

PH0501654

VLR-12/21/76  
NRHP-5/6/80

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUL 27 1977
DATE ENTERED	

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Seven Springs *at* *AS*

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

*W of Enfield*  
STREET & NUMBER .2 mi. E of Mehixen Creek; .4 mi. W of intersection of State Routes 604 and 605; .7 mi. NW of intersection of State Routes 652 and 604.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Enfield

VICINITY OF

First (Thomas N. Downing)

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Virginia

CODE

51

COUNTY

King William

CODE

101

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		XXNO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME *Harry Coon*  
Mr. and Mrs. ~~H. D. Moffett~~

STREET & NUMBER

*Seven Springs*

CITY, TOWN

Manquin

VICINITY OF

Virginia

STATE

23106-0247

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. King William County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

*King William*

STATE

*Virginia*

**REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

(3) (see continuation sheet #1)

TITLE

(1) Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE

1939, 1940

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

*Washington*

STATE

*D. C.*

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Seven Springs is situated on the Mehixen Swamp near the Pamunkey River in western King William County. The present house, probably built ca. 1725-40, is a square, story-and-a-half structure notable for its half-hipped roof and central, T-shaped chimney set just behind the ridge. The house is built of brick laid in Flemish bond with glazed headers above the beveled water table and in English bond below it. Raking courses of glazed headers accent the eaves. The brickwork is further distinguished by the use of rubbed-brick corners, jambs and jack arches; by the throating under the window sills; and by the handsome segmental arches which bridge the grilled basement window openings.

Seven Springs is three bays long, with doors in the southern bay of each facade and in the west bay of the north end. All of the first-floor ~~nine-over-nine~~ sash are modern replacements of Victorian two-over-two sash, but the window frames are original. Three of the four gable-end windows have been enlarged, but the east window in the southern end, including the frame and four-over-four sash, is original. Three hipped dormers with modern six-over-nine sash light each of the two main roof planes. Those on the front (east) were added early in the nineteenth century, while those on the rear are modern. There is the ghost of a hood over the rear door. Nailing blocks set into the brickwork and the absence of a jack arch over the rear door suggest that this hood was original to the house. There was apparently no such protection of the front entrance.

The installation of the dormers was part of a general remodeling in the early nineteenth century which included the painting of the brickwork red and the jack arches white (this was carefully cleaned during the recent renovation) and some interior redecoration.

The plan of the house is an unusual one and consists of four unequal-sized rooms clustered around the central stack. One enters the stair hall, a narrow room in the southeast corner, and moves either to the northeast parlor, the largest room in the house,, or into the southwest dining room which, like the small northwest room (now the kitchen), has a corner fireplace.

Much of the original woodwork was removed, either in the Federal remodeling or subsequently, during the house's intermittent periods of neglect, but significant clues remained to guide the restoration of the structure. The parlor has a large, rectangular plan fireplace, with a small closet to the left. The three-panel, raised-panel door to the closet and the chair rail which encircles the room are original; the remainder of the woodwork is a restoration.

The dining room also retains its original chair rail and three-panel closet door. On this door survive original foliated H-hinges, an early feature not often found in Virginia.

In the stair hall the chair rail is original, as is the triple-run walnut stair (with some balusters renewed). The latter has elaborate sawn brackets, a square newel, a molded rail, and three turned balusters to a tread.

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

# 8 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input 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 ca. 1725-40

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Seven Springs, near the Pamunkey River in upper King William County, is a striking and unusual specimen of eighteenth-century Tidewater domestic architecture. Its odd, square, central-chimney plan, one not found in any other known Virginia house, lends additional interest to a house distinguished by its excellent brickwork, clipped gables, T-chimney, and fine surviving interior details. Built ca. 1725-1740 by the Dabney family, the exterior of the house remains substantially as it was when it was erected.

Captain George Dabney I (d. 1729), possibly the builder of the house, received a land grant in St. John's Parish (then King and Queen County) in 1701. Dabney, described as "Gent." in early documents, was a prominent figure in the early history of King William County, serving as a member of the County Court from the county's organization in 1702 until at least 1716, as its first sheriff, and as an original feoffee of Delawaretown (now West Point) in 1706. In 1722, the legislature authorized the establishment of a ferry at Dabney's plantation.

