

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

**1. Name of Property**

historic name Eubank Hall  
other names/site number Haleysburg, Eubank Plantation, VDHR #055-0038

**2. Location**

street & number 319 Eubank Road not for publication N/A  
city or town Wallaces Store vicinity X  
state Virginia code VA county Lunenburg code 111 zip code 23937

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination \_\_\_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_\_\_ nationally \_\_\_\_\_ statewide X locally. (\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Virginia Department of Historic Resources  
State or Federal Agency or Tribal government

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_\_\_ meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria. (\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting official/Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I, hereby certify that this property is:

\_\_\_\_ entered in the National Register  
\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.  
\_\_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register Signature of the Keeper \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.  
\_\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register  
\_\_\_\_ removed from the National Register Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

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## 5. Classification

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**Ownership of Property** (Check as many boxes as apply)

private  
 public-local  
 public-State  
 public-Federal

**Category of Property** (Check only one box)

building(s)  
 district  
 site  
 structure  
 object

### Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u> buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
<u>2</u>	<u>2</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) N/A

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## 6. Function or Use

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**Historic Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>SINGLE DWELLING</u>
<u>DOMESTIC</u>	<u>KITCHEN SITE</u>
<u>AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE</u>	<u>EQUIPMENT SHED</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____

**Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>SINGLE DWELLING</u>
<u>AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE</u>	<u>EQUIPMENT SHED</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____

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## 7. Description

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**Architectural Classification** (Enter categories from instructions)

COLONIAL/Southern Colonial  
MID-19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY/ Early National  
MID-19<sup>th</sup> CENTURY/ Gothic Revival

**Materials** (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK  
roof STEEL  
walls WEATHERBOARD  
other BRICK

**Narrative Description** (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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## 8. Statement of Significance

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**Applicable National Register Criteria** (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations** (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance** (Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance** ca. 1790-1860

**Significant Dates** 1846

**Significant Person** (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

**Cultural Affiliation** N/A

**Architect/Builder** Unknown

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Previous documentation on file (NPS)**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Location of Additional Data**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 141.09 acres

**UTM References** (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing				
1	17	723860	4092141	2	17	724294	4092690	3	17	724827	4092940	4	17	725304	4092947
5	17	724998	4092713	6	17	724765	4092658	7	17	724552	4092317	See continuation sheet			

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Meq Greene Malvasi / Architectural Historian  
 organization William & Mary Center for Archaeological Research date 11 September 2006  
 street & number 327 Richmond Road telephone 757-221-2580  
 city or town Williamsburg state VA zip code 23185

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps** A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.  
 A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs** Representative black and white photographs of the property.

**Additional items** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Mr. A.J. Eubank  
 street & number 179 Handley Drive telephone 540-667-0285 or 540-723-4633  
 city or town Winchester state VA zip code 22603

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.). A federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 36 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, 1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240.

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## 7. ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

### Summary Description

Located near the Lunenburg county line, Eubank Hall is approximately sixteen miles southwest of the Lunenburg Courthouse. The house, located on an approximately 141-acre parcel, sits approximately 100 feet from the north side of Eubank Road (Route 695). The house is aligned on an east-west axis, with the façade facing toward the west. The dwelling rests on a gently sloping, well-tended lot with a large lawn that includes mature oak and locust trees, a pear tree, bushes, and seasonal plantings. To the west and south of the house are tobacco fields; to the east are open fields; to the north is a wooded area; approximately 100 yards from the house is a small creek. Eubank Hall is a three-story, frame single-family dwelling that consists of two parts: a one-and-a-half-story frame, square, single-pen house built in the late eighteenth century, with a later two-story frame addition, and a mid-nineteenth-century, three-story, frame, single-pile addition. The plan of the building is that of an "L" shaped block. The structure, although having undergone alterations, retains much of its original character and provides an interesting overview of some of the popular American architectural styles of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. For most of its existence Eubank Hall has been continuously occupied as a single-family dwelling. The nominated property also includes two equipment sheds (both non-contributing) and the foundation of a kitchen (contributing). The Eubank family has maintained ownership of the buildings and grounds for over 150 years. The property is locally eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for its importance to the history of Lunenburg County's architecture with a period of significance from construction (1790) to final historic alteration (1860).

