

VLR 12/4/02
NRHP 4/11/03

(Rev. 10-90)
NPS Form 10-900

OMB No. 1024-0018

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 Bunting Place

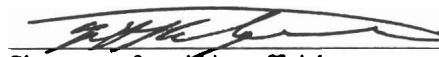
other names/site number Mapp Farm, Nickawampus Farm (DHR File # 01-17)

2. Location

street & number 31181 Drummondtown Road not for publication ☐
city or town Wachapreague vicinity x
state Virginia code VA county Accomack code 001 Zip 23480

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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.)

 2/12/03
Signature of certifying official Date
Virginia Department of Historic Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:
☐ entered in the National Register ☐ removed from the National Register
☐ See continuation sheet. ☐ other (explain):

☐ determined eligible for the
National Register

Signature of Keeper

☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined not eligible for the National Register

Date of Action

Bunting Place
Wachapreague vicinity, Accomack County

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)**Category of Property (Check only one box)**

Number of Resources within Property

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.)

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

[illegible]

- _____ 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.

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Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance c. 1826-1850

Significant Dates 1826

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder Not known

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(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

X State Historic Preservation Office

Other State agency

Federal agency

Local government

University

Other

Name of repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 35 acres

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

Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

1 2

3 4

See continuation sheet.

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National Park Service

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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: Paul Baker Touart, Architectural Historian

Organization: Private Consultant date 7/22/02

street & number: Cedar Hill P. O. Box 5 telephone 410-651-1094

city or town Westover state MD zip code 21871

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 Dr. and Mrs. Daniel T. Bolovan

street & number 454 Lake Drive-Clear Lake telephone 260-495-1905

city or town Fremont state Indiana zip code 46737

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.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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7. Summary Description:

Bunting Place, also known as the Mapp farm or Nickawampus farm, is located on the east side of Drummondtown Road (Route 605) on the north side of the town of Wachapreague, Accomack County, Virginia. Situated at the end of a long farm lane, the nominated dwelling and outbuildings are located on a rectangular parcel of land surrounded by farm fields as well as Nickawampus Creek to the northeast. Built around 1826 on axis with the entrance lane, the two-story, five-bay, brick-ended frame house is supported on a raised Flemish bond brick foundation with cellar, and the medium pitched gable roof is covered with a layer of wood shingles. The front and rear walls of the center hall/single pile plan main block are sheathed with original beaded weatherboards, while the gable ends are laid in Flemish bond brick. The main block is illuminated on the first floor with original nine-over-six sash windows, while the second floor is lighted by six-over-six sash windows. The window openings are flanked by early 19th-century louvered shutters.

Attached to the southeast gable end of the main block is a 1½-story frame wing that provided original service to the house and serves presently as a modern kitchen. The early 19th-century service wing joins two additional sections extending the main block in a stepped or telescope form widely implemented on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. Directly adjacent to the 19th-century kitchen is slightly shorter two-bay hyphen or colonnade section erected during the 1980s when restoration of the main block was accomplished. The modern hyphen joined a formerly detached outbuilding, thereby creating the characteristic stepped or telescoping profile. At the same time a modern rear wing and porch were built as well.

Joining the house on the nominated acreage are two historic outbuildings, a gable-front frame barn and a rectangular frame corn house, as well as a small family cemetery containing four family burials. The barn, corn house, and cemetery are contributing resources for the nomination. The burials include the graves for Solomon Bunting, his wife, Susannah, and son Thomas C. Bunting and grandson George Bunting. A modern 1 ½-story garage and a seven-sided gazebo are two modern structures that are non-contributing resources.

Detailed Description

Bunting Place is located on the north side of the town of Wachapreague, Accomack County, Virginia, and the house is situated at the end of a long farm lane, which intersects Route 605. The entrance lane is oriented on a northeast/southwest axis and is in line with the front door of the two-story, five-bay main block. Nickawampus Creek borders the 95-acre farm on its northeast side.

