

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	<b>DATA SHEET</b>
RECEIVED	OCT 13 1976
DATE ENTERED	APR 13 1977

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Dew House

AND/OR COMMON

Linden Farm (Preferred); Linden

**2 LOCATION**

*W of Farnham on VA 3*

STREET & NUMBER On the north side of State Route 3, north on Farnham; .3 mile east of the intersection of State Routes 3 and 611

CITY, TOWN

Farnham

VICINITY OF

First (Thomas N. Downing)

STATE

Virginia

CODE  
51

COUNTY  
Richmond

CODE  
159

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: none

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mrs. Virginia B. Saunders

STREET & NUMBER

Rt. 1

CITY, TOWN

Farnham

VICINITY OF

STATE

Virginia 22460

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Richmond County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Warsaw

STATE

Virginia 22572

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

(2) (See Continuation Sheet # 1)

TITLE

(1) Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

DATE

1958

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington,

STATE

D.C.

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Linden Farm, near Farnham Church in Richmond County, is a small, story-and-a-half frame building. Probably begun circa 1700, the house achieved its present form by circa 1725.

The house is clad with beaded weatherboards and the asymmetrical gable roof is covered with standing-seam sheet metal, beneath which can be glimpsed an earlier layer of square-butt shingles. Tall, asymmetrical pyramidal chimneys built of brick laid in Flemish bond with random glazed headers and rodded joints, and having low, stepped water tables and parged weatherings, stand at either end. Although not bonded to the underpinning, the construction of the cellar wall and hearths in the cellar under the north end suggests that the chimneys are, nevertheless, probably original, at least to the house in its final stage. There are four irregularly spaced openings and three gabled dormers across the facade. Early six-over-nine sash light the ground-floor windows, and four-over-four sash are used in the dormers. The present front doorway consists of nineteenth-century double-leaf doors hung in an eighteenth-century frame, with a five-light transom over it.

Linden Farm was built in two stages. The original house consisted of the present southern portion, which contains a single large room, with a single lean-to room behind it. The removal of a weatherboard at eaves level revealed that the original door was positioned approximately in the center of the facade of the smaller house. It also revealed that the house had been clad with riven clapboards. Rare surviving specimens of these are preserved, beneath the plaster, on the former north gable end, now the north wall of the passage. The fenestration of the present north end has been unaltered, as the framing indicates.

The present plan dates from the addition of the north end. A passage was set off from part of the original house, creating a double-pile, central-passage house with a slightly cater-cornered chimney in each room. The handsome straight-run "Jacobean" stair with its closed string and heavy turned balusters ascends in the passage from the back to the front of the house. It is uncertain whether this stair was installed during the construction of the original house or during its expansion, and it is not possible at this time to determine whether it is in its original position.

Other than the stair, little decorative trim remains in the house. Austere Greek Revival mantels with unadorned pilasters and friezes set off the fireplaces in the front rooms, and wide double-beaded chair boards are used in all of the first-floor rooms and the passage. Many of the doors throughout the house were installed in the mid-nineteenth century, and retain their original decoration of graining in imitation of wood.

The trussed-rafter roof is notable for its use of tilted-false-plate eaves construction, in which the rafters are secured at their feet by being pegged to a square "false plate" which is set diagonally across the ends of the tie beams. This form of eaves construction, in a house this substantially built, is normally indicative of a date before circa 1725 and is often found in connection with the use of riven clapboards as a roof covering.

(see Continuation sheet #2)

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES First quarter of eighteenth century BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Linden Farm is a rare example of a colonial vernacular farmhouse on the Northern Neck of Virginia, an area which, despite its long and eventful history, retains relatively few colonial buildings of any sort. Architectural and documentary evidence indicates that the original portion of this important survival was built early in the first quarter of the eighteenth century, and that it had achieved its present form by the end of the quarter. This would make it perhaps the oldest house on the Northern Neck. Linden Farm exists in a remarkable state of preservation retaining several striking and unusual features including its massive, asymmetrical pyramidal chimneys, its closed-string "Jacobean" stair, its original riven clapboards (rare survivals in Virginia) on the former north gable end, and its tilted-false-plate eaves framing, normally an indication of a very early construction date on substantial Virginia houses.

