

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 Queen Hith Plantation

multiple areas

Historic Resources of Oakland Farm Industrial Park (Partial and/or common Inventory: Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites.)

2. Location

street & number [REDACTED]

not for publication

city, town Newport News

N/A vicinity of

First congressional district Paul S. Trible

state Virginia

code 51

county / city Newport News

code 700

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture
building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
X Multiple Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government
	NA	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industrial (future)
			<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

Regional Redevelopment and Housing Authority for Hampton and Newport name News, Virginia c/o Mr. William C. Phillips, Jr.

street & number 2203 Mingee Drive

city, town Hampton

N/A vicinity of

state Virginia 23661

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Newport News Circuit Court

street & number 2501 Huntington Avenue

city, town Newport News

state Virginia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

44NN7, 44NN8, 44NN10

title V.R.C.A. Site Survey Inventory

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1978, 1980, 1981

federal state county local

depository for survey records V.H.L.C. V.R.C.A. P. O. Box 368

city, town Yorktown

state Virginia 23690

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
X excellent	<input type="checkbox"/>	deteriorated	X unaltered
good	<input type="checkbox"/>	ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered
fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	unexposed	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Summary Description

Oakland Farm, a 647 acre agricultural tract in Newport News, Virginia, scheduled for development by the Regional Redevelopment and Housing Authority of Hampton and Newport News, Virginia as the [REDACTED] contains non-contiguous archaeological sites evidencing a succession of human occupation, extending from the Early Woodland Period through the 19th century (Figure 1). The Oakland Farm tract, which is situated on the [REDACTED] was in use as a dairy farm until the early 1970's. It is partially wooded and some of its once-cleared fields are now obscured by a dense growth of underbrush. The farm is immediately adjacent to the [REDACTED] and is bordered by urban development.

Archaeologists from the James Madison University Archaeological Research Center were employed by the Regional Redevelopment and Housing Authority to conduct comprehensive Phase I and Phase II level archaeological surveys at Oakland Farm in order to identify significant cultural resources within its boundaries, prior to the development of the tract as an industrial park. Three non-contiguous sites, consisting of an Early-Middle Woodland camp site (44NN7), the Queen Hith Plantation Complex (44NN8), and one Civil War fortification (44NN10c) were identified, tested archaeologically, and found to be significant. Each site was physically defined and demarcated to assure its preservation despite the occurrence of future development in immediately adjacent areas. The acreage included in this nomination encompasses those specific areas in which significant archaeological sites have been identified (Figure 2, RRHA plat). The Regional Redevelopment and Housing Authority intends to preserve the significant archaeological sites at Oakland Farm by including them within a proposed archaeological park (Figure 2).

Table of Contents, Description

- 44NN7, Skiffes Creek Sand Spit Site: Continuation Sheets 1-2. Figure 3; Photos 1 and 2.
- 44NN8, Queen Hith Plantation Complex: Continuation Sheets 3-5; Figures 4 and 5; Photos 3, 4, 5, 9, and 10; Map 1.
- 44NN10c, Southern Terminal Redoubt: Continuation Sheet 6; Photo 6; Map 2.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below							
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion				
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian				
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" 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"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)				

Specific dates N/A

Builder/Architect

N/A

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Summary Statement of Significance

The Oakland Farm Archaeological Sites Multiple Resource Area in Newport News, Virginia, includes three significant, distinct and non-contiguous archaeological sites within a tract of land proposed for development as the Oakland Industrial Park. One of the few large, undeveloped tracts within the city of Newport News, Oakland Farm contains archaeological sites representing three major periods of American history. The archaeological remains of prehistoric occupation dating to the Early-Middle Woodland Periods; the Queen Hith Plantation Complex, occupied by the Harwood family from ca. 1632 until after the Revolutionary War; and one Confederate earthworks, the southerly terminus of the band of fortifications constructed by General J. B. Magruder in 1862 as part of the Peninsula Campaign, have survived intact at Oakland Farm and will be preserved *in situ* by the Regional Redevelopment and Housing Authority of Hampton and Newport News, Virginia. Scientific excavation of these sites would add considerably to extant knowledge of sites dating to the Early/Middle Woodland Periods, early historic settlements, and the evolution of plantation architecture and cultural adaptation within the James River Basin through the eighteenth century. These data are significant to understanding the development of the local area, the state, and the nation.

