

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

VLR 6-16-99

NRHP 8-5-99

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 Chellowe
other names/site number VDHR file no. 014-0017

2. Location

street & number State Route 623 N/A not for publication
city or town Sprouses Corner X vicinity
state Virginia code VA county Buckingham code 029 zip code 22554

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 X statewide ___ locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] Signature of certifying official/Title
6/30/99 Date

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/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is: Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
___ entered in the National Register.
___ See continuation sheet.
___ determined eligible for the National Register.
___ See continuation sheet.
___ determined not eligible for the National Register.
___ removed from the National Register.
___ other (explain):

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

private
 public-local
 public-State
 public-Federal

building(s)
 district
 site
 structure
 object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Category

Subcategory

DOMESTIC
DOMESTIC
LANDSCAPE

single dwelling
secondary structure
garden

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Category

Subcategory

WORK IN PROGRESS

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Early Classical Revival
Greek Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation	Brick
walls	Wood
roof	Slate
other	Metal

Narrative Description

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

8. Statement of Significance

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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Bolling, Philip A.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- 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 fifty years.

Period of Significance

Ca. 1800-1849

Significant Dates

Ca. 1840

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Parrish, Valentine (attributed)

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:

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

Name of repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approximately 8 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	17	728570	4151620	3	17
2	17		4	17	

___ 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 Don A. Swofford, AIA (section 7 & 8) and J. Daniel Pezzoni (section 8)
organization Wood Swofford & Associates, Architects date April 14, 1999
street & number 812 East High Street telephone (804) 979-7407
city or town Charlottesville state VA zip code 22902

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 Gene B. Dixon, Jr.
street & number c/o Kyanite Mining Corporation, PO Box 486 telephone (804) 983-2085
city or town Dillwyn state Virginia zip code 23936

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 Reduction Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Section number 7 Page 1

Chellowe
Buckingham Co., Va.

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Summary

Chellowe with its Palladian three part house featuring a fine superimposed portico, fine collection of period outbuildings, amid a surrounding landscaped park setting and broad rolling fields is a superb example of the early nineteenth century plantation paradigm ever so gently evolving into the twenty-first century. The immediate grounds and lawn around the center house at Chellowe are comprised of approximately 8 acres (see site plan, Exhibit A) and contain the Chellowe main house, an office, a kitchen, and garden terraces.

Inventory

1. Chellowe (main house). Ca. 1820; ca. 1840. Contributing building.
2. Kitchen. Ca. 1800. Contributing building.
3. Office. Ca. 1840. Contributing building.
4. Garden terraces. 19th c. Contributing site.

Description

About 140 feet to the north of the main house, an early plantation road runs from east to west, parallel to the long axis of the house. Mounds, indicative of the ruined foundations of earlier outbuildings along that road demarcate the lawn on the north or entry side of the parcel. On center with the north-south, cross axis of the house is a small building represented as "The Office". Preliminary research indicates that one of the mounds was the original kitchen, later moved and abutted to the main house, recently detached, and soon to be returned to its conjectured original location. The details of this kitchen with its nine over nine lights windows, six panel doors, molding and trim date to a period earlier (possibly ca. 1800) than the office and main house. Current plans call for the reconstruction of a pigeonaire or dovecoat--illustrated in an early document of the Bolling Family-- and a brick smokehouse in line with the office. Standing outside the nominated parcel is a residence built about 1870, of simple balloon framing with board and batten siding, and mid-twentieth-century additions and alterations. Nearby agricultural buildings include a ca. 1840 barn, around which a new horse facility has been constructed, and a ca. 1880 tobacco barn which has been continuously rebuilt to its present time. The entry side of the house is completed with evidence of stone paved paths to the various outbuildings.

On the garden, or south side of the house, there is an ellipse centered on the north-south cross axis. To the east of the ellipse and the house are the remains of a terraced garden balanced with

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Chellowe
Buckingham Co., Va.

Description (continued)

a walnut grove to the north of the garden. Entry to the garden is defined by two overgrown boxwood off the central axis of the garden, to the north. Again, mounds and depressions in the garden and around the ellipse indicate the location of at least three former buildings. The west side of the ellipse is broken by an entry to the estate from the farm road bordering the west grounds. The entry is defined by large roughly cut stones.

The north side of the ellipse offers the imposing garden facade of the main house. The three part Palladian plan of central pavilion with flanking wings centers the dramatic and well proportioned central pavilion. The portico is tetrastyle, superpositioned executed in coupled columns depicting the Roman Doric order on the first and second tiers. The front entry porch is flanked on the first floor by two built-in benches and the upper gallery has a Chippendale railing similar to that seen in the Owen Biddle or Asher Benjamin builder's books: crosslines into a bullseye. A very well detailed modillionated Ionic cornice terminates the rise of the house walls, and the edge of the roof. The roofs of the twin two story flankers terminate in hips on the east and west ends. The roof is slate, with standing seam metal roofing on the low slope portions. The structure of the house is braced frame in wood (mostly pine or poplar) and covered with beaded wood weatherboards, 6" to weather. Every window has its original shutters.

Entry to the house is gained from the garden side. After proceeding under the portico, one enters the house through a double door with a three part architrave surround and a geometrically patterned transom over the door (again with references to Biddle or Benjamin). The central entry door has two flanking windows, double-sashes 12 over 12 lites with flush beaded siding underneath the portico, between engaged pilasters of the orders on both the first and second floors. Inside the building one stands in an east-west transverse hall in the central pavilion. The entryway ceiling is adorned with a modest medallion consisting of acroteria and acanthus leaves. The ceiling is bordered with straight, bundles of reeds, broken at about six foot intervals into bundles of acanthus leaves on either side of a rosette. The door surrounds are square with square termination blocks, turned in the same profile as the door surround and similar to Asher Benjamin's door architraves seen in Plate XVII from his 1830 *The Architect*.

