

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: VIRGINIA	
COUNTY: JAMES CITY	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
KINGSMILL PLANTATION

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
KINGSMILL PLANTATION

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
5 miles south of

CITY OR TOWN:  
Williamsburg (Thomas N. Downing, First District Congressman)

STATE: Virginia      CODE: 51      COUNTY: James City      CODE: 095

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input checked="" 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) _____ _____ _____
Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No			

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
ANHEUSER BUSCH, Inc.      BUSCH PROPERTIES, INC.

STREET AND NUMBER:  
721 Pestalozzi Street

CITY OR TOWN: St. Louis      STATE: Missouri      CODE: 29

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
James City County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Williamsburg      STATE: Virginia      CODE: 51

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1938       Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Washington      STATE: D. C.      CODE: 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: VIRGINIA  
COUNTY: JAMES CITY  
ENTRY NUMBER:      DATE:      FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent     Good     Fair     Deteriorated     Ruins     Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered     Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved     Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The plantation site is situated one-fourth mile north of the James River on a hill overlooking the remains of a terraced garden. The foundation and cellar of the mansion are readily discernible. Two matching brick dependencies flank the mansion remains. Both are rectangular one-and-one-half story interior end brick chimney structures, featuring Flemish brick bond with glazed headers and gauged brick flat arches above the openings. One original molded chimney cap remains on the east dependency. Both buildings are now roofed with tin and are basically structurally sound.

Little original interior wood survives but much remains of the massive end chimneys which were constructed with unusual double vaulting.

Aligned along the ridge to the west of the dependencies are the sites of at least ten eighteenth century outbuildings.

The ship landing site for the plantation, located about one-fourth mile southeast of the plantation buildings consists of two bluffs flanking the remains of the original landing road, remains of what appears to be a Revolutionary War earthwork, and the wooden piers of a wharf of probable Civil War vintage.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian;       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century  
 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

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/Phi-  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic     | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry             | losophy                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention            | <input type="checkbox"/> Science        | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | Architecture                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature           | itarian                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Kingsmill Plantation, home of Colonel Lewis Burwell, was built circa 1736 when it was described as consisting of "...a mansion, outhouses, garden, 1400 acres..." The mansion was destroyed about 1843, but two dependencies, the office and the kitchen, stand as the only remaining structures of this important early-eighteenth century James River plantation. The finely executed buildings are among the earliest brick dependencies in the State, and along with the Shirley and Stratford dependencies, the Kingsmill buildings remain among the few surviving examples of dependencies placed in advance of the plantation mansion, perpendicular to the plane of the mansion's front wall to define a forecourt. The existence of these buildings provides evidence of the formality achieved in plantation complex layout in the early years of the eighteenth century.

The plantation is particularly significant archaeologically in that an extremely accurate map (1782, see enclosed #1) has survived showing the location of various other plantation outbuildings, and a structure at the Burwell landing site nearby. Because of the 1782 map, an archaeological survey and full excavation could locate, identify, and plot a relatively undisturbed early eighteenth century plantation complex, supplying much needed architectural and historical information concerning plantation daily life.

The Burwell Landing site was particularly important both in the eighteenth century economy of the Williamsburg area as well as during the American Revolution. Colonel Burwell, naval officer for the lower James River, had his inspection station at the landing which also was the site of a tavern, storehouse, warehouse and ferry house. Thus a unique opportunity exists for an archaeological study of both the plantation complex and its relationship to the landing which has the potential of adding much to knowledge of the economic aspects of a plantation.

Burwell's landing was also the site of one of the first battles of the Revolutionary War in Virginia. In November, 1775, American Riflemen skirmished with British naval vessels who in turn bombarded the landing. Subsequently, the Americans built two earthen forts flanking the landing (see enclosed #2) both of which fell to the British during troop landings in 1781. Some traces of the earthworks are still visible but much has eroded into the river.

A well shaft was excavated at one of the fort sites in 1972 resulting in the acquisition of many well preserved metal artifacts of the period ca. 1680-1735. This small archaeological test is in all probability indicative of the vast archaeological potential of the Kingsmill Tract.

W.K.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Files of Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission.

Stephenson, Mary, "Kingsmill Plantation," Colonial Williamsburg Research Report, Williamsburg, Virginia.

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				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	37°	13	52"	76°	41'	13"			
NE	37°	13	52"	76°	40'	18"			
SE	37°	13	20"	76°	40'	18"			
SW	37°	13	20"	76°	41'	13"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 135 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:  
VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION STAFF

ORGANIZATION: VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION      DATE: March 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond      STATE: Virginia      CODE: 51

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: James W. Moody, Jr.  
Title: Director  
Va. Historic Landmarks Commission

Date: MAR 21 1972

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. 7½' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)  
Hog Island, Va. 1965

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
DIVISION OF MINERAL RESOURCES  
JAMES L. CALVER, STATE GEOLOGIST

KINGSMILL PLANTATION

LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
NW37°13'52"	76°41'13"
NE37°13'52"	76°40'18"
SE37°13'20"	76°40'18"
SW37°13'20"	76°41'13"

5658 1 SW  
BURG 10 MI 15 MI (WILLIAMSBURG) 351

37°15' N  
↑  
37°40'

RICHMOND 53 MI  
WILLIAMSBURG 26 MI