Table of Contents, Significance

- 44NN7, Skiffes Creek Sand Spit Site: Continuation Sheet 7.
- 44NN8, Queen Hith Plantation Complex: Continuation Sheets 8-11. Figures 6, 7 and 8.
- 44NN10c, Southern Terminal Redoubt: Continuation Sheet 12.

EXP. 12/31/84

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

Historic Resources of Oakland Farm Industrial Park (Partial
Inventory: Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites).
Continuation sheet

7

Item number

8

Page

1

for NPS use only	Received
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Significance, 44NN7, Skiffes Creek Sand Spit Site

The Skiffes Creek Sand Spit Site, 44NN7, is a well-preserved, possibly stratified archaeological site containing evidence of prehistoric habitation dating to the Early and Middle Woodland eras.

[REDACTED] the site is known to contain projectile points and ceramics which suggest a possible stratified sequence. Evidence of in situ cultural remains and well preserved faunal materials render the site invaluable in documenting settlement patterning and environmental and cultural adaptation in Tidewater Virginia during the period 500 B.C. to A.D. 500.

Background: Preserved sites in Virginia's coastal plain dating to the Early-Middle Woodland Periods transition are rare. The presence of well-preserved faunal remains, including bone and shellfish, makes this site particularly important in that archaeological excavation could answer research questions on changes in subsistence and settlement patterning occurring in Virginia's coastal plain between 500 B.C. and A.D. 500. Specific information on the utilization of the Tidewater marsh microenvironment would be provided. Such data, when correlated with data from other similarly dated sites in Virginia's coastal plain and neighboring areas, will contribute to a better understanding of not merely local but also regional adaptations occurring during this time period.

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EXP. 12/31/84

United States Department of the Interior**National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places**
Inventory—Nomination Form

Historic Resources of Oakland Farm Industrial Park (Partial

Inventory: Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites). 8

Continuation sheet

8

Item number

Page

2

For NPS use only
Rec'd/Med
Date entered

Significance, 44NN8, The Queen Hith Plantation Complex

The Queen Hith Plantation Complex, 44NN8, [REDACTED] contains archaeological remains which range in date from the second quarter of the 17th century to the early 19th century. Situated upon land patented by Thomas Harwood in 1632, who called his plantation the Queen Hith, 44NN8 [REDACTED] which was settled under the aegis of the Virginia Company in the earliest days of the colony. Thomas Harwood and his descendants, who attained prominence in the political and economic life of Virginia, made the Queen Hith their family home until ca. 1720, when they relocated further inland. Archaeological features and artifactual evidence at 44NN8 suggest that there may have been two distinct periods of building activity at Queen Hith Plantation, the earliest being post-type structures typical of early 17th-century Virginia architecture and the later being more substantial structures built upon mortared brick footings. Archaeological research at the Queen Hith site could potentially yield new insights into the evolution of 17th and 18th-century plantation architecture as well as the cultural adaptation and changes effected by early Virginia planters as they made the New World their permanent home.

Historical Background: Thomas Harwood, the earliest recorded inhabitant of the Oakland Farm tract, was born in England in 1600, the youngest son of George Harwood of Thurby, Lincolnshire, England. In 1622 he set sail for Virginia aboard the Margaret and John, intending to join his brother, William, who was captain of the Martin's Hundred settlement, and his uncle, Sir Edward Harwood, a Virginia Company stockholder, both of whom had preceeded him to the colony. However, the Margaret and John's captain failed to bring his passengers directly to Virginia, electing instead to tarry in the West Indies. Consequently, upon arriving in the colony in 1623, Thomas Harwood and other Margaret and John passengers sought legal redress for their losses, claiming that they had, of necessity, consumed most of their provisions before arriving in Virginia because of the captain's procrastination.