### Detailed Description

At first glance, Eubank Hall appears to consist of two buildings: the first an eighteenth-century frame building with a later and larger mid-nineteenth-century addition. Upon closer inspection, however, the house and its development are more complex. The origins of Eubank Hall were humble. Built sometime during the 1790s, the original structure is a one-bay-wide dwelling, made of a wood frame covered with beaded weatherboard resting on an English brick basement laid in five-course American bond. A portion of the foundation is currently covered with wood vertical boards. The side-gable roof is covered with standing seam metal with a simple wood bargeboard and boxed cornice. Attached to the rear (east) of the house is a large brick chimney constructed of five-course American bond with parapeted double shoulders, corbelled cap, and corbelled lower foundation. The top of the chimney is slightly separated from the top gable-end, illustrating an early colonial safety measure designed to protect the house in the event of a chimney fire by tipping the chimney away from the dwelling. The original entrance is gone; what remains of the original openings consist of wood sash 6/6 windows and small 4-light windows located on either side of the chimney. All the window openings have simple wood surrounds and wood shutters.

Based on a visual inspection of the interior, it appears that sometime between the construction of the first building and the later 1846 addition, a section was added to the west side of the original eighteenth-century house. This addition consisted of a two-story, frame and weatherboard, single pile block with an English basement, a side-gable roof and an interior end chimney on the south wall elevation. A new entrance door was located on the southeast wall of the basement, with a window opening directly opposite.

About 1846, the owner of the property built another addition that consisted of a two-story, three-bay, single-pile block resting on an English basement. This frame and weatherboard addition has cornerboards and rested on a brick foundation which was subsequently parged. The hipped roof is covered with standing seam

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metal, and has exposed rafters, decoratively carved to resemble brackets. Among the most distinguishing and unusual features of the house are the two Jacobean-style chimneys, each with three grouped, hexagonal flues. These feature corbelled caps and are located near the central interior roof ridge. On the front (west) elevation is a one-story shed-roof porch supported by square posts. The porch has been partially dismantled and has no floor or steps, making the former main entrance inaccessible. Photographs taken in 1971 show what appears to be the same porch with the same roof, though with a floor and turned post supports instead of the current squared supports. The area below the porch was open and the porch floor was supported by square posts. No steps leading up to the porch are visible in the photos, suggesting that in 1971 the porch was not accessible from the yard.

Access to the front elevation was at the basement and first floor levels. The basement entrance consists of a low single-leaf, single-action, wood door with two vertical panels and single central muntin. The first floor main entrance is more formal and consists of a single-leaf, single-action wood five-part cross-paneled door that appears to date from the late nineteenth century. The door is framed by a transom and sidelights with diamond-shaped tracery and moulded wood cap trim. The sidelights rest upon inset moulded paneled bases. A similar entrance is located on the first floor of the east elevation.

Directly above the front entrance is what remains of a single-leaf, single-action wood paneled door with a three-light transom that at one time opened onto a porch roof balcony. Window openings consist of 9-light windows on the basement level, 9/6 wood double-hung sash on the first floor, and 6/6 wood double-hung sash on the second floor. Both first and second floor windows have wood surrounds and louvered shutters.

### **Interior Description**

#### **Original House**

The interior floor plan of Eubank Hall consists of three separate blocks that have been united under two roofs. The first house, built sometime during the 1790s, consists of a one-room plan with a basement and one-and-a-half stories. The basement room, which now houses the kitchen, retains many of its original features including the original hardwood floors, low ceilings, hewn beams with pegs, and two single-leaf wood entrance doors with two-incised panels. Located in the rear southwest corner of the kitchen is a small, narrow, winding staircase that leads to the first-floor parlor. Like the kitchen, the parlor has changed little; the original wood paneled wainscoting, pine floors, and fireplace are intact. The fireplace has a paneled surround; on either side of the hearth are two small decorative elements shaped like small shamrocks that may have been used to hold candlesticks. Located on the northwest corner is a small bathroom addition. The walls are now plastered. Located in the southwest corner is another small, narrow, winding staircase that leads to the small attic room with its exposed lath and plaster walls and two windows located on either side of the exterior chimney.

