

VLR-11/19/74 NRHP-12/23/74

123-86

Form 10-300  
(Rrv. 6-721)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

STATE:	Virginia
COUNTY:	Petersburg (in city)
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	

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

(Type **all** entries - complete applicable sections)

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Strawberry Hill

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
231-235-237 Hinton Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Petersburg

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
Fourth (Robert W. Daniel, Jr.)

STATE: Virginia      CODE: 51      COUNTY: (in city)      CODE: 730

**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 type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes: Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input 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 type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	None	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Syntex Knitting Mills, Inc.

STREET AND NUMBER:  
225 Hinton Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Petersburg

STATE:  
Virginia

CODE:  
51

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:  
Clerk's Office of Hustings Court

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
Petersburg

STATE:  
Virginia

CODE:  
51

**REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
(None previously recorded)

DATE OF SURVEY:  
 Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE:

STATE: Virginia

COUNTY: Petersburg (in city)

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ENTRY NO.:

DATE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" 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

Strawberry Hill mansion stands upon a city lot on Hinton Street in the historic area of downtown Petersburg. In its present form it is a rambling, two-story, U-shaped building 90 feet long by 56 feet deep built in several stages between the early-nineteenth century and the early-twentieth century.

The original house was erected around 1800 having a two-story central portion flanked by one-story wings. As such it is depicted on an 1805 Mutual Assurance Society policy as a cruciform "dwelling house of wood cover'd w<sup>th</sup> wood two stories high 36 by 24 feet" with wings 22 by 18 feet. Despite numerous additions, the lineaments of this house remain. The frame building is set upon a full brick, Flemish-bond basement. A three-bay, hipped-roof central pavilion projects from the facade of the house. The beaded weatherboards are interrupted by a wooden string course at the second-floor level of the front and rear of the pavilion. Tin-roofed, the house displays a modillion cornice all around, some of which was apparently salvaged from the one-story wings and reapplied to the newer two-story wings.

The center portion has brick interior end chimneys with corbelled caps. One of the chimneys on the wings has been shortened and has no cap. The remaining original window frames retain molded sills, much of the original six-over-six sash, and some old glass. Pintles for missing window blinds are present.

The main entrance has been moved from the central to the western bay of the pavilion. An elaborate frontispiece doorway consisting of fluted Roman Doric pilasters with paterae-ornamented friezes is surmounted by a triangular pediment with modillion cornice. Raised-panel double doors survive, as does a flight of stone steps with early wrought-iron railings. The balusters of the railings are ornamented with iron scrolls.

The Mutual Assurance Society records allow the precise dating of the first major alteration to the building. An 1815 reevaluation of the property shows the house as originally built. Another reevaluation the next year shows that its owner, William Haxall, had raised the wings to two stories and pushed the rear walls back to make them flush with the rear wall of the pavilion.

The house remained unchanged until after the Civil War, however, in 1884, it was divided into three discrete parts, each under separate ownership. A plat in the City Engineer's Office dated May 17, 1884, shows the property lines of the new subdivision. It was at this time that the main entrance was moved to the west bay of the center portion, and other entrances were made in the wings along with some internal changes. Because of these alterations, all communication between the three apartments was cut off. Further additions were made to the rear around 1900 bringing the house to its present form.

The original first-floor plan consisted of a central portion with one room to the south, one to the north, and one-room wings. The second floor of the central block probably also had one room front and back. A stair-

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Virginia	
COUNTY	
Petersburg (in city)	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

7.

way rose along the east wall of the front central room. The addition of height and depth to the wings created a narrow room behind each of the original rooms and a similar plan upstairs.

In the partition of the house, the doors from section to section were blocked. The stairway was moved from the east wall to the west wall of the central pavilion and enclosed in its own hall with the entrance door leading into it. A chimney was built in the space originally occupied by the stairs.

Strawberry Hill retains much of its original trim, especially in the central portion. The front hall of the central block has a flat-paneled pedestal-type dado all around. Communication between the hall and the rear drawing room is by way of a fanlight doorway with fluted Doric pilasters, wooden muntins in the semi-circular fanlight, and a keyblock applied to the archi-volt. A nineteenth-century occupant remembered that this doorway had a double mahogany door with brass latches and hinges which may still be in the house.

