

VLR-9/9/69 NRHP-10/15/66 NHL-10/9/60

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

STATE: Virginia	
COUNTY: Virginia Beach (City)	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:
Adam Thoroughgood Rouse

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Parrish Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Lynnhaven Station, Virginia Beach

STATE: Virginia 23452 COUNTY: Virginia Beach (City) COOP: 870

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure 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
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input 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:
Adam Thoroughgood House Foundation

STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 420

CITY OR TOWN:
Norfolk

STATE:
Virginia 23501

CODE:
51

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
City Hall

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Virginia Beach

STATE:
Virginia 23452

CODE:
810

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
HABS

DATE OF SURVEY: 1 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: Virginia Beach (City)

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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 type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

a. **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The restored Adam Thoroughgood House is a fine example of the central-hall plan house of 17th century Virginia. One authority regards it as being the "oldest house not only in Virginia but perhaps in the English-speaking colonies."

Adam Thoroughgood came to Virginia as an indentured servant in 1621. After working off his indenture, he rose rapidly in position. In 1629 he became a member of the House of Burgesses. By the time of his premature death at the age of 35 in 1640, he owned some 7,000 acres of land in Princess Anne County.

The tract on which the present house stands was bought by Thoroughgood in 1636, and most authorities believe that it is the identical house listed in his will in 1640. The Adam Thoroughgood House Foundation, on the contrary, states that the description of the house in Thoroughgood's will does not seem to tally with the present house. The Foundation feels that Thoroughgood may have built this house for one of his sons, or it may have been built by a son or grandson. Nevertheless, it is of authentic 17th century design and workmanship.

The house is of brick, 45 by 22 feet, with three walls laid in English bond and one in Flemish. It is a low-eaved, one-and-a-half-story house with a steep gabled roof. Of the two huge end chimneys, one is projecting and one set inside the wall. A hall, ten feet wide, separates the two rooms below, that to the north being the larger. In 1745 the house was altered, with Georgian windows replacing the original leaded glass panes in the parlor, plaster covering the former exposed ceiling beams, and paneling added to the walls.

Under the auspices of the Foundation, the Thoroughgood House was restored to its 17th century condition and opened to the public on April 30, 1957. The restoration included removal of dormers, replacement of leaded glass panes and reduction in the size of windows, removal of plaster and other later additions. In several places, glass inserts have been made to show details of the original construction. The original 5,350-acre estate has been dispersed through the years, and a recent subdivision development has reduced the house tract to four and one-half acres. The grounds have been nicely landscaped, with a 17th century garden donated by the Garden Club of Virginia.

b. **BOUNDARIES:** The streets forming the north, east, and west boundaries of the land (on which Adam Thoroughgood House is located) resemble a horseshoe.

Parrish Road forms the northern boundary of this horseshoe; Country Club Drive the western boundary; and Thoroughgood Road the eastern boundary. Bayville Creek, located at the open end of the horseshoe, serves as the southern boundary.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input 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

One of the oldest houses in the English speaking colonies, it is believed to have been built about 1636-40. It is a fine example of the central-hall plan house of the 17th century, Virginia. The house is owned by the Adam Thoroughgood House Foundation.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hugh Morrison, Early American Architecture (New York, 1952); Sadie S. Kellam and U. Hope, Old Houses in Princess Anne, Virginia (Portsmouth, 1931); Fiske Kimball, Domestic Architecture of the American Colonies and of the Early Republic (New York, 1922); Henry C. Foreman, The Architecture of the Old South: The Medieval Style, 1585-1850 (Cambridge, 1948).

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	°	'	"	°	'	"	36°	53'	37"	76°	6'	49"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 3 1/2

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Frank S. Melvin

ORGANIZATION: Virginia State Office, National Park Service

DATE: 6/30/72

STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 10008

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond

STATE: Virginia 23240

CODE: 51

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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 _____

Title _____

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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 _____

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