and doors on each floor. All window hardware and surface-mounted locks on the ground and first floors date to the Victorian period, except for original Federal-period iron slide bolts on the ground-floor batten doors and a Federal-period box lock in the west entrance hall. Of special interest is a distinctive and rare Victorian-period wrought iron rat-tail latch on the ground-floor pantry door, a piece of hardware possibly manufactured by one of the resident blacksmiths. Due to the relative absence of late nineteenth-century modifications or additions to the building, later owners, namely the Gloucester Woman's Club, were able to perform restoration activities that did not significantly alter the primary Colonial- and Federal-style sections and elements of the house. The lack of changes or improvements to the house during this period, and the cessation of carriage-making activities on the site in the 1870s or 1880s led to a steady decline in the assessed value of the building.<sup>148</sup>

After renting the house to tenants at the turn of the twentieth century, in 1910 the family of Eli T. Clements sold the property to William J. Burlee, one of a group of prosperous Gloucester businessmen who were forming the Gloucester Agricultural Association. One of these men, J. Marshall Lewis, bought Edge Hill from Burlee in 1911 and they turned the 40-acre property into the Gloucester County Fairgrounds. Lewis and his wife sold the property to the Gloucester Agricultural Association in 1913. The Association performed needed maintenance on the house, adding the slate roof, refinishing the first-floor parlor floor, building a small portico over the west entrance, and repairing interior paneling and ceilings in the ground floor. The assessed value of the building rose from \$200 to \$2,000, a figure that included the construction of the County Fair building to the north, which is no longer standing.<sup>149</sup> That same year, Marie H. Lewis and several other women who were married to men in the Agricultural Association organized the Gloucester Woman's Club, and began renting the ground floor for meetings. The Gloucester Woman's Club purchased the house and 0.9 acres surrounding it in 1920, installing plumbing and electricity in the 1920s and 1930s as they made the space available for public events, fundraisers, and their own club functions. The Gloucester Woman's Club made the last major improvements to the house between 1942 and 1949, adding the ground-floor east kitchen shed addition, replacing the beaded exterior weatherboards with redwood siding, and repairing interior floorboards, especially on the ground floor, with antique pine boards acquired from Colonial Williamsburg.

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### **Criterion D: Archaeology**

The Gloucester Woman's Club property is significant for the intact cultural features and layers it contains, and the potential those resources have for illuminating a broader understanding of the evolution of this site, from residential, to commercial, to civic uses, as well as of the surrounding community as it grew from a quiet courthouse village and crossroads into a bustling small town. Designated Site 44GL0469, the archaeological resources add to the significance of the site in the areas of community planning and development, commerce, industry, social history, and architecture. Excavations in both 1987 and 2010 confirmed the integrity of the site by uncovering intact complex cultural strata related to various occupations and major developments of the site, as well as more specific features, including deep deposits of nineteenth-century refuse, an early nineteenth-century brick-lined well, and an early twentieth-century foundation. Through both a systematic shovel test survey covering the majority of the property, as well as select test units investigating noteworthy artifact concentrations, the site yielded cultural evidence spanning the documented history of the property, from the mid-eighteenth through mid-twentieth centuries.

Subsurface excavation at the Edge Hill House property included an archaeological survey employing shovel test pits (STPs) in 2010 and select Test Units (TUs) in 1987 and 2010 to uncover more specific information about particular cultural deposits.<sup>150</sup> A grid of 49 STPs was excavated at intervals of 25 feet across the majority of the property. Results of this work identified areas of artifact concentrations and complex soil stratigraphy. Three five-foot-square test units were also excavated to further refine knowledge of artifact concentrations and the vertical sequence of cultural deposits. This testing identified intact subsurface features and layers that confirm the archaeological integrity and research potential of the Edge Hill property. All soils were carefully screened through 0.25-inch hardware mesh to ensure consistent artifact recovery. All artifacts were retained from each excavation, and data from each unit, including coordinates, depth, colors, and textures, were recorded on field forms. Test Units were excavated in natural layers, separated by differences in soil color, content, texture, and other variables. Over 5330 artifacts were collected from the archaeological testing, including both prehistoric and historic material.

All but one of the shovel test pits yielded artifacts, indicating significant human occupation of the property from the late 18<sup>th</sup> through 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Prehistoric artifacts were limited to four fragments of quartz and quartzite debitage. Most of the shovel tests uncovered dark organic topsoil over a transitional layer underlain by natural subsoil, while some revealed more complex soil profiles relating to variations in site topography and landscape modifications throughout the property's history. Two shovel tests in particular (located at N925/E1075 and N950/E975) uncovered deep cultural layers containing domestic artifacts from the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. These deposits indicate the presence of significant intact cultural resources in several areas across the property, and the complex nature of archaeological deposits on this largely unplowed site.

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While artifacts were found across the property, suggesting that the archaeological site extends beyond the boundaries of the survey area, concentrations of specific artifact types indicate distinct activity areas illuminating Edge Hill's changing landscape. The earliest diagnostic historic artifacts date to the late 18th century, based primarily on the presence of creamware and pearlware ceramic fragments. Possible earlier artifacts, including a variety of stoneware, tin-glazed earthenware, and dark green wine bottle glass, were scattered across the site and could have easily been deposited during the late 18th century or before. The 19th-century ceramics and glass wares were concentrated in the southern half of the property, but also showed up with regularity north of the house. The importance of this difference relates to changing uses of the landscape over time, and particularly during the transition from domestic residence to mercantile and manufacturing activities, and finally back to a residence prior to the beginning of the 20th century. This suggests that 18th-century activity was concentrated between the Gloucester Woman's Club and the road directly to the south, while the 19th-century focus may have shifted to a more defined east yard, perhaps in an attempt to screen some of the manufacturing and repair activity from full public view, or because those activities required a more expansive yard space.

Other artifact types suggest similar spatial and temporal differentiation of activities at the site. Both hand-made brick and window glass concentrated in the southwest corner of the property, but also had secondary concentrations in the northwest and southeast corners. The rubble southwest of the house could relate to a significant building renovation or filling and landscaping of the property after construction activities. The brick concentration in the northwest corner and the associated window glass may relate to the kitchen removed in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The brick and glass in the southeast corner appear to be related to the deposition of domestic refuse, suggesting a direct connection to household activities and perhaps other outbuildings. The most prominent concentrations of shell on the site were found in the east and southeast, including very dense concentrations in particular areas which may represent stratified deposits dating to the 18th and 19th centuries. Slate was found in abundance surrounding the Edge Hill House, particularly to the west and southwest of the building. Around the turn of the 20th century, slate became a popular roofing material used on many colonial revival buildings and on restorations of historic structures. The debris from its installation is an important marker for better understanding the restoration period, which coincided with the Gloucester Woman's Club beginning to use the building around 1913.

The test units excavated at the Gloucester Woman's Club investigated three different areas of the site. Test Unit 1, excavated by Dr. Donald Dragoo in 1987, was located over the southwest quarter of a brick well shaft in order to expose the top of the well foundation and uncover information about its age. Dr. Dragoo's unit was excavated in four levels extending one foot beneath the existing ground surface. The top two levels included a mixture of artifacts from the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century, and revealed evidence of early 20<sup>th</sup>-century changes to the well structure. The lower two levels included a large assemblage of artifacts representing activities primarily from the 19th century during the period of most intensive use of this portion of the yard. Much of this material is domestic refuse deposited in the yard along with possible waste from mid-19th-century carriage making and repair activities. Dr. Dragoo also exposed the partial foundation of a

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well house structure that surrounded and protected the well shaft. Based on the artifacts found surrounding the foundation, this well was likely dug in the early or mid-19th century, possibly coinciding with the conversion of the house to a mercantile operation.

Test Units 5 and 6 were excavated in 2010 to investigate two additional areas based on the results of the shovel test survey. Test Unit 5 was chosen to test the location of the probable kitchen removed in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The test unit was excavated in five distinct cultural layers, representing a variety of landscape changes in this area dating throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century and before. Remnants of a poured concrete foundation were uncovered beneath the topsoil, while an earlier layer at the base of the unit contained artifacts from the early to mid-19th century, including fragments of pearlware and whiteware ceramics and dark green wine bottle glass. The concrete foundation likely dates to the first quarter of the 20th century, and could be the kitchen depicted on the 1920 plat, a woodshed built around 1921, or perhaps another undocumented building. Test Unit 6 was selected to test the intense concentration of architectural debris found directly south of the Gloucester Woman's Club. Excavated in four cultural layers, this unit yielded many 19<sup>th</sup>-century artifacts, including pearlware, whiteware, cut nail fragments and a white clay tobacco pipe bowl, but roofing slate was found throughout. This suggests that the south yard was significantly reworked during the early 20<sup>th</sup>-century restoration of the house, including multiple filling episodes which may have actually covered over some earlier deposits relating the 19<sup>th</sup>-century work yard.

Through the combination of a systematic shovel test survey and select test units, archaeological site 44GL0469 has been documented to contain a wide distribution and variety of intact cultural strata and features related to various elements of the property's history, including the mid- to late 18<sup>th</sup>-century initial occupation, early 19<sup>th</sup>-century commerce, mid-19<sup>th</sup> century industry, and 18<sup>th</sup> through 20<sup>th</sup> century domestic activities. Despite the small size of the parcel, and the number of visible landscape modifications, extensive information survives beneath the surface. There is much to learn about the early chronology of the building, and the presence of additional outbuildings, fences, work yards, blacksmithing and carriage-making activities, gardens, as well as information about the families and workers who lived on the site. The use of these spaces changed over time as the building and its owners ascribed new functions to the property, and those shifts can be detected in the archaeological record. The survival of these resources will allow researchers to examine the historic landscape surrounding the Gloucester Woman's Club as it grew over two centuries, and uncover many significant periods of past activity that brought dramatic changes to the area, but are not preserved on adjoining lands that have seen more extensive modern development. The preservation easement maintained by the Department of Historic Resources, and the stewardship shown by the Gloucester Woman's Club and the Long Bridge Ordinary Foundation over the last century ensures that these important archaeological resources will be preserved and available for future study and research.



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## ENDNOTES

<sup>1</sup> Virginia Land Office [VLO], "Richard Kemp, Esquire, Secretary of State, 3,500 acres on Mockjack Bay in Ware River lyeth towards the narrows of the sd. river and beg.g at a certayne creeke called Snare Creeke," 29 May 1649, *Land Office Patents No. 2, 1643-1651*, p. 174 (Reel 2), Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>2</sup> VLO, "Thomas Breeman, 500 acres on the south side of a runne which falleth into Crany Creeke in Ware River in Mockjack Bay," 23 March 1650, *Land Office Patents No. 2, 1643-1651*, p. 308 (Reel 2); VLO, "Thomas Bremo, 1500 acres in Mockjack Bay, being on Neck of land bounded with Crany Creek," 9 January 1651, *Land Office Patents No. 2, 1643-1651*, p. 353 (Reel 2); VLO, "Thomas Breman, 300 acres upon the head of another tract of land now in the possession of said Breman Beg. &c., upon the head of Ware River," 11 March 1653, *Land Office Patents No. 3, 1652-1655*, p. 11 (Reel 2).

<sup>3</sup> VLO, "Tho. Deacon, A parcell of land. Formerly given by Tho. Bremore unto Margaret Bremore, his wife; [now] found to escheat," 6 April 1671, *Land Office Patents No. 6, 1666-1679 (pt.1 & 2 p.1-692)*, p. 381 (Reel 6); VLO, "Edmund Gwinn, 80 acres escheat land; formerly granted to Capt. Tho: Bremore and afterwards to William Court," 4 April 1678, *Land Office Patents No. 6, 1666-1679 (pt.1 & 2 p.1-692)*, p. 622 (Reel 6); VLO, "Edmund Gwyn, 200 acres escheat land formerly belonging to Thomas Breeman," *Land Office Patents No. 7, 1679-1689 (v.1 & 2 p.1-719)*, p. 360 (Reel 7).

<sup>4</sup> Martha W. McCartney, *With Reverence for the Past: Gloucester County, VA* (The Dietz Press: Richmond, Virginia, 2001), pp. 69-70, 84-86; Clementine Rhodes Bowman, *Gloucester County, Virginia, A History* (McClure Printing Company, Inc.: Verona, Virginia, 1982), pp. 3-4.

<sup>5</sup> Marcus R. Pollard, David A. Brown, and Thane H. Harpole, *Gloucester Downtown Historic District (036-5106)*, *National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form* (Commonwealth Preservation Group and DATA Investigations, LLC.; Norfolk and Gloucester Point, Virginia), p. 22.

<sup>6</sup> William L. Lawrence, *The History of Gloucester Court House Village* (Gloucester County Friends of the Museum: Gloucester, Virginia, 2009), p. 4.

<sup>7</sup> Lawrence, *The History of Gloucester Court House Village*, p. 10, 18; John Throckmorton, Plat of Prison Bounds (manuscript survey plat), 31 June 1754, *Gloucester County Surveyor's Book (1733-1806)* (Gloucester County Circuit Court Clerk's Office: Gloucester, Virginia); John Throckmorton, "at the request of Col. Francis Willis layed off 53 acres adjoining the mill seat of his tract for Warner Lewis, Esq." (manuscript survey plat), 22 July 1754, *Gloucester County Surveyor's Book (1733-1806)* (Gloucester County Circuit Court Clerk's Office: Gloucester, Virginia).

<sup>8</sup> Spence, Wenger, and Zeiders, *Long Bridge Ordinary: An Architectural Survey* (Spence, Wenger, and Zeiders, Architects: Williamsburg, Virginia, 1982), p. 1, 9-10; Mark Wenger, "Spring 1983 – Long Bridge Ordinary" (Audio Interview Transcript) (Gloucester Woman's Club: Gloucester, Virginia, 1983).

<sup>9</sup> Martha W. McCartney, *A Documentary History of the Gloucester Woman's Club Building, Gloucester, Virginia* (ms on file with the Gloucester Woman's Club, 2003), 8; Lawrence, *The History of Gloucester Court House Village*, p. 4.

<sup>10</sup> McCartney, *A Documentary History of the Gloucester Woman's Club Building*, p. 8; Lawrence, *The History of Gloucester Court House Village*, p. 4.

<sup>11</sup> Francis Tomkies, "A Plan of Part of the Town of Botetourt, taken at the request of Mr. John Fox, the Proprietor" (manuscript), 14 May 1774, in *Gloucester County (Va.) Land Records, 1774* (Library of Virginia: Richmond, Virginia), Microfilm Reel 4626.

<sup>12</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books.

<sup>13</sup> McCartney, *A Documentary History of the Gloucester Woman's Club Building*, p. 9.

<sup>14</sup> The original nomination for the Gloucester Woman's Club building identifies the house as dating to the mid-eighteenth century, as does the Gloucester Downtown Historic District nomination. See: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, *Gloucester Woman's Club (Long Bridge Ordinary) (036-0031) National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form* ( Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission: Richmond, Virginia, 1973); Pollard, Brown, and Harpole, *Gloucester Downtown Historic District (036-5106)*, p. 5, 23, 25.

<sup>15</sup> Gloucester County Land Tax Books.

<sup>16</sup> US Census Bureau, *Heads of Families at the First Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1790, Records of the State Enumerations: 1782-1785, Virginia* (Government Printing Office: Washington, DC, 1908); Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books.

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<sup>17</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books; Gloucester County Land Tax Books; US Census Bureau, 1810 Population Schedule.

<sup>18</sup> Gloucester County Land Tax Books.

<sup>19</sup> Gloucester County Land Tax Books; Martha W. McCartney notes that, "In 1803 the assessed value of Isabella Thompson's 30 acres was \$25 per acre, whereas that of her half-acre was \$10.42 per acre (Gloucester County Land Tax Lists 1799-1815). This suggests that the smaller parcel was undeveloped." McCartney, *A Documentary History of the Gloucester Woman's Club Building*, p. 12.

<sup>20</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books. The 1800 Census records for Virginia do not survive. The 1790 Census for Pennsylvania lists an Issabel Thompson as an adult female head of household, with one white male above the age of 16, in Nantmill Township, Chester County, PA, but it is uncertain if this is the same Isabella Thompson. US Census Bureau, *1790 Pennsylvania Federal Population Census Schedules - Berks, Chester, Delaware, Huntington, Mifflin (part), Luzerne, Dauphin, Northampton, Cumberland, Fayette, Westmoreland (part), Bucks, and Lancaster Counties* (Microfilm Reel 0008) (National Archives and Records Service: Washington, DC, 1965).

<sup>21</sup> Gloucester County Land Tax Books.

<sup>22</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books.

<sup>23</sup> Gloucester County Land Tax Books.

<sup>24</sup> Virginia State Highway Plat Book 3, p. 167. This survey depicts the new 1964 right-of-way for US Route 17 as it approaches the Gloucester Downtown Historic District. The historic right-of-way and old course of Ware House Road are visible in Virginia State Highway Plat Book 2, p. 339.

<sup>25</sup> Camille Wells, *An Architectural and Historical Analysis of Ware House, Gloucester County, Virginia* (DATA Investigations, LLC: Gloucester Point, VA, 2011), p. 6.

<sup>26</sup> Tomkies, "A Plan of Part of the Town of Botetourt," 1774; Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books. It is important to note that there is no evidence of a tavern or ordinary operating from the Gloucester Woman's Club building, and no owners of the house were licensed as tavern-keepers, including those licensed as retail merchants.

