

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Virginia	
COUNTY: Goochland	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Goochland County Court Square

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Goochland County Court Square

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
E side of Rt. 6 (Rt. 522)

CITY OR TOWN:
Goochland

STATE: Virginia CODE: 45 COUNTY: Goochland CODE: 075

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Goochland County

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Goochland STATE: Virginia CODE: 45

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Goochland County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:
E side of Rt. 6 (Rt. 522)

CITY OR TOWN: Goochland STATE: Virginia CODE: 45

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1940 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: Goochland

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Goochland County Court House is a two-story temple-form brick structure with a projecting pedimented tetrastyle Tuscan portico. The brickwork is an exceptionally fine example of early-nineteenth century work with the front wall laid in Flemish bond and the side walls laid in American with Flemish variation. The windows retain most of their original six-over-six sash, and dark green louvered shutters. The general dimensions of the windows are diminished on the second floor. Access to the court house is gained through the central front door and two side doors, each just around the corner of the front wall. The rear of the building features a shallow apsidal end which has been obscured on the exterior by a 1955 addition containing new judge's chambers and jury room. In 1966 this rear addition was attached to a courthouse annex by a Jeffersonian-type arcade.

The interior of the court house has been altered and renovated, but it retains its original gallery and the two staircases leading up to it. The front of the gallery is a full Doric entablature supported on two Doric columns. Some early wooden benches also remain in the courtroom.

The handsome two acre court square, for which the court house is the focal point, is surrounded by its original brick wall and is dotted with large shade trees. Other buildings in the square include the 1848 two-story hipped roof stone jail, the original one-story brick clerk's office, and a monument to the Confederate dead of Goochland County.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1826

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Goochland County Court House is the fourth court house to serve the county and the second one to occupy the present site. The building was erected in 1826 by Dabney Cosby and Valentine Parrish. The design for the building was furnished by the builders, and the cornerstone referred to them as the "Architects".

As completed, the building shows a definite Jeffersonian influence with its Tuscan portico, temple form, and color scheme of red brick, white trim and green shutters. While it is fairly certain that Thomas Jefferson had no direct hand in its design, the influence probably came through Dabney Cosby, a skilled mason who had worked for Jefferson at the University of Virginia. A native of Staunton, Cosby is known to have built houses in that vicinity before working on the other side of the mountain. Unfortunately, little is known of Parrish other than his work at Goochland Court House.

The Goochland Court House survives as one of the better preserved and most beautiful Roman Revival or Jeffersonian court houses of Piedmont Virginia. As with the other Jeffersonian court houses, the Goochland Court House demonstrates the powerful influence Jefferson's architecture had on his former employees. It further serves to demonstrate Jefferson's notion that the architecture of ancient Rome should serve as a model for that of the young Republic because it would inspire Americans to emulate not only the aesthetic achievements, but the virtue and greatness of the Romans. As a shelter for local democracy, the county court house provided the perfect opportunity to give tangible expression to Jefferson's ideals.

The court house, together with the original clerk's office, old jail, and original wall to keep wandering cattle out, provide an excellent picture of what was necessary for a rural county seat of the nineteenth century.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Agee, Helene Barret, Facets of Goochland County's History, Richmond: The Dietz Press, 1962.
 Gaines, William H., Jr., "Courthouses of Goochland and Albemarle Counties," Virginia Calvacade, Vol. 17, No. 4 (Spring 1968), 5-11.
 O'Neal, William B., "The Workmen at the University of Virginia, 1817-1826: With Notes and Documents," The Magazine of Albemarle County History, Albemarle County Historical Society, Vol. 17 (1958-59), 5-16.
 Peters, John O. and Margaret T., Courts of the Richmond Area, Richmond: The Bar Association, 1969.

