

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

VLR 3/20/8
NRHP 5/12/8

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 Arlington Archaeological Site

other names/site number 44NH0092, DHR #065-0001, Arlington Plantation

2. Location

street & number Arlington Chase Road not for publication X

city or town 2.3 miles NW of jct. US 13 and State Rte. 644 vicinity Capeville

state Virginia code VA county Northampton code 131 zip code 23312

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 X nationally
X statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

B

Signature of certifying official

Date

3/27/08

Virginia Department of Historic Resources

State or Federal Agency or Tribal government

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

Signature of commenting official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

 entered in the National Register

 See continuation sheet.

 determined eligible for the National Register

Signature of the Keeper _____

 See continuation sheet.

 determined not eligible for the National Register

Date of Action _____

 removed from the National Register

 other (explain): _____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
 public-local
 public-State
 public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
 district
 site
 structure
 object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
0	0	buildings
1	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

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

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic Sub: Single Dwelling

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Vacant Sub: Not in Use

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

N/A

Materials (entire categories from instructions)

foundation _____
roof _____
walls _____
other _____

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.

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

- 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.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

- ARCHEOLOGY/Historic-Non-Aboriginal
- EXPLORATION/Settlement
- ARCHEOLOGY/Historic-Aboriginal
- ARCHEOLOGY/Prehistoric

Period of Significance A.D. 900-1607, ca. 1614-1832

Significant Dates A.D.900-1607, ca. 1614, 1632, 1656, 1676, 1696, 1721, 1832,

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) Custis, John II; Custis, John IV; Burdett, William

Cultural Affiliation Late Woodland, Accomac, Euro-American

Architect/Builder N/A

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

(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: Virginia Department of Historic Resources

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 7.3 acres

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

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	18	411016	2	4120524	

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 Jean M. Mihalyka; and Pamela A. Schenian of Virginia Department of Historic Resources
organization Arlington Foundation, Inc. date February 2008
street & number 16388 Courthouse Road telephone 757-678-7157
city or town Eastville state VA zip code 23347

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 Arlington Foundation, Inc.
street & number 16388 Courthouse Road telephone 757-678-7157
city or town Eastville state VA zip code 23347

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.). A federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 36 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 National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, 1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240.

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Section 7 Page 1

Arlington Archaeological Site (44NH0092)
Northampton County, VA

7. Description

Summary Description

The Arlington Archaeological Site, 44NH0092, is a 7.3 acre site on the south bank of Old Plantation Creek, in southern Northampton County, on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. The site was occupied during the Late Woodland/Contact period, and from circa 1614 until 1832. The Euro-American components are divided into the Virginia Company era/early English settlement, William Burdett occupation, John Custis II occupation, John Custis IV occupation, and absentee landowner occupation. The site is a grassy field. The site has been completely surveyed at the Phase I and II levels through four archaeological studies, with a controlled surface collection following plowing and rain washing of the gridded field, stripping of the plowzone in three areas to identify features, and limited excavation.

Detailed Description

The Arlington Archaeological Site, 44NH0092, lies on the south bank of Old Plantation Creek, in southern Northampton County, on the Eastern Shore Peninsula of Virginia, approximately 760 meters east of the juncture of Old Plantation Creek with the Chesapeake Bay. The site lies in a 7.3 acre grassy, relatively level field. Immediately to the west is a 0.7 acre mowed grass tract that serves as the common green space for the Arlington Plantation Home Owners Association, which encircles the 0.17 acre Custis Tombs tract, which was listed on the National Register in 1979 for its sculptural craftsmanship. Properties adjoining or within view of the Arlington Archaeological Site farther west and to the south have been developed for single family residences. East of the Arlington Archaeological Site are agricultural lands. For both the prehistoric and historic uses of the site, Old Plantation Creek would have been an important transportation route, as well as a source of food. The location also is near springs, which would have provided fresh water, sometimes hard to locate in an area surrounded by the brackish or saltwater bay and creeks. For the Virginia Company era, the location would have been especially attractive because the Indians had already cleared parts of the land of the oak-pine association forests that predominated in the prehistoric periods (Rountree and Davidson 1997:19-20) for small garden plots, and because Old Plantation Creek was considered to have the best anchorage for English ships in that section of the Eastern Shore. The clearing of forest would have accelerated with English settlement to accommodate larger agricultural fields and later, areas devoted to the formal lawns and gardens surrounding the Arlington mansion, resulting in the open fields of today. The site once extended further, but outside the 7.3 acre tract included in this nomination, but outside the nominated boundaries, the archeological deposits have been disturbed or destroyed by the construction of a subdivision. In the nominated portion of the site, disturbance has been limited to nineteenth and twentieth century agricultural practices.

