

VLR-11/12/78 NRHP-5/7/79

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FGR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

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

Clark House; Willow Grove

AND/OR COMMON

Willow Grove (Preferred)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

W side of U.S. Route 15; 2 miles NW of Orange

CITY, TOWN

Madison Mills

VICINITY OF

Seventh (J. Kenneth Robinson)

STATE:

Virginia

CODE

51

COUNTY

Orange

CODE

137

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY (3) (See Continuation Sheet #1)
(2)

NAME (1) Mr. V. R. Shackelford, Jr., Mr. George Shackelford

STREET & NUMBER

One Perry Plaza, Post Office Box P71

CITY, TOWN

Orange

VICINITY OF

STATE

Virginia 22960

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Orange County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Orange

STATE

Virginia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey

DATE

1967, 1978

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, 221. Governor Street

CITY, TOWN

Richmond

STATE

Virginia 23219

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

The Willow Grove dwelling house is scenically set in a spacious estate amidst the rolling farmlands of the middle Piedmont. Termed by the noted architectural historian Fiske Kimball as "a unique example of the picturesqueness of growth", the present two-and-one-half-story structure is the result of two extensive building periods. The wood frame (southern) section dates from the 1790-1810 era, while the brick (northern) section dates from 1848. The two sections comprise a six-bay, 63' x 30' asymmetrically planned house.

Set on a high basement, the front (east) elevation consists of six bays. The three bays to the north are constructed of brick laid in Flemish bond, while the three bays to the south are wood frame, covered by weatherboarding. The two sections are given visual cohesion by a massive, two-and-one-half-story, tetrastyle pedimented portico. The portico contains Tuscan columns, a full Tuscan entablature, and a lunette in the tympanum, as well as its original arched brick podium. Chinese lattice railings decorate the first floor of the portico and the gallery. The latter is suspended on iron rods. The portico shelters first- and second-story, transom-and-sidelight doorways which retain their original paneled double doors. Fenestration throughout the house consists of 6/6 hung-sash windows containing wooden lintels with corner blocks and louvered blinds. A Tuscan cornice embellishes the slate-covered hip roof on the east and west elevations.

The rear (west) elevation contains a two-bay recessed portico cut out of the northwest corner. A one-story porch shelters the remaining four bays of the west elevation. Fenestration is similar to that found on the east elevation and also contains three dormer windows with 6/6 hung sash.

The north elevation consists of two bays, and the treatment of the fenestration is similar to that found on the east elevation. The fenestration of the south elevation comprises three bays, similar in execution to the east elevation. A side entry is framed by simple wooden architrave trim. Both the north and south elevations contain tall interior end chimneys.

Willow Grove's asymmetrical plan is dominated by a large entry hall which is flanked by a front parlor and rear porch to the north and a lateral stair hall and large back parlor to the south. The stair has paneled spandrels, scrolled brackets, and rectangular balusters, two to a tread. A finely turned newel supports a rounded handrail. The door and window frames in the stair hall and throughout the house contain simple wood trim. The most notable features of the interior are the mantels. The mantels in the south portion of the house are Federal in inspiration. Of particular interest is the reeded mantel in the southwest parlor, which is complemented by a simple wooden wainscot. The mantels in the 1848 north section are Greek Revival.

The Willow Grove estate contains a fine collection of outbuildings. A two-story schoolhouse, a one-story weaving house, and a smokehouse constitute the surviving antebellum dependencies. Numerous 19th-century farm buildings are located to the southwest of the main house. The buildings include a frame and stone barn and stable. A later frame stable is located to the east of the residence.

The grounds at Willow Grove include many varieties of shade trees, large magnolia trees, several types of holly and boxwood, and flowering shrubs dating from the 19th century. A rear flower garden features spring bulbs, lilies, and peonies. Several "mounds" in the front yard remain from the Victorian period, having at one time boasted flowers of complementing varieties to those found in the rear.

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

SPECIFIC DATES 1787-1810; 1848

BUILDER/ARCHITECT unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Willow Grove is a scenic historic estate set amidst the rolling farmlands of Orange County. The property is dominated by an imposing house, the earliest portion of which began as a modest frame dwelling built by 1800 for Joseph Clark. The house was substantially enlarged in 1848 by the addition of a brick wing and a monumental Tuscan portico by Clark's son, William D. Clark. The resulting structure stands as an impressive example of the influence of Thomas Jefferson's Classical Revival style on the homes and public buildings of Virginia's Middle Piedmont section and an indication of the prosperity of this portion of the state in the mid-19th century.

