

VLR - 11/20/79 NRHP-3/17/80

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

Magnolia Grange

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Route 10

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Chesterfield Court House VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Third (David E. Satterfield, III)

STATE

Virginia

CODE  
51

COUNTY

Chesterfield

CODE  
041

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. & Mrs. Philip Daffron

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Chesterfield Court House VICINITY OF

STATE

Virginia 23832

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Chesterfield County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Chesterfield Court House

STATE

Virginia

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

TITLE

(1) Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

has this property been determined eligible?  Y  N

DATE

1968

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington

STATE

D.C.

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" 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

Distinguished as the finest Federal house in Chesterfield County, Magnolia Grange is located on State Route 10 across from the Chesterfield County Courthouse. The house, which was built in 1823, has survived with few alterations to the original fabric.

Magnolia Grange is a two-story, five-bay house capped by a hipped roof. A two-level portico rebuilt in 1977 is centered in the simply detailed, symmetrical facade (north elevation), shielding the central bay. This bay is marked at both levels by double doors with elliptical fanlights and sidelights. Both portico tiers are supported by square columns. The portico columns support an entablature at the first level and a pediment above. A Doric cornice with mutules encircles the structure. A dwarf portico at the west elevation indicates the entrance into the music room. The walls of the facade are laid in Flemish bond; side and rear (partial) walls are laid in three-course American bond. Because of structural failure, the rear wall has been subject to considerable rebuilding, which accounts for its irregular bonding pattern. The roof line is broken by five chimneys; two each at the east and west elevations, one at the south elevation. The chimneys located at the east and west elevations are interior end with simple corbeled chimney caps. The fifth, an exterior chimney positioned at the south elevation is false, used to hide the duct work and wiring which were installed during the recent restoration process. The house has a partial cellar which was dug ca. 1900 to facilitate furnace installation. The structure is lighted by 12/12 sash on the first floor and 8/8 on the second. This fenestration pattern is unusual in that it has four panes across each sash rather than the usual three. A slightly recessed, double-door entrance fills the rear center bay. It is surrounded by a symmetrically molded architrave with corner blocks. The raised-panel doors and sidelights match those of the front elevation. Marks on the rear brickwork indicate the presence of a one-story rear porch, now removed. A 1968 photograph made before restoration was begun shows this porch and a two-story frame structure which was connected to the house by a one-story frame passage.

The interior plan is simple, expressed as a central-passage, double-pile design on each floor. The lower floor is divided into a parlor (N.E.), dining room (S.E.), kitchen (S.W.), and music room (N.W.); the upper floor is used as a library (N.E.), guest room (S.E.), nursery (S.W.), and bedroom.

The house has retained virtually all its original trim, its most salient features being the Federal mantels, the elliptical arch in the central passage and the plaster cornices and ceiling medallions in the parlor and dining room. The mantels of the parlor and dining room are identical and illustrate an imaginative use of classical motifs. Slender stylized Ionic columns support an elongated entablature which is embellished with guilloches, anthemion ornament and a deeply molded cornice. Door and window openings in each room are surrounded by symmetrically molded architraves with corner blocks. A highly enriched plaster cornice encircles both rooms, and each ceiling center is marked by an Adamesque plaster medallion nearly identical to that illustrated by Asher Benjamin, The American Builders Companion, 1806, plate 27b. A hinged folding partition comprised of two sections of four panels each divides the dining and parlor areas. The raised panels of the partition are similar in form to those found beneath the windows and in the window jambs. A strapwork band divides the raised paneling from the window sill.

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

# 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 type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES                      1823                      BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Federal style which permeated New England communities in the late 18th and early 19th centuries was characterized by a unification of parts, attenuated proportions and delicacy of details. Conspicuously located across from the Chesterfield County Courthouse, Magnolia Grange characterizes a conservative, but elegant example of late 18th-century American architecture which was manifested in a variety of forms as it moved into the South. The structure is the most notable of its type in the county and has been recognized as an important local landmark since its construction. Many of the owners and occupants of Magnolia Grange have held public office and were instrumental in dictating the county's political development. While Magnolia Grange lacks the complex or curved interior spaces associated with the Federal style, its elliptical fanlights, attenuated proportions and delicate cornices are all common stylistic devices.

