

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: VIRGINIA
COUNTY: BRUNSWICK
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Brunswick County Court ~~House~~ Square

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: East side of Route 58, .1 mile north of intersection of Route 58 and Route 713.

CITY OR TOWN: Lawrenceville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Fifth (W. C. Daniel)

STATE: Virginia

CODE: 51

COUNTY: Brunswick

CODE: 025

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"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input checked="" 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 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	_____	_____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: County of Brunswick

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Lawrenceville

STATE: Virginia

CODE: 51

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Lawrenceville

STATE: Virginia

CODE: 51

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

DATE OF SURVEY: 1958

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

STATE: Virginia

COUNTY: Brunswick

ENTRY NUMBER

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7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Brunswick County courthouse, the fourth court building to be erected in the county since its establishment and the second in Lawrenceville, is the central building in a group of public structures which includes a clerk's office, library and jail. With the Confederate war monument, they constitute a classic Southern courthouse square.

The Greek Revival courthouse was built in 1854-55 by Edward Randolph Turnbull and Robert Kirkland at a cost of \$7000. As originally constructed, it was a two-story, gable-roofed rectangular building, 50 by 55 feet, built of brick laid in five-course American bond. In 1939, a brick addition was made to the rear, creating a T-shaped plan.

The gable-end entrance of the courthouse is sheltered by a pedimented portico with four colossal Greek Doric columns. A plain frieze is carried around the original portion of the building, and atop the pediment is a small, square hipped-roof cupola with rectangular louvered openings, a bracketed cornice and a weathervane. The main entrance is double-doored with large rectangular transom and side lights. All of the windows in the building have plain white marble lintels and six-over-six sash.

The first-floor plan consists of a two-story entrance hall off which a number of offices open. Simple, straight run stairs with square newels and balusters on either side of the hall lead to a common landing at the entrance to the courtroom. This is a very plain room, from which small stairs with simple ramped and eased railings lead to a jury room and judge's chambers. All of the original fireplaces with their plain period mantels survive.

Next to the courthouse stands the County Clerk's Office, built by J. Dimmock of Richmond in 1893 when the Brunswick records outgrew their quarters in the courthouse building. It, too, is a two-story brick building, laid in six-course American bond. The double front door, with its transom light and rusticated stone lintels, is flanked by pairs of barred transom windows with rusticated stone lintels. A string course, consisting (from top to bottom) of a projecting stretcher course, a flush stretcher course, a hound's tooth soldier course, and three projecting stretcher courses, encircles the building at second-floor level. The three bays in the second story are defined by pairs of barred windows with semicircular transoms and brick arches. A molded cornice is carried around the building except in the center of the front where a parapeted cross-gable with stone coping and a circular louvre break it. The end walls are blank, and additions were made to the rear in 1924 and 1939. A hipped roof and interior end chimneys crown the clerk's office.

D. T. U.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	<u>County History</u>
<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 type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

With its powerful Greek Doric courthouse and its Confederate monument, the courthouse square in Lawrenceville is the epitome of the nineteenth-century Virginia shire town. The small group of public buildings forms a harmonious ensemble which acts as a focal point for the life of the village. Through fortunate ties of Masonic fraternity between E. R. Turnbull, the county clerk and builder of the courthouse, and a Union raider, the Brunswick records were spared the destruction which befell so many governmental records during the Civil War.

Brunswick County, named for the Duchy of Brunswick, home of the English royal House of Hanover, was established by an act of the General Assembly in 1720, although its bounds were not drawn until 1723. The county had been set up as a buffer against anticipated French and Indian attacks, but actually had few settlers until after the famous 'survey' of the dividing line between Virginia and North Carolina, described by William Byrd II in 1728. No courthouse was needed, then, until 1732, when the first one was built. Brunswick County at this period was 230 miles long, and the courthouse was moved in 1744 and again in 1783 to compensate for the periodic setting off of large areas as new counties. In 1814, Lawrenceville was established around the courthouse, by legislative act, to be the county seat. By 1853, a new courthouse was needed, and a committee was appointed to inspect and presumably to copy the 1842 Mecklenburg County Courthouse at Boydton. A contract was let to E. R. Turnbull and Robert Kirkland, who built a courthouse for \$7000 which, however, bore little resemblance to the Boydton building. In 1893 separate facilities were provided for the clerk's office.

D. T. U.

Approved for release by the National Archives and Records Administration on 08-11-2014

FOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Mitchell, Henry L., Jr., "Brunswick County Courthouse and Clerk's Office," Brunswick County, Virginia, Bicentennial Committee Report, 1974.

