

destroyed by fire 1975

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:	Northampton
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Caserta

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Caserta

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 1.2 mi. N of Rt. 630, 1 mi. NW of intersection of Rt. 630 and Rt. 13. (Eastville vicinity)

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE: Virginia CODE: 45 COUNTY: Northampton CODE: 131

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	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) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Mrs. Colin D. Cowling Mrs. Howard Moses

STREET AND NUMBER: Sycamore Farm, Blue Mount Rd.

CITY OR TOWN: Eastville Monrton STATE: Virginia Md. 21111 CODE: 45

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Eastville STATE: Virginia CODE: 45

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1960 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: Northampton

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Caserta is a frame complex consisting of a two-story, three-bay main block with gable roof, brick end with interior end chimney, and a one-and-one-half story end wing and hyphen, the end wing having a large exterior end chimney and a steeper gable roof than the hyphen. This wing is traditionally held to be the oldest portion of Caserta; however, there is no evidence, except for its basic form and roof silhouette, for an eighteenth-century date. The interior of the house is done in the Greek Revival manner with fluted moldings and corner "bull's eye" blocks around the windows and doors. A variety of mantels reflect, in a low key manner, the transition from Federal motifs to the sterner modes of the Greek Revival.

The most interesting architectural feature of the house is the upward extension of the front pitch of the roof over the western bay on the main block, so that its ridge line is several feet higher than the rest of the structure. Consequently, this portion of the building projects from the rear as an ell. On the interior, this creates a stair well in the side hall plan which rises up three stories to attic rooms lighted by end windows. The dramatic vertical space is occupied by a simple stair design whose rectangular balusters and plain rail gracefully curve at each turn in the rise.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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 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 type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input checked="" 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

Although the oldest part of Caserta may date from 1736 when the first William Haggoman inherited the land, or from the occupancy of his son William who inherited the property in 1764, there is little architectural evidence to support this. The large section was built by George P. Upshur (1799-1852), U. S. Naval Commander and brother of Judge Abel Parker Upshur of Vaucluse, who owned the property from 1836 to 1847. Upshur named his land Caserta after the town in Italy where he had spent many pleasant days. In 1852 Upshur died in Spezia, Italy, while there in command of the U. S. S. Levant. His remains were returned to the United States, and he was buried, with other members of his family, at Vaucluse where he was born.

In agreement with the tradition that portions of Caserta date from the eighteenth century is the idea that Upshur intended to add a wing to make the two-story block a formal central hall, five-bay front building. It certainly seems probable that the wing was built earlier and altered in the 1830's or 1840's when the large house was added. Today, Caserta appears as a typical Eastern Shore complex resulting from additions to a small house. Obviously, what makes it totally unique is the enlargement over the stair hall, especially interesting for its modern concept of reflecting interior spaces through exterior forms.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Upshur, John Andrews, The Upshur Family in Virginia. Richmond: 1955.
 Whitelaw, Ralph T., Virginia's Eastern Shore. Volume One. Gloucester, Mass.: Peter Smith, 1968.

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° 23' 20"	75° 57' 28"		0	'	"
NE	37° 23' 20"	75° 56' 44"				
SE	37° 22' 12"	75° 56' 44"				
SW	37° 22' 12"	75° 57' 28"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1.90 acres

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: November 14, 1969

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

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond STATE: Virginia CODE: 45

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 Dr. E. P. Alexander, Chairman

Title Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

Date December 2, 1969

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

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Virginia	
COUNTY Northampton	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Caserta			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Caserta			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 1.2 mi. N of Rt. 630, 1 mi. NW of intersection of Rt. 630 and Rt. 13. (Eastville vic.)			
CITY OR TOWN:			
STATE: Virginia	CODE 45	COUNTY: Northampton	CODE 131
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: U.S.G.S. 7½', quadrangles Franktown, Va. Cheriton, Va.			
SCALE: 1:24000			
DATE: 1943, 1955			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Virginia	
COUNTY Northampton	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Caserta			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Caserta			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 1.2 mi. N of Rt. 630, 1 mi. NW of intersection of Rt. 630 and Rt. 13. (Eastville vic.)			
CITY OR TOWN:			
STATE: Virginia	CODE 45	COUNTY: Northampton	CODE 131
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission			
DATE OF PHOTO: 1969			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Richmond, Virginia			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
View of front from the Southeast.			

