

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

 NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
 INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

 SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
 TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS
**1 NAME**
 HISTORIC Glencairn (Preferred); Glencairne

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**
 STREET & NUMBER Two miles south of Rappahannock River; .1 mile west of U.S. Route 17;  
 less than .2 miles NW of intersection of U.S. Route 17 and State  
 Route 637.

--NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Chance VICINITY OFFirst (Paul S. Tribble, Jr.)

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Virginia.

CODE

51

COUNTY

Essex

CODE

057**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: None

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mr. Edward Byars & Mrs.

STREET &amp; NUMBER

26 Briardale Court

CITY, TOWN

Derwood

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland 20855**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETCEssex County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Tappahannock

STATE

Virginia**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (2) (See continuation sheet #1)**

TITLE

**(1)** Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

DATE

1958 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDSLibrary of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington, D. C.

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 checked="" 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

Glencairn, a long, story-and-a-half, brick-nogged frame building erected in the 18th century, is set in a flat, open field adjacent to Route 17 in northern Essex County. The six-bay house has a high basement the earliest portions of which are laid in English bond. Most of the front of the underpinning was reworked in three-and four-course American bond during 19th-century renovations. The exterior end chimneys are laid in Flemish bond and each has two sets of tumble-coursed weatherings. The stack on the east chimney was rebuilt early in the 19th century. The house is clad in 19th-century weatherboards, but some early beaded weatherboards remain on the west gable. All of the sash date from the early 20th century. Standing-seam sheet metal covers the steep (50°) roof which has five shed dormers in each slope. At the rear a late 18th-century, shed-roofed porch stretches the length of the house. A two-story wing built at the west end of the house early in the 20th century was removed recently.

The plan of Glencairn is unusual and reflects the house's two-stage construction. The square western room is the earliest section, and its present plasterboard ceiling conceals joists which were originally exposed, as their smoke-blackened surfaces and delicately chamfered edges attest. Furthermore, the ends of the rafters are set neither on a plank false plate, as was the standard practice, nor on a square false plate set diagonally and half-lapped and pegged to the tops of the joists, which was the principal alternate practice. Rather, they are attached to a timber of 4-by-6-inch scantling, half-lapped and pegged to the joists, but set flat. The soffits and ends of the joists as well as the fascia of the false plate were originally exposed and are weathered. As the only known example of this type of construction, it is not possible to date this feature, but documents indicate that this part of the house was probably standing by 1750. Furthermore, it can be said that exposed cornices (and exposed joists in dwellings) seem for the most part to have disappeared in Virginia by the mid-18th century. Certainly by that time the use of board and occasionally of tilted false plates was the universal practice. Consequently, it may be that the traditional date of 1730, or even one a little earlier, is correct.

There is no decoration in the western room, but a stair once rose in the north-east corner.

The remainder of the house, which was probably added in the fourth quarter of the 18th century, consists of two other rooms adjacent to the original. The central room contains the enclosed winder stair in its northwest corner and no other trim. It is more than twice as wide as most 18th-century central passages. A stair to the cellar was built against the east wall of this room in the mid-19th century when that space was floored and divided into four finished rooms.

The easternmost room contains the only noteworthy decoration in the house. A dentil cornice is carried around the room connecting it visually with the chimney breast which consists of a high unsupported dentil shelf separating two tiers of panels. Above the shelf are six tall, narrow rectangular panels and below it are two similar panels separated by a long, horizontal rectangular panel. The whole assembly is flanked by a pair of attenuated Roman Doric pilasters which use the room cornice as capitals.