Proceeding to the west, one enters an approximate 20' x 20' square room which tradition holds to have been the original sitting room from the 1835 period. The fireplace is adorned with a later period mantelpiece, of less than modest architectural detailing, not particularly parallel with the three piece Ionic architraves and eight panel doors in this room. The ceiling is bordered with a Greek Revival cornice and a superb medallion, about 10 foot in diameter, executed in rings of acroteria, acanthus leaves and an outside border of entwined grapes and vines. One proceeds

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Chellowe
Buckingham Co., Va.

Description (continued)

through the back door to the present kitchen which is believed to be the original kitchen moved from its site at the rear of the yard approximately 140 feet to the north. The kitchen cabinets were installed in an earlier campaign of approximately 1935, when the kitchen was moved to abut the house, and are frugally interpreted in plywood. Returning to the cross main entry hall one proceeds through one of two doors with square transoms over them into what was believed to be the dining room in the central pavilion of the house. This room has a mantel, similar to that in the sitting room previously described, not consistent with the architectural detailing of the house. A cornice in the Greek Revival style similar to that seen in the previous sitting room encircles the room. The cornice breaks on either side of a window looking out to the entry side of the house on the north. The cornice continues across the door into a back anteroom or entry room almost attached to the entry side of the house. Proceeding into this entry one enters a small room that appears to be a heavily remodeled entry vestibule on the north side of the house. Cabinets, drywall and salvaged door openings indicate the date and extent of the remodelling. From the cross hall immediately to the east of the large dining room is the stair hall. Entering the stair hall, one passes under a large archway with a well detailed and proportioned keystone. The stairway is undetailed and modest, once again with references to Biddle. The panelling below the stairway, however, is a multi-panelling typical of that seen in houses known to be attributed to Jacob Holt. The door trim in the dining room is similar to the previously noted Benjamin door surrounds with transoms over the door. The eight panelled doors also refer to Benjamin.

To the east side of the central pavilion is a room presently adapted with library shelves and includes a square bay to the east. Tradition holds this room to be another sitting room and later a bedroom. The room has a Greek Revival mantle of gold-veined black marble with a marbled wood replacement pilaster. The mantel, which appears to date to the mid-nineteenth century, replaces an original mantel. Proceeding through a door to the back of the room, one passes through a small appendage, part of the cross hall entry at the north side of the house. It connects directly to the underside of the stair into the stair hall. Evidence shows that this small closet was originally a bathroom (there are broken plumbing pipes in the basement below) that was removed during a 1950 remodelling.

Proceeding to the second floor, again there is a side hallway and a cross hall, reflecting the floor plan below. All the doors and architraves on this floor are six-panel doors, with simple three piece architraves similar to that found in the sitting room on the first floor. The room immediately at the top of the stair, to the east over the library/bedroom below is a 20' x 20' room believed to be bedroom. Exterior photographs suggest that there was an oriel window on

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**Chellowe
Buckingham Co., Va.**

Description (continued)

the east side of the house which would have been a projecting bay from that bedroom and from the library/bedroom of the first floor below. The sitting room below is reconfigured as a square rather than the oriel in a 1950 remodelling, and the second floor was made into a bathroom adjacent to the bedroom. The hardware in the house is early carpenter style rim locks that appear to be the original locks on the doors.

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**Chellowe
Buckingham Co., Va.**

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Summary

Chellowe is a sophisticated classically inspired residence located in the Willis Mountain area of eastern Buckingham County, Virginia. The two-story frame house attained its present form about 1840, but it appears to incorporate fabric from an earlier nineteenth-century residence, perhaps the home of Linnaeus Bolling, a three-term state representative, and it took its name from the nearby eighteenth-century home of Linnaeus's father, politician and poet Robert Bolling of Chellowe. The present house, with its graceful Doric portico, transverse-passage plan, and ornamental plasterwork, was completed by Linnaeus's son Philip, who is believed to have employed Valentine Parrish as his builder. Philip A. Bolling represented Buckingham County in the Virginia House of Delegates during the 1831-32 session, and he played an important role in the slavery debates that followed the Nat Turner insurrection of 1831. He argued for the eventual abolition of the "blighting, withering curse" of slavery, which he claimed had a negative effect on white Virginia society in addition to the harm it caused blacks, but his faction was unsuccessful in reforming the institution and his liberal views contributed to his electoral defeat in 1832. Chellowe was acquired in 1849 by Robert Thruston Hubard I, whose son, Farmville business leader Robert Thruston Hubard II, used the property as a country residence from the 1870s until his death in 1921. Chellowe remained in the Hubard and related Henneman families until 1951. Near the main house are a ca. 1800 kitchen, a ca. 1840 office, and garden terraces.

Justification of Criteria

Chellowe is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C in the area of architecture for the sophistication of its classically inspired exteriors and interiors, ostensibly Greek Revival in character but likely showing the influence of Jeffersonian Early Classical Revival. The property is also significant under Criterion B in the area of politics/government for its association with Philip A. Bolling, a leading advocate for abolition during the slavery debate of 1831-32 in the Virginia legislature. Chellowe is eligible at the state level of significance on account of Philip A. Bolling's role in an event of importance to the state's political history, and secondarily for its architectural refinement. The period of significance extends from ca. 1800, the apparent period of construction of the kitchen, through 1849, the date its direct association with Philip A. Bolling ceased.

Acknowledgments

A number of individuals and organizations assisted in the preparation of this report, foremost among them Chellowe's present owner, Gene B. Dixon Jr. Others who provided assistance

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Chellowe
Buckingham Co., Va.

Statement of Significance (continued)

included the Clerk of Court of Buckingham County, and Robert A. Carter, Suzanne Durham, June Ellis, Jean McRae, Marc Wagner, and Jack Zehmer of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources.

