

VLR-5/13/69 NRHP-11/25/69

04-3

Form 10-300  
(Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Virginia	
COUNTY: Amelia	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Wigwam

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Wigwam

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: 1.1 mi. SW of Appomattox River, .1 mi. N of Rt. 637, 8 mi. NW of Chula

CITY OR TOWN: 

STATE: Virginia      CODE: 45      COUNTY: Amelia      CODE: 007

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/>	Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In Process <input type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted <input type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/>
			No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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) _____	
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNERS NAME:  
Elmer J. Hershburger

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Rt. 2, Box 45

CITY OR TOWN: Princess Anne      STATE: Virginia      CODE: 45

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:  
Amelia County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER: 

CITY OR TOWN: Amelia      STATE: Virginia      CODE: 45

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 325.23 acres

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

DATE OF SURVEY: 1959      Federal       State       County       Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER: 

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Virginia  
COUNTY: 11a  
ENTRY NUMBER:   
DATE:

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Wigwam is a complex of two frame one and-a-half story structures set at right angles to one another. It is believed that the rear ell was built in the late-eighteenth century and the front section, with its larger windows and interior refinements, was added in the early-nineteenth century. The front block has large nine-over-nine sash windows on its five-bay front with a central double door entrance featuring side lights and a transom, both using two rows of panes. The porch has a simple gable roof supported by slender turned posts. The two wide interior end chimneys contrast with the two larger and deeper end chimneys on the rear ell whose dormers and windows conform more in size and shape to those of the eighteenth century.

The interior of the ell has been altered but the front block retains much of its original woodwork. The central hall features a simple stair with rectangular balusters and a square newel post. There are a series of panels above the handrail on the stair wall diminishing in height as the stair ascends which gives an exaggerated perspective. The south room has a paneled dado and dentiled cornice, and the chimney breast has two fluted pilasters on either side of the central paneling which, in turn, is divided in the center by a single pilaster. The mantel in the north room on the second floor has architrave framing with a single large panel above it topped by a cornice shelf. The closet doors on either side of the chimney breast are placed so near the fireplace that the architrave frames of the doors are intercepted by the cornice shelf and the molding is not continued below the shelf. This personal touch in design when combined with the stair, and the unusual central pilaster motif on the downstairs mantels gives a Mannerist feeling to the interior features.

Most of the interior paneling has been sanded down to its natural finish, and a crude archway has been cut which leads from the hall into the south room.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century   
 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |                |                                     |              |                          |                |                                     |                     |                                     |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Aboriginal     | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Education    | <input type="checkbox"/> | Political      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Urban Planning      | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Prehistoric    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Engineering  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Religion/Phi-  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Other (Specify)     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Historic       | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Industry     | <input type="checkbox"/> | osophy         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <u>Architecture</u> |                                     |
| Agriculture    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Invention    | <input type="checkbox"/> | Science        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <u>History</u>      |                                     |
| Art            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Landscape    | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sculpture      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | _____               |                                     |
| Commerce       | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> | Social/Human-  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | _____               |                                     |
| Communications | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Literature   | <input type="checkbox"/> | itarian        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | _____               |                                     |
| Conservation   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Military     | <input type="checkbox"/> | Theater        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | _____               |                                     |
|                |                                     | Music        | <input type="checkbox"/> | Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/>            | _____               |                                     |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

Wigwam was the home of Governor William Branch Giles (1762-1830). Giles was a member of the United States House of Representatives from 1790 to 1798 and served as a United States Senator from 1804 to 1815. While Senator, he led the opposition against President James Madison's policies during the War of 1812. He became Governor of Virginia in 1827 and served as a member of the convention that revised the Constitution of Virginia in 1830.

