

VLR-9/9/69 NRHP-11/12/69

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: King William	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Chelsea

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Chelsea

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: W bank of Mattaponi River, end of Chelsea Road, 1.7 mi. N of intersection of Chelsea Rd. and Rt. 30, 4.6 mi. N of West Point.

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE: Virginia CODE: 45 COUNTY: King William CODE: 101

3. CLASSIFICATION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:
Route 1 P.O. Box 127

CITY OR TOWN: West Point Providence Forge STATE: Virginia CODE: 45

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
King William County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: King William STATE: Virginia CODE: 45

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 510.51 acres

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1934, 1939 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 08

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Virginia

COUNTY: King William

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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) Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (Check One) Moved <input type="checkbox"/> Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>Chelsea is a brick early-eighteenth century home built in a T-shaped plan whose main two-story block with hipped roof and modillioned cornice faces east. A one-and-one-half story gambrel roofed rear ell projects to the west. All the brickwork is in Flemish bond; however, the two story block is an extremely fine example of early Virginia bricklaying technique with a complete glazed header pattern, rubbed brick belt course, rubbed flat arches, and rubbed corner detailing with queen closers. The foundation up to the watertable has been covered by scored cement. Chelsea shares with Elsing Green in King William County, Wilton in Richmond, and Tuckahoe in Goochland County, the feature of having narrow end windows being two panes wide and three panes high in each sash. The main facade windows are nine over nine sash, and while most of the windows have altered sash and framing, some windows do retain their original sills. The nineteenth-century two-level porch on the east replaces an earlier one-story gable roof entrance porch whose roof outline is traced on the brick. The rear ell, which has similar exterior changes such as a covered foundation wall, new sash and framing, and new porches, has Flemish bond with random glazing.</p> <p>While the interior of the rear ell has panelled chimney walls as well as chair rail and cornice, it is the fully panelled rooms in the front section which are of primary interest. The central hall, panelled in walnut, is flanked by two pine panelled rooms on the north and south. The chimney wall in the north room has arched recesses on either side of the chimney breast framed by molded archivolt resting on imposts in a manner similar to Wilton and the Peyton Randolph House, Williamsburg. Doric pilasters with fluted and reeded shafts frame the fireplace as well as the windows and doorway. The cornice breaks out where it is supported by the pilasters. The south room has no pilaster motif and the arched recesses are replaced by doors opening on small closets. Most doors in the structure have a pair of long panels below the lock rail and two small, almost square, panels followed by another pair of long panels above. The central stair hall features a stair which rises along the south up to two landings above. The combination of scrolled but uncarved step brackets, rather slender Doric colonette ballusters over plain pedestals (two on each treader), and newel post, creates a light and graceful design in contrast with the somberness of the darkened walnut panelling. The second floor panelling, as in the rear ell rooms, is confined to chimney walls and dado.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian <input type="checkbox"/>	16th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	18th Century <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	20th Century <input type="checkbox"/>
15th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	17th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	19th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/>	Education <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Historic <input type="checkbox"/>	Industry <input type="checkbox"/>	Science <input type="checkbox"/>	History <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/>	Invention <input type="checkbox"/>	Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/>	
Art <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Landscape <input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Humanitarian <input type="checkbox"/>	
Commerce <input type="checkbox"/>	Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Theater <input type="checkbox"/>	
Communications <input type="checkbox"/>	Literature <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	
Conservation <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>		
	Music <input type="checkbox"/>		

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

It is believed that Chelsea was built circa 1709 by Augustine Moore who had emigrated to Virginia circa 1705. Augustine Moore (circa 1685-1743) became quite a successful planter in the area and earned the nickname of "Old Grub Moore" for his zeal in land acquisition. He was married twice, first circa 1710 to Mary Gage (died 1713) and subsequently to Mrs. Elizabeth Todd Seaton. It was from his house that on August 20, 1716, Governor Spotswood and his "Knights of the Golden Horse Shoe" left for their journey to the Blue Ridge by crossing the Mattaponi River to Clifton and from thence to the west.

At his death in 1743 Moore left his widow a life estate in the property and, at her death, Chelsea descended to their son, Colonel Bernard Moore (circa 1720-post 1772). Bernard Moore was a successful planter, served as a justice of the peace for King William County, and was a member of the House of Burgesses (1744-58, 1761-72). He married circa 1742 Anne Catherine Spotswood (1725-1802), daughter of Governor Alexander Spotswood (1676-1740). Anne Spotswood Moore was a doughty matron during the American Revolution and is reputed to have continued her consumption of tea to the chagrin of her more patriotic neighbors. In 1781, shortly before the battle of Yorktown, Lafayette's army camped at Chelsea, and the Marquis used the house as his headquarters. Chelsea remained in the hands of the Moore family until circa 1874 when it passed into other hands.

