

VLR-9/9/69 NRHP-11/17/69 NHL-4/15/70

Form 10-300  
(Dec. 1968)

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: Prince George	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:  
Brandon

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Brandon

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
W. bank of James River at end of Rt. 611.

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE Virginia	CODE 45	COUNTY: Prince George	CODE 149
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes: Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>		

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>	
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>		
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:  
Robert W. Daniel, Jr.

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Brandon

CITY OR TOWN:  
Spring Grove

STATE:  
Virginia

CODE:  
45

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Prince George County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
Prince George

STATE:  
Virginia

CODE:  
45

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 4500 acres

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1935 Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
Washington

STATE:  
District of Columbia

CODE:  
08

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Virginia  
COUNTY: Prince George  
FOR NPS USE ONLY  
ENTRY NUMBER DATE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Virginia	
COUNTY: Prince George	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 69-11-45 0061	DATE 11/12/69

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Brandon

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Brandon

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
W bank of James River at end of Rt. 611.

CITY OR TOWN:  
Prince George

STATE: Virginia CODE: 45 COUNTY: Prince George CODE: 149

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes: Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>		

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>	
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>		
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>		

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNERS NAME:  
Robert W. Daniel, Jr.

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Brandon

CITY OR TOWN: Spring Grove STATE: Virginia CODE: 45

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Prince George County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Prince George STATE: Virginia CODE: 45

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 4500 acres

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1935 Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 08

STATE: Virginia  
COUNTY: Prince George  
ENTRY NUMBER: 69-11-45 0061  
DATE: 11/12/69  
FOR NPS USE ONLY

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Brandon Plantation presently consists of some 4500 acres of woodlands, pastures and gardens. The plantation house, located near the river, is fronted by an informal park on the land side with extensive formal gardens on the river side. The house is a seven part brick structure with a two-story center section covered by a pyramidal roof, at the apex of which is carved pineapple. Flanking the center section are one-story wings with a half-hipped roof over each wing. This main part of the house is linked to the two-story terminal wings by low one-story hyphens. The terminal wings are set perpendicular to the main house and are covered by hipped roofs. Because the terminal wings were originally free-standing one-and-a-half story dependencies, their lower halves are laid in Flemish bond with glazed headers above an English bond water table. The second floors are laid in uniform color Flemish bond as is the rest of the house. The original sash throughout the house was replaced in the early nineteenth century with thin muntin sash. The one-story Corinthian porticoes on each front of the center section are replacements of earlier one-story pedimented porches.

Brandon's center hall was also altered in the early-nineteenth century, at which time the triple arch Ionic screen and present staircase were installed. The arrangement of the center hall as originally completed is uncertain, but it may have been divided into a stair hall with saloon as at Battersea. The drawing room and dining room which flank the center hall are fully panelled and have pedimented chimney pieces. Much of the panelling in the drawing room has had to be restored because of Civil War damage. The interiors of the hyphens are simply treated and each contains a staircase to the basement. The east terminal wing contains the original kitchen and what were originally simply treated service rooms. The west terminal wing contains four panelled rooms of the same period and style as the center part of the house. One of the most notable features of Brandon's interior is the Chinese trellis stair in the central hall of the west wing. The hall is further enriched by full Doric entablatures around the ceiling and over the doors. A projection on the west side of the west wing has been added to allow for modern bathrooms.