Historical Background

Chellowe takes its name from an earlier Chellowe built about 1760 for Robert Bolling (1738-1775) at a nearby location; this earlier house is said to have been named for an ancestral Bolling family home in England. As portrayed in a sketch made by Bolling in 1766, the original (Buckingham) Chellowe was a story-and-a-half weatherboarded house with a gable roof and gabled dormers. Educated in England and Williamsburg, Robert Bolling served Buckingham County as a sheriff, justice, and representative in the General Assembly. In 1766 he was a litigant in a case that tested the powers of the royal governor with regard to freedom of the press, and he was a member of the Constitutional Convention of July 1775. Robert Bolling was also a man of letters; he was fluent in Latin, French, and Italian, and he was a prolific poet who published in the *Virginia Gazette*, the London *Universal Magazine*, and other journals. According to historian Leo Lemay, "Bolling generally was regarded as pre-Revolutionary Virginia's best writer--and as a primary defender of the rights and privileges of Virginians." One of his poems, published in the May 15, 1769 edition of the *Virginia Gazette* as "Occupation inscribed to his Children," gives a humorous account of family life at Chellowe.¹

Robert Bolling and his second wife, Susanna Watson, had four children; the youngest, Linaeus Bolling (1773-1836), acquired part ownership in the Chellowe tract by 1809. Tax records for that year list Linaeus and his brother Powhatan Bolling (then deceased) as co-owners of 3,633 acres described as "part of Chellow tract." Powhatan, who died in 1803, was earlier described as the sole owner of the 3,633 acres in records extending back to 1795. A journal kept by Linaeus in the year 1814 describes frequent visits to Chellowe as an escort to family members, to set out fruit trees, and for other tasks, but the references indicate that Linaeus did not live at Chellowe at the time. He appears to have become sole owner of Chellowe by 1815, perhaps as early as

¹ Couture, "Preliminary History of Chellowe," 4; Swofford, "Chellowe;" Maloney, *History of Buckingham County*, 11-13; Stabile, "Life and Times of Robert Bolling," 2-4, 10, and 22-23; and Lemay, *Robert Bolling Woos Anne Miller*, 23.

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Chellowe
Buckingham Co., Va.

Statement of Significance (continued)

1812. Linaeus married Mary Markham in 1793.²

Linaeus (also Linnaeus, Leneaus, or Leneaus)--named after the Swedish naturalist Carolus Linnaeus--followed in his father Robert's footsteps, practicing law and serving three terms in the Virginia legislature. A lengthy obituary in the January 26, 1836 issue of the *Richmond Enquirer*, quoted here in part, extolled his many accomplishments:

Died, at his residence, in Buckingham county, on the 7th inst., after a painful and protracted illness of five weeks, and in the 63d year of his age, Linnaeus Bolling, Esq.

The principles by which he was governed, were so conscientious and correct, that of him, it may appropriately be said, "that his soul was the seat of honour." His undeviating rectitude was not the result of early education, nor was it influenced by public sentiment, but it emanated from a mind, that loved virtue for its own sake . . .

Mr. Bolling was for many years an active and faithful Magistrate. He was also a member of the General Assembly during the memorable Session of '99-1800, and frequently thereafter represented the people of Buckingham, in the Legislature of Virginia. In politics, he was a Republican of the Jeffersonian School. His patriotism consisted in an ardent devotion to the rights and interests, the prosperity and welfare of his country, and not in the interested or sycophantic support of any political aspirant. Although his fortune, and the times in which he lived were well calculated to engender aristocratic feelings in his bosom, the affability and courtesy of his manners, the decorum and dignity of his deportment, the hospitable and unostentatious style in which he lived, proved his exemption from them.

By the end of 1837 the Chellowe tract had been assigned to Linaeus's son, Philip A. Bolling. Philip too was a lawyer, and he also served in the Virginia House of Delegates. His term during the session of 1831-32 coincided with a fierce legislative debate on the question of slavery, occasioned by the Nat Turner insurrection in Southampton County in 1831. "The frankest discussion of the evils of the slave system since the Revolutionary era," historian Virginius

² Buckingham County tax records; Leneaus Bolling journal; and Lemay, *Robert Bolling Woos Anne Miller*, 22.

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Chellowe
Buckingham Co., Va.

Statement of Significance (continued)

Dabney has called this debate, which commenced in the Virginia House on January 11, 1832 with presentations by five delegates. One of the delegates was Philip A. Bolling, whose speech in favor of abolition has been described as "apparently the major oration of the day" by historian Joseph C. Robert.³

Bolling's position might be more accurately described as emancipationist, in that neither he nor his colleagues supported the abrupt and unconditional elimination of slavery that Northern abolitionists were then espousing; in fact they tried to distance themselves from the Northern movement. Bolling instead sought to "lay the foundation" for a "system of general emancipation" by taking limited actions such as the colonization of manumitted slaves in Africa. Bolling and others in the anti-slavery faction regarded their timid proposals as the best they could do considering the entrenchment of slavery in Virginia society, but their opinions of slavery were anything but timid. Bolling blamed the "blighting, withering curse" of slavery for a host of societal ills including profligacy, indebtedness, and soil exhaustion. In addition to stating the costs to white society, Bolling did not shrink from pointing out the effects on the slaves themselves:

"High-minded men ought to disdain to hold their fellow creatures as articles of traffic--disregarding all the ties of blood and affection--tearing asunder all those sympathies dear to man--dividing husbands and wives, parents and children, as they would cut asunder a piece of cotton cloth. They have hearts and feelings like other men. How many a broken heart--how many a Rachel mourns because her house is left unto her desolate."

Like Thomas Jefferson and other liberal Virginians with a dislike of slavery before him, Bolling owned slaves--sixteen taxable slaves in the early 1830s, thirty-two slaves total in 1840.⁴

As a leading spokesman for the anti-slavery faction, Bolling was also given the privilege of speaking on the last day of debate, January 25. Bolling's speeches were published in the

³ Leonard, *General Assembly of Virginia*, 215, 260, 308 and 359; Dabney, *Virginia, The New Dominion*, 226; and Robert, *Road from Monticello*, 57 and 59.

⁴ *Richmond Enquirer*, March 30, 1832; Robert, *Road from Monticello*, 64-65 and 108-110; White, *Hidden and Forgotten*, 8; Freehling, *Drift Toward Dissolution*, 74; and the 1840 U.S. census population schedules for Buckingham County.

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Chellowe
Buckingham Co., Va.

Statement of Significance (continued)

Richmond Enquirer and in pamphlet form, along with key speeches from other delegates on both sides of the issue. Ultimately, the Virginia legislature failed to enact slavery reforms, and attempts to alter the status quo never again achieved the potential of 1831-32, until the Civil War and its aftermath decided the question for Virginia. Bolling's outspoken stance on the issue, which was at variance with the opinions of most Buckingham voters, led to his defeat in the legislative election of April 1832. As the *Lynchburg Virginian* reported, "The contest was very animated. Mr. B. was warmly opposed on account of his vote on the abolition question in the last legislature."⁵

In later years Philip A. Bolling continued to participate in politics, serving as a judge and filling a vacated Cumberland County House seat during the session of 1850-51. Bolling acquired Chellowe after his father's death in 1836 and he either rebuilt the house in its entirety or--as architectural evidence suggests--he incorporated the earlier dwelling into an enlarged residence. County tax records suggest an increase in the value of improvements on the family holdings from \$1,000 in 1836, when 5,180 acres on Whispering Creek were identified as the estate of Linnaeus Bolling, to \$2,700 in 1837 when the 2,659-acre Chellowe tract was listed under Philip A. Bolling. A substantial increase to \$8,000 value of improvements occurred on the Chellowe tract in 1840, suggesting the completion of the present house but also likely an indication of the construction of other buildings as well. According to local historians Margaret A. Pennington and Lorna S. Scott, the present Chellowe "is believed to have been built about 1837 by a Mr. Parrish who was also the architect of Ca Ira Church which was erected about 1840." The "Mr. Parrish" is likely Valentine Parrish. Chellowe was renowned for its rose gardens, planted by Philip's wife, Mary Epps Bolling.⁶

In 1849 Robert Thruston Hubard I (1808-1871), the husband of Susan Pocahontas Bolling (1815-1849), acquired Chellowe from Philip and Robert Bolling. The federal census of the following year provides a detailed picture of the property and its recently widowed new owner. Hubard gave his occupation as farmer and reported real estate holdings of \$20,000. Listed in the

⁵ Robert, *Road from Monticello*, 59; Whitfield, *Slavery Agitation in Virginia*, 84; Wallenstein, "William Ballard Preston," 64 and 76; Freehling, *Drift Toward Dissolution*, 183; *Richmond Enquirer*, April 13, 1832; and *Lynchburg Virginian*, April 16, 1832.

⁶ Buckingham County tax records; Pennington and Scott, *The Courthouse Burned--*, 156; *Today and Yesterday in the Heart of Virginia*, 283; and Williams, "Chellowe."

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Chellowe
Buckingham Co., Va.

Statement of Significance (continued)

household were eight children, the oldest being James Lenaeus at age fifteen and the youngest Philip A., aged one. The Chellowe farm, comprising an estimated 500 acres improved land and 2,500 acres unimproved land, was worked by seven slaves. The farm produced large crops of wheat and Indian corn (1,290 and 4,500 bushels respectively) as well as 22,800 pounds of tobacco. Livestock included fourteen horses, thirty-two cows and cattle, seventy sheep, seventy swine, and eighteen oxen (an unusually large number of oxen for a Virginia farm of the period).⁷

At least three of the Hubard children, James L. (b. ca. 1835), Robert T. (1839-1921), and Edmund W. (b. ca. 1841), fought in the Civil War. James L. Hubard held the rank of lieutenant colonel in the Virginia Militia. After the war, according to the federal census of 1870, Chellowe remained prosperous; Robert T. Hubard I, then aged sixty-two, listed a total real and personal estate of \$60,000. Living with Hubard were his sons Robert T. II, a lawyer, and Philip A., a student. Also living on the farm were Frederick Dadney, a black farm laborer, and his two children.⁸

In his will, dated March 21, 1870, Robert T. Hubard I devised the 1,080-acre Chellowe tract to his son, Robert T. Hubard II. The elder Hubard also stated his intention to have his property "equally and fairly distributed among my children." "Let them remember," he continued, "the importance of friendship and harmony. Let them also bear in mind that without self-denial, industry and economy they cannot be independent or happy." Robert T. Hubard died in late 1871 and his property at Chellowe was appraised on December 21, 1871. Interestingly, the appraisement was subdivided into eight headings designated "L" through "S" that appear to correspond to separate buildings, the functions of which can be deduced from the items enumerated under each heading. "L," which contained Hubard's financial records and an iron safe, probably corresponded to the office. "M" was the main house, its rooms designated as the Parlor, Hall, Dining Room, and Lodging Rooms. "N," which may have been an attached or detached dependency, contained a wide assortment of dining room equipment and "dairy utensils"

⁷ Swofford, "Bolling-Hubbard Genealogical Chart;" Buckingham County tax records for 1848 through 1850; and 1850 Buckingham County agricultural and free and slave population schedules.

⁸ Swofford, "Bolling-Hubbard Genealogical Chart;" 1870 Buckingham County free population schedules.

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Chellowe
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Statement of Significance (continued)

and, like the main house, had "lodging rooms." "O," possibly another dependency closely associated with the main house, contained mainly linens and "Bed Clothing and other Bed Room Articles." "P" contained mainly "Kitchen & Milk Dairy Utensils" and presumably functioned as the kitchen. "Q" was a carriage house, "R" a stock barn, and "S" a carpentry shop.⁹

Robert Thruston Hubard II (1839-1921), who acquired Chellowe upon his father's death, lived both at the farm and a town residence in Farmville. Hubard graduated from Hampden-Sydney College in 1860 and studied law at the University of Virginia before the war interrupted his schooling. He enlisted as a private in Co. G, 3rd Virginia Cavalry in 1861 and was promoted to the rank of second lieutenant in 1862. After the war, Hubard practiced law in Buckingham County (probably using the office that survives at Chellowe) and in Farmville, and he represented Buckingham County in the state legislature. In the 1880s he served on the staff of Governor William E. Cameron, a Readjuster, and in 1895 he ran unsuccessfully for the U. S. Senate as a Republican. Hubard was also an entrepreneur; in 1902 he acquired the unrealized Orange and Keysville Railroad, renamed it the Orange-Keysville Railroad Company, and attempted (unsuccessfully) to build the line.¹⁰

In 1879 Robert T. Hubard II placed his property in trust for the benefit of his wife Sallie Edmunds (1850-1918), whom he had married in 1870, and the couple's children. The trust deed references a stone-walled "Chellowe Cemetery" containing a "memorial obelisk," and a mill on Whispering Creek. In 1918 four children of Robert and Sallie Hubard deeded their interests in the property to a fifth, Philip E. Hubard, but with the proviso that the "Chellowe residence . . . the yard garden, the spring, pasturage and barn room for one cow and necessary feed are hereby excepted . . . for Robert T. Hubard Sr., father of the parties hereto, during the term of his natural life." The property remained in the Hubard and related Henneman families until 1951 when it was conveyed to Erwin and Nell Muir Penick Seago. Chellowe was purchased by its present owner, Gene B. Dixon Jr., in 1996.¹¹

⁹ Buckingham County Will Book 1, pp. 103-105 and 164-166.

¹⁰ *Today and Yesterday*, 385; Flippen, *Historical Notes on Buckingham*, 79; and Bradshaw, *History of Farmville*, 63-65.

¹¹ Buckingham County Deed Book 3, pp. 130-132; Deed Book 23, pp. 470-471; Deed Book 35, pp. 363; Deed Book 49, p. 211; Deed Book 56, p. 470; Deed Book 208, p. 221; and current

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**Chellowe
Buckingham Co., Va.**

Statement of Significance (continued)

Architectural Analysis

The present Chellowe appears to stand on the site of an earlier building of possible eighteenth-century date. Upon excavating to reinforce the foundations of the main house, the foundation for the basement of a building was discovered under the east wing. All that remained of this foundation was about eighteen inches of brick wall that had apparently been stressed to the point of bowing into the foundation. The walls of the existing wing were built on top of that foundation. The fireplace foundation appears to have also been a part of that construction. Remnants of stone foundations throughout the crawl spaces indicate that there may have been subsequent additions to the earlier house as well as entry porches and other attachments.

About 1820, the earlier house appears to have been taken down, and studs and framing members that could be salvaged were salvaged for reuse in the construction of the present home. Nail dating shows that a 1820 style early cut nail was used for the major framing and construction of the original portions of the present house. These nails could have been purchased at that time, stored and finally used later, but it is generally thought that the house was framed, sided, and trimmed on the exterior, then the interior was finished at a later date.

The house achieved more or less its present form about 1840, as suggested by documentary and architectural evidence. The major alteration to the original framing was the moving of the stair hall about two feet to the east to give a larger parlor, second floor bedroom and a smaller stairhall. When this wall was moved, the wall sill plate was turned into a joist and resupported with two large wrought iron angles that were recessed and bolted into the wood framing. Unfortunately the wall was moved from a large timber to a joist, and over the years the wall sagged about two inches. When the walls were opened up, the problem was discovered and reinforced with steel angles.

Two pages of blue prints and a page of specifications from a 1950 remodelling show that much of the work completed on the house served to accommodate the owner's needs at that time. The renovation included the addition of three bathrooms and the removal of most of the wall plaster and replacement with plasterboard and diamond wire lathe. During that remodelling, the house was wired for electrical service, and a hydronic heating system was installed. On the first floor, convector cabinets disperse the heat from the hydronic system, and there is little disruption to

Buckingham County tax records.

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**Chellowe
Buckingham Co., Va.**

Statement of Significance (continued)

the original fabric. The second floor baseboard was removed for baseboard type convactor units. The basement is unfinished with only two rooms, one under the central pavilion and the other under the east wing. The hydronic boiler is located in the room to the east. There is also evidence of a fireplace in that room. The opening is filled in with masonry.

The kitchen for Chellowe was built at an earlier date, as early as 1800. The larger nine over nine windows and raised panel doors as well as the use of rose headed wrought nails give evidence of the construction date. The kitchen was moved from its foundation, around 1880, again by the proliferation of hand cut nails from that technical era, abutted to the back of the main house, and reconstructed for use as an attached kitchen. The office building sits intact where it has sat since construction, and is consistent with the construction style and material used in the main house.

The genesis of the design for the main house at Chellowe finds precedent in some of the houses of Buckingham County, but most prominently in the Pavilions of the University of Virginia. James Walker's fine house, Mount Rush, near Buckingham Courthouse, then called Maysville, was built about 1800. William was a builder who constructed Thomas Jefferson's power mill on the Hardware River and was believed to have been one of the many workmen engaged at the University of Virginia. Mount Rush is a central pavilion plan with two wings. Mount Rush is one of the earliest examples of this Palladian central pavilion with flanking wings in the central area of Southside Virginia. Another is Sunnyside (Windynoll) in southern Albemarle County. Sunnyside is believed to have been built about 1820 is also a central pavilion house with flanking wings.

The tradition that Valentine Parrish was responsible for giving Chellowe its final form may have merit. Parrish with his partner Dabney Cosby built the Goochland Courthouse in 1828. Cosby and Parrish also built the Sussex and Lunenburg county courthouses, and the two major dormitories at Hampden-Sydney College. The builder-architects were building in the area, and were available. Another tradition holds that the facade of the house was taken from Jefferson's original drawings for the northwest facade of Monticello. It is unknown at this time how Jefferson's drawings from the 1770 depiction of Monticello might have been seen by the builder or the owner as late as 1830, but there are Bolling family ties with the Randolph and Jefferson family descendants that give the opportunity for such an exchange. It is a more likely possibility that the builder or the owner was influenced by the Pavilions at the University of Virginia, perhaps a reinterpretation of the superpositioning of the Doric order over arches depicted in Pavilion VII. Cosby and Parrish were both known to have been architect-builders at the University and used Pavilion One as a precedent for their designs for the Goochland Courthouse.

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Buckingham Co., Va.**

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of the nominated parcel are depicted on the 1:130 scale map that appears as Exhibit A.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the nominated parcel encompass the house known as Chellowe as well as several adjacent associated historic resources.

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**Chellowe
Buckingham Co., Va.**

PHOTOGRAPHS

1. 1. Subject: Chellowe (same for all photos)
2. Location: Buckingham Co., Va. (same for all photos)
3. Photographer: Don A. Swofford (same for all photos)
4. Photo date: (same for all photos)
5. Original negative (VDHR # 17469) at Virginia Department of Historic Resources
(same for all photos)
6. Description of view: Main house, south elevation. View looking north.
7. Photograph number appears at beginning of entry (same for all photos)
2. 6. Main house, north elevation. View looking south.
3. 6. Garden terraces with house in background. View looking northwest.
4. 6. Office. View looking northwest.
5. 6. Kitchen. View looking northwest.
6. 6. Kitchen foundation mound with house in background. View looking southwest.
7. 6. Main house stair hall.
8. 6. Main house library with bracing for ceiling medallion.
9. 6. Main house east basement room.

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Chellowe
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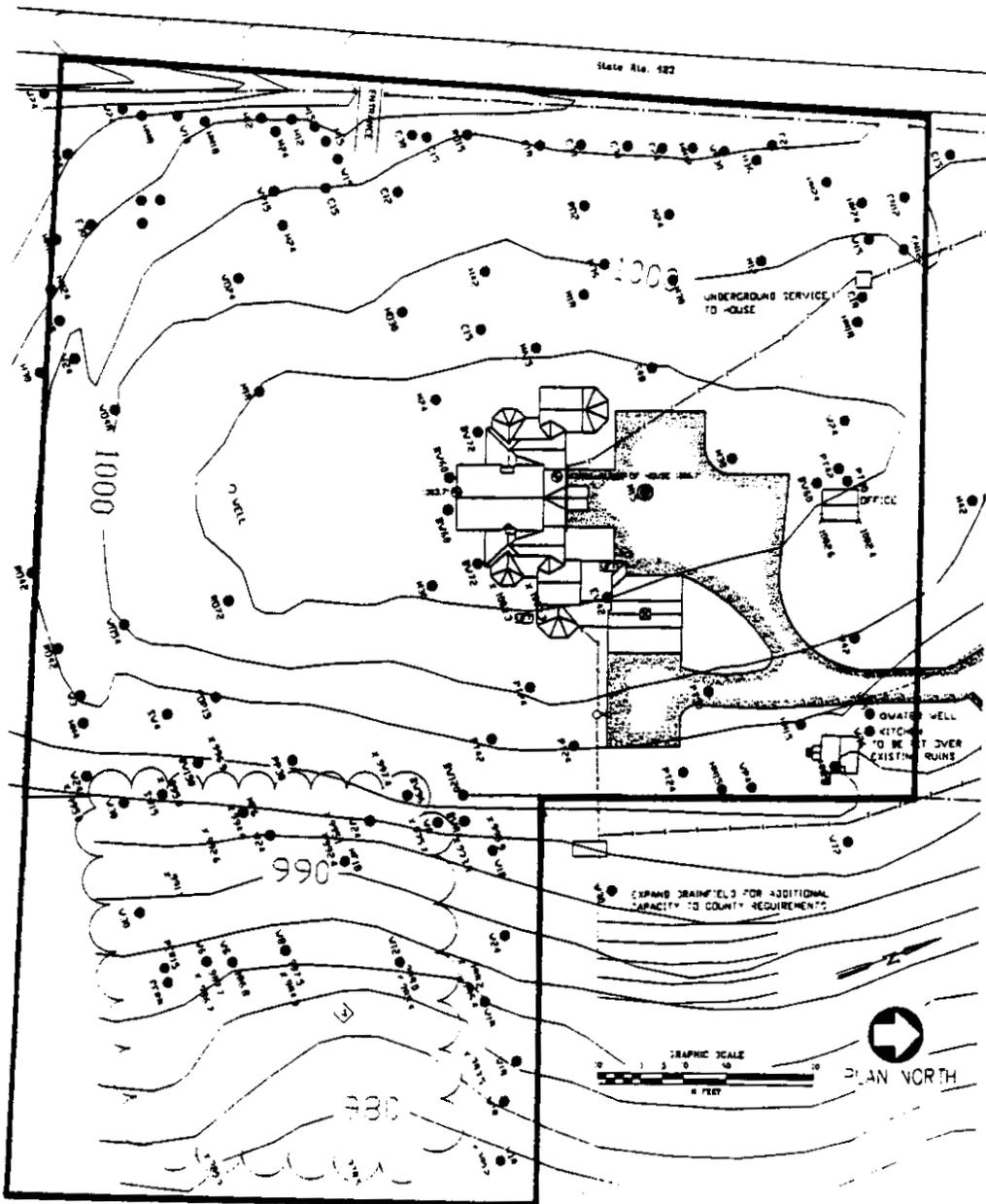


Exhibit A: The Chellowe nominated parcel adapted from a site plan by Wood Swofford and Associates, Architects. Scale (1:130) and north indicated.

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Chellowe
Buckingham Co., Va.