Magnolia Grange was built in 1823 by William Winfree, who was descended from an early Chesterfield County family. According to local tradition, at one time the property was known as Cold Water Run. The present name is associated with the magnolia trees and formal boxwood gardens which once surrounded the structure. The trees and gardens were destroyed after the Civil War to provide additional farmland.

Magnolia Grange is one of the few formal dwellings of brick in the county. Its interior detailing is among the most sophisticated in the area, and a detailed survey has shown the house to have the county's single Federal structure with a double-pile central-passage plan. Its fenestration pattern is uncommon, and the academically influenced cornice, ornate plasterwork and folding-partition doors give further evidence of its architectural significance.

Magnolia Grange remained in the Winfree family until 1845. After this date the house was sold to a succession of owners, several of whom were beset by financial difficulties which caused them to dispose of the structure soon after acquisition. Stephen DuVal bought the property in 1861 and built a tavern, no longer extant, north of the house, across from the courthouse. Following DuVal, Magnolia Grange passed through two additional owners before it was purchased in 1881 by Emma Cogbill. Cogbill's descendants figured prominently in the county's political history and included Commonwealth's attorneys, a state senator, and a county clerk. Magnolia Grange remained the property of the Cogbill family until 1969 when it was bought at auction by the present owners.

Magnolia Grange has been restored by the present owners. Its rural setting is presently threatened by the potential commercial development of the adjacent vacant property.

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# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Magnolia Grange, Chesterfield County, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET #1

ITEM NUMBER 6,7

PAGE 1

## 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

- (2) Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey  
1977, 1979 State  
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission  
221 Governor Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

## 7. DESCRIPTION

The central passage is visually and physically dominated by the open-string, U-shaped stair and an elliptical arch which spans the space. The simply molded arch with its molded keystone comes to rest on fluted Ionic columns. The stair has paneled spandrels, fan-type brackets and two square balusters to a tread. The eastern portion of the center-passage ceiling is encircled by a simply molded cornice enriched with paterae. The elliptical arch of the interior transom is decorated with a band of stars. A fretwork band, identical to those found in the kitchen and music room, splits and pilaster capitals and runs the length of the opening joining the two fluted pilasters which stand at either side of the transom. The interior south door is framed within simple symmetrical architraves with corner blocks.

The most prominent features of the completely remodeled modern kitchen and the music room are the Federal mantels. While the mantels share some decorative properties, the music room mantel is more elaborate and is illustrative of a creative hand. In the kitchen mantel molded pilasters support an attenuated architrave. The entablature blocks are filled with acanthus leaves, and a molded cornice. The uniquely decorated entablature of the music room mantel is supported by molded pilasters which are enriched with a cable molding. The long entablature blocks are carved with acanthus leaves embellished with molding. Of special note is the central tablet. It is formed by a series of arches, terminated by a basket arch which rests lightly upon diminutive Ionic columns. This tablet is framed by molded recessed panels which are small versions of that found in the entablature of the kitchen mantel. As with the other mantels this one, too, is capped by a deeply molded cornice.

The second-floor rooms are notable for their molded chair rails, the symmetrically molded architrave trim with corner blocks at all windows and doors, and the four conservatively carved Federal mantels. The corner blocks of the southeast and southwest rooms are decorated with small beads.

Only one outbuilding, a barn in ruinous condition which was once used for storage of animals and crops, is associated with this property.

(See Continuation Sheet #2)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Magnolia Grange, Chesterfield County, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET #2