The only early surviving outbuilding at Brandon is the "blockhouse," located to the west of the main house. This small one-story structure is laid in fine Flemish bond with glazed headers and is covered by a fine jerkin-head roof. The door and shutters of the building are covered in iron. To the west of the blockhouse is the walled Harrison family cemetery. Two modern, architecturally unobtrusive, brick outbuildings flank the main house. A vista from the garden front of the house extends through the formal gardens to the river.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE				
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
Pre-Columbian <input type="checkbox"/>	16th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	18th Century <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	20th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	
15th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	17th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	19th Century <input type="checkbox"/>		
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)				
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Historic <input type="checkbox"/>	Industry <input type="checkbox"/>	Science <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>History</u>	
Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/>	Invention <input type="checkbox"/>	Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/>		
Art <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Landscape <input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Humanitarian <input type="checkbox"/>		
Commerce <input type="checkbox"/>	Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Theater <input type="checkbox"/>		
Communications <input type="checkbox"/>	Literature <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>		
Conservation <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>			
	Music <input type="checkbox"/>			
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)				
<p>The some 5000 acres which originally made up the Brandon property were patented by John Martin (1562-1632) in 1616. It is believed that the name Brandon was derived from the family name of Martin's wife. Martin had been one of the original adventurers to sail to America with Capt. Christopher Newport and had served the Jamestown Colony as a member of the first Council. Robert Bargrave, Martin's grandson, inherited Brandon on Martin's death, and in 1635 sold it to Richard Quiney. It is interesting to note that Richard Quiney's brother Thomas was married to William Shakespeare's daughter Judith. Quiney and his heirs farmed Brandon until 1720 when it was sold to Nathaniel Harrison (1677-1727). Harrison never set up residence at Brandon, but his son and heir Nathaniel Harrison II (1703?-1791) decided to make the plantation his home.</p> <p>Because of the lack of proper documentation the structures at Brandon are difficult to date. Probably the earliest building is the brick "blockhouse" which may date from the Quiney ownership. The date and builder of the story-and-a-half symmetrically placed dependencies (which were later made two-story terminal wings of the main house) is uncertain, but it has been assumed that they were built by Nathaniel Harrison II with the idea of adding a mansion between them in the traditional manner of Virginia plantation complexes. The building of the center portion of the mansion and the alterations to the wings were probably carried out by Nathaniel Harrison II sometime after 1757 since the design was obviously based on Plate 3 of Robert Morris' <u>Select Architecture</u>, published in that year. The fidelity of Brandon to this plate in Morris has been used to support the Harrison family tradition that Thomas Jefferson was responsible for Brandon's design since it is known that Jefferson owned a copy of Morris.</p> <p>Despite the ambiguities of Brandon's architectural history, the house is one of the most sophisticated of Virginia's eighteenth century structures. Next to Monticello it is probably the most purely Palladian Virginia house of its period, though the Palladian influence is through Morris.</p> <p>Brandon suffered damage during the Civil War when Federal troops fired on the house, desecrated the interior by ripping off panelling, and burned the barns and outbuildings. The house was extensively renovated circa 1926 and stands today in an excellent state of preservation. Its setting is enhanced by its extensive gardens, considered to be among the most beautiful in the Commonwealth.</p>				

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Waterman, Thomas Tileston, The Mansions of Virginia, 1706-1776, New York: Bonanza Books, 1945.  
 Coffin, Lewis A., Jr. and Arthur C. Holden, Brick Architecture of the Colonial Period in Maryland and Virginia. New York: Architectural Book Publishing Co., 1919.  
 Farrar, Emmie Ferguson, Old Virginia Houses Along the James. New York: Bonanza Books, 1957.  
 Lancaster, Robert A., Jr., Historic Virginia Homes and Churches. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1915.  
 Lutz, Francis Earle, The Prince George-Hopewell Story. Richmond: The William Byrd Press, Inc., 1957.

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 ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	37° 16' 35"	77° 03' 36"		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	37° 16' 35"	76° 59' 08"				
SE	37° 13' 16"	76° 59' 08"				
SW	37° 13' 16"	77° 03' 36"				

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
 Staff, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, James W. Moody, Jr., Director

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission      DATE: July 24, 1969

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

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond,      STATE: Virginia      CODE: 45

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: Edw. P. Alexander by form  
 Title: Dr. Edward P. Alexander, Chairman Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission  
 Date: 10-7-69

