

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

THEME: ARCHITECTURE
SUBTHEME: ARCHITECTURE (COLONIAL)

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

STATE: Virginia
COUNTY: Goochland
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:
Tuckahoe Plantation

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Tuckahoe Plantation

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Route 650, Goochland/Henrico Counties

CITY OR TOWN:
vicinity of Manakin

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
007/003

STATE: Virginia	CODE: 51	COUNTY: Goochland, Henrico	CODE: 075, 087
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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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 checked="" 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:
4 co-owners. Please see continuation sheet.

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Clerk of the Circuit Court

STREET AND NUMBER:
Route 6 (can't miss the Courthouse...only 1 street in Goochland)

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE
Goochland 23063 Virginia 51

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1958 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:
Capitol Hill

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE
Washington D.C. 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Virginia
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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
	(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

The H-shaped plan of Tuckahoe, an uncommon one, used in the colonies only infrequently, derives ultimately from its usage in the great Prodigy Houses of Elizabethan England. Here, when seen in such buildings as Tuckahoe, The Capitol at Williamsburg, or The New York City Hall, we may trace its usage to the recommendation of Stephen Primatt in his City and Country Purchaser and Builder, published in London in 1667.

The original wooden rectangular northern portion of the structure is believed to have been built about 1712, while a similar but brick-ended southern section and the broad connecting hyphen were added sometime 1730-1740. It is a frame building of two storeys, weather-boarded, and having a low-pitched gable roof. The narrow projecting gable ends of the north and south wings, all four of which are blind, give the design a marked verticality, further accentuated by tall and slender chimneys. The chimneys in the south wing have their outside faces flush with the end walls, those walls being brick in the south wing, wooden in the north wing.

The windows throughout the house have original nine-over-nine-light sash, as well as the broad muntins of the Early Georgian period. The exterior demonstrates another very unusual feature, a wooden belt course between the first and second storeys. That feature is generally used only in brick and masonry houses and originated as an exterior expression of the level at which floor joists were carried on the inner face of the brick or masonry wall. The appearance in frame houses such as here at Tuckahoe, or The Peyton Randolph House in Williamsburg, is definitely exceptional.

All four of the doorways at Tuckahoe are original, and the one on the south front is particularly remarkable with its two tiers of panels, modeled after plates XXIII and XXVI of Salmon's Palladio Londinensis of 1734. The lower panel is in the form of a Saint Andrew's Cross, and the upper section has a quadrant in each corner of a square, also having a lozenge shaped panel at the center having indented sides. Above, are two square panels. The east and west doors are of the usual eight-panel type, with narrow paneled facings and are sheltered by pedimented hoods. The long flight of stone steps at the south porch is splayed, as at Stratford Hall, but without a ballustrade.

Both the lower and upper rooms at Tuckahoe have fine but simple paneling throughout. According to Waterman's extensive description of the paneling at Tuckahoe, the work was probably inspired by Moxon's Mechanick Exercises, published in London in 1703. He notes particularly the unusual feature of the paneled dados in the first floor rooms, with narrow horizontal frieze panels above the chair rails below the cornice.

The stairs at Tuckahoe display a variety of both scale and elaboration, the north one being smaller than the one on the south. They each have only two turned and spiraled ballusters to a tread rather than the more normal three. The north stair has its newel in the form of a corinthian

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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 type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

c.1712, 1730-1745.

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The plantation house at Tuckahoe, in its completed form, is a very unusual example of an American H-shaped house, deriving that form ultimately from those used in the Elizabethan Prodigy Houses. Together with its excellent assembly of plantation outbuildings, practically unchanged from the day they were built, this complex, in its setting of field and forest provides us with a truly excellent example of the eighteenth century southern plantation.

The house as completed sometime after 1730, provides us with examples of interior woodwork of first-rate quality, on a par with work done later at such more ambitious efforts as Carter's Grove and Rosewell. Its fully paneled rooms, handsomely elaborated north stair, and distinctively styled doorways and porticos, provide us with craftsmanship at its best and illustrative examples of period motives. The small outbuilding to the east of the house gives us a glimpse into the development of one of our first presidents, for here Thomas Jefferson doubtless first learned to read and write. Between the ages of 2 and 9, he lived at Tuckahoe. His father, Peter Jefferson, had left Albermarle in 1745 when asked to be executor of the will of William Randolph and care for the property until William's son, Thomas Mann Randolph, was grown and able to take the place over.

All evidence indicates that the building of Tuckahoe was completed in two phases, the first wing, that on the North or Land side being constructed about 1712, while the completion of the H plan by the addition of the South or River side along with the connecting hyphen, didn't take place until sometime after 1730, but before 1745. Tuckahoe has changed very little in the past two centuries, with the exception of the addition of some nineteenth century mantels, the adaptation and modernization of one of the rooms on the upper floor, and the driving through of a railway line in the middle of the nineteenth century about 100 yards from the house. It is maintained in excellent condition by members of the Baker family who have owned it since 1935.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Thomas T. Waterman, The Mansion of Virginia (Chapel Hill, 1946).
 Hugh Morrison, Early American Architecture (New York, 1952).
 Fiske Kimball, Domestic Architecture of the American Colonies and of the Early Republic (New York, 1922).
 Thomas T. Waterman, The Dwellings of Colonial America (Chapel Hill, 1950).
 Edith T. Sale, Interiors of Virginia Houses of Colonial Times (Richmond, 1927).
 William B. O'Neal, Architecture in Virginia (New York, 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	UTM LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	18.265	120.416	2600	0	0	0	0	0	0
NE	18.266	260.416	2800	0	0	0	0	0	0
SE	18.266	380.416	0120	0	0	0	0	0	0
SW	18.264	560.416	0160	0	0	0	0	0	0

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **568**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Virginia	51	Henrico	087
Virginia	51	Goochland	075
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
James Dillon, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION: **National Historic Landmarks, Landmark Review Project** DATE: **10/9/74**

STREET AND NUMBER:
1100 L. Street, N.W.