The drawing room is clearly the finest room in the house. It too features a flat-paneled pedestal-type dado around three walls. The chimney wall is ornamented with an elaborate chimneypiece. The rectangular-opening fireplace has an architrave surround framed by fluted Roman Doric pilasters supporting a mantel shelf on consoles. A fluted tablet is placed in the center of the frieze over the opening. The bed-mold of the shelf consists of H-fret work. A large, flat-paneled overmantel displaying paneled Tuscan pilasters carrying entablature blocks with pulvinated friezes and a broken triangular pediment surmounts this. The whole is flanked by two round-headed semi-circular niches with fluted Roman Doric pilasters. Later doors hide plaster shell moldings in the domes of the niches.

Each of the upstairs rooms in the central section had an elaborately molded mantel. That in the west front room featured a marble surround. These have been removed recently, but photographs of them exist.

The older rooms in the wings retain some of their original trim. The east wing was remembered by a nineteenth-century resident as being used for a dining room connected by folding doors to the smaller rear "serving room" highlighted by its still extant "triple window". Many of the original raised-panel, six-panel interior doors with early butt hinges were preserved and reused in new locations during the various nineteenth-century renovations.

Although Strawberry Hill is presently unoccupied and in rundown condition, it is being preserved until funds can be obtained for its restoration.

D.T.U.

**B. 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 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

Strawberry Hill was one of the finest houses of early-nineteenth-century Petersburg. Its three-part Palladian scheme, relating it to such other Virginia buildings as the Semple House in Williamsburg, is still apparent in the plan, although the house was significantly enlarged in 1815-1816. Its delicately carved frontispiece entrance, interior trim, and especially the drawing room with its elaborate chimney piece and flanking niches, all contribute to make the house an elegant statement of Virginia Federal architecture. The Strawberry Hill site was purchased in 1792 by William Barksdale who sold it to William Haxall in 1800. It is not certain which of these persons built the house, but Haxall paid Barksdale 1500 pounds current money for property for which Barksdale had paid 301 pounds.

The Haxalls owned most of the block on which Strawberry Hill stands as well as a plot across the street which they called the "Garden Lot" and where the family cemetery was once located. Only the immediate surroundings of the house are still attached to it.

For a time, Strawberry Hill was secured to the estate of one of Haxall's creditors, the executors of which included John Marshall. At Haxall's death in 1834, the house was sold to John Maben, and in 1839 it passed from Maben to John Young Stockdell (1792-1840), a doctor. During Stockdell's brief tenure, visitors to the house included two famous relatives of his wife, Charlotte Meade Stockdell--John Randolph of Roanoke and the historian Bishop William Meade. A bedroom in the east wing was thereafter known as "the bishop's room."

Stockdell's widow sold the house in 1846 to James McIlwaine. At his death in 1857, the house passed to his three children. Two or three families at a time lived there even before the building was physically divided in the 1880's. At present the Historic Petersburg Foundation is coordinating efforts to secure the preservation of the house and have it restored to its 1816 appearance.

D. T. U.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bailey, James H., "Strawberry Hill on Hinton St.", The Progress-Index, Petersburg, Va., May 27, 1974.

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission archives.

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	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	37° 13' 43"	-77° 24' 31"				
NE						
SE						
SW						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than 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: October 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.  
Junius R. Fishburne, Jr., Executive  
Director, Virginia Historic Land-  
marks Commission