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission archives.

16. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE, LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	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	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		36° 45' 30"	77° 50' 49"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: one acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE: November 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:
221 Governor Street

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond

STATE: Virginia

CODE: 51

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Date:

NOV 16 1974

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

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

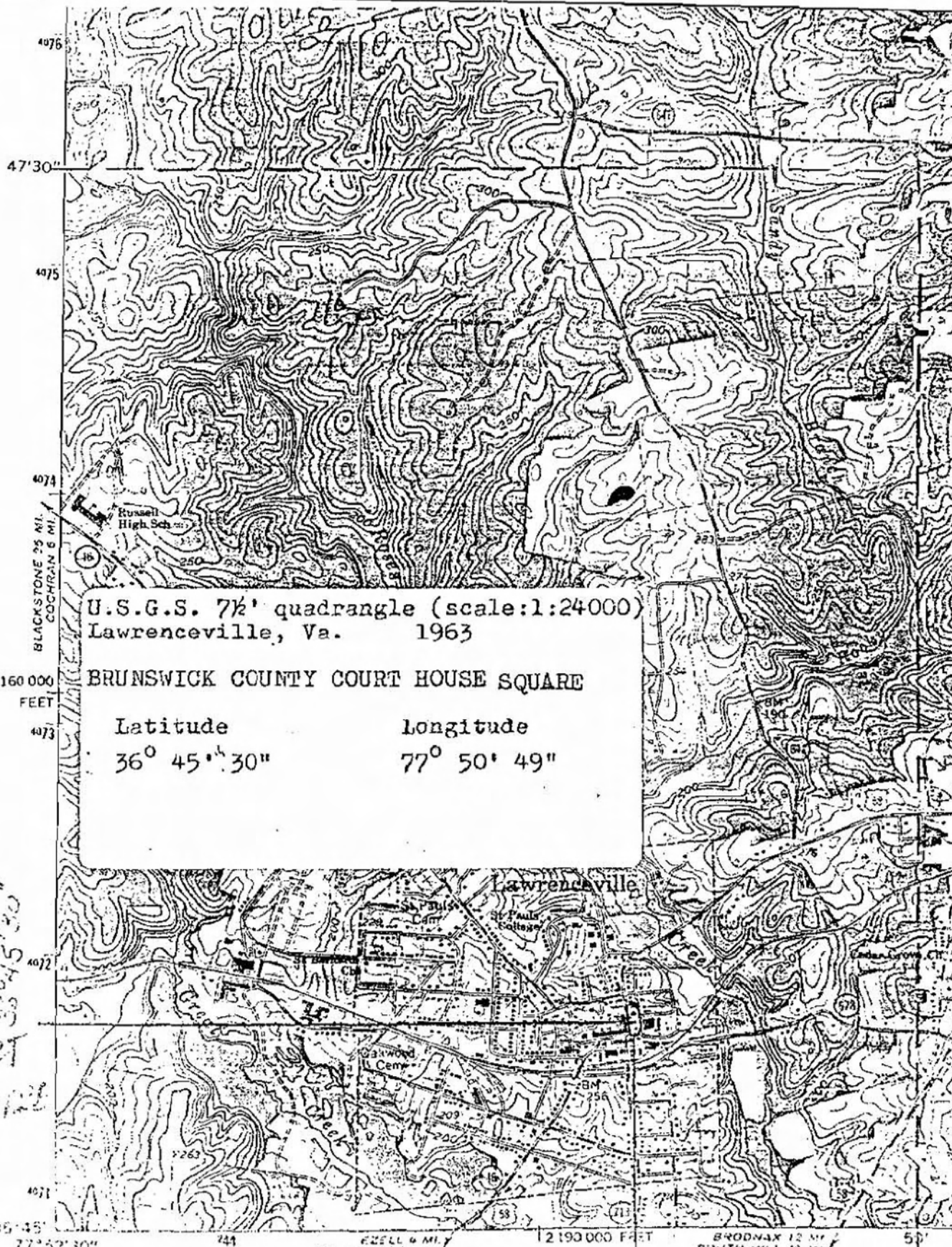
Date: _____

ATTEST: _____

Keeper of The National Register

Date: _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



BRUNSWICK COUNTY COURT HOUSE SQUARE

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

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1961. Field checked 1963.

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000 foot grid based on Virginia coordinate system, south zone
2000 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