The land on which Willow Grove was built was acquired by Joseph Clark in 1787 and consisted of 248 acres. In the same year that Clark acquired the Orange County property, he petitioned to build a mill on "Glebe Run" and presumably settled on his Orange County estate at about this time. In 1828 Clark sold the Willow Grove property to his son, William, retaining possession of the land during his lifetime. In 1831 William D. Clark is charged in the Orange County tax books with 248 acres of land and "improvements" valued at \$1125. The "improvements" refer to the wood-frame house of his father, who died in 1839. No substantial additions were made to the property until 1848, when a tax book notation indicates that \$1711 worth of new buildings was added in that year, referring to the northern brick section of Willow Grove. The total value of the improvements was then listed as \$2992.

Although the two-story, brick addition contrasted with the original portion, Clark was able to give the enlarged structure a sense of unity and monumentality through the use of a two-and-one-half-story tetrastyle Tuscan portico. In terms of its facade, the remodeled house is not stylistically unlike earlier examples of the Jeffersonian-inspired residence; however, in terms of the interior, Clark chose to maintain the simplicity of his father's earlier Federal house.

It is to the credit of the Lyne and Shackelford families, who have owned the estate since 1890, that the grounds surrounding Willow Grove maintain a strong 19th-century flavor. The undulating lawns are dotted with large old trees, boxwoods, and various early outbuildings.

MTP/RCC

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Brockman, William E. Orange County Virginia Families. vol. 3. Minneapolis: By the Author, 1949, pp.95-97. (Section on the Clarks written by Jeanette Wasson Gray).
 Commager, Henry Steele, ed. Official Atlas of the Civil War. New York, 1958, Plate 87, No. 4.
 Culpeper County Will Book C, p. 275, p. 342.
 Gilmer Map for Orange County, 1864. In files of Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission and the Virginia Historical Society.

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 25 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Madison Mills, Va. QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 7	7 5, 0 8, 6, 0	4, 2 4, 0 0, 3, 0	B	1, 7	7 5, 1 0, 1, 0	4, 2 3, 9 9 1, 0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	1, 7	7 5, 1 0, 9, 0	4, 2 3, 9 7, 3, 0	D	1, 7	7 5, 0 8, 2, 0	4, 2 3, 9 6, 4, 0
E	1, 7	7 5, 0 6, 3, 0	4, 2 3, 9 7, 1, 0	F	1, 7	7 5, 0 6, 7, 0	4, 2 3, 9 9, 7, 0
G				H			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION Beginning at a point approximately 2800' SE of the Rapidan River, on SW side of U. S. Route 15; thence extending about 600' SE along said side of said route to intersection with 400' contour line; thence following said contour SW, NE, SW, W, then SW for about 1800'; thence extending approximately 650' NW to 500' contour and following

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES said contour NE for about 600'; thence extending approximately 700' NE to U.S. Route 15, point

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE of origin.
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission DATE November 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 X 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 *Tucker Hill* DATE NOV 21 1978

TITLE Tucker Hill, Executive Director
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Willow Grove, Orange County, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET #1

ITEM NUMBER 7,4,9 PAGE 1

7. DESCRIPTION

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

The nominated property constitutes a fraction of the original Clark holdings during 18th and 19th centuries. The boundary does encompass the gardens, outbuildings and tree and shrub plantings that enhance the estate. Willow Grove is bounded on the north by U. S. Route 15, on the east by a 400' contour line, on the south by a line that is drawn to include the farm buildings but not to include adjacent ridges, and on the west by a straight line that runs from the contour to U.S. 15.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Orange County Deed Book 32, p. 455 (1828).

Orange County Land Tax Books, 1782-1863.

Orange County Orders and Minutes, Books 2,3,4 (1785-1804).

Orange County Will Books 9, p. 9, pp. 66-69; 13, p. 50.

Woolfolk, C. W., and Daniels, W. J. Directory of Counties of Orange, Louisa, Albemarle, and Spotsylvania, 1895. Bibbs, Va., 1895.

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

(3) Mr. Lyne M. Shackelford
Box 65
Orange, Virginia 22960

USGS 7.5' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)
Madison Mills, Va. 1971

WILLOW GROVE, Orange County, Virginia

UTM References:

A-17/750860/4240030 B-17/751010/4239910

C-17/751090/4239730 D-17/750820/4239640

E-17/750630/4239710 F-17/750670/4239970