CITY OR TOWN: **Washington** STATE: **D.C.** CODE: **11**

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

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

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

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS) Landmark Designated: **Aug. 11, 1969.** date

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS) Boundary Certified: **Comelius Hanic 6-29-75** date

Chief, Hist. & Arch. Surveys

ATTEST: **W. Mortensen 7/2/75** date

Boundary Affirmed: **W. Mortensen 7/2/75** date

Keeper of The National Register

Director, OAHPS

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(Continuation Sheet)

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(Number all entries)

- 4.) Owners of Tuckahoe (4).
1. Mrs. Jessie Baker Thompson (50%)
4602 Sulgrave Road
Richmond, Virginia
 2. W.T. Thompson III
Route #2
Box 369
Richmond, Virginia 23233
 3. Addison Baker Thompson
4602 Sulgrave Road
Richmond, Virginia
 4. Mrs. Jessie Thompson Krusen
207 Crown Oaks Way
Longwood, Florida.

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

**(NATIONAL HISTORIC
LANDMARK)**

(Continuation Sheet)

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colonette, carved with vines and flowers, and square, fluted posts. The beautiful brackets are scrolled, feathered with acanthus, and carved with five-petaled blossoms which the owners like to think of as dogwood blossoms. The south stair, on the other hand, lacks all carved trim, but has the same flowing rail and newel and posts, spiralled to match the ballusters.

The first floor plan is repeated on the second, where there were originally five large, paneled bedrooms and two halls. Four of the bedrooms and both halls have been preserved intact, while the fifth bedroom, located over the central connecting hyphen, has been subdivided by partitions into a number of small rooms and modernized. The mantels throughout the house date from the early nineteenth century, but the marble fireplace facing, with its flat lintel and keystone, in the west bedroom of the north wing, is original. Except for the fireplace mantels and one altered second floor bedroom, the interior of the house is original, unaltered, and in excellent condition.

To the east of the house stands the small one-storey schoolhouse which is on the site of that one which was used by Thomas Jefferson, who spent the earliest years of his childhood at Tuckahoe. Expert opinion at this time is divided as to whether the building now standing on that spot is a restored original building, or whether it might be a later construction.

To the west of the house stands an excellently preserved plantation street, comprised of a quadrangle of buildings, including an office, a small one-storey brick kitchen, a smokehouse, a storehouse, two slave-quarters, and a later barn of real beauty in its own right. Several buildings have been added more recently. The two slave-quarters are two-room, one and a half storey central chimney houses, with lofts above. All of these outbuildings are maintained in excellent condition, and the house, with its practically unchanged plantation street, make Tuckahoe an outstanding example of a Southern colonial plantation.

The Tuckahoe Plantation is today held by four co-owners, the house being occupied by one of them, Mr. W.T. Thompson III, who also operates the agricultural enterprise there with the help of a farm manager. The property lines of the co-owners today represent the last remaining piece of the much more extensive holdings of Thomas and William Randolph. Since the land today is maintained in a manner highly conducive to the 18th century character of Tuckahoe, with a quiet and varied agricultural setting of forest and field and swamp, quite visibly enjoyed by wildfowl and deer, there seems every reason to establish the boundary of the landmark to be co-extensive with those property lines. The only exception to this is that piece of land which lies north of State Route 650, and should not be included in the Landmark Boundary. The owners plat map is attached with this form.

To the west of the Tuckahoe holding lies a large subdivision called The James River Estates, while to the east, lies agricultural land being slowly

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STATE Virginia	
COUNTY Goochland	
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developed with housing. The southern boundary should be the James River. As long as the character of the Tuckahoe Plantation remains essentially as it is today, it can only enhance the value of the historical experience of an eighteenth century Virginia plantation. The house is privately owned, and generally not accessible to the public, except during Garden Week in April.

About 100 Yards from the house, towards the river, lies the railway line of the C & O Railway Company, crossing the property east-west. It has been there for a century, and interestingly, occupies the canal bed of the James River and Kanawha Canal, a venture promoted by men such as George Washington, Edmund Randolph, and John Marshall. It opened the first commercial canal in the United States, stretching westward from Richmond to Westham (7 miles) by 1790, and ultimately by 1840 when completed, all the way into the Piedmont. Some remains of the canal may still be seen on the Tuckahoe property.

The boundary around the property also preserves the entrance to Tuckahoe from the land front which today has been slightly altered, in that rather than continuing southward all the way to the front of the house where it originally terminated in a circular drive, the approach now breaks off to the west about 100 yards from the house and then shifts again south after a few yards, to terminate in the quadrangle of the slave street. Evidence of the original drive may still be seen as a depression in the lawn immediately in front of the house.

Finally, it will be noted that a red line has been drawn in over the surveyor's lines on the attached survey map entitled "Tuckahoe" by Charles H. Fleet and Associates. This line indicates the exact extent of the Tuckahoe National Historic Landmark and can be seen to include Parcel "A", Parcel "B", and the C & O Railway's right-of-way. It does not include Parcel "C".

JAMES RIVER AND KANAWHA CANAL, NOW C+O RAILWAY LINE