Investigation of Arlington began with the inadvertent discovery of Late Woodland Indian burials during the development of a subdivision. The Virginia Department of Historic Landmarks (now the Department of Historic Resources) conducted a reconnaissance survey in 1987 (Hazzard 1987). The survey included excavation of Late Woodland burials and identification of the probable foundations of the Arlington mansion. The James River Institute for Archaeology, Inc. performed an archaeological assessment in 1988 (Bedell and Luccketti 1988). The assessment included the establishment of a control grid, plowing and rain washing of the site, followed by controlled surface collection. It also included test excavations and then mechanical stripping of the plowzone from three areas of the site and mapping and limited test excavations of exposed features. In 1994 the Virginia Company Foundation conducted test excavations (Luccketti et al. 1999). The excavations focused on the testing of the cellars and

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Center for Archaeological Research (WMCAR) conducted a supplemental survey, including shovel testing and limited test excavations, in 2001 to examine all areas of the Arlington Foundation property that had been omitted from previous studies (Jones 2001). . WMCAR also synthesized the findings of the previous studies of 44NH92.

From these studies, it is known that the site was occupied during the Late Woodland/Contact period, and from circa 1614 until 1832. John White's 1585-1586 *Map of Raleigh's Virginia* (Appendix A) and John Smith's 1612 *Map of Virginia* (Appendix B) depicts an Accomac/Accawmack village in the general vicinity of Arlington during the Late Woodland/early Contact period (Hulton 1984:86; Turner and Opperman 2004:1-1). The Accomac Indians were a tributary nation of the Powhatan paramount chiefdom and Arlington therefore has the potential to provide information on early Indian-English interactions, which will complement information from such sites as Werowocomoco and Jamestown, as well as the evolution of Accomac culture. The discovery of Late Woodland ossuaries, often near the chief's primary village, in association with Arlington by the Virginia Department of Historic Landmark's archaeologists makes it likely that Arlington is the site of the Accomac town depicted by White and Smith, because the Accomac settlement is labeled "Kings howses" on the Smith map as opposed to the phrase "Ordinary howses" more frequently used by Smith (Turner and Opperman 2004: 1-2). The ossuaries were on now-developed tracts, were excavated and removed, and are on a section of 44NH0092 that is considered heavily disturbed or destroyed, and therefore are not included in this nomination. From ca. 1614 to 1625, the Virginia Company owned the land and it was occupied by English settlers. From 1632 to 1721 it was occupied by plantation owners of English origin or descent. From 1721 until ca. 1825, it was occupied by African-American slaves and/or overseers of unknown ethnicity.

The archaeological deposits at the site include intact Late Woodland/Contact period Native American components and early seventeenth century through early nineteenth century components. Early Archaic artifacts have also been found on the site, but little is known about this minor component, so it is not considered to contribute to the significance of the site. The Euro-American components are divided into the Virginia Company era/early English settlement, William Burdett occupation, John Custis II occupation, John Custis IV occupation, and absentee landowner periods. Burdett and the Custises were well-to-do to wealthy plantation owners who also served in local and colony-level political offices. For the Late Woodland/Contact period Native American occupation there are intact deposits, including features such as a midden, postholes, pits, and burials. For the Contact period/Virginia Company and Burdett settlements, features identified include, but are not limited to, a slot trench, a hole-set earthfast building, wells, and pits. The Custis occupation deposits include, but are not limited to, the foundations and cellars of the Arlington mansion, wells, possible garden beds, scaffold postholes, and a midden. The absentee landowner period deposits include a midden, cellar, possible chimney base, and well.