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The two-story, center hall plan, brick-ended frame house is supported on a Flemish bond brick foundation with cellar. The front and rear walls are sheathed with original beaded weatherboards, whereas the gable ends are laid in Flemish bond with a single stepped watertable. Attached to the gable end is a story-and-a-half kitchen wing that is contemporaneous with the main block. Attached to the southeast end of the kitchen wing is a single-story, two-bay hyphen which connects a former single story, gable-front summer kitchen. Extending the early 19th-century kitchen wing and modern hyphen to the northeast is a single-story wing and porch addition. The various medium pitched gable roofs are covered with wood shingles.

The southwest (main) elevation of the two-story, center hall plan dwelling is defined by a symmetrical five-bay façade with a center entrance and flanking nine-over-six sash windows. The double-leaf front door, finished with restored gain-painted panels, is sheltered by an early 20th-century gable roofed front portico supported by slender Tuscan columns. The windows are flanked by early 19th-century shutters fitted with parliament type hinges and twisted, wrought-iron shutter hooks. The foundation is pierced by original grilled openings that have horizontal cross-sectioned bars and molded surrounds. Lighting the second floor is a series of five symmetrically placed six-over-six sash windows retaining louvered shutters as well. The base of the roof is trimmed with a boxed cornice with original bed and crown moldings.

The northwest gable end is laid in Flemish bond with a single-stepped watertable. Two window openings fitted with six-over-three sash windows pierce the upper gable end. The edge of the roof is trimmed with a narrow bargeboard. Rising through the gable end is an interior end brick stack.

The northeast (rear) elevation is a five-bay façade with a center entrance sheltered by a single-story gable roofed portico featuring Tuscan columns. The first and second floors, like the front wall, retain six-over-six sash windows and louvered shutters. The base of the roof is finished with a boxed cornice.

The southeast brick gable end of the main block is partially covered by a story-and-a-half, two-bay frame kitchen wing. The southwest wall of the kitchen is defined by a six-over-six sash window and a door opening sheltered by a gable roofed hood. A pair of gable roofed dormers fitted with six-over-six sash windows light the upper floor. Piercing the gable end brick wall above the wing roof is a pair of six-over-three sash windows. The edge of the roof is finished with a bargeboard, and an brick stack rises through the gable end.

Extending farther to the southeast is a single-story, two-bay frame hyphen sheathed with plain weatherboards and covered with a wood shingle roof. Two six-over-six sash windows mark the southwest hyphen wall and are flanked by louvered shutters. Last in the series of sections is the

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formerly detached summer kitchen that has a gable-front roof orientation. The southwest wall is pierced by a centered door with a six-over-six sash window over it. The edge of the roof has a flush gable end finished with a plain bargeboard. Rising against the northwest wall of the summer kitchen is an exterior brick chimney stack finished with corbelled shoulders and cap.

The interior of the main block has survived with a very high percentage of its original early 19th-century woodwork. Built against the south wall of the passage is a closed string staircase fitted with slender newel posts topped by molded caps and a series of narrow rectangular balusters. The newel posts and balusters support a rectangular cross-sectioned handrail finished with corner beads. A six-panel door with restored graining decoration opens into a small closet beneath the staircase. The perimeter of the passage is trimmed with 19th-century paint decorated baseboard and chair rail moldings. A section of beaded edge peg rail is imbedded in the south passage wall. The front and rear split leaf paneled doors have restored paint decoration based on microscopic analysis of original surfaces. On the north passage wall an early 19th-century Federal period architrave frames a six-panel door that opens into the parlor. The door has been regrained according to the paint research. A stylized mahogany pattern covers the rails and stiles, while a yellow ochre maple pattern with delicate quadrant-cornered line borders distinguishes the panels.

The parlor is the most elaborately finished room in the house. Greek Revival corner block surrounds frame the passage door as well as each of the nine-over-six sash window openings. The window muntins have a Gothic point profile. Chair rail extends around the perimeter of the room along with a high molded baseboard. The chimney stack is embellished with a late Federal period mantel with paneled pilasters rising to a five-part block frieze. The end blocks are embellished with five-point stars. The center block and the recessed adjacent panels are distinguished in green, which contrasts with the greyish black marbling found on the balance of the mantel. Stretching across the top of the frieze is a broken profile shelf featuring a dentiled bed molding. The thin board atop the shelf is painted in a contrasting reddish brown color. The ceiling has been enriched with a modern crown molding.

