

Listed On:  
 VLR 12/21/1971  
 NRHP 04/13/1972

020-0709

Form 10-300  
 (July 1969)

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: HENRICO	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:  
HENRICO

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
HENRICUS and HENRICOPOLIS (19th c.)

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
[REDACTED]

CITY OR TOWN:  
[REDACTED] Third District  
(David E. Satterfield, III, Congressman)

STATE: VIRGINIA      CODE: 51      COUNTY: HENRICO      CODE: 087

3. CLASSIFICATION

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

Agricultural     Government     Park  
 Commercial       Industrial       Private Residence  
 Educational       Military         Religious  
 Entertainment     Museum         Scientific

Consultation  
 Other (Specify) Restricted  
 Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY: Mr. Jack Kringle, President

OWNER'S NAME:  
Southern Materials Co., Inc.

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1500 Willis Road

CITY OR TOWN:  
Richmond

STATE:  
Virginia

CODE:  
51

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:  
[REDACTED]

CITY OR TOWN:  
Richmond

STATE:  
Virginia

CODE:  
51

6. RESEARCH IN EXISTING SURVEYS

DATE OF SURVEY: 1968

DEPOSITED FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1116 N. 11th Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN:  
Richmond

STATE:  
Virginia

CODE:  
51

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Virginia

COUNTY: Henrico

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

SM

7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Thomas Dale intended to put the four-year old Virginia colony on a firm basis through strict disciplinary control of the colonists and the establishment of a healthier more defensible chief town. The latter is evident in the choice of Henrico's site and the form that the town's construction took. The Privy Council had ordered the replacement of Jamestown with another town, named "Henrico" in honor of the king's oldest son. According to William Stith's account, however, it was left to Dale to choose the most advantageous location. After exploration of the "Nansamond" River and the James to the falls, he "at length pitched upon a place for his new town, [REDACTED], nearly invironed by the main River." The situation of the site has been altered [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. However, the site retains its commanding position atop a bluff that drops off sharply on all but one side, the latter providing easily controlled access to the town. The choice of location shows much more foresight than was apparent in the choice of Jamestown Island.

The town that Dale constructed in 1611 was strongly defended by a palisade with blockhouses at the corners. John Smith described the town in his History:

It hath three streets of well framed houses, a handsome church, and the foundations of a better laid, to bee built of bricke, besides Store-houses, Watch-houses, and such like: Upon the verge of the River there are five houses, wherein live the honester sort of people, as Farmers in England, and they keepe continuall centinell for the towns securitie.

On the mainland to the north, a palisade nearly two miles in length connected the bends of the river to enclose land for cultivation. Dale dug a ditch across the neck in the manner he had observed in Holland, thus the name "Dutch Gap." On the south mainland was built a "guest house for sick people" which has been called the first hospital built in English America, and nearby was the glebe and parsonage of Reverend Alexander Whitaker. The site of the college has not been determined and there is no definite information regarding the actual construction of buildings.

Today the town site is completely forested, with no structures visible above ground. The early college and church are commemorated by a stone obelisk erected in 1910 by the Colonial Dames and a cross placed there in 1911 by the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia. Some part of the town may have been lost in the erosion of the northern bluff by the river, but most of the site is probably undisturbed.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE			
<p>The Virginia Company planned to relocate Virginia's chief city from Jamestown to a healthier and more easily defended location further up the James River. In accordance with these plans, the town of Henrico was built in 1611 by 350 workmen under the direction of Thomas Dale. Although Henrico continued as a significant settlement for the duration of the Company period of Virginia history (1607-24), the seat of government remained at Jamestown. The capitol was removed to Williamsburg at the end of the century, long after Henrico had been abandoned.</p> <p>The arrival of Sir Thomas Gates as Governor allowed Dale to establish the town through a major building project that began in September, 1611. Contemporary interest in the new outpost was expressed by the Spanish spy, Don Diego de Molina, who wrote in 1613 to the Spanish ambassador in London: "another twenty leagues further up is another colony strongly located to which they will all betake themselves if the occasion arises, because on this they place their hopes...." Don Diego set the population of Henrico at a hundred inhabitants, including women, children, and agricultural laborers. Six years later the town was represented in the first assembly by Thomas Dowse and John Polentine.</p> <p>Henrico was to be the site of the "university and College" called for in the 1618 charter. The schools seem to have been intended to provide instruction to the sons of infidels as well as white settlers. Ten thousand acres adjoining Henrico were supplied as endowment, and a national fund drive was sponsored in England by the Church and King. Much of the fifteen thousand pounds derived from the fund was invested as endowment, and it appears that some buildings were actually constructed. Workers were sent from England in 1619 and 1620 to carry out the construction.</p> <p>The failure of the college project and the Henrico settlement has been blamed on the massacre of 1622. There is some support for this theory in contemporary accounts, but it appears, on balance, that the college and town struggled on for several years thereafter. The revocation of the Company charter in 1624 removed the major source of interest in both projects, and neither would have survived much beyond that date.</p> <p>The general lack of development of the town site over the past three-and-one-half centuries suggest important archaeological potential. Should the below-ground remains be intact, they would provide rare physical evidence of how the settlers lived during the earliest period of the colony.</p>			

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

A True Discourse of the Present State of Virginia, Ralph Hamor, 1615, 1957.  
"At Henrico," George J. Cleveland, William & Mary Alumni Gazette, March, 1970.  
Cradle of the Republic: Jamestown & James River, Lyon G. Tyler, 1900.  
History of the First Discovery and Settlement of Virginia, William Stith, 1747, 1965.  
History of Virginia, Edmund Randolph, 1970.  
Narratives of Early Virginia 1606-1625, Lyon G. Tyler, 1907.  
Records of the Virginia Company of London, Susan M. Kingsbury, 1906.  
The Southern Colonies in the Seventeenth Century 1607-1689, Wesley Frank Craven, 1949.

**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	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		0	0	
NE	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]				
SE	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]				
SW	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 12 acres.

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 DATE: October, 1971  
 STREET AND NUMBER:  
Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building  
 CITY OR TOWN: Richmond STATE: Virginia 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: James W. Moody, Jr., Director  
 Title: Va. Historic Landmarks Commission  
 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

Form 10-300a  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
VIRGINIA	
COUNTY	
HENRICO	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

4. Mrs. Harry J. Warthen, Jr., President  
Colonial Dames of America  
2304 Monument Avenue  
Richmond, Virginia