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8. Statement of Significance

Statement of Significance

The Arlington Archaeological Site, 44NH0092, contains intact deposits associated with Late Woodland and Contact period Native Americans, the Virginia Company, and early English settler William Burdett who served in several local offices. There are also deposits associated with John Custis II, and John Custis IV, wealthy farmers who served in local and colony-level political offices. The deposits include the ruins of Arlington, the mansion built for John Custis II, which was unusually large and flamboyant for its era. John Custis II played a significant role in Bacon's Rebellion (the first uprising of colonists against British government policies a century before the American Revolution), siding with the Governor William Berkeley, and providing him refuge at Arlington from September through December 1676, from which Berkeley ran the government. The site also contains deposits associated with its use from 1721 to 1832 by tenant farmers, slaves, and/or overseers when John Custis II and his descendants held the property as absentee landowners.

Criteria Statement

The Arlington Archaeological Site, 44NH0092, is nationally significant under Criterion D for its potential to provide information about the Late Woodland (A.D. 900-1607) and Accomac Indian culture, Contact period Indian-English relationships, the Virginia Company, early settlement, the evolution of plantations, and, specifically the Custis mansion, which was an unusually large and flamboyantly ornamented residence for its time, and the plantation's occupants, including post-Custis era African-American slaves (1721-1832). And also for its association with Contact period Indian-English relations during the Virginia Company period (1607-1624, but represented at Arlington ca. 1614-1624), its association with the English settlement of Virginia, its function as the seat of government during Bacon's rebellion (1676), and the evolution of properties from small farms to large plantations.

The site is significant under Criterion B at a state-wide level for its association with William Burdett (1633-1643), John Custis II (1656-1696), and John Custis IV (1696-1721), all of whom served in local and colony political positions.

Historical Background

General Comments. The Arlington Archaeological Site, 44NH0092, has a high degree of integrity due to its long protection, first by the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities and then by the Arlington Foundation, Inc., a non-profit created specifically to protect, research, and interpret the site and the Custis Tombs. Additional archaeological research at the site is likely to identify additional features associated with any of the above components and together, because of the integrity of the site, the components tell an important story of the history of the Eastern Shore from Late Woodland times, through English-Accomac contact, to English settlement and supplanting of the native population, through the evolution of plantations. The Arlington Plantation, because of its connections to the Virginia Company, early English settlement, the Custis family, and association with Bacon's Rebellion has attracted much attention in terms of literature searches on the occupants and their activities. Archival resources for the historic occupations of Arlington include Accomack County 1812, Andrews 1984, Ames 1940 and 1973, Barbour 1986, Bell 1993, Crowson 1970, Custis Family Papers n.d., Emmet Collection 1907, Hatch 1991, Jester and Hiden 1964, Kingsbury 1933, Latimer 1994, Lynch 1992, Marshall 1994, Mihalyka 1991, Mihalyka

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and Deal 1984, Northampton County Records n.d., Nottingham 1929 and 1978, Nugent 1992, Perry 1990, Schreiner-Yantis and Love 1987, Swem 1957, Tinling 1977, Turman 1964, Whitelaw 1951, and Zuppan 1978. These records and books do not tell the whole story of Arlington, however, for many of the details of life are not recorded and many that are recorded are lost over the years. This collection of documents, plus additional ones likely to be discovered with additional research, complement the archaeological record. The literature can be used to interpret the archaeological record, but the archaeological record may clarify obscure references and unknown terms in the literature, as well as provide a richer record of the lives of the individuals associated with the site.

Prehistoric and Contact Period Native American Occupation. Intact and Late Woodland (A.D. 900-1607)/Contact period Native American components have been found at Arlington, site 44NH0092. For the Late Woodland/Contact period Native American occupation there are intact deposits, including features such as a midden, postholes, pits, and burials. The John Smith map of 1612 refers to the Accomac town as "King's howse," indicating that it is the principal residence of a werowance, or chief. If Arlington is indeed a werowance's town, further investigation of it can provide information that can be used to compare it to Werowocomoco, the principal residence of Powhatan in Gloucester County, Virginia. Even if it is not, Jones (2001: 44-45) states "Very little archaeological research of Contact-period Indian occupations has been conducted on the Eastern Shore peninsula, and it is a crucial aspect of the understudied history of human ecology in the region, as well as scholarly inquiry related to the 'Jamestown Story'." Further research on the site can provide information on the Accomac Indian subsistence and settlement patterns which can be used to compare and contrast it with those of the different Indian nations on the Virginia mainland. Additional archaeological investigation of the Native American component at Arlington may provide information on the nature and dating of European (English, Dutch, Spanish, and other) contact with the Eastern Shore Indians.