In February 1623 when an accounting was made of the colony's inhabitants, Thomas Harwood was living at the [REDACTED]. By the time the January 1624/25 muster was made, he and his wife, Grace, had moved [REDACTED] where they were tenants of Captain William Peirce. Their household included an elderly manservant, Thomas Read, and they possessed eight barrels of corn, two pounds of powder, two firearms, two suits of armor and two swords. According to the Minutes of the Council and General Court of Colonial Virginia, in May 1626, Thomas Harwood was granted acreage [REDACTED]. By January 1627, however, he had successfully demonstrated to the Council that he was "much scanted for want of ground to plant" and gained permission to plant elsewhere.

EXP. 12/31/84

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**National Register of Historic Places**
Inventory—Nomination FormHistoric Resources of Oakland Farm Industrial Park (Partial
Inventory: Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites). 8
Continuation sheet 9 Item number

Page 3

During the late 1620's Thomas Harwood made three separate appearances in court on behalf of other planters, actions which suggest that he may have been an attorney or that he was, at least, well educated. In 1627 Harwood, as second to Captain William Peirce, led retaliatory expeditions against the Chickahominy and Pamunkey Indians, military service for which he was assigned the rank of captain. By 1629 he had been elected a member of the Grand Assembly, representing the [REDACTED]. Later that year he was one of the "adventurers" to finance the seating of planters at Kiskiakie, in return for which he acquired the right to 100 acres of land in York County.

In September 1632 Thomas Harwood's earliest extant patent appears in Virginia Land Office records, although his service in the Grand Assembly indicates that he was already well-established in the community [REDACTED] by that time. His first patent entitled him to 140 acres [REDACTED] and a second, recorded the same day, conveyed to him an additional 100 acres of immediately adjacent land, tracts which had been formerly owned by Sergeant Hugh Heyward. Heyward's grants were located on the [REDACTED] above the land of Jacob Avery, whose acreage lay nearer the creek's mouth. Throughout the 1630's Thomas Harwood acquired additional land in what was, by 1634, Warwick County. In 1635 he patented 1,500 acres at the head of [REDACTED] adjacent to his earlier patents thereby becoming the primary landowner in that area, and in November, 1637, he acquired 1,850 acres on the other side of [REDACTED] in Martin's Hundred.

Thomas Harwood's manor plantation by 1643 was known as the Queen Hith or Hive, at which time the tract was used as a reference point in patent records. The Old English word "hith" or "hithe" means river landing or small haven, a not inappropriate name for the Harwood home which was situated near a natural landing site. [REDACTED] was called Queen Hive Creek until the close of the 19th century. The Queen Hith Plantation, a major artery of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Thus, Queen Hith Plantation was in what would have been considered a prime location for commerce and shipping, providing the Harwood family with a ready market for the agricultural yield of their large plantation (Figure 6).

Thomas Harwood was elected to nearly consecutive terms in the Virginia Assembly between 1629 and 1652 and served as Speaker of the House in 1649. In 1635 he was one of so-called 'mutineer Burgesses' who undertook the deposition of Governor John Harvey, an action for which he was widely acclaimed in the colony. In April 1652 he was appointed to the Governor's Council, an indication of his prominence in the affairs of the colony. Harwood died, however, before Council reconvened.

Captain Thomas Harwood's eldest son, Humphrey, a minor at the time of his father's death in 1652, acquired title to the family's landholdings [REDACTED] when his mother, Anne, Thomas Harwood's second wife, relinquished her interest in the property in 1654. Humphrey Harwood repatented his patrimonial lands in 1663.

EXP. 12/31/84

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**Historic Resources of Oakland Farm Industrial Park (Partial
Inventory: Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites).
Continuation sheet

10

Item number 8

Page 4

Humphrey Harwood, like his father, added to his landholdings and participated actively in the political life of the colony. By 1670 he had amassed a total of 2,644 acres [REDACTED]. He served as Naval Officer of the district between [REDACTED] and was a member of the House of Burgesses. During the 1690's he was elected sheriff of Warwick County and served as Justice of the Peace. Land tax records demonstrate that by 1704 Humphrey Harwood had accumulated a total of 4,000 acres in Warwick County and his son, William, 625 acres.

