

VLR-9/21/76 NRHP-5/6/80

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME
HISTORIC Fourqurean House
AND/OR COMMON The Little Plantation (Preferred)

2 LOCATION 2.4 miles Southwest of South Boston; .2 mile South of southern tributary of Lawsons Creek; 1000 feet North of State Route 706; 1.4 miles Westsouthwest of intersection of State Routes 706 and 704.
STREET & NUMBER NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CITY, TOWN South Boston VICINITY OF Fifth (W. C. Daniel)
STATE Virginia CODE 51 COUNTY Halifax CODE 083

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY
NAME Mr. R. L. Gilliam
STREET & NUMBER 1729 Chamberlain Street
CITY, TOWN South Boston VICINITY OF STATE Virginia 24592

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC Halifax County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN Halifax STATE Virginia 24558

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey
DATE 1972, 1976 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, 221 Governor Street
CITY, TOWN Richmond STATE Virginia 23219

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT

GOOD

FAIR

DETERIORATED

RUINS

UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED

ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE

MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Little Plantation is situated on a large tract of land near the Dan River in Halifax County. Its handsome, little-altered dwelling house sits at the fore of a court of early outbuildings, some of which are original to the plantation and some of which have been moved from nearby farms.

The dwelling house is a one-story, three-bay frame structure clad with beaded weatherboards and set upon a high five-course American-bond basement. Tall brick chimneys, also laid in five-course American bond and having stepped weatherings, stand at each gable end. The windows have early nine-over-nine sash and louvred blinds. The present front and side porches and their attendant stairs are reproductions of the originals which were found in a ruinous condition by the present owner.

A single-cell ell is connected by a hyphen to the rear of the main house. This ell was built early in the nineteenth century as part of a nearby house and was moved to its present site in 1970.

The house has a two-room, hall-and-parlor plan. An enclosed stair built against the partition in the parlor (dining room) is entered from the hall adjacent to the front door. Several risers and the mopboard of this stair retain handsome original marbleizing of a highly abstract sort with a silver-grey base and veins of red, blue and green.

The hall is decorated with recessed-panel wainscoting and with a mantel consisting of reeded entablature blocks and a central tablet resting on the architrave surround and supporting an unmolded shelf. Similar wainscoting is used in the dining room, and the mantel there consists of a molded shelf surmounting two plain entablature blocks which rest upon a reeded architrave surround.

The original outbuildings include the kitchen, a square, one-story gable-roofed building with a stone exterior end chimney and a brick-and-stone paved floor; the office, a square, story-and-a-half V-notched log structure presently covered with twentieth-century weatherboards and having a stone end chimney with a brick stack; and a V-notched log slave house about one-quarter of a mile north of the main house.

Among the outbuildings moved to the site are two smokehouses, a loom house, and a carriage house. All are frame structures, and all date from about the time of the dwelling's construction.

DTU

The 130 acres being nominated, composed mostly of woodlands, comprise the most significant portion of the 375-acre tract established in 1842.

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 checked="" 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

1830

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The early nineteenth-century settlement of south central Virginia was characterized by the establishment of numerous small plantations which raised tobacco as their principal cash crop. The typical plantation possessed an unpretentious dwelling house, almost always of frame, surrounded by a cluster of outbuildings. The design and layout of these complexes was completely utilitarian; little attempt was made at architectural elaboration or landscaping such as found on the large plantations of eastern and northern Virginia. Such elegant seats as Staunton Hill and Berry Hill were very much the exception.

The Little Plantation near South Boston survives as a well-preserved example of this regional unit. The house in particular is a fine specimen of its type, a compact, pleasingly proportioned dwelling. Its only attempt at "elegance" is its marbled stair, a fine example of this provincial art form. Although several of the outbuildings including the stone kitchen and the log office, are original to the site, several other early outbuildings typical of the region have been moved there by the present owner to replace missing ones. The whole now provides an illuminating picture of the region's rural life in the early nineteenth century.

In the eighteenth century, the land which now comprises Little Plantation was held successively by the England, Watts, Manson, and Gresham families. In 1828, Daniel W. Fourqurean (1788-1854) purchased 60½ acres of the land from Benoy Gresham. Fourqurean is reputed to have built the office in 1828 as a temporary residence, but this seems unlikely, since he already owned land with buildings on it near the Little Plantation. However, the construction of the office indicates that it is probably contemporary with the main house, which Fourqurean built in 1830. The inscription on the west chimney--"D. W. F. D.C. (December) ± 1830"--is confirmed in the land tax records. Fourqurean's assessment was raised from \$132.60 in 1830 to \$500.00 in 1831, with the notation "Improvements increased."

Fourqurean sold the property to Thomas E. Puckett in 1842. Combined with Puckett's own holdings, the tract was increased to 375 acres, its present size. William L. Owen, a merchant and financier, bought the Little Plantation in 1844 and held it until 1849. David L. Irvine succeeded Owen in the ownership of the property. It continued in the possession of Irvine's descendants, the Gray family, until 1968, when it was purchased by R. L. Gilliam, the current owner. It was he who gave the farm its name, and who assembled the collection of early outbuildings it now possesses. The present owner exhibits the plantation as a museum of early regional life.

DTU--VDS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Carrington, Wirt J. A History of Halifax County, Richmond, Virginia: 1924.
 Halifax County Deed Books, Land Books, Will Books.
 Kegley, F. B. Virginia's Frontier. Roanoke, Virginia: 1938.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 130 acres
 UTM REFERENCES

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

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The 130 acres comprising the Little Plantation property are bounded by a line beginning at a point on the north side of State Route 706, 1.3 miles WSW of the junction of state routes 706 and 704; then curving generally north approximately 1200 feet; thence extending eastward approximately 1900 feet; then running north approximately 1400 feet to intersection with south bank of Lawsons Creek; then following said creek approximately 2200 feet; then running southward 2500 feet; then following north edge of tree line approximately 300 feet westward; (see cont. # 1)

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION	<u>Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission</u>	DATE	<u>September 1976</u>
STREET & NUMBER	<u>221 Governor Street</u>	TELEPHONE	<u>(804) 786-3144</u>
CITY OR TOWN	<u>Richmond,</u>	STATE	<u>Virginia 23219</u>

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE 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

TITLE Junius R. Fishburne, Jr., Executive Director
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE SEP 21 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY	Virginia Landmarks Register
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	DATE
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	DATE
ATTEST:	DATE
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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CONTINUATION SHEET #1

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

thence extending southward 800 feet to intersection with north side of State Route 706; then following said route to point of origin.

USGS 7.5' quadrangle
South Boston, Va. 1969
LITTLE PLANTATION, HALIFAX CO., VIRGINIA
UTM References:

- A - 17/684860/4059390
- B - 17/684860/4058420
- C - 17/683860/4058390
- D - 17/683860/4059390