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

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Glencairn, Essex County, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET #1

ITEM NUMBER 6 & 7 PAGE 1

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

- (2) Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey  
1969, 1971, 1977 State  
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

7. DESCRIPTION

This newer section of the house has structural peculiarities of its own. For ease in matching the two sections, the builder used the same sort of false plate as his predecessor did, although the cornice was boxed in at that time and never exposed. He finished the previously unfinished loft of the original section with a frame kneewall, but he nogged the kneewall of the newer section. This was not the usual practice. Other alterations made to the house at the time of the extension include the construction of the present underpinning and chimneys as well as the rear porch. The small lean-to room behind the west room was probably enclosed during the same mid-19th-century renovations which included the reworking of the underpinning, the finishing of the cellar and construction of the interior cellar stairs, and apparently the addition of the dormers.

Some of the outbuildings clustered around the house have been lost in recent years. The major loss was the two-story, exterior-end chimney, brick kitchen which stood west of and on axis with the house. Built early in the 19th century, it was demolished last year for materials. Next to its site is a mid-19th-century structure of indeterminate use which still stands. A late 19th-century ice house behind the dwelling is collapsing; next to it stands a mid-19th-century smokehouse.

DU

Boundary Justification

The boundaries have been drawn to encompass the main house, the above-mentioned outbuildings and features, and the drive surrounding the house.

# 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 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 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

Situated in a broad, open field on Route 17 near the Rappahannock River in northern Essex County, Glencairn, a handsome, story-and-a-half frame house built in several stages during the 18th century, was during its early history the property of the Waring family, prominent early settlers in Essex County. In addition to its handsome appearance, the house is distinguished by its unusual plan and by rare framing techniques which offer important clues to the history of building technology in Virginia.

The original, one-room western section of Glencairn may have been built by Thomas Waring "the immigrant" or by William Maget. It is not certain which of two tracts the house stands on. The evidence of the framing, particularly the exposed joists used at the eaves, suggests that it was built before Waring deeded a 551-acre tract to his son Francis in 1741 or before Maget deeded the alternate tract to the Warings in 1750. The traditional date of 1730 for the construction of the whole house may be correct for the original section.

Francis Waring held the property until he died in 1771 at which time his holdings were divided between his sons Col. William Waring and Henry Waring. It is not certain which of them initially owned Glencairn. Henry Waring died in 1779, and the entire property came into his brother William's ownership. It is likely that the expansion of the house to its present form occurred during Col. William Waring's tenure. He continued to add to his holdings and in 1809 transferred 200 acres of his estate to William Waring, Jr. (not his son); this apparently included the Glencairn house. Six years later Robert P. Waring inherited the tract from his uncle.

Land tax books in 1822 credited R. P. Waring with a holding of 1785 acres and \$1000 worth of buildings. This tract included the Glencairn house as well as the adjacent Edenetta. When Waring died in 1844 the Glencairn/Edenetta tract went to his daughter-in-law Eliza Waring in the division of the estate. Glencairn remained in Waring hands until 1889 when it was sold to Thomas L. Coates.

DU/MTP

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Essex County Deed Books 22, 25, 27.  
 Essex County Land Books 1810, 1816, 1819, 1820, 1848, 1851-1895.  
 Essex County Will Books 12, 13, 18, 20, 26.

Map of Essex County, 1863, Confederate Engineer Bureau. General J. F. Gilmer, Chief Engineer.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Approximately 2 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,8	3,2,3,4,9,0	4,2,1,4,7,2,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point on E side of private drive about 950' S of intersection of said drive with U.S. Route 17; thence extending about 100' E; thence extending 300' S; thence extending about 300' W, following S side of circular drive in part; thence extending 300' N; thence extending about 200' E, crossing drive to point of origin.