Virginia Company/Early English Settlement. An archaeological component at Arlington appears to date to the Virginia Company period (circa 1607-1624, but represented at Arlington 1614-1624). In 1614 Sir Thomas Dale, Virginia's governor, purchased land from the Accomac Indians, including Smith's Island and the land opposite it on the Eastern Shore northward to Old Plantation Creek. A settlement of 20 men, led by a Lieutenant Craddock, was established with the purpose of the settlement being to fish, make salt, and salt-pack fish and other foods which would be distributed elsewhere in the colony. Subsequent governors further tasked the settlement with improving relations with the Accomac with the hopes they would be allies of the English, as relationships with the James-York peninsula Powhatan tribe and Powhatan's tributaries were deteriorating.

Historians differ on where they believe Craddock and his men lived. While Perry (1990:15) believes they lived on the Eastern Shore mainland directly opposite of Smith's Island, Ames (1998:6-8) argues that they lived on the shores of Old Plantation Creek. Though the latter location would have required overland travel or boat trips to Smith's Island, the harbor at Old Plantation Creek was considered the best in the area for anchorage. In addition, the fastest boat route between the Eastern Shore and James-York peninsulas was between Old Plantation Creek and Kecoughtan (Jones 2001:39).

Kecoughtan, located in what is now Hampton, Virginia, is the half-way point via a water route between Old Plantation Creek and Jamestown, the political seat of the Virginia Colony from its founding in 1607 until 1698. Whether or not Arlington was the site of Craddock's, it is known that the Virginia Company established a settlement along Old Plantation Creek in 1620 and in 1621, when Lady Dale, the widow of Sir Thomas Dale, patented land on the south side of the creek (Jones 2001:39). The Virginia Company was dissolved in 1624,

but settlements from that era continued to exist under the control of the British king. A 1625 census includes 44 men and 7 women at Old Plantation Creek, with a fort, 20 houses, and 17 storehouses (Jones 2001:36).

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The archaeological evidence for the Virginia Company/early English settlement includes postholes, a root cellar from an earthfast—also known as post-in-the-ground or foundationless--building, and possibly a well. A slot trench—a narrow trench into which split trees or small posts were set and then the trench backfilled to stabilize the posts—that is typical of defensive palisades on early colonial sites. The plowzone contained a concentration of early seventeenth-century artifacts. Most of the features were not excavated or only partially excavated, so they cannot be easily dated at this time.

Jones (1999:41) states “This early historic occupation at the Arlington Site is considered highly significant based on gaps that exist in our limited understanding of the English settlement for this period and the associated role of Indian-English relations.” Further archaeological work at Arlington may provide firmer dating of the features, information about trade and relations with the Indians, confirmation of whether or not it was Craddock’s settlement and, if so, an assessment of whether the settlement was indeed focused on its assigned tasks—fishing, salt-making, and salt-packing of foods—or more focused on the more lucrative tobacco farming, whether the settlement’s occupants were engaged in military activities (Jones 1999: 41, 44) and if it is not Craddock’s settlement, the identity and activities of the early English occupants. If burials from this era are discovered, they might provide information about the comparative health and economic viability of this settlement in comparison to other known early colonial sites, such as Jamestown, and if the English-Indian relations included intermarriage, as at Jamestown.

Burdett Era. William Burdett immigrated to Virginia in 1615 and fulfilled his indenture bond by 1633 (Luccketti 1999:8) He acquired the 300 acre patent known as “Indian Field,” that became the core of the Arlington Plantation, in 1632 by marrying Frances Saunders, the widow of Roger Saunders, who had earlier patented the land. He patented an additional 500 acres in 1639 and another 300 acres in 1641 (Jones 2001: 36). These are considered the earliest clear land patents by an individual, resident landowner for the south bank of Old Plantation Creek (Jones 2001: 39) and were substantial holdings for the era. Wealth and political power were tied together in early Virginia. William Burdett served in several local public offices, including county commissioner and vestryman, and in a colonial office as a Burgess (Luccketti 1999:8). William Burdett died in 1643. His second wife, Alicia, continued to live there until her death in the late 1670s, with her subsequent husbands.