On the opposite side of the passage is the dining room, which features a marbled Federal mantel and a built-in cupboard. The window and door openings are framed by Federal ogee backband architraves. The Federal mantel has a molded firebox surround on which rests a three-part block frieze and molded mantel shelf. The entire mantel is covered with the greyish-black marbling. The adjacent cupboard visually rests atop the Federal chair rail, and a four-panel cupboard door is framed by Federal ogee backband architrave. The dining room is fitted with period chair rail and baseboard moldings. A modern crown molding has been installed in this room as well.

The second floor is divided by a second floor passage with a small room partitioned in the

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front end of the upstairs passage for a bathroom. To the north and south are large chambers featuring relatively plain Federal mantels as well as simple chair rail and baseboard moldings. The north chamber is entered through a six-panel door that is grained in a similar mahogany and maple pattern as found on the first floor. The north chamber mantel is flanked by modern closets fitted with six-panel doors.

Distinguishing the south chamber entrance is a contrasting grained yellow-pine six-panel door. The south chamber has an original closet to the right of the fireplace.

From the second floor passage the staircase continues to an unfinished attic, which is entered through a beaded board-and-batten door. The roof framing remains original with pinned mortise-and-tenon peak joints and half-dovetailed collars stabilizing the common rafters. Mature cut nails are found throughout the roof framing and wide pine floor boards.

The contemporaneous kitchen wing houses a modern kitchen. The interior retains an enclosed ladder type stair that is hidden behind by horizontal wide pine boards finished with beaded edges and fastened with cut nails. The loft above the kitchen has been modernized as another chamber. The room retains wide pine flooring.

The interior of the modern hyphen is furnished as a library. The north wall is distinguished by a Federal mantel and built-in cupboard, whereas the opposite wall features a full wall of built in library shelving with paneled doors below and glazed doors above. The ceiling has a slight vault.

The interior of the fourth section was extensively reworked when the restoration took place. A ladder type stair provides access to a second floor loft. The room is dominated by a large cooking fireplace and exposed, hand-hewn joists. Located on the north side of the hyphen and old summer kitchen is the single story wing that houses a downstairs bedroom suite.

The outbuildings on the property include a rehabilitated gable-front frame barn supported on a poured concrete floor and brick foundation. The exterior has been completely renewed with plain weatherboard siding, and the structure is covered with wood shingles. Standing on the north side of the barn is a rectangular frame corn house. These are the only historic outbuildings remaining on the property. Located on the opposite side of the yard is a seven-sided gazebo with turned posts and sawn brackets. Located in the center of the backyard is the Bunting family cemetery which contains four marked burials.

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8. Statement of Significance

Bunting Place is architecturally significant as defined in Criteria C. The two-story, five-bay dwelling is representative of a regionally distinctive method of construction with timber frame front and rear walls sandwiched between Flemish bond brick gable ends. This regionally distinctive method of construction is interpreted as a thrifty manner in which to gain the solidity and safety inherent in masonry wall construction around fireplaces, and at the same time save in materials cost with less expensive timber frame front and rear walls. The exterior of the main block retains a very high degree of integrity with much of its exterior fabric intact.

The interior is fitted with finely executed Federal/Greek Revival inspired woodwork characteristic of the early 19th century. The six principal spaces—parlor, passage, dining room, second floor passage and two chambers—are largely intact with only minor aspects of woodwork restoration or augmentation.

Particularly significant and singularly outstanding in Accomack County are the 19th-century paint schemes. Restored to their original brilliance through microscopic examination, paint removal and repainting, the decorative paint surfaces dominate the principal first floor rooms and to a lesser degree the second floor chambers. There is a wide variety of painting techniques, some of which are unmatched by other examples on the Eastern Shore, according to the paint analysis.(1) Inherent in the woodwork and paint finishes in the house is a definite hierarchy in elaboration from the most formal and detailed room—the parlor—to the plainer second floor chambers.

