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Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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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 Mary's Port

AND/OR COMMON

Capitol Landing (preferred)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

[REDACTED]

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Williamsburg

VICINITY OF

1 Paul S. Tribble, Jr.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Virginia

CODE

51

COUNTY

City of Williamsburg

CODE

830

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Multiple ownership - see continuation sheet.

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

James City County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

[REDACTED]

CITY, TOWN

Williamsburg, Virginia

STATE

23185

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7- DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE  
Queen Mary's Port popularly known as Capitol Landing, was established by the Virginia Assembly in 1699.

[REDACTED]

Although a 1699 survey by Theororick Bland established the boundaries of Williamsburg and its two ports, the boundaries of Capitol Landing were lost during the eighteenth century urban expansion. Shops, houses, and light industries developed along the road leading to the port as Williamsburg expanded. No remains of these structures have survived above ground.

[REDACTED]

With the aid of eighteenth century maps and historical documents, the archaeological remains of Capitol Landing may provide a significant record of commercial and domestic interactions at what was Williamsburg's most important port.

At the water's edge were located a succession of tobacco inspection warehouses and a public wharf. A ferry ran regularly from Capitol Landing, across the York River to Gloucester County. Near Capitol Landing were two taverns which provided lodging and entertainment for travelers. (Photo #2).

During the eighteenth century a succession of wooden bridges extended Capitol Landing Road across Queen's Creek providing a link between Williamsburg and the residents of Upper York County. A stone bridge was erected in 1775, the remains of which survive in the marshes of Queen's Creek. (Photo #3).

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1699, Capitol Landing was established as one of two significant ports on navigable tidal creeks, intended to provide Williamsburg with a means of easy access to commercial shipping. It also provided an indispensable communications link between the colonial capital and the rest of the English colonial world. Through Capitol Landing Williamsburg participated in the colonial mercantile system, exporting tobacco and other raw agricultural products in exchange for English material goods. It was the site of a tobacco inspection warehouse.

After the Revolutionary period, Capitol Landing entered a period of economic decline. The taverns, warehouses, and industries which had flourished in its heyday fell into disrepair. The archaeological record of these structures and their inhabitants, in conjunction with existing court records, can provide an excellent index of the lives and interactions of the inhabitants of the Landing.

Ferryman Giles Moody is known to have established a tavern at Capitol Landing ca. 1717, which, in turn, was operated by his son and grandson throughout most of the eighteenth century. The archaeological investigation of this tavern site may provide evidence of architectural application to meet a particular commercial demand. Moreover, excavation would provide valuable evidence of material consumption.

In addition, archaeological study of the site of the bridges which once spanned Queen's Creek, may provide considerable insight into colonial bridge construction technology.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Carson, Jane, We Were There, Descriptions of Williamsburg, 1699-1859, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, Williamsburg, 1965
- Greene, Jack P., ED., The Diary of Colonel Landon Carter of Sabine Hall, 1752-1758, University Press, Charlottesville, Virginia, 1965.
- Hemming, W.W., The Statutes at Large, New York, 1823
- Stevenson, M.A., Queen Mary's Port, Ms., Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 87 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	B	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	D	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The 87 acres is bordered on the north by Queen's Creek, on the west by the first creek west of Rte. 143, on the east by the first creek east of Rte. 143, and on the south by and east-west line just north of the junction of Rte. 143 with Capitol Landing Road.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Carter Hudgins and the Virginia Research Center for Archaeology Staff

ORGANIZATION

Virginia Research Center for Archaeology

DATE

May 25, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

Wren Kitchen, College of William and Mary

TELEPHONE

253-4836

CITY OR TOWN

Williamsburg

STATE

Virginia 23186

# 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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

TITLE Tucker Hill, Executive Director  
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE JUN 21 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
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Capitol Landing, Williamsburg, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

4 2

Margaret Mahone Whitten

[REDACTED]  
Columbia, South Carolina 29205

The Estate of R.W. Mahone  
c/o Richard Mahone

[REDACTED]  
Williamsburg, Virginia 23185

Thomas D. Mahone

[REDACTED]  
Williamsburg, Virginia 23185

Richard D. Mahone

[REDACTED]  
Williamsburg, Virginia 23185

Hibert D. Cory

[REDACTED]  
Williamsburg, Virginia 23185

*Capitol Landing*

Form No. 10-300a  
(Rev. 10-74)

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*Capitol Landing, Williamsburg, Va*

CONTINUATION SHEET

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PAGE

Boundary Justification: Natural geographical boundaries were selected which encompass the majority of the surviving archaeological remains at Capitol Landing; this was also the most intensely terrain occupied during the eighteenth century.