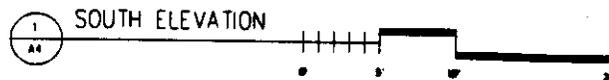


Exhibit B: South (front) elevation of Chellowe. Drawing by Wood Swofford and Associates, Architects. Scale indicated.

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Chellowe
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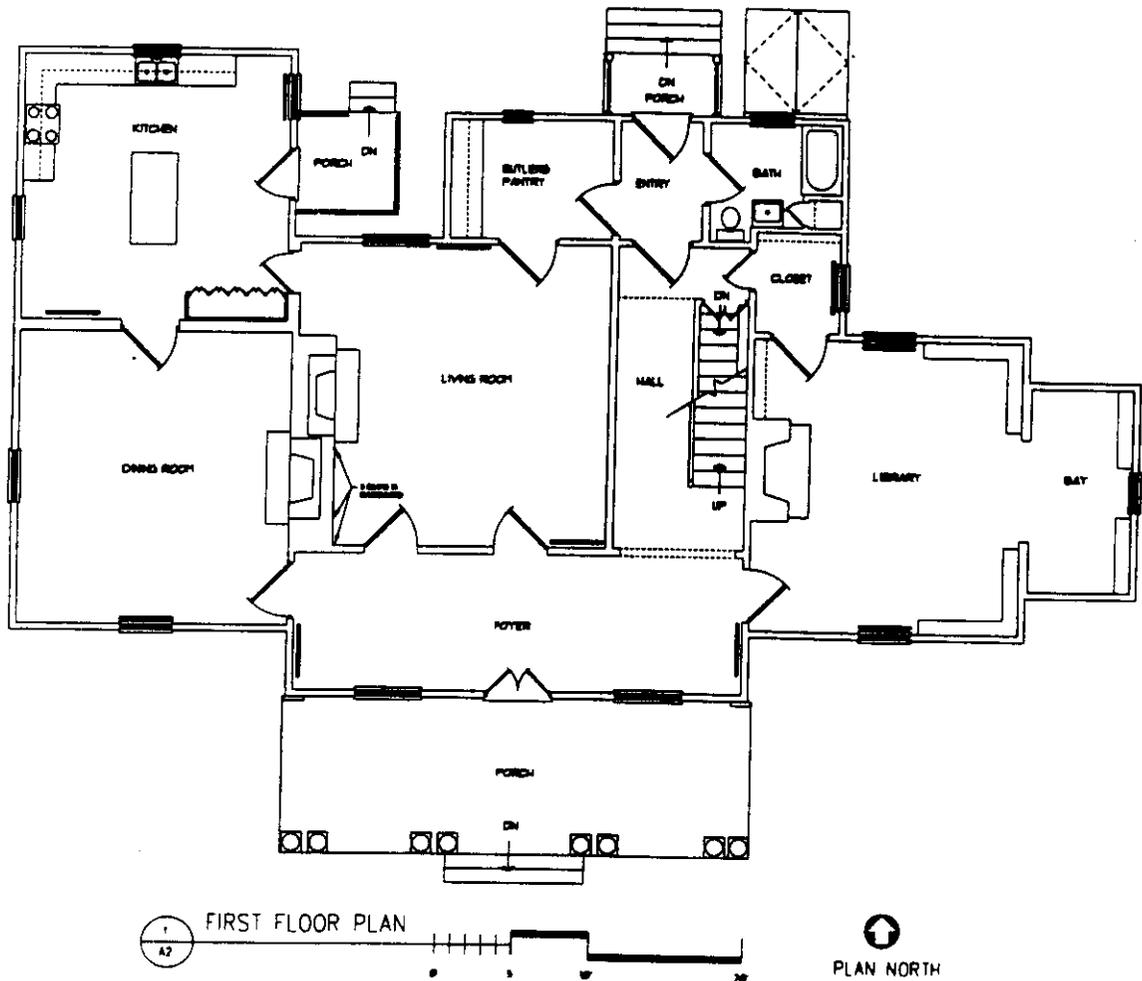


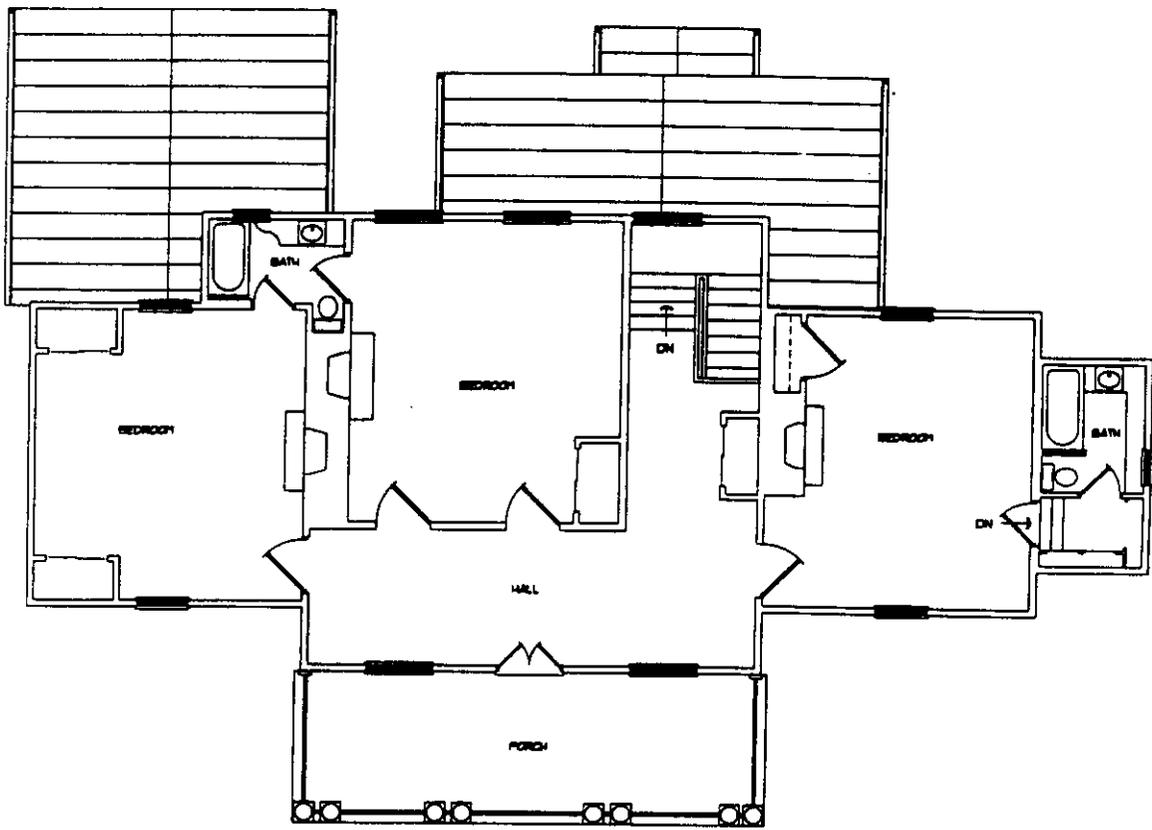
Exhibit C: First-floor plan of Chellowe. Drawing by Wood Swofford and Associates, Architects. Scale and north indicated.