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

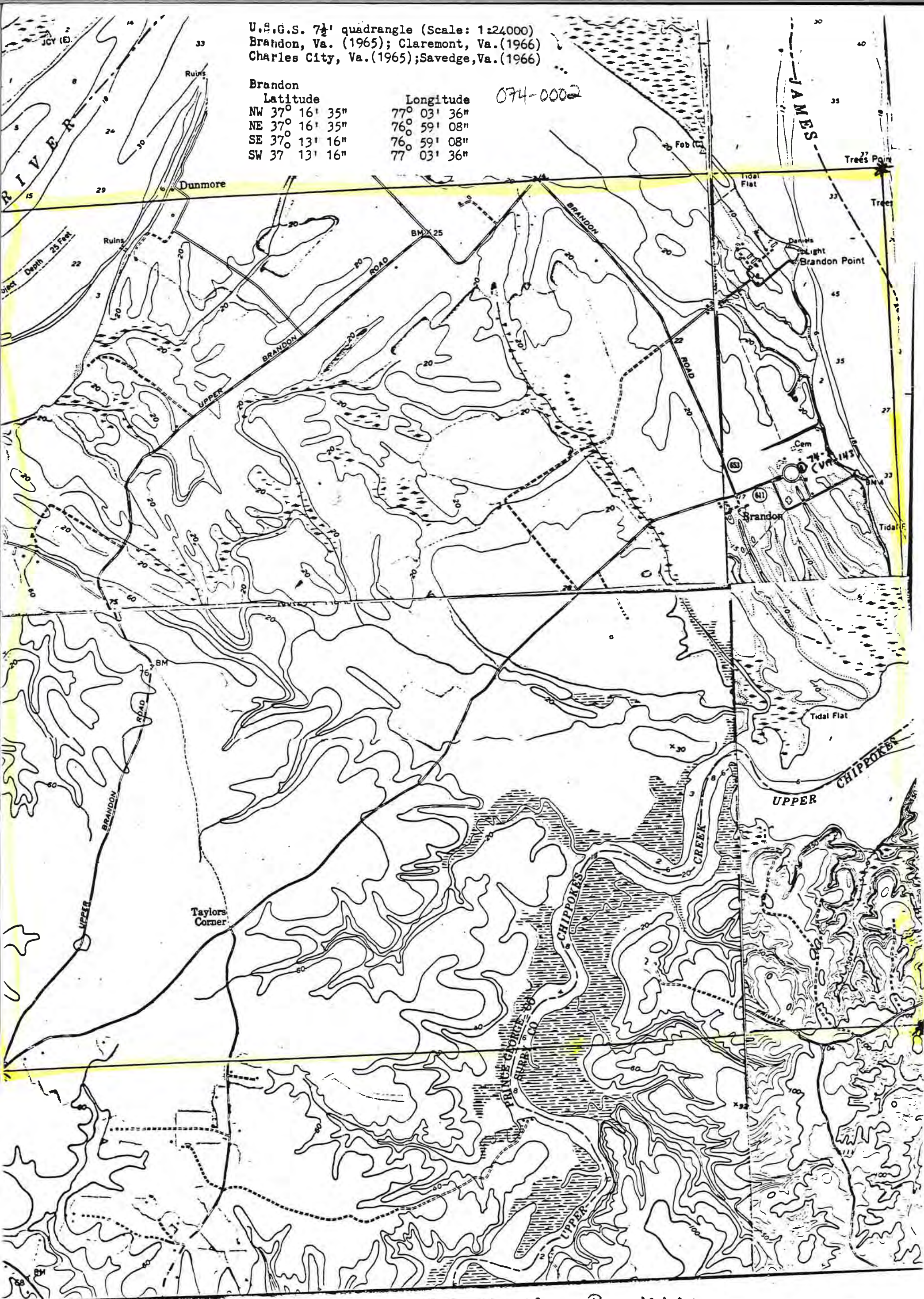
Ernest Allen Cannon  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation  
 NOV 12 1969

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ATTEST:  
William J. Huntington  
 Keeper of The National Register  
 OCT 22 1969  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

U.S.G.S. 7½' quadrangle (Scale: 1:24,000)  
 Brandon, Va. (1965); Claremont, Va. (1966)  
 Charles City, Va. (1965); Savedge, Va. (1966)

Brandon		
Latitude	Longitude	
NW 37° 16' 35"	77° 03' 36"	074-0002
NE 37° 16' 35"	76° 59' 08"	
SE 37° 13' 16"	76° 59' 08"	
SW 37° 13' 16"	77° 03' 36"	



ORIGINAL 1969 BOUNDARY  
 (CORRECTED 1975 + 2007)