It was most likely Humphrey Harwood's son and heir, William, who elected to construct a new house [REDACTED], a structure which became known as Endview. Archeological findings at the Queen Hith house site suggest that its most intense period of occupation occurred between the second quarter of the 17th century and the first quarter of the 18th century, inferring that the house was abandoned by its primary occupants at that time. Archaeological deposits at Endview, which has been dated architecturally to ca. 1720, commence during the first quarter of the 18th century. Perhaps William Harwood, despite his ancestral ties to the Queen Hith house, perceived the older manor house as too outdated or inadequate for his family's use. Endview's placement with respect [REDACTED] would also have enhanced the plantation's economic enterprises.

Artifact evidence at 44NN8 suggests that the Queen Hith plantation complex may have continued to be occupied until the very early 19th century. Perhaps after its abandonment by the Harwood family, it became the home of a plantation overseer. William Harwood and his son and heir, William Jr., lived successively at Endview and followed their forebearer's tradition of public service. After the close of the American Revolution William Harwood, Jr., sold 1,322 acres of his land [REDACTED] the nucleus of the Queen Hith Plantation, to Colonel James Southall. Southall's descendants owned the Queen Hith until after the Civil War. A Southall heir, George W. Southall, constructed a building on the Queen Hith tract ca. 1820. It was during his ownership that the plantation became known as Oakland.

After George Southall's death in 1852, the property was tied up in complex court litigation which was not settled until 1866. In 1862, while the property was in the possession of an absentee owner, George Southall's widow, Confederate General J.B. Magruder's men constructed a series of earthworks at Oakland. In 1866, one Southall heir, Mrs. Helen Anderson, acquired an 897 acre share of the Oakland tract, property which included the site of the Queen Hith manor house. In 1869 Mrs. Anderson sold her land to Robert A Bright, who in 1871 conveyed it to William H. Aspinwall of New York City, an entrepreneur who, with other developers, proposed to build a canal connecting the James and York Rivers through the narrowest portion of the peninsula (Figure 7). It is not known whether Aspinwall made any improvements to the property, but an 1873 map of the area shows a cluster of buildings in the vicinity, but to the southwest of the Queen Hith site and included within the acreage nominated (Figure 8).

In 1885 the Old Dominion Land Company purchased Oakland Farm from the executors of William H. Aspinwall's estate. In 1912 the property was sold to J.W. Clements, whose son, H.M. Clements, in 1979 acquired his father's land. He, in turn, sold Oakland Farm one year later to J.M. and Annie R. Dozier, who until 1944 operated a Dairy Farm there. In 1944 the Doziers sold their farm to another dairyman, Hugh N. Rakes, who in separate transactions in 1970 and 1971, conveyed the Oakland tract to Anheuser-Busch.

EXP. 12/31/84

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

Historic Resources of Oakland Farm Industrial Park (Partial
Inventory: Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites). 8
Continuation sheet 11 Item number

Page 5

Anheuser-Busch traded part of the Oakland property [REDACTED] to the United States Government in 1971, in exchange for Camp Wallace near Kingsmill, but retained the land containing the Queen Hith site until 1973, at which time they sold it to the W. N. Jennings Construction Company. In 1976 Oakland Farm was sold at a sheriff's sale to the Cameron Brown Investment Group, who in 1979 conveyed it to the Regional Redevelopment and Housing Authority of Hampton and Newport News, Virginia.

The Queen Hith Plantation site at Oakland Industrial Park is one of the few surviving 17th-century plantation sites in the lower James-York Peninsula, a rapidly urbanizing area. Archaeological research at the Harwood site could potentially yield new data on early plantation life from the cultural, architectural, social and economic perspectives. Comparative research studies could be made between Queen Hith and Kingsmill, Wolstenholm Town, Denbigh Plantation, and Governor's Land, also on the [REDACTED] sites which have already been partially excavated and which are currently listed in the National Register. As well, Queen Hith, the original manor plantation of the Harwood family, who were significant in the economic, social and political life of old Warwick County, represents an important part of the history of Tidewater Virginia. Archaeological excavation of the Queen Hith site, which is in an excellent state of preservation, could potentially yield new information on early Warwick County, a political jurisdiction whose governmental records were destroyed during the Civil War.