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Buckingham Co., Va.



1
A3
 SECOND FLOOR PLAN

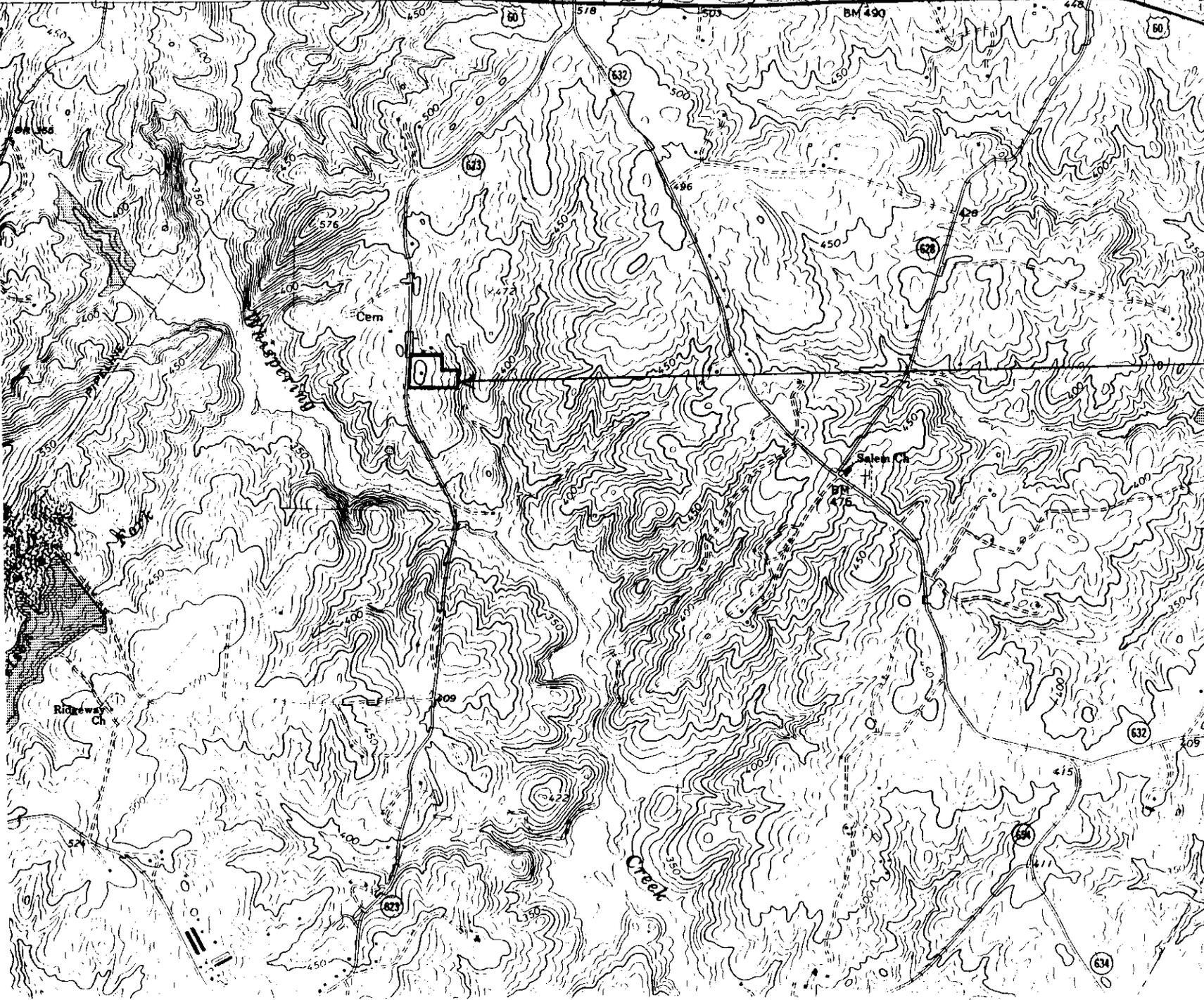
 PLAN NORTH

Exhibit D: Second-floor plan of Chellowe. Drawing by Wood Swofford and Associates, Architects. Scale and north indicated.

WILLIS MOUNTAIN QUADRANGLE
VIRGINIA
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
NW/4 FARMVILLE 15' QUADRANGLE

5359 III SE
(GOLD HILL)

727 728 25' 730 731 2 030 000 FEET 78° 22' 30" 37° 30'



CA IRA 3 MI.
RICHMOND 56 MI.

4152
420 000
FEET

Chollowe
Buckingham Co., Va.
UTM ref. (zone 17)
1. 6728570 N4151620

4151

4150

4149