The early history of Linden Farm is uncertain; several lawsuits and exceptionally vague boundary descriptions have made the title difficult to establish with certainty. As near as can be determined, however, the original section of the house was probably built by Andrew Dew, a member of a family which had been in the Rappahannock River area since at least the mid-seventeenth century. Dew was established in the Farnham area by 1708, when he received a 302-acre grant bounded in part by "land of the said Dew" from the proprietors of the Northern Neck. At his death in 1714, "Mr. Andrew Dew" left a substantial estate valued at £187 3s 6d. Many of the items listed were textiles--linen, cotton, fustian, oznabrig--which suggests that Dew was a cloth merchant. (No tailor's tools were inventoried.) Though a house of one large room and a lean-to room seems to be modest accommodations for so successful an individual, it is consistent with a pattern of dwelling in small houses which is observable from the inventories of other late seventeenth- and early eighteenth-century merchants of the Northern Neck.

Dew willed "the plantation I live on" to his son Andrew, who probably expanded the house to its present form. The second Andrew Dew died in 1727, leaving an estate appraised at £24 19s 1d. His property was divided between his sons Thomas and William, with the latter receiving the "land I live on." By Williams's death in 1770, his family had left Richmond County for the west, and he ordered that his land and his £70 estate be sold and the proceeds divided among his heirs. William Dew's son Samuel, of Hampshire County (now West Virginia), purchased the land, but sold it in 1780 to Edward Saunders. (see Continuation Sheet #3)

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Richmond County Chancery Court Suit Number 105.  
 Richmond County Deed and Will Books.  
 Upton, Dell, "Linden Farm Title," unpublished ms. in Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission archives.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 28.2 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,8	3,5,6,5,5,0	4,1,9,5,0,2,0	B	1,8	3,5,6,5,4,0	4,1,9,4,5,7,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	1,8	3,5,6,1,5,0	4,1,9,4,5,8,0	D	1,8	3,5,6,1,6,0	4,1,9,5,0,3,0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The acreage comprising Linden Farm is bounded by a line beginning at a point on the north side of State Route 3, approximately 1400' SE of intersection of state routes 3 and 611; thence extending 200' NE, then approximately 500' SE, then 400' NE to tree line; thence extending approximately 2200' NW following tree line; thence extending approximately 1200' SW to north side of State Route 3; thence extending SE along north side of said route to point of origin.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE

September 1976

STREET & NUMBER

221 Governor Street

TELEPHONE

(804) 786-3144

CITY OR TOWN

Richmond, Virginia

STATE

Virginia

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Junius R. Fishburne, Jr., Executive Director  
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE SEP 21 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: [Signature]  
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE 4/13/89

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 3/28/77

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CONTINUATION SHEET

#1

ITEM NUMBER

6

PAGE

1

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

- (2) Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey  
1969, 1970, 1975 State  
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission  
Richmond Virginia

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CONTINUATION SHEET #2

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

DESCRIPTION

Linden Farm has not yet been available for complete structural investigation, and clues visible through the plaster and through holes in the second-floor ceiling suggest that other original structural features, possibly including a casement window, are still hidden within the partition wall which formerly served as the north gable end of the original house.

DTU

The 282- acre tract being nominated is all that remains intact of the original 302-acre grant received by Andrew Dew from the proprietors of the Northern Neck.

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CONTINUATION SHEET #3 ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