<sup>27</sup> Pollard, Brown, and Harpole, *Gloucester Downtown Historic District (036-5106)*, pp. 6-19. There are a total of 36 store buildings in the district, six of which have functioned historically as dwellings and stores. With the exception of the Edge Hill House and the ca. 1893 B.B. Roane House (036-5106-0003), all of these buildings date to the twentieth century.

<sup>28</sup> William Patterson Smith papers, 1791-1943 (David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University: Durham, NC). Thomas Smith (1785-1841) and William Patterson Smith (1796-1878) were brothers who owned and operated a mercantile firm in Gloucester County through the first half of the nineteenth century, trading especially in grain but also in groceries, clothing, and other goods.

<sup>29</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books; Nancy Carter Crump, *Airville (036-0003) National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form* (Nancy Carter Crump: Petersburg, Virginia, 1990), p. 3.

<sup>30</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books, Lists of Retail Merchant Licenses. Detailed lists of licensed retail merchants in Gloucester County are available for the period 1804-1847. The number of licenses varied from year to year, as firms opened, closed, changed staff, or temporarily operated in partnership with other licensed firms. Throughout the period sampled, there were typically between 16 and 26 licensed merchants in the county in any given year (mode and median = 21 merchants; average = 20.56; standard deviation = 5.25). Years or groups of years in which there were more than 26 licensed retail merchants reflect periods of increased mercantile investment and competition between firms of various sizes and types, while periods with fewer than 16 licensed merchants reflect decreased commercial activity and reduced competition, as smaller firms merged, often temporarily, with larger firms, ceased operations, or operated on a smaller scale without a legal license. Years 1811-1814 were omitted from the sample because they have not been transcribed due to illegibility and there are no recorded licenses for 1808 because no taxes were levied that year.

<sup>31</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books.

<sup>32</sup> Robert W. Robins, "The Robins Family," *The Family Tree Searcher*, Vol. 15, Issue 1 (June 2011), pp. 12-15; Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books; Gloucester County Land Tax Books. The 1810 Census records William Robins' household as including nine free white men, seven free white women, one free person of color, and sixty enslaved individuals. US Census Bureau, 1810 Population Schedule.

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<sup>33</sup> Philip A. Bruce, ed., *The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, 1895 Vol. II (William Ellis Jones: Richmond, VA, 1895), p. 188; Wells, *An Architectural and Historical Analysis of Ware House*, p. 10, 17.

<sup>34</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books; McCartney, *A Documentary History of the Gloucester Woman's Club Building*, p. 14.

<sup>35</sup> McCartney, *A Documentary History of the Gloucester Woman's Club Building*, p. 14.

<sup>36</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books. In 1821 there were only five merchants with licenses in Gloucester County, and the number of licensed merchants stayed under 16 through 1826, with the exception of 1823, when there were 17 licenses.

<sup>37</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books; Gloucester County Land Tax Books; US Census Bureau, 1820 Population Schedule.

<sup>38</sup> Gloucester County Land Tax Books; "Married- On Thursday, November 13, by Rev. Thrift, Mr. Christopher Whiting, to Miss Elizabeth S. Robins, daughter of William Robins, all of Gloucester County," *Richmond Enquirer*, Friday, November 28, 1817, p. 3, c. 5.

<sup>39</sup> Gloucester County Minute Book 1820-1821, p. 335; Gloucester County Minute Book 1820-1821, p. 301. As cited in McCartney, *A Documentary History of the Gloucester Woman's Club Building*, p. 14.

<sup>40</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books; McCartney, *A Documentary History of the Gloucester Woman's Club Building*, p. 15; Gloucester Genealogical Society, "Cary and allied families (including Robins & Throckmorton)," <http://archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com/th/read/VA-GGS/2005-03/1112245409>, published 31 March 2005. Elizabeth Courtney Cary (1807-1854), who married William Robins, Jr., was the daughter of John Read Cary (1783-1825) and Harry Ann Whiting Beverley Pryor (d. 1831) (married 1804); her brothers were Thomas Cary and John Read Cary, Jr.

<sup>41</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books; Gloucester County Land Tax Books; US Census Bureau, 1820 Population Schedule; Mike Cooper, Gravestone of John Hobday (1797-1867) and Sarah Hobday (1798-1861), Portlock Cemetery, Portsmouth, Virginia, <http://www.findagrave.com>, published 27 May 2009, accessed 6 August 2012.

<sup>42</sup> Gloucester County Minute Book 1820-1821, p. 301; Gloucester County Minute Book 1822-1825. p. 32, 38, 50-51, 73, 138, 152, 226. As cited in McCartney, *A Documentary History of the Gloucester Woman's Club Building*, p. 14.

<sup>43</sup> Gloucester County Minute Book 1820-1821, p. 301; Gloucester County Minute Book 1822-1825, p. 409. As cited in McCartney, *A Documentary History of the Gloucester Woman's Club Building*, p. 15.

<sup>44</sup> Gloucester County Land Tax Books. John Hobday appears to have shifted careers after the sale of the Edge Hill property, becoming Gloucester Constable in 1825 before leaving the County to become a master mechanic and master painter for the Norfolk Naval shipyard. As a resident of Portsmouth, Virginia, Hobday also was responsible for several original inventions. Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books; 27th United States Congress, 2nd House Session [December 6, 1941 - August 31, 1842], *Doc. No. 205, Reports of the Commissioner appointed to make an investigation at the Gosport Navy Yard, &c. March 4, 1842*, as cited in Marcus W. Robbins, "Norfolk Navy Yard: Birth of the Gosport Yard & Into the 19<sup>th</sup> Century" (website), <http://www.usgwarchives.net/va/portsmouth/shipyard/nnypubal.html>; John Hobday, "For an Apparatus to be used in Pointings Cannon John Hobday Portsmouth Norfolk county Virginia," in Thomas P. Jones, Ed., *Journal of the Franklin Institute*, Volume 21 (Franklin Institute: Philadelphia, PA, 1838), p. 114; John Hobday and William J. Cocke, "Improvement in the Wheel for propelling Steam Ships which may be employed as a Wind or Water Wheel for Mills" (website), in James J. Mapes, Ed., *The American repertory of arts, sciences, and manufactures, Volume 3* (W.A. Cox, Mechanic's Institute: New York, NY, 1841), p. 394; John Hobday, Invention for ascertaining the center of gravity of vessels, 14 September 1843, in Edmund Burke, comp., *List of Patents for Inventions and Designs, Issued by the United States, from 1790 to 1847: With the Patent Laws and Notes of Decisions of the Courts of the United States for the Same Period* (J. & G.S. Gideon: Washington, DC, 1847), p. 178. The relationship between this John Hobday and an earlier inventor by the name of John Hobday, also of Gloucester County, is unknown. The latter individual won the Philosophical Society of Virginia's only gold medal in 1774 for the invention of a grain threshing machine. Philosophical Society of Virginia, Medal, Philosophical Society of Virginia to John Hobday, 1774 (Virginia Historical Society: Richmond, Virginia).

<sup>45</sup> McCartney, *A Documentary History of the Gloucester Woman's Club Building*, p. 16.

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<sup>46</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books. James R. Stubbs is described as a partner of the firm in the announcement of his 1825 marriage to Maria Robins, daughter of William Robins. "Married- On Thursday, May 18, at Level Green, Mr. James R. Stubbs, of the firm of Cole, Sheldon, and Stubbs, merchants, near Gloucester Courthouse, to Miss Maria Robins, daughter of William Robins, of Gloucester County" *Richmond Enquirer*, Friday, June 3, 1825, p. 3, c. 5.

<sup>47</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books; Earl Gregg Swem Library Special Collections. *Gloucester County Papers* (College of William and Mary: Williamsburg, Virginia).

<sup>48</sup> "Married- On Thursday, May 18, at Level Green," *Richmond Enquirer*, Friday, June 3, 1825, p. 3, c. 5.; Robins, "The Robins Family," pp. 12-15; Philip A. Bruce, ed., *The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, 1895 Vol. II (William Ellis Jones: Richmond, VA) p. 188. James R. Stubbs (1800-1827) was the nephew and son-in-law of William Robins, and first cousin of Maria Robins.

<sup>49</sup> McCartney, *A Documentary History of the Gloucester Woman's Club Building*, p. 19.

<sup>50</sup> Earl Gregg Swem Library Special Collections. *Gloucester County Papers*: Records of official examinations of boundary lines, 1825-1848, "Line processioned between Cole Sheldon & Stubbs & Thos. Smith commencing at the main road thence along an old ditch to the main swamp thence down sd. swamp to a small branch thence up sd. branch to a Sycamore & thence to a [illegible] on sd. road & up the sd. road to the beginning."

<sup>51</sup> Earl Gregg Swem Library Special Collections. *Gloucester County Papers*; Jacob C. Sheldon, *Sheldon Business Papers and Accounts, 1826-1857* (Earl Gregg Swem Library Special Collections, College of William and Mary: Williamsburg, VA). Both manuscript collections contain miscellaneous receipts and accounts with customers and suppliers.

<sup>52</sup> William Carter Stubbs, *The descendants of John Stubbs of Cappahosic, Gloucester County, Virginia* (American Printing Co.: New Orleans, LA, 1902), p. 34; Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books; Earl Gregg Swem Library Special Collections. *Gloucester County Papers*: Note of debts due to Sheriff's Commissioners, Cole & Sheldon vs. Thruston & Cary (1827-1828); Note of two executions for debts due to Cole, Sheldon, and Stubbs v. Ch. B. Thruston and Tom Cary (Jan 1827-Jan 1829), and Cole and Sheldon of Williamsburg vs. Thomas M. Seawell and Benjamin M. Cluverius (21 Jan 1829); Foster, William vs. William Robins, administrator of James R. Stubbs, Suit in Gloucester County, 1827.

<sup>53</sup> McCartney, *A Documentary History of the Gloucester Woman's Club Building*, p. 16; Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books.

<sup>54</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books.

<sup>55</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books; Gloucester County Land Tax Books.

<sup>56</sup> Earl Gregg Swem Library Special Collections. *Gloucester County Papers*, Field and Banks (1830-1837) folder; Gloucester County Land Tax Books. The business records of Field & Banks include evidence of shipping and receiving via the nearby Ware House landing: 4 April 1831, Shipping receipt, Field and Banks to Thos. R. Hobday, Master of Schooner Lucy, freight from Baltimore to Ware River, 12 west wald ware, coffee, boxes, sifters, clover seed, cards (Field and Banks folder, *Gloucester County Papers*); Account of Field and Banks to Philip Taliaferro, 1830-1831, for landing goods by ship, hauling, plank and merchandize, oysters (Philip Taliaferro Estate, *Gloucester County Papers*).

<sup>57</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books; US Census Bureau, 1830 Population Schedule.

<sup>58</sup> Earl Gregg Swem Library Special Collections. *Gloucester County Papers*: Cole Sheldon & Stubbs vs John Field, Admr, case, 2 August 1825 (1825 Court Docket).

<sup>59</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books; Gloucester County Land Tax Books. Field owned "223 acres of unimproved low ground, 121 acres of high ground that had \$1,278.12 worth of buildings, 24 acres of unimproved low ground, 303 ½ acres of forest land that lacked improvements, and a 6 acre mill tract that was 4 miles northwest of the courthouse and had \$1,875.52 worth of improvements," from McCartney, *A Documentary History of the Gloucester Woman's Club Building*, p. 20.

<sup>60</sup> Between 1832 and 1837, there were 23 to 24 licensed merchants each year. Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books.

<sup>61</sup> Gloucester County Land Tax Books.

<sup>62</sup> William Banks died sometime before 1834. Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books; Earl Gregg Swem Library Special Collections. *Gloucester County Papers*, Field and Banks (1830-1837) folder: 6 Jan 1834,

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Account of Capt. Thomas J. Banks, administrator of Wm. Banks, to Claiborn Kinningham, ploughs, cradle, and swingletrees.

<sup>63</sup> These men included William Jones, William P. Smith, George B. Taliaferro, and James Gregory. Earl Gregg Swem Library Special Collections. *Gloucester County Papers*, Field and Banks (1830-1837) folder: Nov 1831, Receipt for Col. Wm. Jones' and C.T. Jones' wheat in the hands of Dinsmore Kyle & Co.; June 1835, Gloucester Circuit Superior Court of Chancery, Special June Term, receipt to Thomas H. Jones, witness for Field & Banks in case of Wm. Smith & Co. vs. Field & Banks; 1831-1832, Account of George B. Taliaferro with Field & Banks, includes various types of fabrics, tailoring goods, and foods; 3 Jan and 17 Feb 1832, Account of James Gregory (a man of colour), Vest pattern, oznabrigs, whisky, calico, hanks. For references to suits involving John Field and Roscow Cole, see McCartney, *A Documentary History of the Gloucester Woman's Club Building*, p. 19.

<sup>64</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books; Gloucester County Land Tax Books.

<sup>65</sup> M.T. Peters, *Virginia Historic Landmarks Register Research Notes: Gloucester County Woman's Club or "Edge Hill"* (Gloucester County Woman's Club: Gloucester, VA, 1973), p. 2.

<sup>66</sup> Gloucester County Land Tax Books; Robins Family, *Robins Family Papers, 1784-1939* (Virginia Historical Society: Richmond, VA), Bond of Thomas R. Borum (Thomas C. Robins, admr) to John Field, \$133.33, balance due for land known as Stubbs' Tavern and Store & Co., conveyed by deed 18 Jan 1837.

<sup>67</sup> *Richmond Enquirer*, May 5, 1837, p. 3, c. 6; Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books; Gloucester County Land Tax Books; US Census Bureau, 1840 Population Schedule. The Estate of John Field appeared in the 1840 Census with the following description of the household: 1 white male, age 20-30, 1 white female, age 20-30, and 32 slaves, with 8 members of the household engaged in agriculture. The neighbors of the John Field Estate included John M. Cooke, Sarah Royster, Rosy Lyall, Kenningham Horseley, Thomas M. Stubblefield, Edward Waller, Matlow Roane, Philip Taliaferro, and George E. Tabb.

<sup>68</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books.

<sup>69</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books. Booth and Field were licensed during the years immediately following John Field, Sr.'s death.

<sup>70</sup> Gloucester County Land Tax Books. These properties were: Church Hill; Newington; A.L. Davies' land; Lowland Cottage; Timberneck; William Robins, Sr.'s property near the Court House; William Smart's property near the Court House; and John Tabb's Court House tract.

<sup>71</sup> McCartney, *A Documentary History of the Gloucester Woman's Club Building*, p. 22: "He bequeathed life-rights in his 454 acres of unimproved land at Ware Point to his widow, Ann W. C. Field, and 303 ½ acres of unimproved forest land to his son, John C. Field. By 1838 Ann had added \$1,450 worth of buildings to her 454 acres at Ware Point. A notation by the tax assessor in 1846 reveals that at Ann W. C. Field's death, her property automatically reverted to the ownership of Charles C. and Thomas W. Field."

<sup>72</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books; Gloucester County Land Tax Books.

<sup>73</sup> McCartney, *A Documentary History of the Gloucester Woman's Club Building*, p. 22.

<sup>74</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books; Gloucester County Land Tax Books. In 1847, there were 32 licensed merchants in the county. John C. Field's bowling alley and ordinary may have been located near Belroi at Stubbs Tavern and Store, which Thomas Boram/Borum purchased in 1836 from William Leavitt, with John Field as agent or trustee of the conveyance. Bond of Thomas R. Borum (Thomas C. Robins, admr) to John Field, \$133.33, 18 Jan 1837, in *Robins Family Papers, 1784-1939* (Virginia Historical Society: Richmond, VA).

<sup>75</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books.

<sup>76</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books.

<sup>77</sup> Gloucester County Land Tax Books.

<sup>78</sup> Gloucester County Land Tax Books.

<sup>79</sup> Apprentice Thomas Clemens was likely Eli Thomas Clements, future owner of the Edge Hill House, who went by Thomas Eli Clements in some instances (e.g., Gloucester County Surveyor's Book 2, p. 239, 25 acres from Thos. Eli Clements to George and Lucy Seawell).

<sup>80</sup> US Census Bureau, 1850 Population Schedule; Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books.

<sup>81</sup> US Census Bureau, 1850 Industrial Schedule; US Census Bureau, 1850 Population Schedule. Each of Gloucester's coach-makers either worked for one of the six shops or was an independent tradesman and householder. In 1850, the following men were identified as coach-makers: Henry P. Taliaferro (age 29, white male, \$2500 in real estate, Census Household #178), with three apprentice coach-makers – Thomas Clemens, Augustine Ware, and John

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Stokes – as well as a blacksmith, wheelwright, and painter; Phillip Sale (age 22, white male, Census Household #181, a near neighbor of Henry P. Taliaferro); William Thias (age 27, mulatto male, \$600 in real estate, Census Household #236); Levi P. Corr (age 32, white male, \$2,000 in real estate, Census Household #246); Thomas S. Cooke (age 32, white male, \$1200 in real estate, Census Household #509); Augustine Ware (age 19, white male, in Sterling Thornton household, Census Household #561); Thomas Linscoe (age 26, white male, \$200 in real estate, Census Household #742); Richard O. Allard (age 26, white male, Census Household #778); Laurence S. Stubbs (age 32, white male, \$3,000 in real estate, Census Household #779), includes large family plus a carpenter, two coach-maker apprentices John White and Phillip Kemp, blacksmiths, painter, harness maker Alfred Massey, age 15, white male; John Smithers (age 39, white male, \$1000 in real estate, Census Household #821), includes painter Pompey W. Campbell; John H. Anderson (age 54, white male, Census Household #833); George W. Adams (age 43, white male, \$3000 in real estate, Census Household #937), includes two blacksmiths and James R. Busby, age 27, white male.

<sup>82</sup> US Census Bureau, 1850 Industrial Schedule, as cited in McCartney, *A Documentary History of the Gloucester Woman's Club Building*, p. 25: "Lawrence C. Stubbs [sic] produced barouches, buggies, wagons, and tumbrels together worth \$1,660; however, he had earned only \$1,500 from doing repairs. George H. Adams, who manufactured buggies and rockaways, had done only \$100 worth of repairs but earned some income from shoeing horses. Thomas C. Baytop produced a few buggies and did some repairs, but his earnings were very modest. George H. Anderson, who had invested \$2,000 in his business, had produced two barouches and five buggies and his workers had done a minimal amount of repair work. Thomas S. Cooke had a very small investment in his business and his yield was comparable. The bulk of his earnings were from repairs. Two of Gloucester's coach-makers employed female workers. One paid \$10 per month to his male workers and \$5 per month to his female worker. Another paid \$25 per month to his male workers and \$2 per month to the female in his employ."

<sup>83</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books; McCartney, *A Documentary History of the Gloucester Woman's Club Building*, p. 25: "In Henry P. Taliaferro's possession in 1852 were two horses, asses or mules worth \$120; fourteen cattle sheep and hogs worth \$57; a gold watch worth \$70; a metal watch worth \$2; and household and kitchen furniture worth \$200. Taliaferro reportedly had invested \$300 worth of capital "in manufacturing." In 1853, 1854 and 1855 Taliaferro had the same quantities of taxable personal possessions; however he also had ten items of silver or gold plate that collectively were worth \$150."

<sup>84</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books; US Census Bureau, 1860 Population Schedule.

<sup>85</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books.

<sup>86</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books.

<sup>87</sup> McCartney, *A Documentary History of the Gloucester Woman's Club Building*, p. 27.

<sup>88</sup> US Census Bureau, 1860 Population Schedule, James City County, Virginia; McCartney, *A Documentary History of the Gloucester Woman's Club Building*, p. 26-27: "Census records for 1860 reveal that Thomas A. Moss was a 27-year-old white male coach-maker who had been born in Warwick County, Virginia. He was credited with \$75 worth of personal estate but no real estate. He shared his home with his wife, Lucy H., who was 25-years-old, and had been born in Licking Creek, Ohio. The Mosses' had four young children, all of whom had been born in different places, an indication that the couple had moved frequently. Allen A. Moss, who was age 5, had been born in Yorktown, whereas 4-year-old William T. Moss was born in Gloucester County. Henry G. Moss, who was age 1, had been born in Williamsburg, and 6-month-old Edwin P. Moss was born in Yorktown. The Moss family's peripatetic lifestyle suggests that they went wherever work was available. Living with the Mosses were three other white people: Alphonso Moreland, E. T. Clemens, and Elizabeth Clemens. Moreland, who was age 24, was a carpenter who had been born in York County. The ages of the Clemens (actually, Clements) couple were omitted."

<sup>89</sup> US Census Bureau, 1860 Population Schedule, James City County and Gloucester County, Virginia; US Census Bureau, 1860 Industrial Schedule. Henry P. Taliaferro's household, #157 in the 1860 Gloucester County Census, consisted of himself, age 39, a coach maker with \$2,500 in personal property; his wife Emily A. Taliaferro, age 29, born in New York City; H. Clinton Taliaferro, age 12; Emeline H. Taliaferro, age 9; Alfred H. Taliaferro, age 3; Roberta Taliaferro, 11 months old; William H. Withers, age 21, Coach Maker; Allison E. Davenport, age 21, Painter; and Andrew J. Armstrong, age 21, Farmer.

<sup>90</sup> Gloucester County Land Tax Books; Gloucester County Chancery Records, Virginia Memory Chancery Records Index, Library of Virginia, <http://www.virginiamemory.com/collections/chancery/>, accessed July 2012: *Eli T. Clements vs William E. Moss, Admr etc (1871)*, Gloucester County Court of Chancery File No. 1871-020.

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- <sup>91</sup> US Census Bureau, 1860 Industrial Schedule; US Census Bureau, 1860 Population Schedule.
- <sup>92</sup> Gloucester County Deed Book 4, p. 32; Gloucester County Land Tax Books; Gloucester County Chancery Records, *Eli T. Clements vs William E. Moss, Admr etc (1871)*.
- <sup>93</sup> US Census Bureau, 1850 Population Schedule; US Census Bureau, 1860 Population Schedule.
- <sup>94</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books.
- <sup>95</sup> National Park Service, *Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System*, <http://www.nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm>, accessed July 2012: Eli Thomas Clements, 26th Virginia Infantry, Confederate, Company A, Private, Musician, Film Number M382 roll 11, Detailed Soldier Record.
- <sup>96</sup> National Park Service, *Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System*, <http://www.nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm>, accessed July 2012: Taliaferro, Henry P., 34th Regiment, Virginia Infantry, Confederate, Company A, Private, Film Number M382 roll 54, Detailed Soldier Record; and Moss, Thomas A., 22nd Regiment, Virginia Infantry (1st Kanawha Regiment), Confederate, Company C, Private, Film Number M382 roll 40, Detailed Soldier Record. Taliaferro's 34<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment was initially part of the 4<sup>th</sup> Heavy Artillery Regiment, from 1862 to 1864, and Taliaferro's experience as a coach-maker may have played a part in his assignment to this unit. Moss had continued moving his family to new places of residence, as evidenced by his service in the Kanawha Regiment, comprised of men from the Shenandoah Valley.
- <sup>97</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books.
- <sup>98</sup> Gloucester County Deed Book 1, p. 361. "Eli T. Clements and wife to George and Lucy Seawell (colored), 25 acres, September 5, 1867...bounded by the main road leading from Gloucester Courthouse to Ware Church, the land of Dr. Wm. Taliaferro and by the run called Lewis Run the same being a portion of the tract of land on which the said Eli T. Clements at present resides called Edge Hill."
- <sup>99</sup> Gloucester County Land Tax Books; Gloucester County Deed Book 2, p. 3.
- <sup>100</sup> Gloucester County Deed Book 2, p. 3. This deed explains that George Seawell was indebted to Eli T. Clements for \$50 and to P. Henry Robin \$85. In the deed, Seawell sold the 25-acre property to George W. Cox, so Cox could sell the property to pay the debts.
- <sup>101</sup> Gloucester County Surveyor's Book 2, p. 239.
- <sup>102</sup> Peters, *Virginia Historic Landmarks Register Research Notes*, pp. 9-10; McCartney, *A Documentary History of the Gloucester Woman's Club Building*.
- <sup>103</sup> Lawrence, *The History of Gloucester Court House Village*, p. 42, 133. An 1869 *Gloucester Herald* advertisement for Cox's shop lists Charles Harper, E.T. Clements, and James W. Gaskins as Cox's three employees.
- <sup>104</sup> Lawrence, *The History of Gloucester Court House Village*, p. 40; Gloucester County Deed Book 13, p. 361; Gloucester County Deed Book 13, p. 226. An 1872 *Gloucester Herald* advertisement for the sale of the downtown lots shows coach-maker H. Taliaferro's lot (Lot 20), saddle and harness maker Absolom Shackelford's shed (Lot 21), and coach-maker George W. Cox's shed (Lot 23). By 1888, Robert M. Moore's wheelwright shop was located on Lot 24.
- <sup>105</sup> US Census Bureau, 1870 Population Schedule. Eli T. Clements was age 36, Elizabeth V. Clements was age 24, and their four children were Annie T. Clements (age 10), Edward C. Clements (age 5), Pocahontas Clements (age 4), and Robert Y. Clements (age 2).
- <sup>106</sup> US Census Bureau, 1870 Population Schedule; US Census Bureau, 1870 Industrial Schedule. The Population Schedule lists the following coach-makers: Clements, Eli Thomas (age 36, white male, \$100 real estate, \$200 personal property, Census household #544); Cox, George W. (age 35, white male, \$1200 real estate, \$500 personal property, Census household #546); Taliaferro, Henry P. (age 50, white male, \$0 real estate, \$550 personal property, Census household #547); Seldon, Frank (age 75, white male, coach painter, Census household #563); James D. Pointer (age 32, white male, in William D. Pointer's household, Census household #137); Laurence L. Stubbs (age 52, white male, \$2000 real estate, \$1260 personal property, Census household #78, includes coach-maker James Woodland, age 22, and apprentice blacksmith Thomas Neacy, age 14); Richard Allard (age 48, white male, \$500 real estate, \$200 personal property, Census household #84).
- <sup>107</sup> McCartney, *A Documentary History of the Gloucester Woman's Club Building*, p. 30: "Robert M. Moore, Lewis M. Kemp, James D. Pointer, James A. Kemp, and Henry P. Taliaferro identified themselves as coach-makers and the proprietors of coach-making businesses; each had one hired worker. All of these entrepreneurs had invested between \$200 and \$250 in their businesses, used hand-powered tools, and had on hand various types of wood, iron, canvas, and paint. Though they were identified as coach-makers, they indicated that they were producing carts,

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wagons, buggies, and carriages. Although one man (James D. Pointer) indicated that he had produced only \$60 worth of vehicles during the previous year, all but one had manufactured \$500 worth of vehicles. The exception was Henry P. Taliaferro, who reportedly had one hired worker and had done \$900 worth of business. As he was an experienced craftsman who had been making vehicles since at least 1850, he may have been somewhat more efficient or had greater expertise. As Eli T. Clements had been part of coach-maker Thomas A. Moss's household in 1860, he, like Moss, may have been employed by Henry P. Taliaferro in 1870 (Gloucester County Industrial Census 1870). Lawrence Stubbs and George W. Cary [Cox], who were coach-makers and owned businesses of their own, had one or two hired workers. Stubbs, who had two employees, had invested \$500 in his business. The value of his annual production was \$1,100. Cary [Cox], who had two or three hired workers, also had invested \$500 in his business, but had produced \$2,000 worth of vehicles. In 1870 Gloucester County had two blacksmiths (James Cluverius and Griffin Williams) and a saddle and harness maker (Absolom Shackelford). The firm named Willis and Willis were wheelwrights who had done \$500 worth of business."

<sup>108</sup> Gloucester County Deed Book 3, p. 309; McCartney, *A Documentary History of the Gloucester Woman's Club Building*, p. 31; *Eli T. Clements vs William E. Moss, Admr etc (1871)*, Gloucester County Court of Chancery File No. 1871-020.

<sup>109</sup> Gloucester County Deed Book 5, p. 77. Deed of Trust, 24 October 1873, E.T. Clements, first part; John S. Cooke, Trustee, second part; George W. Cox, Moses Haywood & Robins, Wyndham Kemp, and William H. Bridges, third part; Elizabeth V. Clements (wife), Annie T. Clements, Edward J. Clements, and Pocahontas Clements (children), fourth part. In this deed, E.T. Clements is indebted to the parties of the third part in various sums, conveying in trust to John S. Cooke the Edge Hill property, for the purpose of securing the property to his family, the parties of the fourth part.

<sup>110</sup> Gloucester County Land Tax Books.

<sup>111</sup> US Census Bureau, 1880 Population Schedule. Eli T. Clements, age 45, and his wife, Elizabeth V. Clements, age 39, lived with their daughter, Pocahontas Clements, age 13. The four other coach-makers in the County were Henry Taliaferro, Monroe Kemp, James D. Pointer, and Churchill Bohannon.

<sup>112</sup> Gloucester County Deed Book 10, p. 277; Gloucester County Marriage Book 1, 16 September 1890, marriage of Edward J. Clements (25, of Gloucester, coachmaker) and Betty Ware (19, of Essex County); Husband's parents: E.T. Clements & Virginia Howard; Wife's parents: William S. Ware & Fanny B. Street; Marriage performed by J.M. Frost.

<sup>113</sup> Gloucester County Land Tax Books; Gloucester County Deed Book 34:32; US Census Bureau, 1910 Population Schedule.

<sup>114</sup> Marie H. Lewis, Letter to Gloucester Woman's Club (Gloucester Woman's Club: Gloucester, VA, undated); US Census Bureau, 1900 Population Schedule.

<sup>115</sup> Gloucester County Deed Book 34, p. 47.

<sup>116</sup> Gwen Athene Tarbox, *The clubwomen's daughters: collectivist impulses in Progressive-era girl's fiction, 1890-1940* (Garland Publishing: New York, NY, 2000), pp. 13-14, 23-24.

<sup>117</sup> Marie H. Lewis, Letter to Gloucester Woman's Club, n.d.; Gloucester County Deed Book 34, p. 47.

<sup>118</sup> L. Roane Hunt, "Founders of the Gloucester Fair," *The Family Tree Searcher*, Vol. 8, Issue 2 (December 2004), p. 36, 38-39.

<sup>119</sup> Hunt, "Founders of the Gloucester Fair," pp. 27-28, 36, 38-39; L. Roane Hunt and Lee Brown, comp., "The Town of West Point, Virginia," *The Family Tree Searcher*, Vol. 10, Issue 3 (December 2006), pp. 15-16; L. Roane Hunt, "Early Years of Boy Scout Troop 111, Gloucester County, Virginia," *The Family Tree Searcher*, Vol. 12, Issue 1 (June 2008), p. 9; L. Roane Hunt, comp., "Gloucester Agricultural Association Organized November 18, 1911," *The Family Tree Searcher*, Vol. 10, Issue 3 (December 2006), p. 30; Sarah E. Lewis, *Gloucester County* (Arcadia Publishing: Charleston, SC, 2006), p. 46.

<sup>120</sup> Gloucester County Deed Book 34, pp. 440-41.

<sup>121</sup> Gloucester County Land Tax Books.

<sup>122</sup> Hunt, "Gloucester Agricultural Association Organized November 18, 1911," p. 29.

<sup>123</sup> Hunt, "Gloucester Agricultural Association Organized November 18, 1911," pp. 29-32.

<sup>124</sup> Hunt, "Gloucester Agricultural Association Organized November 18, 1911," p. 34; Gloucester County Deed Book 37, p. 140.

<sup>125</sup> Gloucester County Deed Book 37, p. 312.



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- <sup>126</sup> Lewis, *Gloucester County*, p. 63; John V. Quarstein, *T.C. Walker House (036-5053) National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form* (Gloucester Economic Development Authority: Gloucester Court House, Virginia, 2010), pp. 11-13.
- <sup>127</sup> Gloucester County Land Tax Books.
- <sup>128</sup> Elizabeth Dutton Lewis, "History of Gloucester Woman's Club and Facts About the Gloucester Woman's Club," (Gloucester Woman's Club: Gloucester, VA, n.d.).
- <sup>129</sup> Lewis, "History of Gloucester Woman's Club," n.d.
- <sup>130</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>131</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>132</sup> Elizabeth Dutton Lewis, "Gloucester Woman's Club: Sixty Years of Dedication, 1913-1973 (research notes)" (Gloucester Woman's Club: Gloucester, VA, 1973); Lewis, "History of Gloucester Woman's Club," n.d.
- <sup>133</sup> Gloucester County Deed Book 44, p. 301.
- <sup>134</sup> Lewis, "Gloucester Woman's Club: Sixty Years of Dedication," 1973.
- <sup>135</sup> Gloucester County Deed Book 44, p. 301. The property boundary is described in the deed as follows: "the line to commence at a point on the Main Road leading from Iron Bridge to Gloucester Court House, two feet from the old kitchen (which includes the old kitchen) thence in a straight line to a point two feet from the water tank to a point two feet beyond the water tank, thence at a right angle to the Main County Road leading from Ware House to Gloucester Court House, thence along said road to the intersection of the road from Iron Bridge thence to point of beginning...bounded on the North by the land of the Gloucester Agricultural Association, Inc., on the East by the land of the Gloucester Agricultural Association, Inc., on the South by the Main County road leading from Gloucester Court House to Gloucester Point; and on the West by the road leading from the road from Gloucester Court House to Gloucester Point to Iron Bridge and Mathews."
- <sup>136</sup> Gloucester County Deed Book 54, pp. 217-219.
- <sup>137</sup> Lewis, "Gloucester Woman's Club: Sixty Years of Dedication," 1973; Lewis, "History of Gloucester Woman's Club," n.d.; Ella L. Rhodes, "Long Bridge Ordinary" (Gloucester Woman's Club: Gloucester, VA, n.d.); Gloucester County Land Tax Books.
- <sup>138</sup> Virginia State Highway Plat Book 3, p. 167.
- <sup>139</sup> Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, *Gloucester Woman's Club (Long Bridge Ordinary) (036-0031) National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form* (Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission: Richmond, Virginia, 1973).
- <sup>140</sup> Historic American Buildings Survey, *Gloucester Women's Club, U.S. Route 17 & State Route 14, Gloucester, Gloucester County, VA (HABS VA-512) Survey Form* (Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division: Washington, DC, 1981); Spence et al, *Long Bridge Ordinary: An Architectural Survey*, 1982; Wenger, "Spring 1983 – Long Bridge Ordinary," 1983; Willie Graham, "Memorandum to Files: Long Bridge Ordinary" (Colonial Williamsburg Foundation Department of Architectural Research: Williamsburg, VA, 1986).
- <sup>141</sup> Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books.
- <sup>142</sup> Spence et al, *Long Bridge Ordinary: An Architectural Survey*, 1982, p. 1, 9-10; Wenger, "Spring 1983 – Long Bridge Ordinary," 1983.
- <sup>143</sup> Gloucester County Land Tax Books.
- <sup>144</sup> Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Architectural and Archaeological Site Inventory files (Virginia Department of Historic Resources: Richmond, VA).
- <sup>145</sup> Spence et al, *Long Bridge Ordinary: An Architectural Survey*, 1982, p. 6.
- <sup>146</sup> Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Architectural and Archaeological Site Inventory files.
- <sup>147</sup> Gloucester County Land Tax Books.
- <sup>148</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>149</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>150</sup> Thane H. Harpole and David A. Brown, "An Archaeological Survey and Evaluation of Edge Hill House/ The Gloucester Woman's Club, Site 44GL0469, Gloucester County, Virginia", October 2011, pgs. 30-45.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

### Abbreviations

VLO – Virginia Land Office

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Unknown.

1817 "Married- On Thursday, November 13, by Rev. Thrift, Mr. Christopher Whiting, to Miss Elizabeth S. Robins, daughter of William Robins, all of Gloucester County," *Richmond Enquirer*, Friday, 28 November 1817, p. 3, c. 5.

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1825 "Married- On Thursday, May 18, at Level Green, Mr. James R. Stubbs, of the firm of Cole, Sheldon, and Stubbs, merchants, near Gloucester Courthouse, to Miss Maria Robins, daughter of William Robins, of Gloucester County," *Richmond Enquirer*, Friday, 3 June 1825, p. 3, c. 5.

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2011 *An Architectural and Historical Analysis of Ware House, Gloucester County, Virginia*,  
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Woman's Club and Long Bridge Ordinary Foundation, Gloucester, Virginia.

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**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested  
 previously listed in the National Register  
 previously determined eligible by the National Register  
 designated a National Historic Landmark  
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # VA-512  
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government  
 University  
 Other

Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA;  
Gloucester Woman's Club & Long Bridge Ordinary Foundation, Gloucester Court House,  
VA

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** 036-0031, 036-5106-083, and  
44GL0469

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreeage of Property** 0.82 acre

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_  
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

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- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 37.412389 | Longitude: -76.519543 |
| 2. Latitude:           | Longitude:            |
| 3. Latitude:           | Longitude:            |
| 4. Latitude:           | Longitude:            |

**Or**

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |          |           |           |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting:  | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting:  | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting:  | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The historic boundary coincides with the lot lines as indicated on the 2012 Gloucester County Tax Parcel map, Parcel 32-276, showing that the property is bounded on the west by John Clayton Memorial Highway (VA 14), on the south by Ware House Road, and on the north and east by adjacent property owners. See attached USGS quad and tax parcel map.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The property boundaries include the primary contributing main house, the contributing archaeological site, and the non-contributing well house. The boundaries encompass the entire parcel owned by the current property owners. The nominated acreage is entirely within the Gloucester Downtown Historic District.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Stephen Fonzo, Thane Harpole, and David Brown  
organization: DATA Investigations, LLC  
street & number: 1759 Tyndall Point Lane  
city or town: Gloucester Point state: VA zip code: 23062-2334  
e-mail: fairfield@inna.net  
telephone: 804-815-4467  
date: December 10, 2012

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### **Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

### **Photographs**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

### **Photo Log**

*The following information corresponds to all photos:*

Name of Property: Gloucester Woman's Club  
City or Vicinity: Gloucester  
County: Gloucester County  
State: VA  
Location of Original Digital Files: 1759 Tyndall Point Lane, Gloucester Point, VA 23062

#### *Photo Specific Information:*

Name of Photographer: David Brown  
Date of Photographs: March 2010  
Photo #1 (VA\_GloucesterCounty\_GloucesterWomansClub\_0001)  
South facade and east elevation, camera facing northwest.

Name of Photographer: David Brown  
Date of Photographs: March 2010  
Photo #2 (VA\_GloucesterCounty\_GloucesterWomansClub\_0002)  
West facade and north elevation, camera facing southeast.

Gloucester Woman's Club (2013 Update)

Name of Property

Gloucester, VA

County and State

Name of Photographer: Thane Harpole  
Date of Photographs: February 2012  
Photo #3 (VA\_GloucesterCounty\_GloucesterWomansClub\_0003)  
First floor stair hall, camera facing north.

Name of Photographer: Thane Harpole  
Date of Photographs: February 2012  
Photo #4 (VA\_GloucesterCounty\_GloucesterWomansClub\_0004)  
First floor principal room, window and trim detail, camera facing south.

Name of Photographer: Thane Harpole  
Date of Photographs: February 2012  
Photo #5 (VA\_GloucesterCounty\_GloucesterWomansClub\_0005)  
Second floor bedroom, camera facing west.

Name of Photographer: Thane Harpole  
Date of Photographs: February 2012  
Photo #6 (VA\_GloucesterCounty\_GloucesterWomansClub\_0006)  
First floor south stair hall addition, camera facing east.

Name of Photographer: Thane Harpole  
Date of Photographs: February 2012  
Photo #7 (VA\_GloucesterCounty\_GloucesterWomansClub\_0007)  
Ground floor principal room, panel door detail, camera facing west.

Name of Photographer: Thane Harpole  
Date of Photographs: February 2012  
Photo #8 (VA\_GloucesterCounty\_GloucesterWomansClub\_0008)  
Ground floor principal room, camera facing east.

Name of Photographer: David Brown  
Date of Photographs: March 2010  
Photo #9 (VA\_GloucesterCounty\_GloucesterWomansClub\_0009)  
West elevation, camera facing east.

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

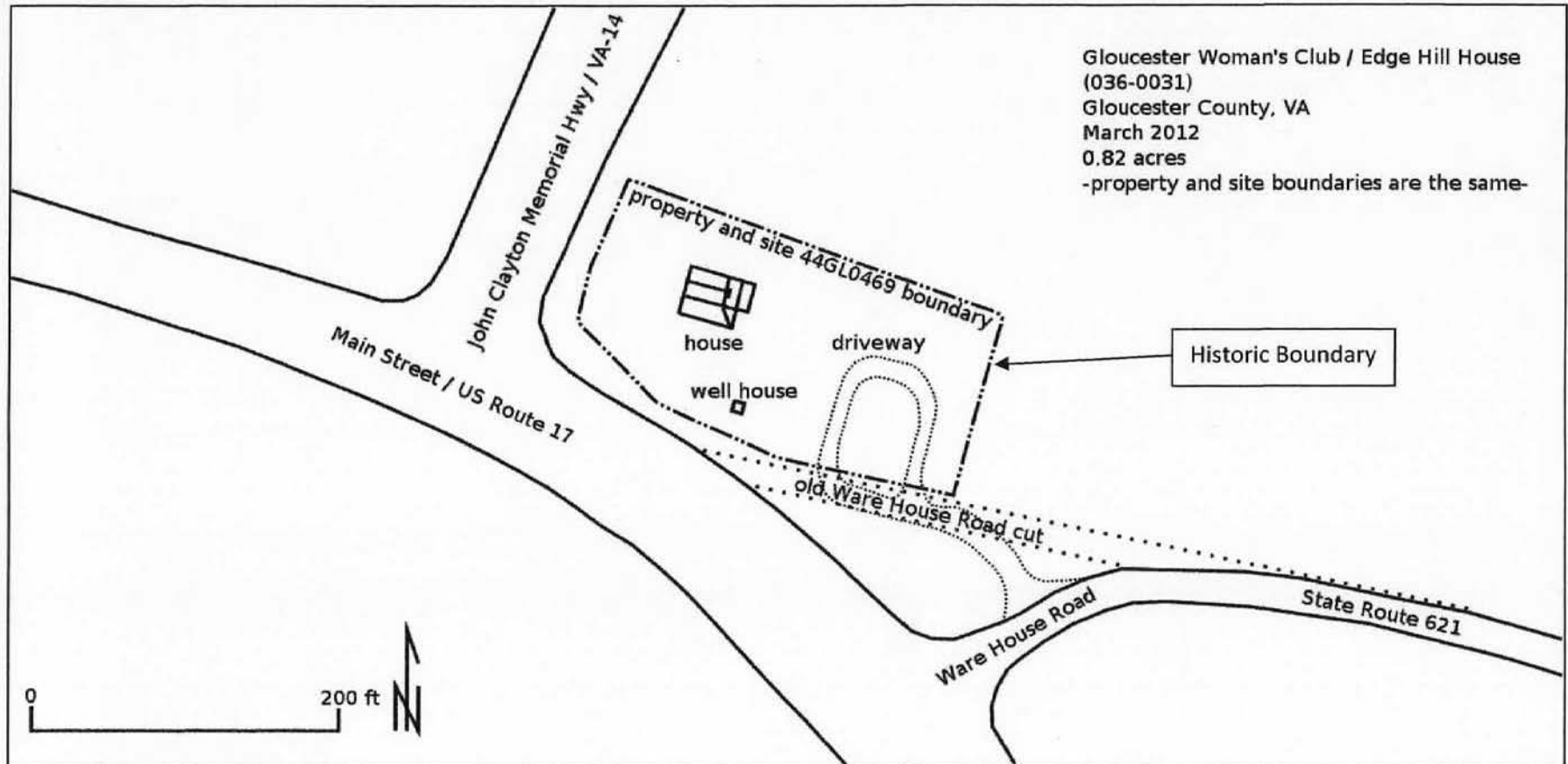
**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Gloucester Woman's Club (2013 Update)

Name of Property

Gloucester, VA

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**Site Plan and Sketch Map**

House – Contributing

Archaeological Site 44GL0469 – Contributing

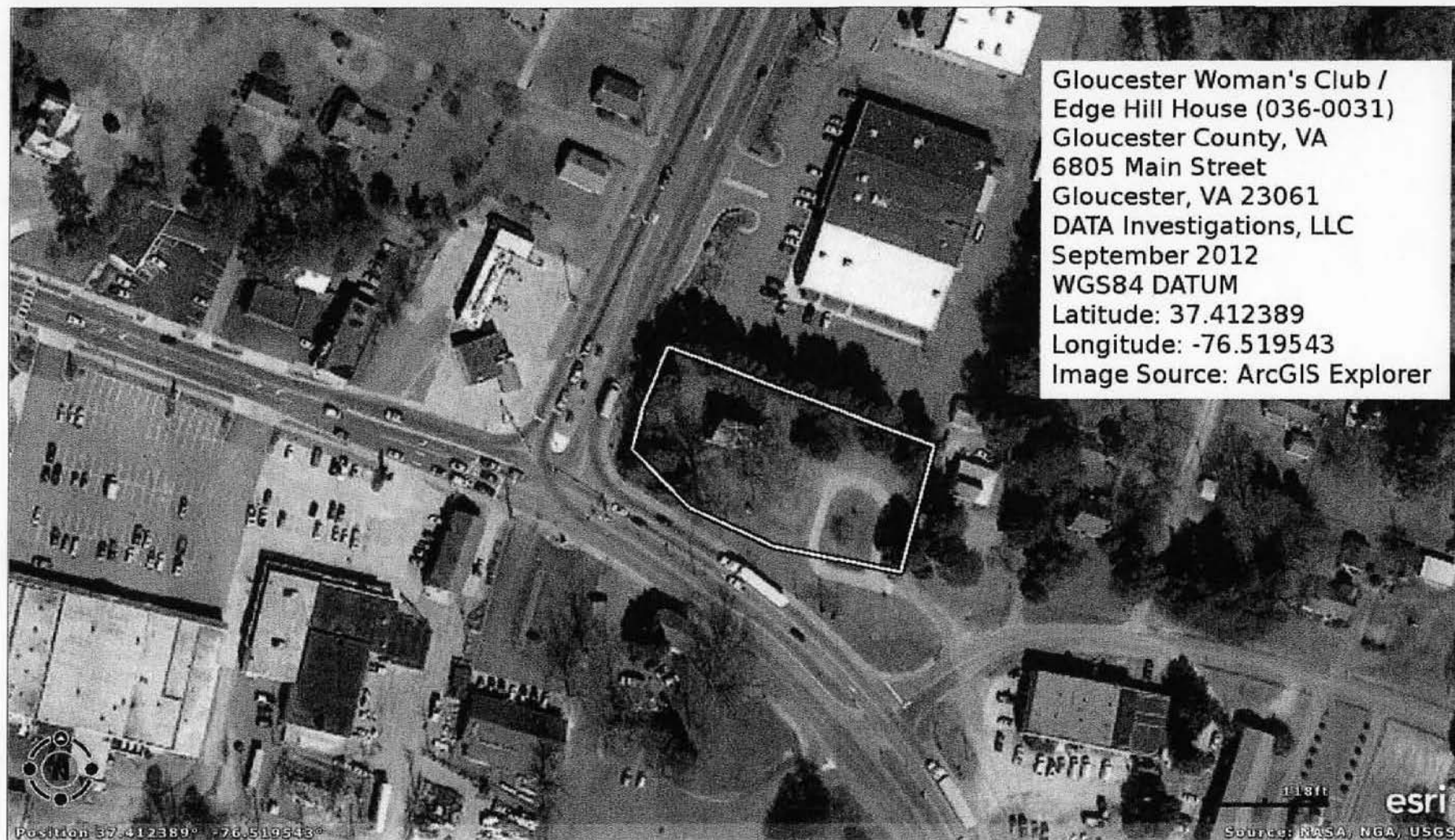
Well House – Non-contributing

Gloucester Woman's Club (2013 Update)

Name of Property

Gloucester, VA

County and State



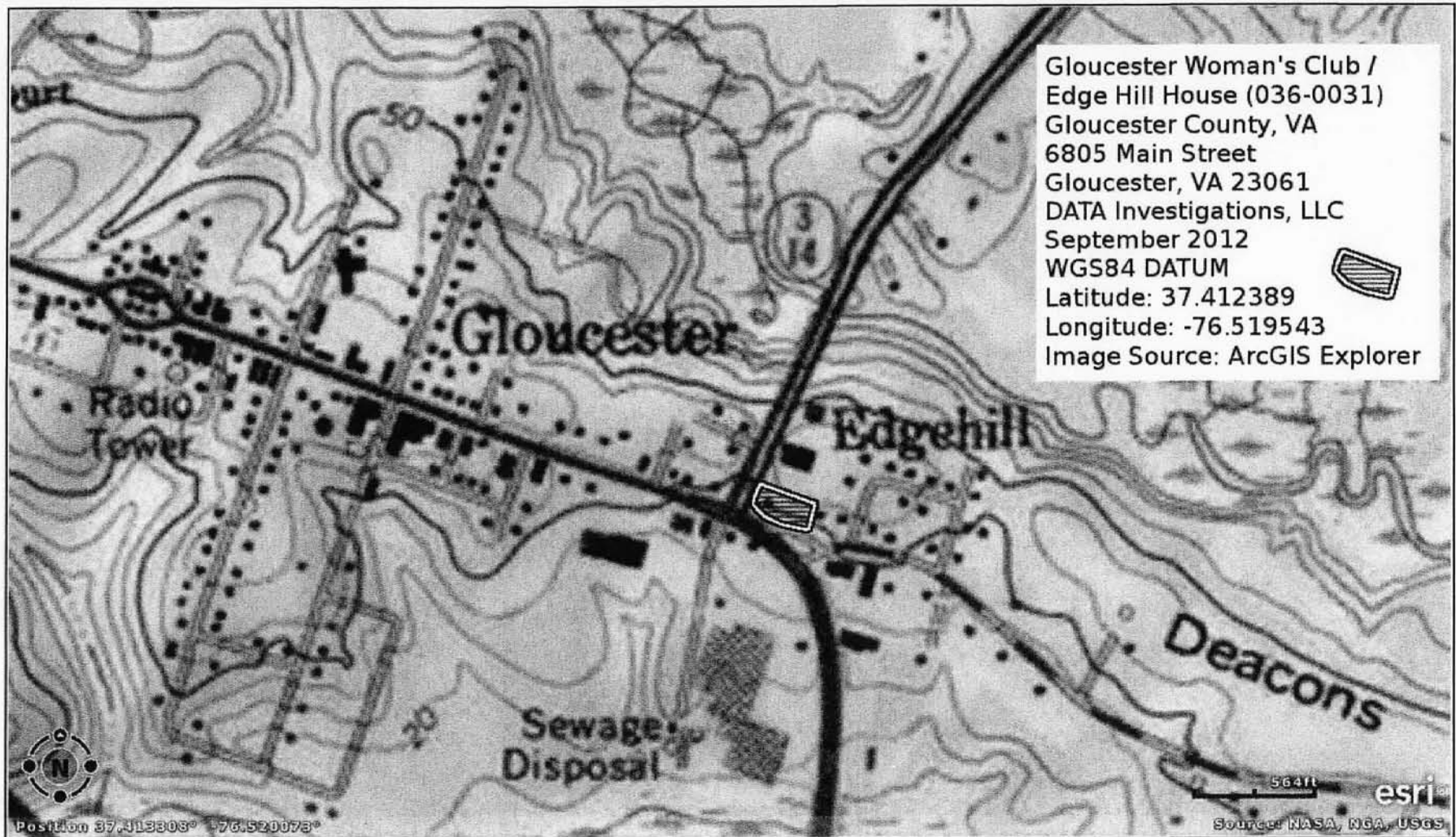
Location Map – Aerial View

Gloucester Woman's Club (2013 Update)

Name of Property

Gloucester, VA

County and State



Location Map – Topographic View