#### **First Addition to Original House**

At some point prior to 1846, a two-story addition with an English basement was added to the west side of the original house. The basement room is relatively intact with exposed hand-hewn beams, plaster walls, and a simple moulded wood fireplace. The baseboard mouldings and chair rail are original; because of some moisture damage, portions of the moulding have begun to pull away from the walls. On the south wall, where a window opening was once located, are built-in cabinets with incised panel doors. Next to the built-ins is a fireplace with a simple moulded surround. To reach the first-floor room, the same kitchen stairway was accessed. This room has 12-foot ceilings, plastered walls, and heart pine floors. On the south wall of the room is a fireplace with a surround similar to that found in the basement. The room also has moulded chair rails and

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large windows that reach to the ceiling with moulded wood surrounds and sills. A window opening on the north wall has been covered; next to this former opening is a wood paneled door that once led to a porch.

The small staircase from the original parlor leads to the second-floor bedroom. This room also has 12-foot ceilings, the same type of fireplace surround, and moulded base boards. At one time, the room also had crown moulding; all the rooms may once have had similar mouldings, which the owners removed and sold at auction.

#### 1846 Addition

With the addition of the two-story block in 1846, the floor plan of Eubank Hall underwent an extensive transformation. The basement and first-story levels now benefited from the addition of a central hall that opened up the house. Now there were two entrance doors on the east and west walls of both levels that helped to provide cross ventilation.

On the basement level, a doorway leading from the interior north wall of the first addition opens onto a hall; beyond that is another room with a simple fireplace that now serves as a family room. Evidence of the first addition's window opening and chimney can be seen on the interior north wall of the new basement hall. Directly south is a wood, open stringer, vertical paneled staircase that leads to the first floor.

A door at the top of the stairway opens onto the first-floor hall. Just ahead is the west entrance door; to the left (south) is the parlor and office that William Eubank used. Like the basement, the first floor has two exterior entrance doors. The positioning of the interior doorways is of interest: each room entrance is located near and to the right of the exterior entrances, instead of being directly opposite each other as was common in house designs during the Early National period. Yet, this layout is also more in keeping with the irregular plan of the Gothic Revival that was coming into vogue during the middle of the nineteenth century.

Located on the south end of the house, the parlor and office where William Eubank worked and received visitors and business associates is also the room with the most style and ornament. Measuring 16 feet long and 18 feet wide, with 12-foot ceilings, the room has large windows with moulded wood surrounds and paneled moulding directly below the sills. The door surround is moulded and paneled with incised corner blocks. Perhaps the most striking feature of the room is the fireplace with its stylized Greek fret corner blocks and simple wood panels.

Located in the central hall, a wood open stringer staircase with vertical panels, simple balustrade, and simple carved newel post similar to that in the basement leads to a small second floor landing which connects to the two second-floor rooms. The landing is short and stops abruptly. There is no doorway connecting the second floor bedroom in the older part of the house with the second floor of the 1846 addition. The effect was to segregate these different parts of the house. No one is quite sure what William Eubank had in mind in executing this design. According to the memoirs of Elizabeth Bass, a longtime resident of Eubank Hall, the partitioning was done to separate the sexes. Other possibilities include separating the living quarters of house servants from those of the family, giving the servants access to the main house only through the basement staircase, or providing different generations of the family or different sets of relatives' private living quarters in the same house.

The main bedroom on the second floor is located directly above the office and parlor. With the same dimensions as the room below it, the second floor bedroom has a moulded wood chair rail, a fireplace with a

simple moulded wood surround, and the only closet found in the house. Measuring approximately two-and-one-

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half feet in depth, the closet contains shelves for storage. Located above the central hall and down the short hallway leading from the bedroom is a small L-shaped room directly across from the second-story entrance door. Of all the rooms in the house, this room is the simplest and most irregular in design, with only moulded baseboards and a single window that looks out to the east.

