

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date <u>N/A</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The Buckland Historic District is located in the small, rural, residential village of Buckland, the first inland town established in Prince William County, Virginia. The district centers on a traditional mill site that has been used for three different mills since the 1790s, including the present one constructed ca. 1899, along with an associated cluster of buildings on the mill road and the old Alexandria-Warrenton Turnpike (now Lee Highway, U.S. Rte. 29/211). It contains approximately 19.6 acres and is bounded on the east by Broad Run, a major tributary of the Occoquan River. The predominant architectural character of the area is early to late 19th-century vernacular, with relatively few unobtrusive modern additions and alterations, except for the modern highway U.S. 29/211. Besides the mill, the most significant buildings include an early 19th-century wagon tavern and a small church (ca. 1857). Most of the other buildings originally served combined commercial and residential purposes. Altogether, the district contains 21 buildings: 16 contributing and five noncontributing. There is also ^{one} ~~one~~ contributing site, the early churchyard cemetery containing graves of several persons prominent in the history of the church and the community.* Most of the contributing buildings are in good to excellent condition; only two are deteriorated, and one of these is currently being renovated.

* and the site of the mill foundation.
10/10/88

ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS

The Buckland Historic District stretches approximately .2 mile along Route 684 (Buckland Mill Road) north of Lee Highway (U.S. Route 29/211) and .1 mile along Rte. 684 south of the highway. The district is primarily linear in form and includes only that portion of the village with a significant concentration of early buildings. For the most part the houses are small, simple, 19th-century dwellings constructed of log, frame or stone; most were intended to serve a commercial as well as a residential purpose, and their architectural interest lies in their existence as part of a coherent ensemble of vernacular buildings. Now almost entirely residential in usage, the buildings nonetheless continue to reflect the traditional character of this small milling community established at the end of the 18th century on the western banks of Broad Run. Mature shade trees are interspersed with grassy lawns stretching down to the creek, creating a quiet rural setting for the well-maintained structures.

The pivotal structure in the historic district is a disused, turn-of-the-century frame grist mill, the third mill to be constructed on the same site at the north end of the district. An early 19th-century wagon tavern of stone stands at the entrance to the mill road; just across the highway is a frame and stone dwelling associated with a mid-19th-century blacksmith shop. A mid-19th-century frame church a few hundred feet away on the highway is the westernmost building included in the district, which is framed on the east by Broad Run.

