

VLR-4/18/72 NRHP-4/2/73

Form 10-300  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: VIRGINIA	
COUNTY: GOOCHLAND	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:  
POWELL'S TAVERN

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
POWELL'S TAVERN

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
N side of Rt. 650, .2 mi. E of intersection with Rt. 647.

CITY OR TOWN:  
Manakin vicinity (William Lloyd Scott, Eighth District Congressman)

STATE Virginia	CODE 51	COUNTY Goochland	CODE 075
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Doctor's office <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME  
Dr. and Mrs. Wayne C. Campbell

STREET AND NUMBER:  
RFD 2

CITY OR TOWN:  
Richmond

STATE:  
Virginia

CODE  
51

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Goochland County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
Goochland

STATE:  
Virginia

CODE  
51

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1940  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
Washington

STATE:  
D. C.

CODE  
11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

HABS SURVEY # VA-223

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Powell's Tavern is an H-shaped brick and frame complex, being the result of two major periods of construction. The original frame block is two stories over a low brick foundation with gable roof, two exterior end chimneys and two low one story end wings with shed roofs. The symmetrical three-bay fronts have nine-over-nine sash windows framed by moulded architraves. The later brick portion stands parallel to the frame block, approximately fourteen feet to the south, connected by a two story frame hyphen. This brick part is two stories with gable roof, two interior end chimneys and a five-bay front facing the old River Road to the south. The brick is laid in Flemish bond on its main south front with common bond with Flemish variations on the other secondary fronts. The deep, one story central entrance porch consists of four stuccoed brick Tuscan columns supporting a wooden gable roof with Doric entablature. While both the brick and frame blocks have a central hall with original interior trim in the single rooms to either side, the western room in the brick block has been partitioned for use as a doctor's offices. The wood work is exceedingly simple in the frame wing, as seen in the stair's square balusters and newels set on a closed stringer and the two high mantels consisting of simple pine boards capped by a narrow moulded cornice shelf. In addition, the eastern room has a plain pine dado and chair rail. The brick wing interior reflects its later Federal period by utilizing the "reed" motif (and a deeper cornice shelf) in the mantels. The western room of this wing, although partitioned, retains its mantel and paneled cupboard. Both of these rooms have a simple paneled dado.

T.H.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy       | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                   | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                 | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian       | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                   | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The frame portion of the tavern was built by William Powell as his residence in the late-eighteenth century on land which by a series of purchases from 1768 to 1791 was approximately 328 acres in size. Powell came to Virginia to make bricks for Thomas Mann Randolph of Tuckahoe and other landowners. Powell's land adjoined Randolph's which lay to the south across the old River Road or Main Road (Route 650). Powell's son, William Powell, Jr., applied for a license to keep an ordinary in the frame structure on March 1808 and his successful enterprize is reflected, first, in the addition of shed wings by 1815 (Mutual Assurance Society Policy) and second, by the brick addition, apparently built circa 1820 by Powell. The son continued his father's land acquisition until he had assembled a plantation of almost 800 acres. Although a two story hyphen, constructed in 1958, connects the two structures, earlier photographs show a simple gable-roofed shelter between them. It is traditionally held that some shelter was always there as a convenience to protect travelers loading or unloading their carriages between the two buildings in inclement weather.

The tavern continued in operation for most of the nineteenth century. General LaFayette stopped there during the course of his journey from Richmond to Charlottesville in 1824. William Powell, Jr., conducted the tavern for many years before it passed to the Duval family in 1850. Joseph Martin in his Gazetteer of Virginia, 1836, remarked on "the good order and excellent accomodations which distinguished" the tavern during the tenure of the younger Powell.

In 1958, the present owners adapted the complex into a combination residence and doctor's office with a minimum loss of the original building fabric. The construction of the two story hyphen at that time has heightened the tavern's similarity to its H-shaped neighbors, Tuckahoe to the south and Keswick, further south across the river. All three have evolved into this form and it is interesting that they should be concentrated in this particular area of the state. This peculiar plan, the presence of an old Powell family graveyard to the north and the associations with Lafayette and early tavern days on the old River Road between Charlottesville and Richmond offer a landmarks of particular significance to central Virginia's architectural and transportation history.

T.H.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Martin, Joseph, The Gazetteer of Virginia, 1836.  
 Mutual Assurance Society of Virginia, Policy Number 1419, reel 4, vol. 42.  
 Mutual Assurance Society of Virginia, Policy Number 2230, reel 3, vol. 26.  
 Weeks, Elie, "Powell's Tavern," n.p., n.d.  
 Files of Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		37°	34'	57"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		77°	39'	38"
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than ten acres.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission DATE: April, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building,

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond STATE: Virginia CODE: 51

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name James W. Moody, Jr.  
 Title Director, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

Date APR 18 1972

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

U.S.G.S. 7½' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)  
Midlothian, Va. 1964

POWELL'S TAVERN

latitude  
37°34'57"

longitude  
77°39'38"