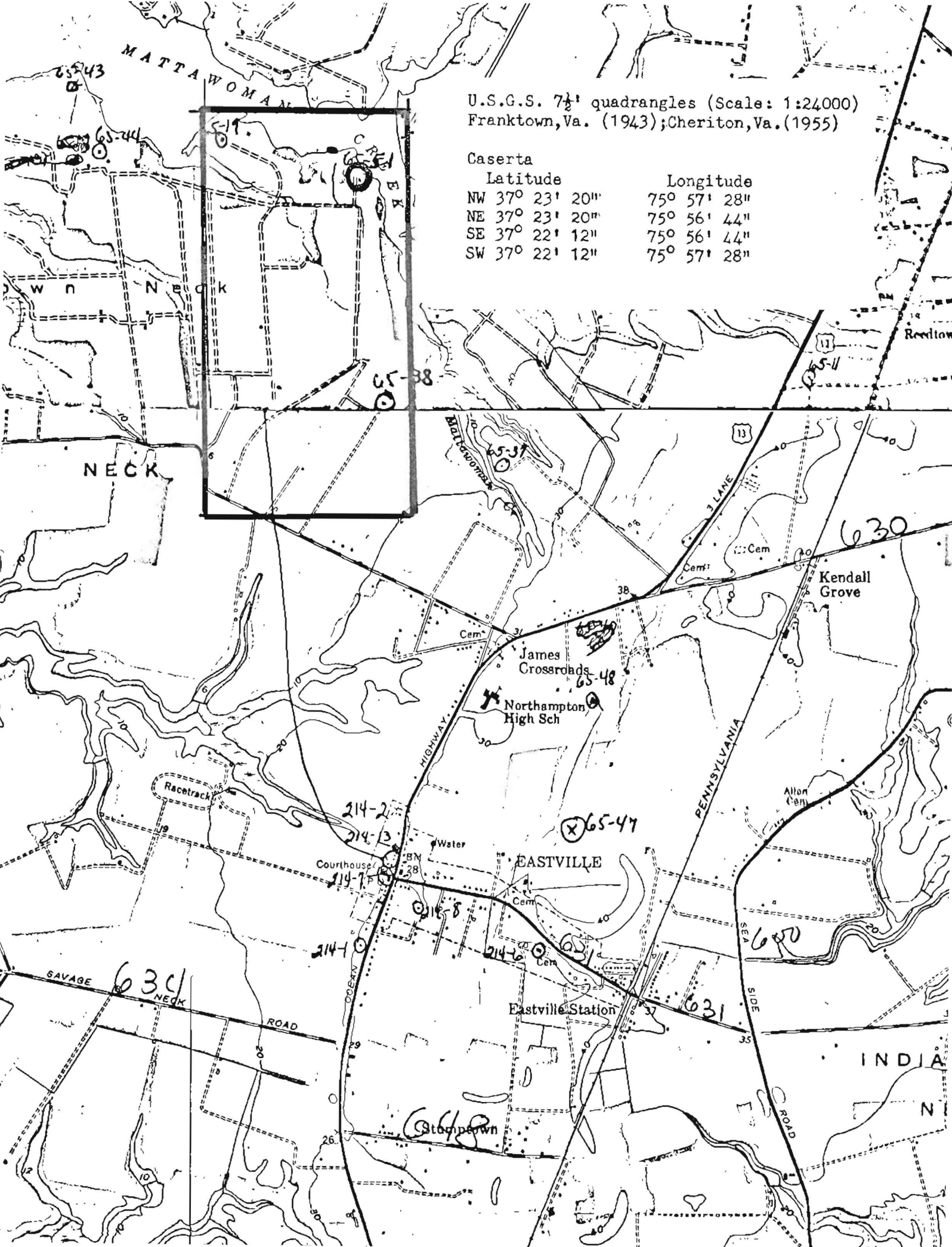
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Virginia	
COUNTY	
Northampton	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