**Later Additions and Alterations**

Though Eubank Hall has undergone a number of additions and alterations, it retains a high degree of architectural integrity for the period of significance from 1790-1860. On the original dwelling a two-story shed-roof porch was added on the southeast wall of the house in 2001. The 1846 second-story porch roof is covered with standing seam metal and is supported by square wood posts with a simple wood balustrade; the porch floor serves as a flat roof covering for the first-story porch which is also supported by square wood posts connected to a closed brick balustrade. Located on the rear east corner of the house is a flight of wood stairs that leads to a two-story, one-bay, shed-roof addition. On the second-story south wall is a one-bay small entrance porch with a single-leaf wood paneled door covered by a modern metal storm door; a wood sash 6/6 window is found on the east wall. Directly below is a small one-bay storage shed covered with weatherboard; a single wood vertical board entrance door is located on the south wall of this addition. Located on the north wall of the house are a number of small additions including a one-story, shed-roof brick and parged concrete addition at the basement level. Resting directly above that addition is a one-story, one-bay shed roof frame and weatherboard bathroom addition. The front porch found at the front elevation has been dismantled; the porch's shed roof is currently supported by tall square posts.

With the construction of the mid-nineteenth-century addition, the hip roof was added to join together the two additions. The original brick foundations on the first and second additions have been parged and painted; the cement was then scored to simulate a concrete block foundation. The triple chimneys have been parged and painted. The chimney on the older portion of the house has been rebuilt with a mixture of old and new brick. In addition, the chimney was rebuilt in such a way that the shoulders stand higher and also partially obscure the two attic windows located on either side of the stack.

With respect to the interior, the overall plan and its elements have remained largely untouched. The basement room of the original building now serves as a modern kitchen; the earlier fireplace against the east wall has been removed. On the original basement exterior south wall of the first addition (now the interior south wall) the window opening was bricked in. The basement level of the house and a portion of the first floor have been updated mechanically with electricity, heating and air conditioning units. Modern bathroom additions have been added on the basement and first-story floors.

**Secondary Resources**

Located directly in back of the house is the sole noncontributing resource: a one-story, frame and standing seam metal shed-roof equipment shed built sometime in the last three decades. Approximately 175 feet from this building is a one-story, frame and corrugated metal shed-roof equipment shed with four open bays that appears to date to the 1930s. Located between these two structures and partially hidden by trees and overgrowth are the remains of the house's mid-nineteenth-century outside kitchen foundation which had two chimneys and, according to the family, was once connected to the main house by a breezeway. At one

time, the property also had a slave cabin, and smokehouse, as well as log barn, brick kiln, and family cemetery, all of which are located across the road on a property owned by a Eubank relative.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

### Summary

Located on Eubank Road near the Lunenburg County line is the property known as Eubank Hall. This property is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as a fine example of an eighteenth-century, one-and-half-story frame house joined with a mid-nineteenth-century two-story frame addition that exhibits fascinating examples of period craftsmanship such as the Jacobean multiple chimney stacks and an unusual floor plan. The house makes invaluable contributions to the architectural history of Lunenburg County, Virginia. Eubank Hall has been continuously occupied since its construction in the late eighteenth century; members of the current owner's family have resided in the house for more than two hundred years. As a result, many of the original features of the house are intact.

### Detailed Statement

Discussing Lunenburg County in particular and Southside Virginia in general, Dr. Philip Alexander Bruce noted that the history "has been too long neglected. . . . The spirit of Colonial times lingered there longest after Yorktown; the spirit of antebellum lingered longest after Appomattox."<sup>1</sup> For many years, historians did ignore the history of the region and its architecture. Untouched by the emerging institutions of eastern Virginia, the area was regarded as a "rude wilderness"<sup>2</sup> in dire need of being tamed. Despite these early misgivings, Lunenburg County emerged as an important area for the early settlement and evolution of the region and the state. It is against this backdrop that Eubank Hall and its own history can best be studied.

Situated within the rolling terrain of the Southside Virginia, Lunenburg County originated as part of the 100,000 acres, or approximately 6,000 square miles, in Southside Virginia belonging to noted planter William Byrd II. While traveling to survey his new holdings in 1733, Byrd took in the beautiful vista filled with sloping hills, numerous streams and rivers, and the lush forests of pine, oak, and hickory, all of which reminded him of the Tidewater. The gray sandy topsoil was more than fertile enough to sustain a productive agricultural economy, while the rich red clay beneath was ideal for making the hand-kilned bricks that would be used to construct the first homes in the area. The region was also known for its copper mines, another source of potential wealth. Sensing the vast economic potential of the Southside, Byrd hoped that the rich soil, beautiful forests, and favorable climate would draw settlers eager to take advantage of the various opportunities the area offered.