When Dabney died in 1729, he left a substantial estate in King William and Hanover counties. To his son George he bequeathed all of the land in King William County that he then lived on "Together w<sup>th</sup> the other Plantation on the same, whereon he the said George lives," as well as half of his 1200-acre plantation on Cub Creek in Hanover (now Louisa) County. George also received a silver-hilted sword, a brandy still, and seven of his father's slaves, in addition to several slaves who were already in his possession. To his other son, William, Dabney was able to leave the rest of the Cub Creek land, another 500-acre plantation in Hanover County, six slaves, and considerable silver.

The construction of the Seven Springs house has traditionally been attributed to the elder Dabney, but the evidence is inconclusive. The traditional date, 1732 (three years after George Dabney I's death), is based upon a plank labeled "Built by W. F. Cheekings 1732," reputedly found built into one of the dormers in 1878. But the dormers were installed in the house early in the nineteenth century. It has also been argued that this was the house George Dabney the younger was living in at the time of his father's death, since the older man was "known" to have lived closer to the ferry. The destruction of most of the King William records on two separate occasions prevents the resolution of this problem. Architecturally, the house can be said with some certainty to have been built ca. 1725-40, however.

(See continuation Sheet #2)

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Bloodworth, Jane. "Estate Retains Unique Flavor Through Centuries," Tidewater Review, March 25, 1976.
- Dabney Family Papers - Genealogical, mss. at Virginia Historical Society, Richmond, VA.
- Dabney, Charles William. "The Origin of the Dabney Family in America," Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, 45 (1937).
- Harris, Malcolm H. "King William Celebrates 250th Year," Commonwealth, 19 (April 1952).

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 27 acres      Quadrangle Name: Manquin, Va.  
 UTM REFERENCES      Quadrangle Scale: 1:24000

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

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point on W side of State Route 604, about 350' NNW of NW corner of intersection with 605; thence extending about 2400' WSW (paralleling the approach drive) to E edge of tree line; thence extending about 500' NW along said tree line; thence extending about 2450' NE to W side of 604; thence following SE for about 400' along said side to point of origin.

### 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: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission      DATE: November 1976

STREET & NUMBER: 221 Governor Street      TELEPHONE: 804-786-3144

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond      STATE: Virginia 23219

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL           STATE X      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: [Signature]      Resubmitted 1/10/80

TITLE: Junius R. Fishburne, Jr., Executive Director, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission      DATE: 05031976

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUL 27 1977

DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Seven Springs, King William County, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET #1

ITEM NUMBER

6&7 PAGE 1

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

(2) Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory  
1958 Federal  
Library of Congress  
Washington, D. C.

(3) Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey  
1968, 1973, 1976 State  
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission  
221 Governor Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

7. No original trim remains in the kitchen.

In the basement, one mantel remains from the early nineteenth-century remodeling. It has horizontal, superimposed recessed panels and a denticulated cornice shelf. Several original doors survive throughout the house.

No original outbuildings are extant, but a mid-nineteenth-century frame office with a brick exterior end chimney and a Greek Revival mantel stands southeast of the house.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION The boundaries are drawn to include the immediate yard of the house and the axial drive leading from State Route 604. The northern and eastern lines are property lines, the southern line is arbitrary, and the western line follows the tree line.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUL 27 1977

DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Seven Springs, King William County, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET #2

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

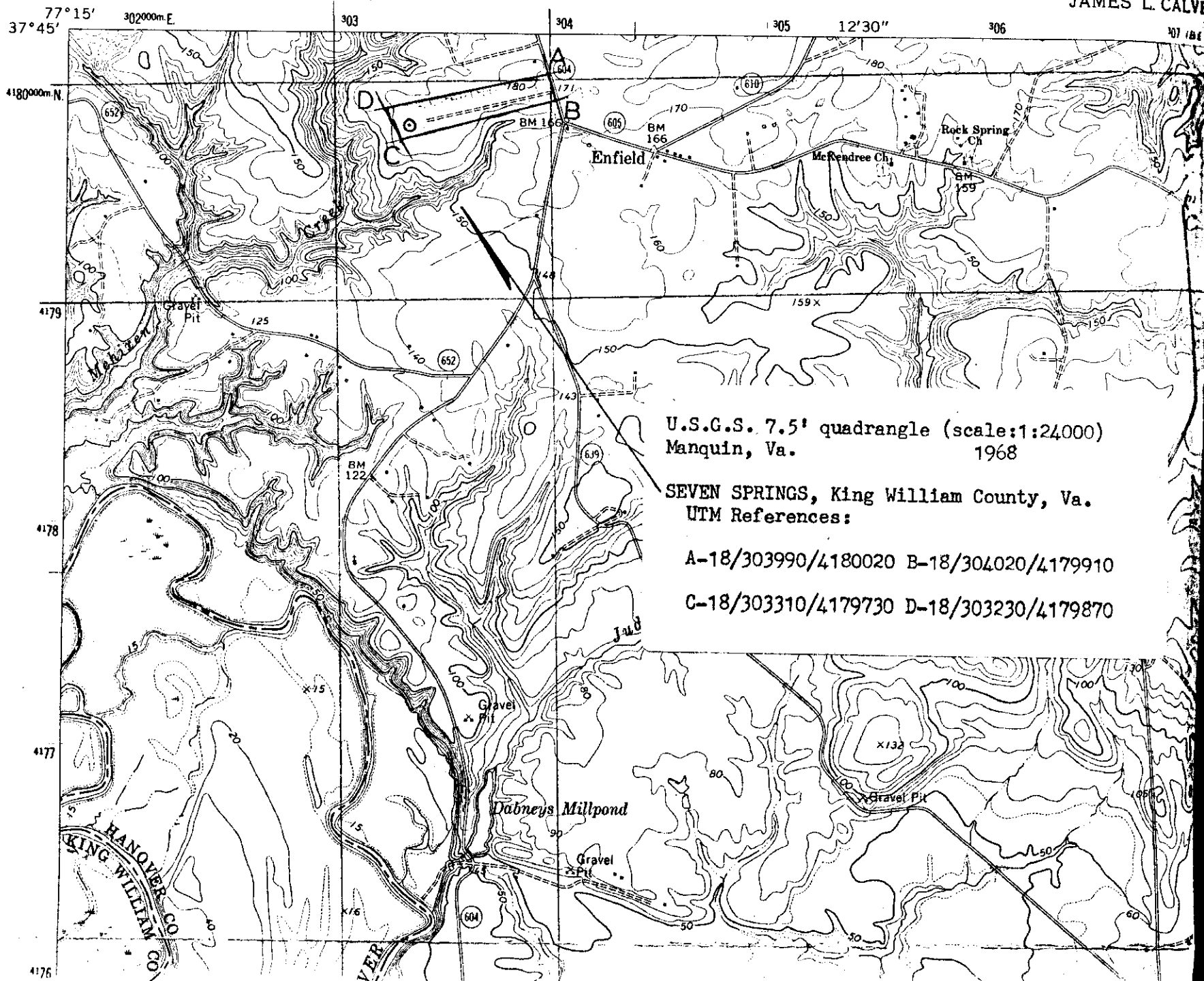
From George Dabney II, the property passed to his son James, who later moved to the Louisa County plantation, and in 1795 it was transferred to James Dabney's son William "Brick House Billy" Dabney. Early in the nineteenth century, Seven Springs was sold to an A. B. Pullen and descended through the Pullen and Atkinson families into the twentieth century. After having been vacant from 1940-1967, Seven Springs was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Moffett who have restored it.

DTU

5539 (N, SE)  
(HANOVER)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
DIVISION OF MINES  
JAMES L. CALVERT



U.S.G.S. 7.5' quadrangle (scale:1:24,000)  
Manquin, Va. 1968

SEVEN SPRINGS, King William County, Va.  
UTM References:

- A-18/303990/4180020 B-18/304020/4179910
- C-18/303310/4179730 D-18/303230/4179870

(DODSWELL)  
1:62,500

77°14'31"

77°14'30"

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

*Seven Springs, King Wm Co*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

1:62,500

77°15'  
37°45'

EPWORTH 3.2 MI.

12'30"

MANGHICK (JUNC. VA. 30) 5.3 MI.  
CORINTH FORK 1.0 MI.

*7 Springs  
D-64*

1604

Enfield

McKendree Ch

Rock Spring Ch  
BM

Enfield Sch

BM 122

Judy

BM 755

HANOVER CO.  
KING WILLIAM CO.

RIVER

FIRE TRAIL