Date NOV 19 1974

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

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

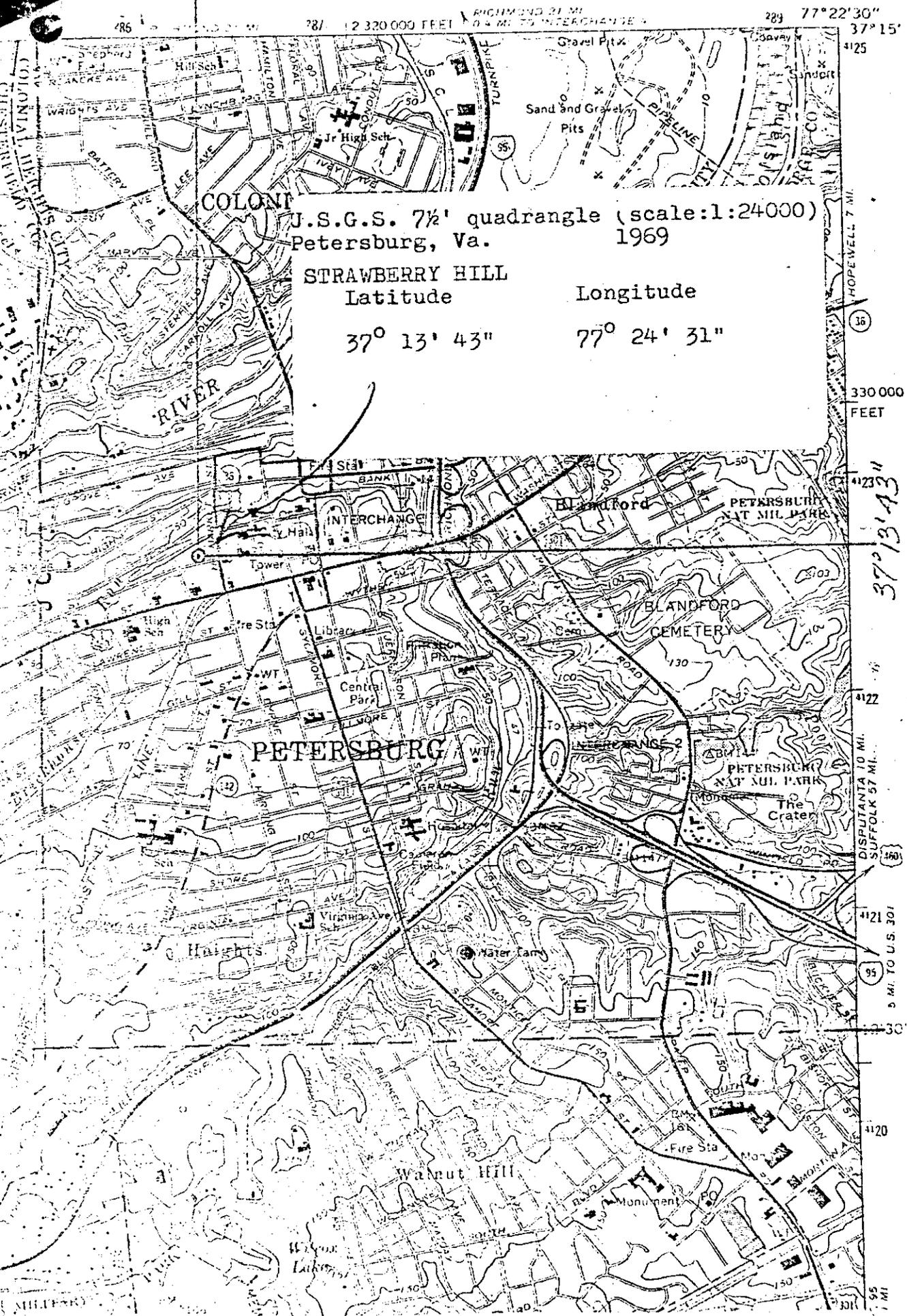
Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

VIRGINIA  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
NW/4 PETERSBURG 15' QUADRANGLE

5558 IV 5  
HOPEWELL



COLONY

J.S.G.S. 7 1/2' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)  
Petersburg, Va. 1969

STRAWBERRY HILL  
Latitude

Longitude

37° 13' 43"

77° 24' 31"

330 000  
FEET

37° 13' 43"

STRAWBERRY  
HILL

DISPUTANTA TO MI.  
SUFFOLK 57 MI.

5 MI. TO U.S. 301

30"

1120

95  
1 MI