However much Byrd publicly extolled the virtues of his Southside holdings, in private he entertained serious misgivings. Calling the region "quite out of Christendom,"<sup>3</sup> he found that early Southside residents lacked basic forms of social and political organization. He also found their architecture distasteful, having had the misfortune to spend the night in a "poor dirty hovel, with hardly anything in it but children that wallowed about

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<sup>1</sup> Landon C. Bell, *The Old Free State: A Contribution to the History of Lunenburg County and Southside Virginia*, (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc, 1927) p. 9.

<sup>2</sup> Richard R. Beeman, *Evolution of the Southern Backcountry: A Case Study of Lunenburg County, Virginia 1746-1832*, (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1984,) p. 14.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 15.

like so many pigs.”<sup>4</sup> Any optimism that Byrd may have felt about his Southside land holdings rested on their potential development, not their actual condition. Members of the Virginia Assembly doubtless shared Byrd’s guarded hopes when, in 1746, they created Lunenburg County from Brunswick County, which had been

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established in 1714. Both counties were named after the Duke of Brunswick-Lunenburg, one of the many titles held by King George II.

In its first years of existence, Lunenburg County experienced little settlement. In part this underdevelopment resulted from the lack of a transportation system. There were few roads, and water traffic was almost nonexistent. Consequently, for the first three decades of its existence, residents primarily came from Surry and Isle of Wight counties to the East. Predominantly English and of humble means, these early settlers were joined by groups of Scottish, Scots-Irish, Swiss, French Huguenot, and German immigrants. Yet, given the rustic conditions that prevailed, many did not find Lunenburg welcoming and left after a short time in search of a better life.

The early residents in Lunenburg County owned little land. Few possessed slaves or had much money. Their architecture reflected their status, consisting of little more than one-room dwellings built of rough-hewn logs, turf, and dirt, resting on small posts that elevated each structure slightly above the ground. These were rarely permanent homes but illustrate the transient life of the early settlers. No doubt many of these abandoned homesteads served as dwellings for the next wave of settlers who came into the county. Even the names of the settlements illustrated the hazards and difficulties that these pioneers faced: Terrible, Difficult, Wolf Trap, and Panther, to name but a few.

Although most settlers may have arrived with little money, for the ambitious, poverty was no deterrent to acquiring land. There were two ways in which land could be acquired in colonial Virginia: by patent and by purchase. In the early years of the county, the colonial government offered free land through the granting of land patents, which came to those willing to navigate the bureaucratic hurdles in order to acquire one. Buying land was also cheap; for approximately £1, one could buy a parcel of 93 acres. In time, the economic future of Lunenburg County brightened, just as Byrd hoped it would, with the emergence of tobacco as a cash crop<sup>5</sup>

It is against this historical backdrop that English settler John Eubank began his life as a farmer and landholder in Lunenburg County. Little is known of Eubank’s origins. According to his descendents, John Eubank applied for and received a land patent covering several hundred acres when Lunenburg County was still part of Brunswick County. A thorough search of the land records for both counties, however, uncovered no such document. Nonetheless, by the time of the American Revolution, his name appears regularly in the records. In 1776, he enlisted in the Fourth Virginia Regiment and served for two years as a private, seeing action at the Battle of Guilford.<sup>6</sup> Upon returning to Lunenburg, he married Sarah Hendrick on January 23, 1783. It is believed that during this time, he built the one-and-a-half-story frame house that still stands today.

The house is typical of a mid- to late eighteenth-century Virginia dwelling of a yeoman farmer. Since there was an abundant supply of wood in the county, the house was probably constructed of framing timbers hewn square with a broad axe, smoothed with an adze, and then notched to construct the frame. Weatherboards and flooring were cut at a local sawpit of which there were many throughout Lunenburg

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4 Ibid.

5 Ibid., p. 11

6 John H. Gwathmey, *Historical Register of Virginians in the Revolution, Soldiers-Sailors-Marines, 1775-1783*, (Richmond VA: Dietz Press, 1938) p. 262 and Lucy Kate McGhee, *Virginia Pension Abstracts of the Revolution, 1812 and Indian Wars*, Volume 12, self-published, 1961.

County. Descendents believe that the bricks for the foundation were made at the property. Like many other Virginia farmhouses, the dominant feature is the large exterior brick chimney; in this case the chimney is constructed of brick and enclosed the kitchen fireplace. The floor plan of the original structure followed a common one-room design with a large fireplace located on the east wall and an entrance door on the west wall. To reach the first

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and attic floors, there originally may have been a ladder that was later replaced by a slightly curved wood staircase located at the northwest corner of the kitchen and the first-floor main room.

In time, John Eubank emerged as a prominent resident of the county. Known as "Captain," Eubank was a prosperous farmer whom his neighbors also considered a man of good character. His name is found in many of the recorded wills and deeds as a witness or an executor. He also gradually began to acquire more land through purchase and as payment for debts. When he died in 1790, Eubank had amassed enough land and personal property to leave his wife and their three children with the means to pay his debts and still live comfortably.<sup>7</sup> Among the items used to pay his debts were two gallons of rum, a pair of plow lines, a ladies hat, one pound of chocolate, a horse collar, two yards of calico, one hundred 8d nails, more than 2,700 pounds of tobacco, and 18 bushels of wheat.<sup>8</sup> The remaining property was then passed on to John's son, John T. Eubank. Born in 1788, John may have added the first addition onto the rear (west) of the eighteenth-century house. At the time of his death in 1846, the property, now consisting of approximately 540 acres, was deeded to one of John's sons, William T. Eubank.<sup>9</sup> According to the family, it was William who added the hipped roof with its distinctive chimneys that today graces the structure.

Eubank Hall is an important example of vernacular architecture, and therein is its principal significance. Like all vernacular forms, Eubank Hall manifests a combination of what architectural historian Dell Upton has labeled "folk" and "academic" elements. As such, the design of Eubank Hall falls into no single architectural category, but displays, and attempts to integrate, the aspects of several at once.<sup>10</sup> Despite the professionalization of architecture that was taking place in nineteenth-century America and the availability of inexpensive style and pattern books that enabled the widespread dissemination of architects' ideas, personal tastes and local conditions exerted a powerful, and frequently a determining, influence on architectural norms. Even with Eubank's efforts to incorporate elements of high-style, or academic, architecture, combining both English medieval and Classical designs into Eubank Hall, the house remains a variation on one of the most common vernacular types found in Virginia: the I-House. The odd first and second floor plans resemble somewhat an I-house floor plan of a central hall, Georgian subtype as noted in Henry Glassie's *Pattern in the material Folk Culture of the Eastern United States*.<sup>11</sup>

Eubank and the builder adapted that plan as needed to create a space that not only served the everyday life of the house, but also controlled the movement within it. For instance, the formal entrance door swings inward, leaving the visitor facing a doorway leading to the basement. Because of the door's angle, the vision is drawn to the left and into what was clearly the most elegant room in the house. The large room, with its tall windows, paneled surrounds, and simple ornamented fireplace and doorframes, calls to mind more formal classical

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7 Lunenburg County Will Book 4, p. 385.

8 Lunenburg County Will Book 3, p. 28.

9 Lunenburg County Deed Book 34, p. 120, Deed Book 36, p. 346.

10 Dell Upton, "Vernacular Domestic Architecture in Eighteenth-Century Virginia, in Dell Upton and John Michael Vlach, eds., *Common Places: Readings in American Vernacular Architecture*, (Athens: The University of Georgia Press, 1986), p. 315.

11 Henry Glassie, *Pattern in the material Folk Culture of the Eastern United States*, (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1968) p. 68.

elements, though it also reflects the influence of the vernacular in its materials and design. The hall staircase, which in other dwellings often faced the front entrance, is here hidden behind the interior wall and door leading to the basement. The odd arrangement of the second floor that, in effect, separated its residents, also illustrates one man's attempt to impose order within his walls.