Footnote 1: H.R. McIlwaine, Minutes of the Council and General Court of Virginia, (Richmond, 1924), 159.

EXP. 10/31/84

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**National Register of Historic Places**
Inventory—Nomination Form

Historic Resources of Oakland Farm Industrial Park

(Partial Inventory: Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites).

Continuation sheet

12

Item number

8

Page

6

Significance, 44NN10c, Southern Terminal Redoubt

44NN10c, is a uniquely intact component of General J. B. Magruder's defensive line. A relatively small defensive earthwork which directly [REDACTED] it represents, literally, the southern end of General Magruder's line. Because it constitutes one of the few surviving and undisturbed remnants of the 1862 Peninsula Campaign in Virginia, it is representative of a major military feat significant to the outcome of the Civil War and exemplifies diverse types of defensive adaptation. An archaeological investigation of this site could potentially yield new insights into Civil War military architecture.

Background: During the Civil War when the lower peninsula became absorbed in its own defense, [REDACTED] became the scene of extensive military activity. In 1861 Confederate General J. B. Magruder set about constructing a broad band of fortifications across the peninsula from Fort Monroe to Williamsburg, intended to delay to the maximum the progress of Union troops up the peninsula toward Richmond. Magruder's strategy lay in constructing two readily tenable lines of defense, interfaced with a densely wooded area which would itself form a third barrier. By March 1862 Magruder's lines had been laid out and partially completed.

According to the official account of the battle, Magruder considered his real line of defense "the one at the front, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Both flanks...were defended by boggy and difficult streams and swamps."¹ Thus, by building redoubts and strategically damming portions of streams across the lower peninsula, Magruder was able to use the terrain as a natural deterrent to the invasion of Federal troops.

In all, five dams were built. The ironclad Merrimac (Virginia) was to protect the southern end of the Confederate line from the [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The Union army maps of A. A. Humphreys and C. H. Worrett, drawn in 1861-1862, depict the fortifications [REDACTED] indicating that their terminus was on the Oakland Farm property (Figures 9 and 10). The earthwork designated 44NN10c and included in this nomination constitutes the southwestern terminus of the Confederate line.

Footnote 1: Alexander S. Webb, The Peninsula, McClellan's Campaign, 1862 (New York 1881), 47.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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 Anonymous. "350 Years of Harwoods." Fort Eustis Museum Archives, n. p.
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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property (See Continuation Sheets)

Quadrangle name Yorktown

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				
E				
G				

B		Zone	Easting	Northing
D				
F				
H				

General Verbal boundary description and justification:

[REDACTED]

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state N/A code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dr. Clarence R. Geier and Staff

James Madison University Archaeological Research Center

organization Dept. of Anthropology, Sociology & Social Work date April 1982

street & number James Madison University telephone 703-433-6266

city or town Harrisonburg state Virginia 22807

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature H. Bryan Mitchell

H. Bryan Mitchell, Executive Director
title Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

date SEP 16 1982

For HCRS use only

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

date 10/16/82

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

Chief of Registration Other Designee

date

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Historic Resources of Oakland Farm Industrial Park (Partial
Inventory: Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites). 9

Continuation sheet

13

Item number

For NPS use only
Received _____
Date entered _____

Page

1

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- Warwick County Land Tax Records, 1782-1800. Microfilm, Virginia State Library.
- Webb, Alexander S. The Peninsula, McClellan's Campaign of 1862. New York, 1881.
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**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Oakland Farm Industrial Park Multiple Resource Area
State Virginia

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

1. Skiffes Creek Sand Spit Site Substantive Review Keeper

Attest

2/24/83

2. Queen Hith Plantation Complex ~~Entered in the~~ ^{for} Keeper
~~National Register~~

Attest

2/24/83

3. Southern Terminal Redoubt ~~Entered in the~~ ^{for} Keeper
~~National Register~~

Attest

2/24/83

4. Keeper

Attest

5. Keeper

Attest

6. Keeper

Attest

7. Keeper

Attest

8. Keeper

Attest

9. Keeper

Attest

10. Keeper

Attest