The exterior design and construction as well as the woodwork and paint hierarchy inside are architecturally significant in the manner and form in which they clearly demonstrate 19th-century aesthetic and organizational priorities as manifested in an upper level merchant-planter's dwelling.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Merchant-planter Solomon Bunting (1788-1850) financed construction of this two-story, center hall plan dwelling after his purchase of a 365-acre tract in March 1826.(2) Solomon Bunting paid John Finney and his wife Margaret \$4,811.33 for the plantation bordering a branch of Wachapreague Creek. Local oral tradition holds that an 18th-century complex formerly located on the property burned, thereby necessitating the construction of the new house on the same site. This tradition has

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has not been verified in any archaeological investigation. The mature cut nails found throughout the main block and wing as well as the Federal/Greek Revival character of the woodwork comfortably date the house to Solomon Bunting's occupancy.

At the same time as the purchase of the Wachapreague Creek property, Solomon Bunting and his wife Susannah sold some of their interests in property in Locustville.(3) For the sum of \$1,145.75, the Buntings transferred to William Elliott,

"...the Lot and appurtenances in Locust Ville now occupied by said Bunting excluding the new Smoke house and the garden vegetables to the use of the said Bunting and also the Gate and Gate Posts said lot being bounded as follows to wit Eastwardly by the seaside County road"

The property conveyed to William Elliott contained three acres, including the "*new Store house recently built by said Bunting.*" In a slightly earlier transfer dated 1824, Smith Ashley conveyed to Solomon Bunting and William Elliott, late merchants trading under the firm of Bunting, Elliott & Co., a group of six slaves, two horses, one yoke of oxen and "wayne (sic) and wheels," sixteen head of cattle or cows, as well as one riding gig and harness.(4)

By testimony of the house he built and land and slaves that he owned, Solomon Bunting was a very successful merchant-planter in Accomack County during the first half of the nineteenth century. He lived long enough to be enumerated in the seventh census (1850) of the United States. Solomon Bunting is listed as a farmer with an estate valued at \$8,000, and he is grouped in the census with his wife "Catherine," and another female, Susan Hargis.(5) Solomon Bunting died the same year on July 11th, and was interred in a grave located between the house and the creek.(6) His wife "Susanah C. Bunting," died shortly thereafter in October, and she is buried directly adjacent.

As directed in his will, written in 1848 and proved in August 1850 following his death, the Wachapreague Creek farm passed to his son Thomas C. Bunting. Solomon Bunting bequeathed some additional land to his son Thomas as well as "my two large looking glasses in the parlor," "my walnut desk," "my silver tea spoons," as well as "the fifth choice of beds and furniture."(7)

Thomas C. Bunting maintained the family mercantile business during the third quarter of the nineteenth century. He is listed in the ninth census (1870) of the United States as a retail merchant with an impressive valuation of real estate and personal property totaling \$21,000. He

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is grouped with his wife Maria, aged 45, and several children. Thomas and Maria's son, C. L. Bunting, is identified as a "clerk in store."⁽⁸⁾

Shortly after the 1870 census, Thomas C. Bunting sold his parent's farm to William S. Hope for \$10,000.⁽⁹⁾ The entire 365-acre tract was transferred, excepting the family graveyard. Thomas C. Bunting died on October 1, 1877 and was buried next to his parents in the family plot.

The Bunting farm remained under the tenure of William S. Hope until his death in 1894 when his estate was divided among his surviving children, John T. F. Hope, George W. Hope, and James F. Hope.⁽¹⁰⁾ John T. F. Hope ended up with the Wachapreague Creek farm, and in 1907 passed it on to his daughter, Sadie A. Mapp.⁽¹¹⁾ According to John T. F. Hope's will he resided in Somerset County, Maryland, while his daughter Sadie occupied the old Bunting house. Sadie A. Mapp retained title to the farm until foreclosure in 1934. By that time the property had been reduced to 95.10 acres.⁽¹²⁾ During the second half of the twentieth century the farm has been held by a series of owners. The present residents purchased the farm with 95.10 acres in August 1981 and proceeded through a painstaking restoration of the main house.⁽¹³⁾

Endnotes

- 1 Croxson and Ward, "Distinctive Decorative Features of Bunting Place." No date.
- 2 Accomack County Land Record, 22/117, 16 March 1826. Accomack County Courthouse, Accomac, Virginia.
- 3 Accomack County Land Record, 22/145, 18 March 1826, Accomack County Courthouse, Accomac, Virginia.
- 4 Accomack County Land Record, 21/320, 14 December 1824, Accomack County Courthouse, Accomac, Virginia.
- 5 Seventh Census of the United States, Population Schedule for Accomack County, Virginia, transcribed by Patricia Scherzinger, Heritage Books, 1988, p. 106.
- 6 Inscription on tombstone at Bunting Place.