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 TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	37 ° 41 ' 01 "	77 ° 53 ' 08 "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	37 ° 41 ' 01 "	77 ° 52 ' 58 "				
SE	37 ° 40 ' 53 "	77 ° 52 ' 58 "				
SW	37 ° 40 ' 53 "	77 ° 53 ' 08 "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 10 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
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: 5/29/70
 STREET AND NUMBER:
 Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building
 CITY OR TOWN: Richmond
 STATE: Virginia
 CODE: 45

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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
 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

Title _____

Date _____

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

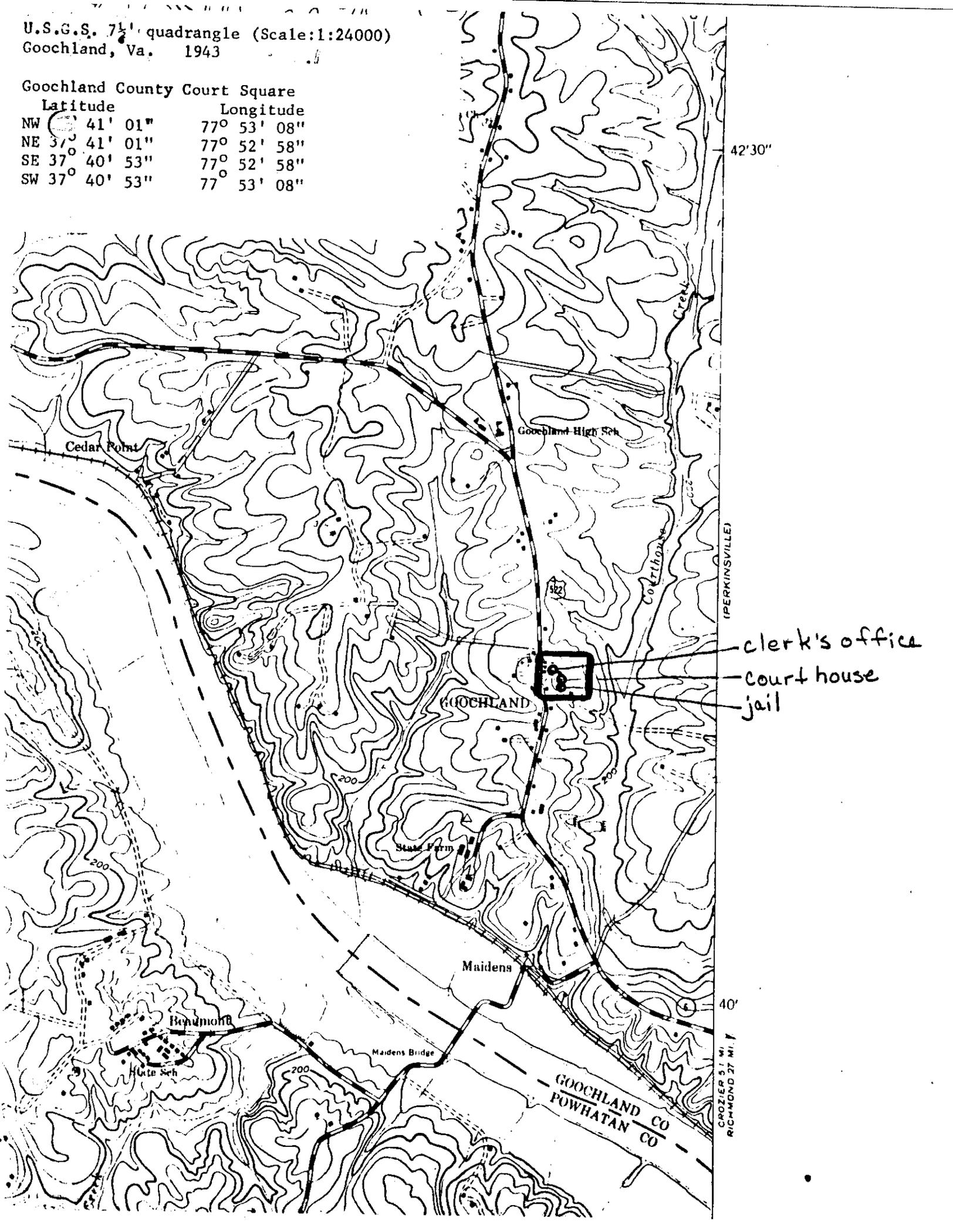
Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

U.S.G.S. 7 1/2' quadrangle (Scale:1:24000)
Goochland, Va. 1943

Goochland County Court Square

	Latitude	Longitude
NW	41° 01'	77° 53' 08"
NE	41° 01'	77° 52' 58"
SE	37° 40' 53"	77° 52' 58"
SW	37° 40' 53"	77° 53' 08"



42'30"

(PERKINSVILLE)

clerk's office
court house
jail

40'

CROZIER 31 MI.
RICHMOND 27 MI.

GOOCHLAND CO
POWATAN CO