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

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE

January 1978

STREET & NUMBER

221 Governor Street

TELEPHONE

(804) 786-3144

CITY OR TOWN

Richmond

STATE

Virginia 23219

## 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 SIGNATURE

TITLE Tucker Hill, Executive Director  
 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE FEB 21 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

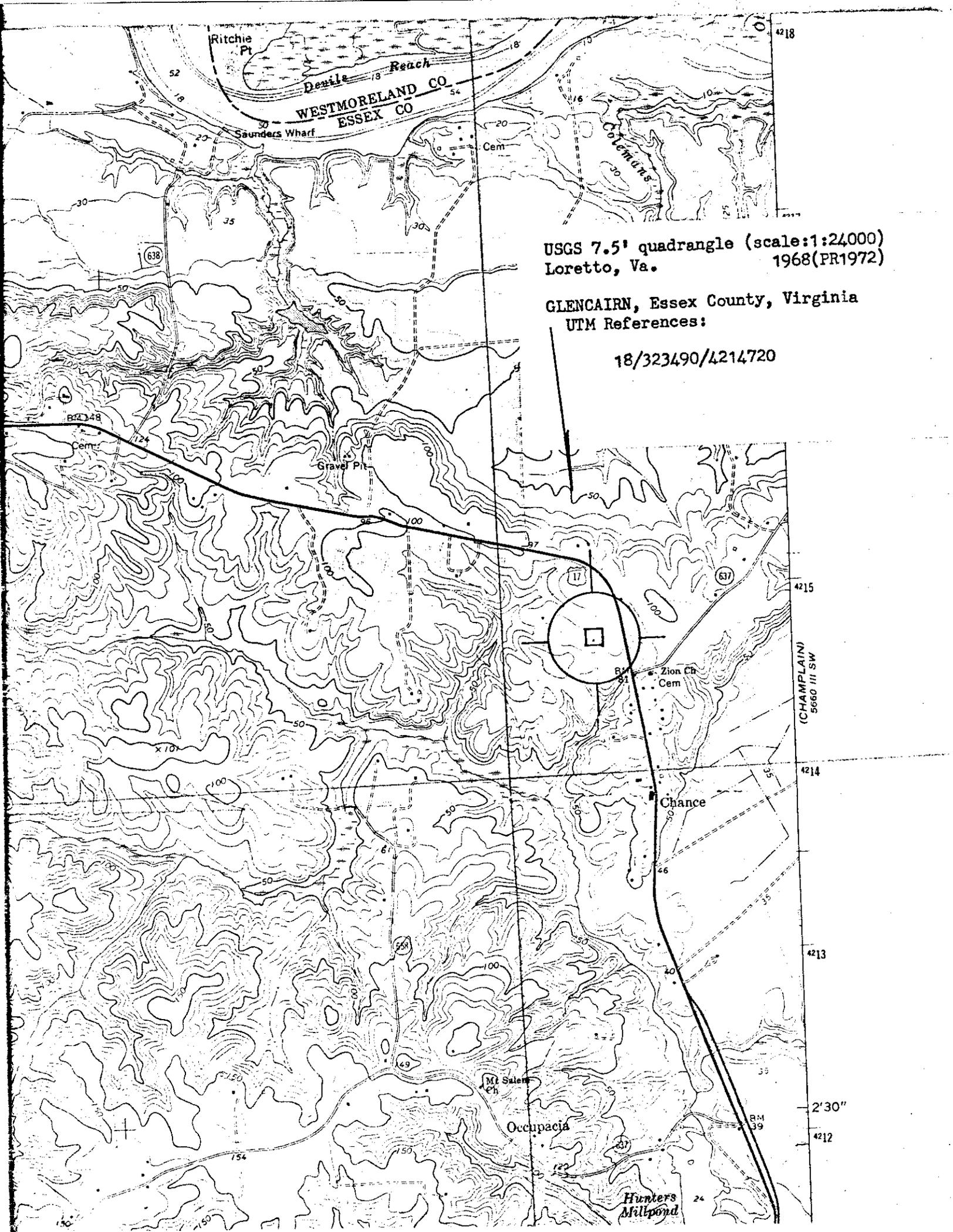
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
 ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



USGS 7.5' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)  
Loretto, Va. 1968 (PR1972)

GLENCAIRN, Essex County, Virginia  
UTM References:

18/323490/4214720

(CHAMPLAIN)  
5660 III SW

2'30"  
4212