Architecturally it is certainly possible that the front section of Chelsea was built circa 1709 with the rear ell being constructed soon after; the difference in the design of the two units is only in degree of sophistication, for both types of brickwork, roof design, and interior panelling were being used in the early-eighteenth century. (The historian Charles Campbell, in his genealogy of the Spotswood family, stated that the front section of the house was built thirty years before the rear part.) The brickwork at Chelsea ranks with the best in Virginia, and the fine interior panelling relates in design to such outstanding Virginia mansions as Wilton and Tazewell Hall. The shallow plan of the front section deprives Chelsea of an imposing silhouette but increases its value as an unusual example of the variations of housebuilding which occurred before the two-room-deep plan became standard practice in eighteenth-century Virginia.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Campbell, Charles, Genealogy of the Spotswood Family in Scotland and Virginia (Albany, 1868).
 "The Gorsuch and Lovelace Families," Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, Vol. 25 (October 1917), 431-455.
 Waterman, Thomas Tileston, The Mansions of Virginia, 1706-1776. New York: 1945.
 Garden Club of Virginia, Homes and Gardens in Old Virginia. Richmond: 1962.
 Lancaster, Robert A., Jr., Historic Virginia Homes and Churches. Philadelphia: 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	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

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: July 25, 1969

STREET AND NUMBER:
 Room 1116, Ninth 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 _____
 Dr. Edward P. Alexander, Chairman
 Title Virginia 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

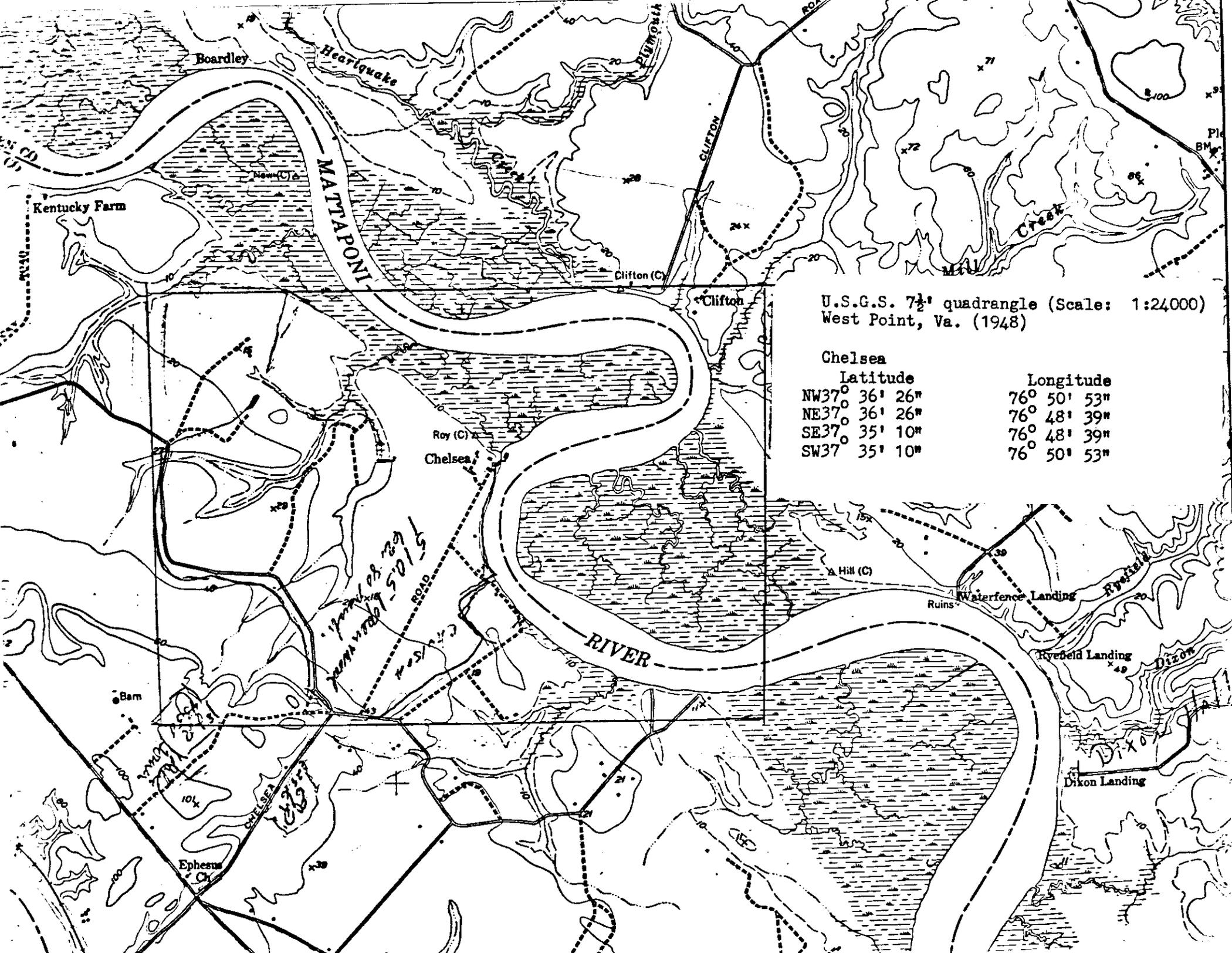
Date _____

ATTEST:

 Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



U.S.G.S. 7½' quadrangle (Scale: 1:24000)
West Point, Va. (1948)

Chelsea		Latitude	Longitude
NW37		36° 26' 37"	76° 50' 53"
NE37		36° 26' 37"	76° 48' 39"
SE37		35° 10' 37"	76° 48' 39"
SW37		35° 10' 37"	76° 50' 53"

Handwritten notes:
 ROAD
 1505
 5015
 1625
 1829

Ephesus
Cl.

Dixon Landing