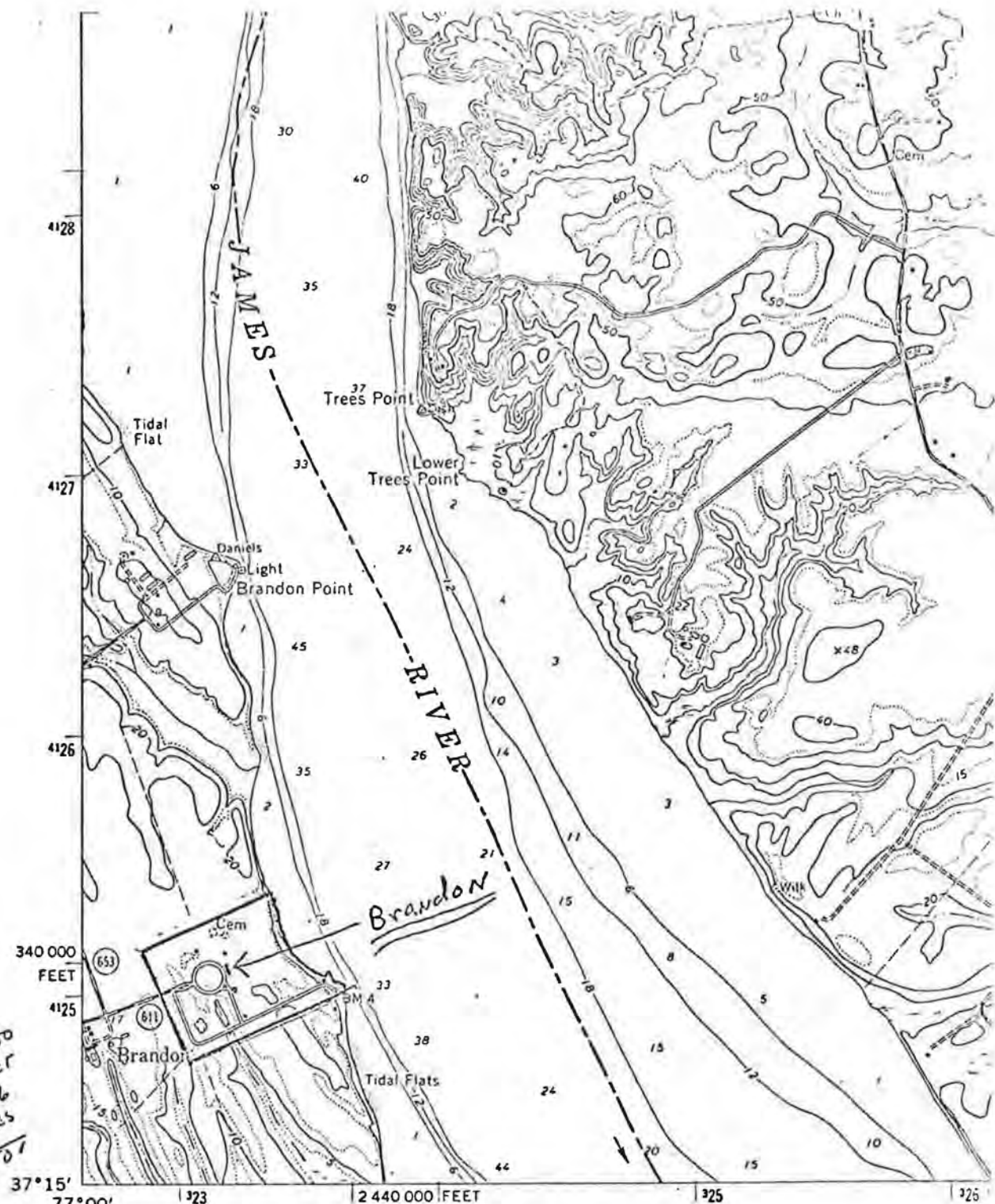
BRANDON, PRINCE GEORGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Boundaries of the Historic Site:

Approximately 18.56 acres of land, including Brandon Plantation House, in the shape of trapezoid, starting at the southeast corner on the south bank of the James River, at latitude  $37^{\circ}15'24''N.$ , - longitude  $76^{\circ}59'18''W.$ , and proceeding in a southwesterly direction about 1050 feet to the southwest corner at lat.  $37^{\circ}15'15''N.$  - long.  $76^{\circ}59'43''W.$ , then proceeding northwest about 770 feet to the northwest corner at lat.  $37^{\circ}15'29''N.$  - long.  $76^{\circ}59'51''W.$ , then proceeding in a northeasterly direction about 900 feet to the northeast corner at lat.  $37^{\circ}15'36''N.$  - long.  $76^{\circ}59'30''W.$ , and then returning southeast along the south bank of the James River to the beginning, the southeast corner. Precise boundaries, as described above, are recorded in red on a copy of U. S. Department of the Interior Geological Survey Map: Brandon Quadrangle, Virginia 7.5 Minute Series (Topographic), 1965, on file with the Branch of Historical Surveys, Division of History, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, National Park Service.

Total acreage of Brandon Plantation in 1969 is approximately 4,400 acres.

Brandon  
Quad



900'  
808,500  
sq. feet  
23,56  
acres  
1050'

(SAVEDGE)  
3556 11 NE

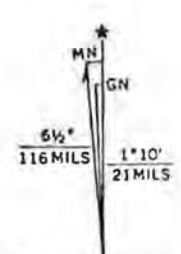
Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial  
photographs taken 1963. Field checked 1965  
Supersedes USC&GS map dated 1952

Selected hydrographic data compiled from USC&GS  
Chart 530 (1964). This information is not intended for  
navigational purposes

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Virginia coordinate system,  
south zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 18, shown in blue

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where  
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



UTM GRID AND 1965 MAGNETIC  
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF S-E