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Certainly among the more interesting aspects of the home are the two Jacobean chimneys. As a rule, such chimneys, although popular, were rare because of the expense and difficulty of construction. Their more permanent form also did not fit in with the more temporary architecture often found on the frontier. Two of the most famous seventeenth-century examples of this style in Virginia are Bacon's Castle in Surry County and Winona in Northampton County. The design enjoyed a resurgence, however, with the advent of the Gothic Revival between 1840 and 1860, which the noted landscape architects and writers Alexander Jackson Davis and Andrew Jackson Downing had championed. In the case of Eubank Hall, the builder applied this particular Gothic Revival element to a house that was of a much more traditional style. Whether the chimneys were seen on another house or in a pattern book makes little difference; the addition of the chimneys illustrates the blending of old and new typical in rural areas during the nineteenth century.

Hexagonal chimney stacks are found on a small group of houses in Charlotte and Lunenburg counties and appear to be the work of a local mason who served the area, probably in the 1850s. Lying as it does on the Charlotte County line, Eubank Hall may be a part of the same mason's work. The four dwellings in Lunenburg County with Jacobean chimneys besides Eubank Hall are the Keller Homeplace (c. 1850), Shackleton (c. 1850), New Woodland (c. 1854), and Flat Rock (c. 1780). Like Eubank Hall, Flat Rock was a late-eighteenth century house to which the chimneys were added during an 1850s remodeling. A search of the census records has indicated a number of brickmasons working in Lunenburg County at the time these chimneys were constructed; however, further research would be needed to identify the particular mason responsible for this work.<sup>12</sup>

With the construction of Eubank Hall, William Eubank, to the extent his means permitted, emulated the Tidewater planters whose homes reflected the affluence to which others aspired. As was the case with many of his contemporaries, however, Eubank faced special problems in imitating that style. In absorbing from the more formal academic architecture a taste for regularity and order, Eubank also had to address local circumstances. The design of Eubank Hall was plausibly his effort to create the sense of a more settled, permanent, and prosperous existence in response to social, political, and economic tensions that continued to trouble Virginia well into the antebellum period.

Today Eubank Hall remains a single-family residence. Aware of the home's historical and architectural significance, the current owners have done little to alter the original design. An interesting and valuable example of an eighteenth- and nineteenth- century country farmhouse, Eubank Hall is an important historic landmark in Lunenburg County because of its unique styling setting it apart from other homes in area, and because it remains largely intact.

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<sup>12</sup> Kimberly Chen, "An Architectural Survey of Lunenburg County, Virginia, (Richmond, VA: Kimberly Chen & Associates, 2005) pp. 38-40.

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Boundary Justification**

All that certain tract labeled as Tax Map Number 66-A-63 in Charlotte County, Virginia and Tax Map Number 12-A-14 in Lunenburg County, Virginia containing 141.09 acres, more or less, lying on the western side of State Road Number 695, Eubank Road, shown on a plat prepared by Ray M. Mason, L.S., dated June 8, 2004, recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Lunenburg County in Plat Cabinet 3, Folder 197 and the Clerk's Office of Charlotte County in Plat Book 12 at Page 191 in Slide 186. The subject tract is located partially in the Central Magisterial District of Lunenburg County, Virginia and was conveyed to the Eubanks by deed recorded in the Clerk's Offices in Charlotte County and Lunenburg County, Virginia in Deed Books 351 and 297 at Pages 858 and 610 respectively.

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundaries were drawn to include the buildings historically associated with the property and to coincide with the boundaries of the property deeded to Andrew J. and Kathy B. Eubank on August 3, 2004.

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The following information is the same for all photographs:

Property: Eubank Hall Location: Lunenburg County, VA

Date of Photographs: September 2006; Photographer: Meg Greene Malvasi

Digital images archived at Va. Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA

Photo 1 of 12

View: West (front) elevation

Photo 2 of 12

View: East (rear) elevation

Photo 3 of 12

View: North elevation

Photo 4 of 12

View: Front entrance detail

Photo 5 of 12

View: Stair, 1846 section

Photo 6 of 12

View: Parlor, 1846 section

Photo 7 of 12

View: Parlor mantel, 1846 section

Photo 8 of 12

View: Bedroom mantel and door, 1846 section

Photo 9 of 12

View: Entrance, 1790s section

Photo 10 of 12

View: Parlor stair, 1790s section

Photo 11 of 12

View: Basement room, 1790s section

Photo 12 of 12

View: Equipment shed, ca. 1930s