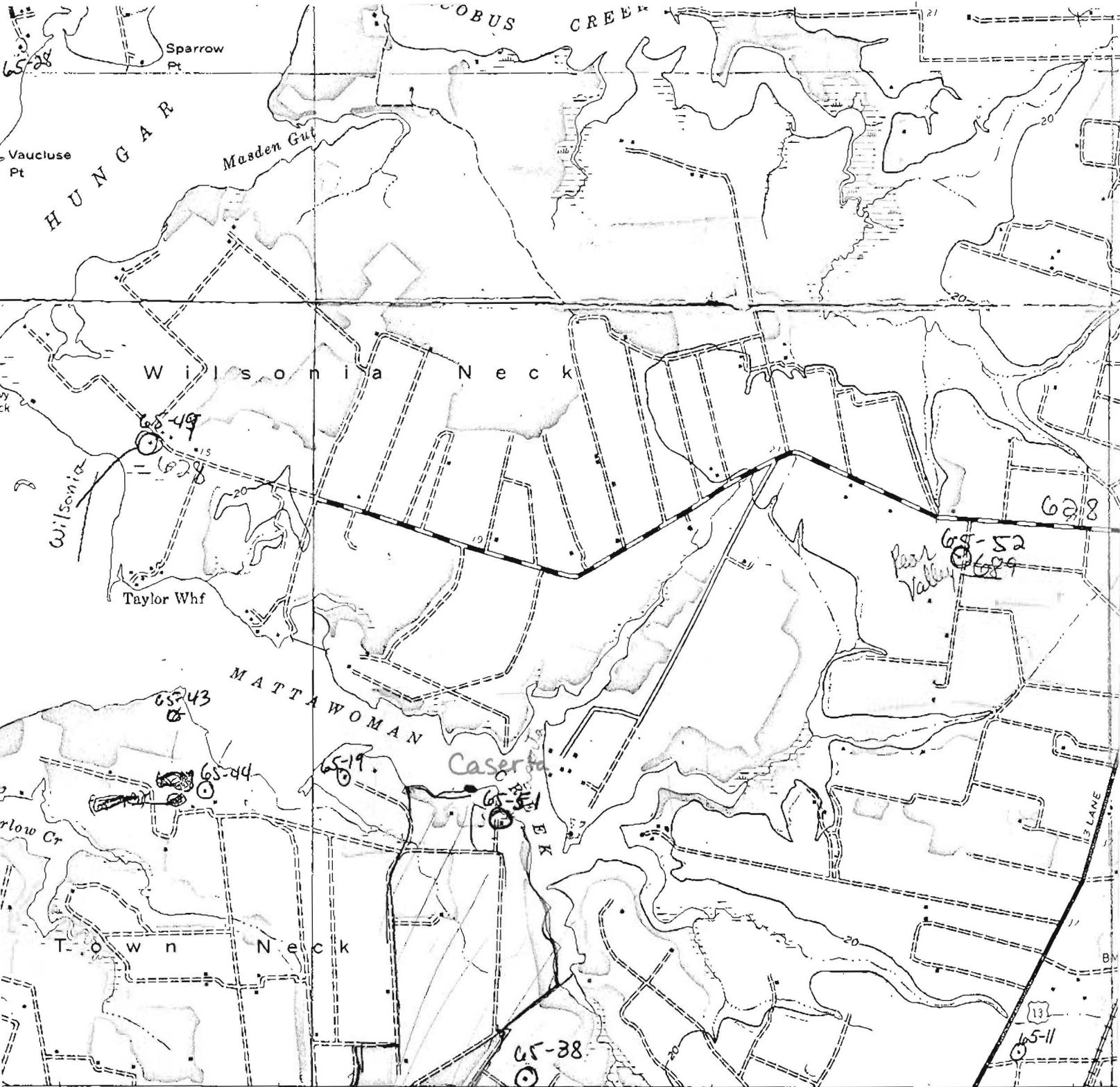
6. Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Report #65-51
1968 State
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building
Richmond, Virginia Code: 45



U.S.G.S. 7½' quadrangles (Scale: 1:24000)
 Franktown, Va. (1943); Cheriton, Va. (1955)

Caserta

	Latitude	Longitude
NW	37° 23' 20"	75° 57' 28"
NE	37° 23' 20"	75° 56' 44"
SE	37° 22' 12"	75° 56' 44"
SW	37° 22' 12"	75° 57' 28"

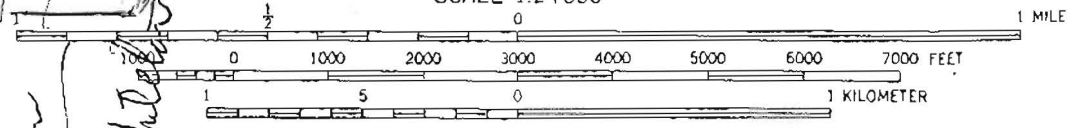


57 30"

(CHERITON)

EASTVILLE 2 MI
CHERITON 6.3 MI.

SCALE 1:24000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 2 FEET

6 1/2°
TRUE NORTH
MAGNETIC NORTH

APPROXIMATE MEAN DECLINATION, 1943

*Fort Spear
290 Wherry*

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST