

VLR-10/21/75

NRHP-5/7/79

Form No. 10-370

(Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED NOV 24 1975

DATE ENTERED

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

Santee

AND/OR COMMON

Santee

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1.5 miles south of Rappahannock River; .1 mile west of intermittent stream of Dicks Creek; .9 mile west of Route 610; 2.1 miles southwest of intersection of Route 17 and Route 610.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Corbin

X VICINITY OF

Seventh (J. Kenneth Robinson)

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Virginia

CODE

51

COUNTY

Caroline

CODE

033

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. and Mrs. John G. Castles

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Corbin

VICINITY OF

STATE

Virginia 22446

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Caroline County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Bowling Green

STATE

Virginia 22427

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (2) (see Continuation Sheet #1)

TITLE

(1) Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

DATE

1957

X FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington

STATE

D. C.

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Santee, in Caroline County, is a handsomely situated, remarkably well-preserved formal plantation of the early nineteenth century. One approaches the house by a road that winds through woods and opens into an antebellum park. The house sits on a grassy knoll with a copse of ancient trees before it, through which a vista to a small lake was made.

The plantation house is a two-story, double-pile, central-passage building with a two-story ell at the rear. Built of brick laid in Flemish bond, the five-bay structure has tall, attenuated interior end chimneys and is crowned by a low hipped roof. The windows have large six-over-six sashes and are topped by white-painted stone lintels ornamented with paterae. The front door is flanked by sidelights and surmounted by a handsome elliptical fanlight. At one time there was a doorway to the upper level of a two-story, late-nineteenth-century porch in the center bay of the second floor, but this has been converted to a window and the porch replaced by a tetrastyle Doric porch more in keeping with the style of the house. A modillion cornice encircles the front portion of the house.

The four-bay ell may be earlier by a few years than the main block which was built around 1820. The ell is frame, with brick nogging which has been exposed by the removal of the exterior cladding, and it features a molded cornice, a gable roof, and an interior end chimney with a corbelled cap.

The most notable architectural feature of Santee's interior is its curved stair, which has a round banister and two cylindrical balusters to a tread, and is scrolled at the base. Sawn brackets embellish the open string, and the flush dado with molded cap used in the passage is carried up the stair. The rear end of the passage is rounded to conform to the shape of the stair, and consequently the doors there are slightly curved.

The northeast parlor on the first floor is decorated with a striking mantel consisting of two fluted Doric colonettes supporting entablature blocks with elliptical sunburst paterae, flanking a frieze embellished with bands of bold moldings. A shelf the width of the chimney breast tops the whole, and an architrave overmantel panel with double crossettes completes the composition. A dentil cornice is carried around the room, and the window and door frames are symmetrically molded with paterae in the corner blocks, a treatment applied uniformly throughout the house. A similar decorative scheme to that in the northeast parlor appears in the northwest parlor. The chimney piece is a little less elaborate, lacking the paterae and some of the molding elements of the frieze and shelf.

The original kitchen building at Santee stands directly behind the ell. It is a two-story, four-bay, gable-roofed building with interior end chimneys and is built of brick laid in three-course American bond. It has a two-room plan with opposed front and rear doors in the east room and a single front door in the west. The straight-run stairs rise against the partition in the west room. The interior has been extensively remodelled, and the west fireplace rebuilt, but the east room retains a massive fireplace with a segmental-arched firebox.

East of the house is an early stable, gable-roofed, built of brick laid in five-course American bond. Several hundred yards further east survives one of a group of eight original slave houses. This is a story-and-a-half brick building with a gable roof. The houses were originally arranged along a street in four pairs of opposing houses, within sight of, but at a distance from, the main house. DTU

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

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CONTINUATION SHEET #1 ITEM NUMBER 6,7 PAGE 1

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

- (2) Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey
1975 State
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
221 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia code: 51

7. DESCRIPTION - BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The acreage included incorporates the scenic park around the house, the scenic approach through the woods from the public road, the original outbuildings, and the one surviving slave house to the east of the pond. The steep slope to the north of the house is included as the house site was selected for its commanding view of the Rappahannock Valley.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" 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 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"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Santee in Caroline County, associated with the prominent Fitzhugh and Gordon families for over 250 years, is an outstanding example of a formal plantation of early-nineteenth-century Tidewater Virginia. The handsome house, its early kitchen, stable, and slave house, and the verdant park present a remarkable glimpse of antebellum life along the Rappahannock River at its most prosperous.

The land which includes the present Santee was patented by John Battaile I (circa 1660-1704), who emigrated to America around 1684. It passed to his son John II (1695-1732) and thence to John II's daughter Sarah, who married Henry Fitzhugh (d. 1782) in 1747. Their son John Battaile Fitzhugh owned the property from the death of his parents until his own demise in 1803, when it passed to his brother Battaile Fitzhugh (before 1782-1836), who created the present Santee plantation. For several years, Caroline County tax records charged him only with the ownership of 1286 acres of land. In 1813 the tract was first listed as the one "where he lives." In 1817, he added 166 acres to his holding, followed by another 300 acres the next year. Finally, in 1820, there was a separate valuation of the buildings, recording them as being worth \$1700. It seems likely that Fitzhugh erected the frame ell before 1817 and lived in it while the main block, finished by 1820, was being built.

At Fitzhugh's death the property passed to his wife Elizabeth Taliaferro. In 1838, another increase in valuation occurred with the addition of two brick buildings, probably the kitchen and the stable, to the estate. Patsy Fitzhugh and her husband Samuel Gordon of Kenmore, in Fredericksburg, inherited Santee from her mother. It was during their tenure, in the winter of 1862-1863, that a detachment of Gen. Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson's troops camped in the Santee woods near the present road. Gordon was nervous about the safety of his park and reportedly elicited from the commanding officer a promise that the trees would not be cut for firewood.

Descendants of the Fitzhugh-Gordon families owned Santee until well into the twentieth century. It was vacant from 1931 until 1943, at which time it was sold out of the family. The present owners, Mr. and Mrs. John G. Castles, bought the house in 1945 and restored it.

DTU/MTP

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Campbell, T. E. Colonial Caroline, A History of Caroline County, Virginia. Richmond: Dietz Press, 1954.
 Caroline County Records.
 Jett, Dora Chinn. In Tidewater Virginia. 1924.
 King George County Records.
 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Archives.
Winsfield, Marshall. A History of Caroline County, Virginia. Baltimore: Regional

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

(see Continuation Sheet #2)

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 56 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Rappahannock Academy, Va.

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 8	2, 9, 3, 4, 2, 0	4, 2, 3, 2, 8, 6, 0	B	1, 8	2, 9, 3, 6, 8, 0	4, 2, 3, 2, 4, 1, 0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	1, 8	2, 9, 3, 0, 2, 0	4, 2, 3, 1, 8, 3, 0	D	1, 8	2, 9, 2, 9, 1, 0	4, 2, 3, 1, 8, 4, 0
E	1, 8	2, 9, 3, 3, 0, 0	4, 2, 3, 2, 9, 0, 0	F			
G				H			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION The boundaries are arbitrarily drawn to include the wooded drive from the public road, the park around the house, and the steep slope to the north, as well as the remaining slave dwelling to the southeast of the house. The north boundary is the 150' contour line; the east and west boundaries generally follow tree lines.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE

October 1975

STREET & NUMBER

221 Governor Street

TELEPHONE

804-786-3144

CITY OR TOWN

Richmond

STATE

Virginia 23219

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 SIGNATURE

TITLE Junius R. Fishburne, Jr., Executive Director
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE OCT 21 1975

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
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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CONTINUATION SHEET #2

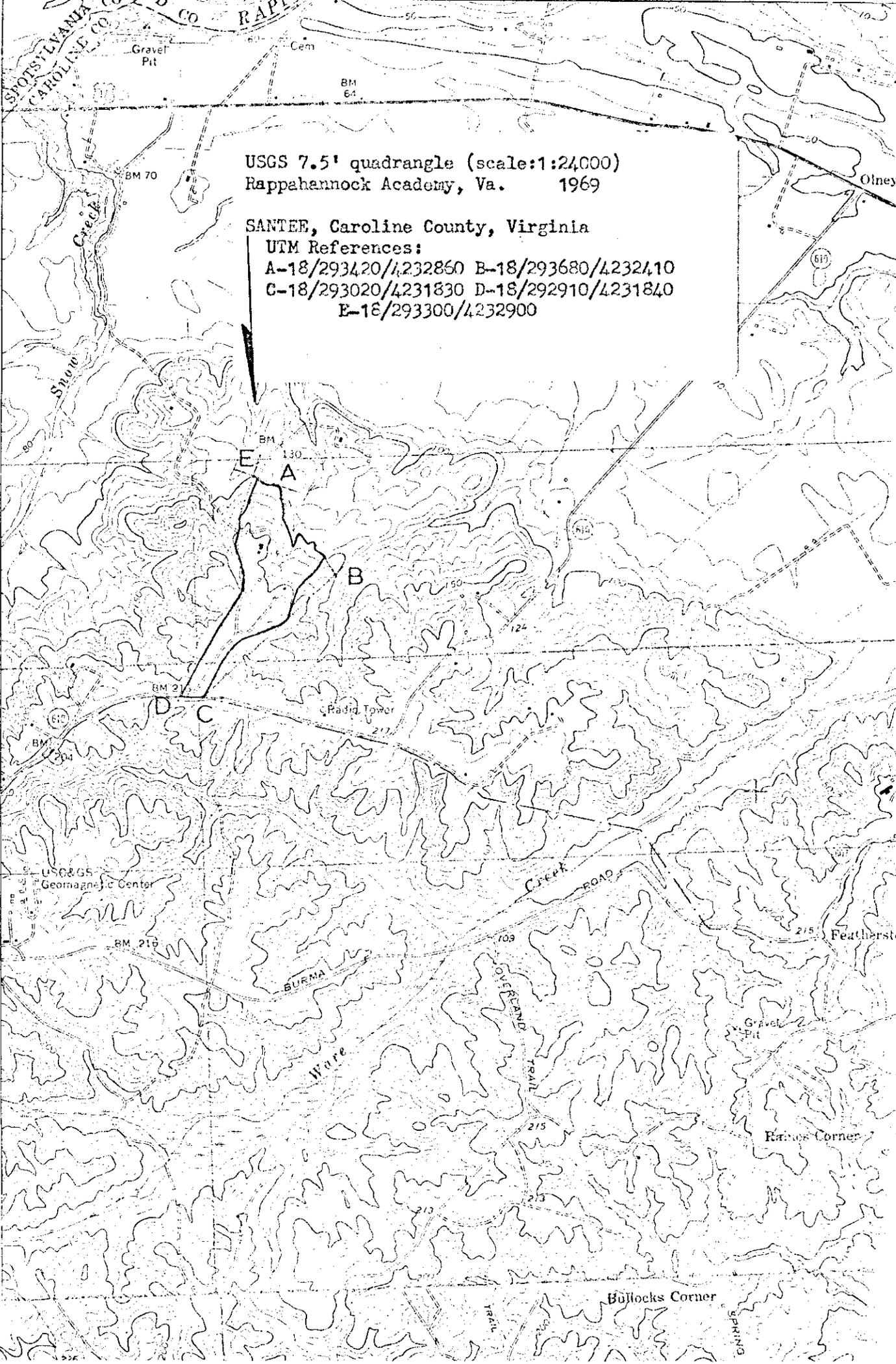
ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE 1

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Publishing Co., 1969. (Originally Published Richmond, 1924).

42350000 N
FREDERICKSBURG 8 MI
NEW POST 2 MI



USGS 7.5' quadrangle (scale:1:24,000)
Rappahannock Academy, Va. 1969

SANTEE, Caroline County, Virginia

UTM References:

A-18/293420/4232860 B-18/293680/4232410

C-18/293020/4231830 D-18/292910/4231840

E-18/293300/4232900

4233

4232

12'30"

4231

4230

5560 III NW
(GUINEA)

Santee
Creek

Shoals

BURMA

Ware

Creek ROAD

OVERLAND TRAIL

Bullocks Corner

SPRING

Raines Corner

Featherst

Olney

Gravel Pit

Cem

BM 64

BM 70

BM 130

Radio Tower

USGS
Geomagnetic Center

BM 219

Gravel Pit