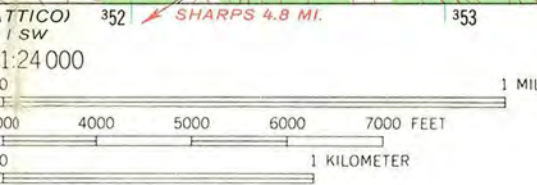
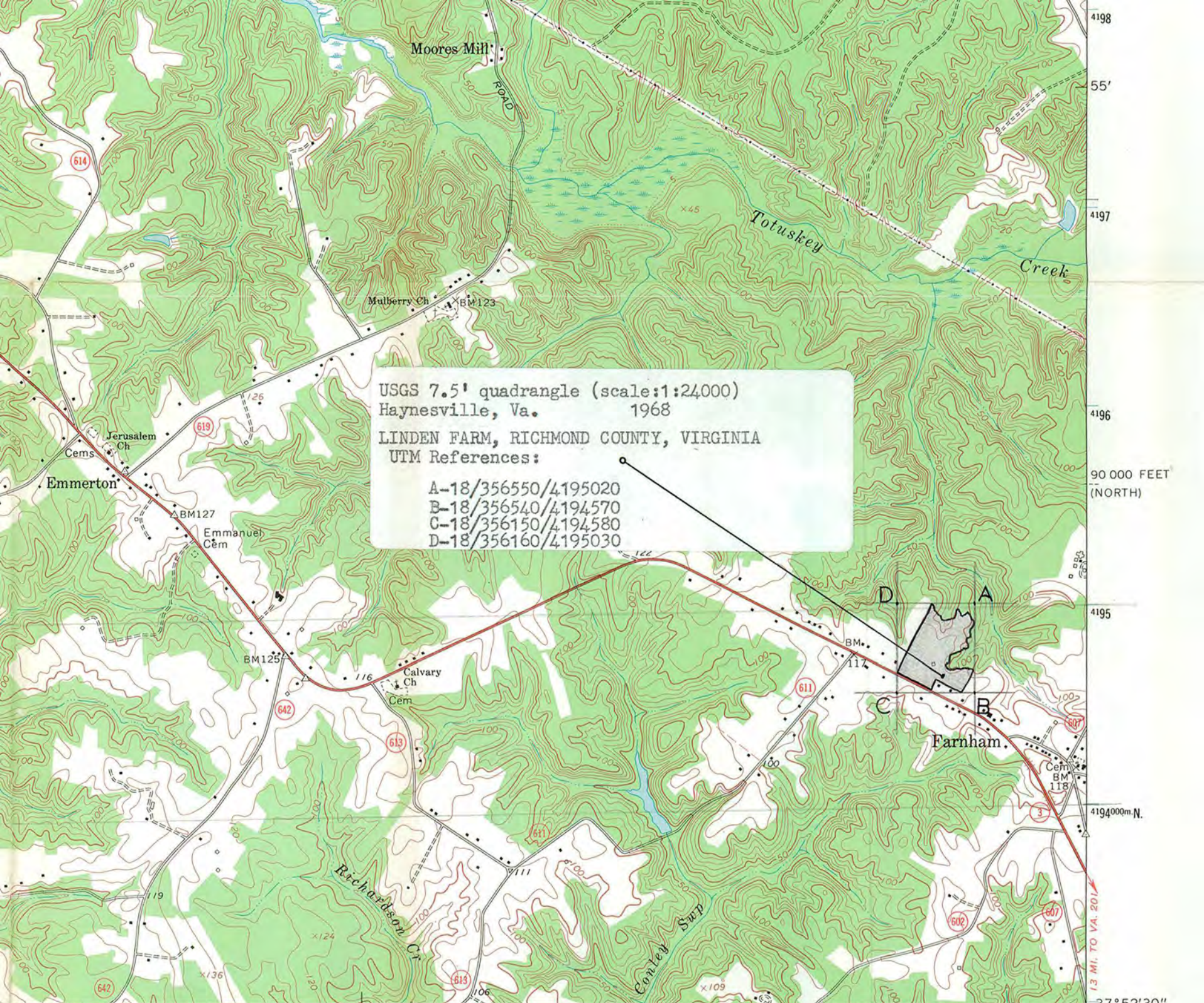
SIGNIFICANCE

Saunders died in 1826, leaving his plantation to his grandson Edward Sydnor Saunders, who sold it to William H. Tayloe of Mt. Airy, in 1845, in satisfaction of a debt. Thus commenced a 65-year period during which the property underwent a rapid series of sales, resales, and lawsuits, during which it was owned by the Lyell, Siller, Hutt, Becker, and Lewis families. The 1873 deed from R. H. Lyell to Frank Siller contains the first recorded reference to the property as "Linden." It was first referred to as Linden Farm in 1900.

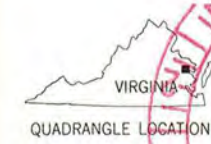
In 1909, Linden Farm was purchased by Dorsey B. Beaucham and has descended to his granddaughter, Mrs. Virginia B. Saunders. Thus, the present owners have maintained the longest continuous tenure of a single family in the history of the house. It is currently unoccupied and is for sale.

DTU  
MTP

USGS 7.5' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)  
 Haynesville, Va. 1968  
 LINDEN FARM, RICHMOND COUNTY, VIRGINIA  
 UTM References:  
 A-18/356550/4195020  
 B-18/356540/4194570  
 C-18/356150/4194580  
 D-18/356160/4195030



INTERVAL 10 FEET  
 5-FOOT CONTOURS  
 DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER  
 APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER  
 IS APPROXIMATELY 1.8 FEET  
 NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
 SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242  
 SOURCES, CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22903  
 AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, all weather, hard surface	Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface	Unimproved road, fair or dry weather
U. S. Route	State Route

HAYNESVILLE, VA.  
 NW/4 MORATTICO 15' QUADRANGLE  
 N3752.5—W7637.5/7.5

1968

4198  
 55'  
 4197  
 4196  
 90 000 FEET (NORTH)  
 4195  
 4194000m.N.  
 37°52'30"  
 76°37'30"  
 1.3 MI. TO VA. 2017  
 (LIVELY) 5659 1 SE