In addition to its historical associations, the building is also noted for its interior woodwork.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Anderson, D. R., William Branch Giles, Menosha, Wisconsin: 1915

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 ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	37° 29' 50"	78° 00' 50"		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	37° 29' 50"	77° 58' 03"		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	37° 27' 59"	77° 58' 03"		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	37° 27' 59"	78° 00' 50"		° ' "	° ' "	

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
~~Staff~~ Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, James W. Moody, Jr., Director

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

STREET AND NUMBER: 9th Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond

STATE: Virginia

CODE: 45

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 \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

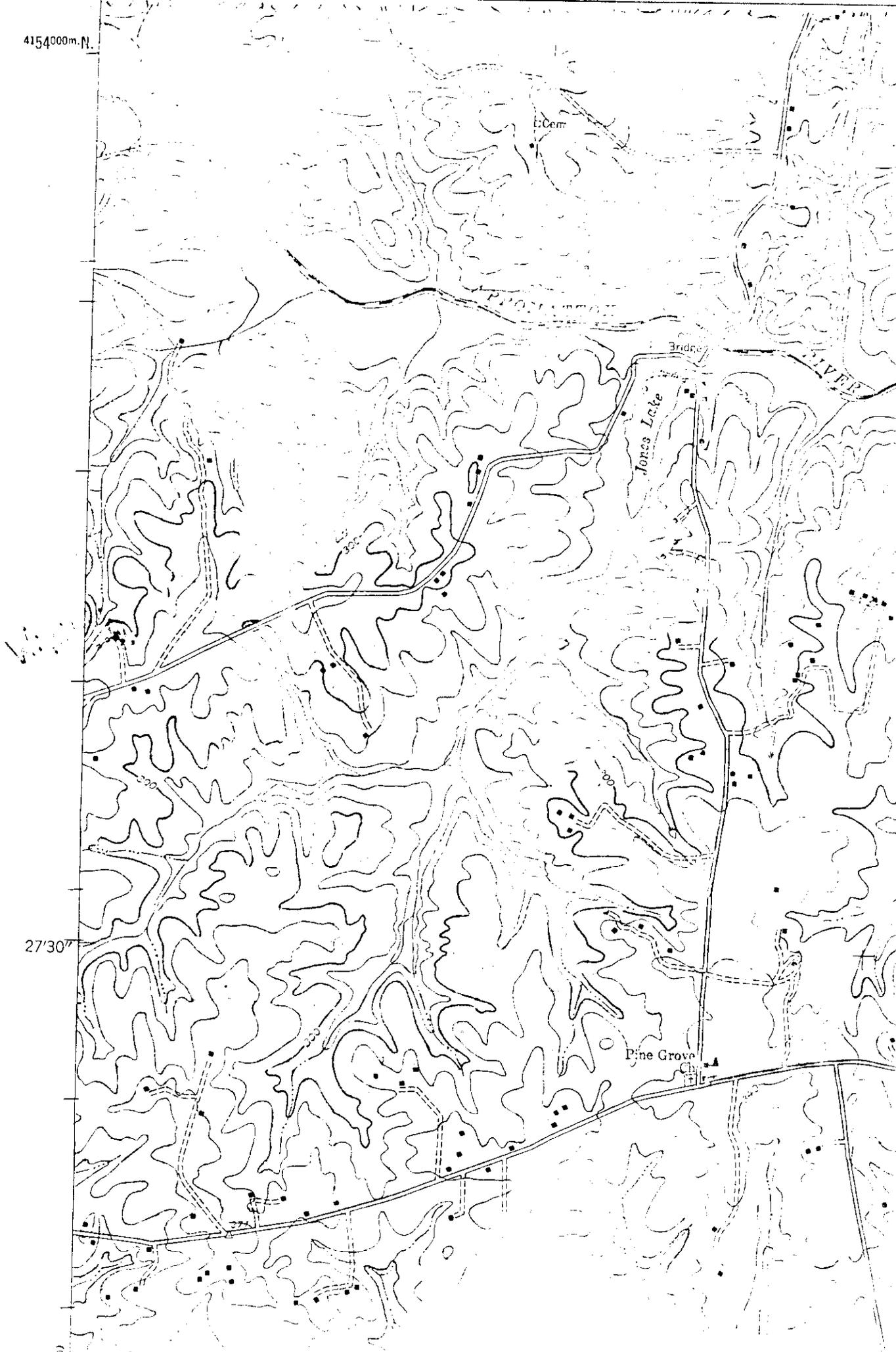
(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Virginia	
COUNTY	
Amelia	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

6. Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Report #04-3  
1967  
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission  
Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building  
Richmond, Virginia 23219 Code: 760 45

4154000m.N.



Cem

PROSTATE

Bridge

Jones Lake

Pine Grove

27°30''

407