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- 7 Accomack County Will Book, 1846-1882, folio 85, proved 29 August 1850. Accomack County Courthouse, Accomac, Virginia.
- 8 Ninth Census of the United States, Population Schedule for Accomack County, Virginia, transcribed by Gail M. Walczyk, Peter's Row, 1999, p. 173.
- 9 Accomack County Land Record, 47/575, 22 July 1872, Accomack County Courthouse, Accomac, Virginia.
- 10 Accomack County Will Book, 1882-1901, folio 278, proved 27 February 1894, Accomack County Courthouse, Accomac, Virginia.
- 11 Accomack County Will Book, 1904-1920, folio 207, proved 8 November 1907, Accomack County Courthouse, Accomac, Virginia.
- 12 Accomack County Land Record, 145/353, 17 July 1934, Accomack County Courthouse, Accomac, Virginia.
- 13 Accomack County Land Record, 441/122, 6 August 1981, Accomack County Courthouse, Accomac, Virginia.

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Bibliography

Accomack County Land Records, various volumes, Accomack County Courthouse.

Accomack County Plat Records, various volumes, Accomack County Courthouse.

Accomack County Will Books, various volumes, Accomack County Courthouse.

Croxson and Ward, "Distinctive Decorative Features of Bunting Place," no date.

Forman, H. Chandlee. *The Virginia Eastern Shore and Its British Origins*, Easton, Maryland: Eastern Shore Publishers' Associates, 1975.

Scherzinger, Patricia ed. *Seventh Census of the United States, Population Schedule for Accomack County, Virginia*, 1988.

Walczyk, Gail M. ed. *Ninth Census of the United States, Population Schedule for Accomack County, Virginia*, Peter's Row, 1999 .

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Boundary Description

The nominated 35 acres is located east of Route 605 (Drummondtown Road) northwest of the town of Wachapreague. The 35-acre parcel is part of a larger 95-acre farm that is designated Parcel 48 on Accomack County Tax Map 103. The boundary of the nominated acreage begins at a point along Nickawampus Creek at a common point for the boundary of the Bolovan acreage and the property of Mason Lang Mapp (Parcel 50) to the north, and thence by and with the course of Nickawampus Creek to a gut on the south side of the Bolovan property, and thence in a southwesterly direction along the south line of the Bolovan property following the course of the said gut for a distance of approximately 1200' to a point on the boundary line separating the Bolovan acreage and the land of Paul Frederick Berge (Parcel 40) and thence in a northwesterly direction across the full width of the Bolovan acreage for approximately 1500' feet to a point on the boundary line separating the Bolovan acreage and the lot of Mason Lang Map (Parcel 49), and thence in a northeasterly direction by and with the common boundary line for approximately 600' feet to the place of beginning on the shoreline of said creek, and including approximately 35 acres, more or less.

Boundary Justification

The thirty-five acres delineated within the nominated boundary includes the ground immediately surrounding the nominated house and at the same time leaves a clear protective buffer between the house, outbuildings, cemetery and the historic shoreline of Nickawampus Creek that remains in a pristine undeveloped state. The southwest boundary line separates the nominated acreage from the balance of the farm (approximately 60 acres), which does not contribute to the historical significance of the property.

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Photograph List

The following photographs of Bunting Place in Accomack County were taken by Paul Touart on July 24, 2002. The negatives are filed at the Virginia Department of Historic Resources under negative number 20127.

1. Southwest Elevation
2. Southwest Elevation
3. Southeast Elevation
4. Northwest Elevation
5. Northwest Elevation
6. Northeast Elevation with Bunting Cemetery in Foreground
7. Portico, Southwest Elevation
8. Northeast Elevation of Modern Wing
9. Barn and Corn Crib, Southeast Elevation
10. Barn, Southeast Elevation
11. Gazebo, Northwest Elevation
12. Garage, Southeast Elevation
13. Center Passage
14. Parlor Mantel
15. Parlor Door Architrave
16. Dining Room Mantel and Cupboard
17. South Chamber and Closet