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 2

7. DESCRIPTION

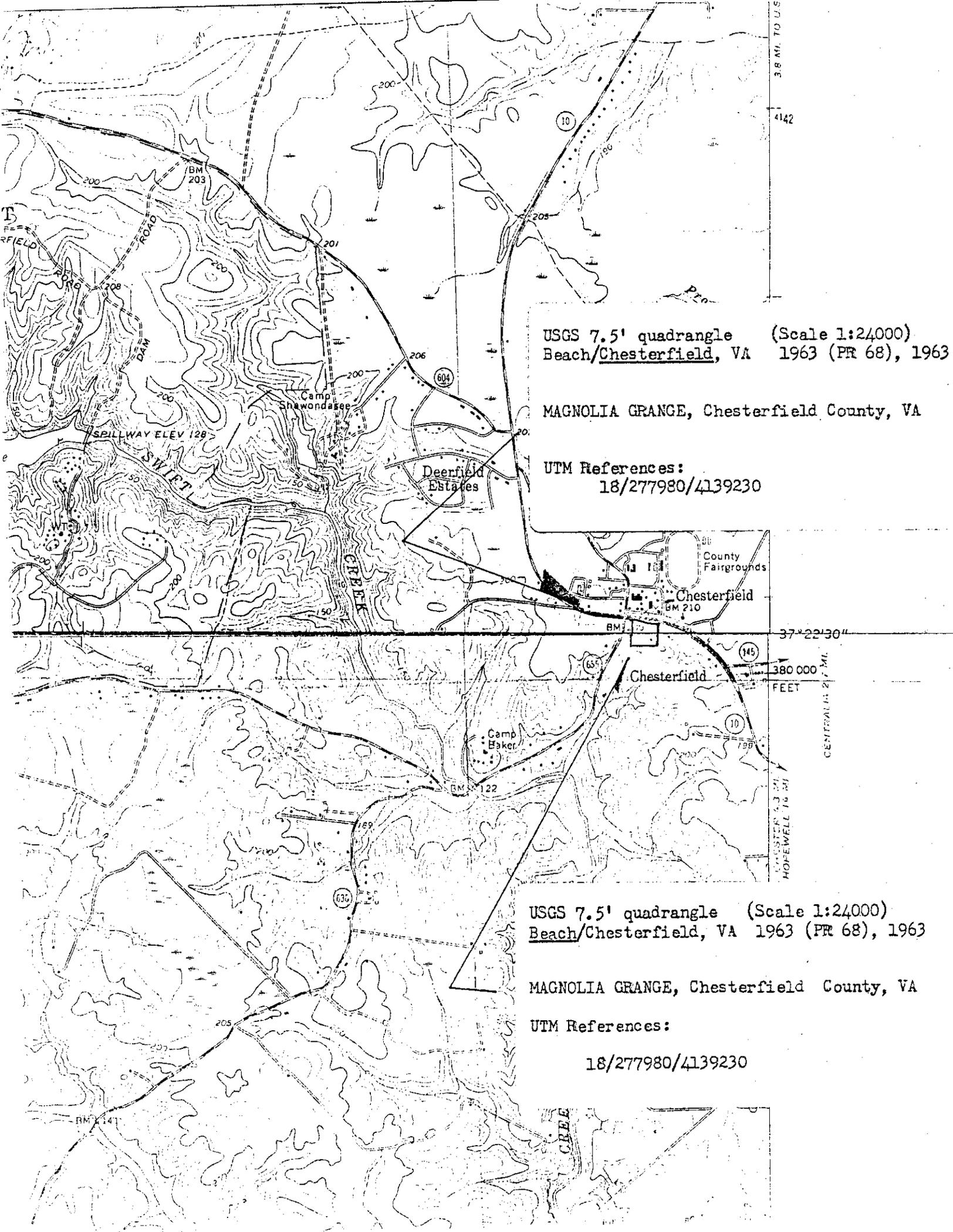
Magnolia Grange is sited at the end of a gravel drive, across from the county courthouse complex. The land to the west of the house is vacant, but has been cleared and is under consideration for commercial development. Land to the south and east is still wooded and is undeveloped except for a small parcel to the northeast. Large trees and boxwood dominate the immediate landscape.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The four acres which are contained within the bounds of the Magnolia Grange nomination include the house and the single associated outbuilding. Although the nominated acreage is smaller than the total property acreage, it encompasses all significant buildings.

MEH





USGS 7.5' quadrangle (Scale 1:24000)  
Beach/Chesterfield, VA 1963 (PR 68), 1963

MAGNOLIA GRANGE, Chesterfield County, VA

UTM References:  
18/277980/4139230

USGS 7.5' quadrangle (Scale 1:24000)  
Beach/Chesterfield, VA 1963 (PR 68), 1963

MAGNOLIA GRANGE, Chesterfield County, VA

UTM References:

18/277980/4139230