Some features identified on the site, such as the earthfast building and well, may have been associated with the Burdett occupation or, alternatively, saw use during both the Virginia Company/Early English Settlement and the Burdett eras. Further testing and excavation of the site should provide better dating of features to clearly attribute them to specific eras. Further research should also provide more information about the Burdett family’s activities and economic status in comparison to other early to mid-seventeenth century Virginians. As the well-to-do tended to try to marry up, further archaeological investigation of Arlington might provide information on the changing fortunes and tastes of Burdette’s widow, Alicia Travellor Burdette Walker Custis, which would be an important contribution to the study of women in the seventeenth century as the customs of the day prevented them from engaging in many activities that would be documented in contemporary literature.

Custis Era. John Custis II lived at Arlington from 1656 until his death in 1696. John Custis II was born in England in 1628, but moved with his family to Holland in 1630. He emigrated from Holland to Virginia in 1649. He was naturalized in 1658 in Northampton County, which gave him the right to own land. He married Elizabeth Eyre in 1652. Their son, John Custis III, was born in 1653, and Elizabeth died soon after. In 1656 John Custis II married Alicia Travellor Burdette Walker, and Custis took control of the Arlington property at this time, purchasing 500 acres with a large house on it from Thomas Burdett, plus an additional 300 acres (Jones 2001:36). After Alicia’s death in the late 1670s, Custis married Tabitha Scarburgh Smart Brown in 1681. Upon Custis’s death in 1696, his 18-year-old grandson, John

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Custis IV, the son of John Custis III (who was well-established on his own plantation), inherited the 550-acre Arlington estate.

From 1656 onward, John Custis II worked to advance himself financially and socially. He was a merchant with diverse interests. Extant letters indicate that he made at least eight trips to England and Holland, which was unusual for the Eastern Shore elite. He expanded the plantation and, sometime between 1674 and 1676, built the Arlington Mansion. Like Burdett, Custis' wealth led to political power. At various times Custis served as High Sheriff, surveyor, sheriff, justice of the peace, coroner, vestryman, and a member of the Governor's Council. John Custis II also served in the Northampton County militia, initially as Captain and eventually as General. The Arlington mansion was constructed for John Custis II ca. 1674-1676. It was of masonry construction, which was unusual for its time even for wealthy individuals. Architectural historian Edward A. Chappell (1999) has prepared a conjectural analysis of the mansion based on archaeological and archival evidence. He used a number of mid- to late-seventeenth century Virginia, Maryland, English, and Bermudan buildings that either are still standing or well-documented as a basis for comparison and contrast. The Arlington mansion was a very early example of a double-pile house, and at three-stories, it was built on a grander scale than most contemporary residences. It had embellishments, such as quartz pebble mosaics and heart decorations on the exterior walls that made the house exotic and flamboyant for its day. It was also "the most architecturally sophisticated house of the time" (Luccketti 999: 10), having such features as a dedicated dining room. Further research may provide more information about this unusual building and other information about the lives of its owners. An 1812 plat denotes an "old chimney of the former Mansion House" (Luccketti 1999:9), suggesting the Arlington mansion was gone by then.

In 1676, John Custis II played a significant role in Bacon's Rebellion, the first uprising of colonists against British government policies, allying himself with Governor William Berkeley. Berkeley took refuge at Arlington and ran the government from there until the rebellion was crushed. Arlington therefore was the de facto colonial capital from September through December 1676. It was also the site of a critical skirmish in the rebellion. Rebel troops approached Arlington by ship and sent agents to negotiate with the governor, but the Governor's troops ambushed and captured the ships off Arlington, an event that led to the Governor's quashing of the rebellion. Additional archaeological research on the site might yield artifacts associated with the use of the Arlington mansion as the seat of government and provide information on how the skirmish unfolded.

John Custis IV is associated with Arlington from 1696 until 1721. At the time of his grandfather's death, he was in England, furthering his education and serving as an apprentice with London merchants Perry and Lane. With his inheritance, John Custis IV became a wealthy planter. In 1700 he married Frances Parke, the daughter of Daniel Parke, Governor of the Leeward Islands. He served as justice of the peace beginning in 1701, and was elected to the House of Burgesses in 1706. After Frances' death in 1708, Custis increasingly spent more of his time at Daniel Parke's wife's York County, Virginia, Queen's Creek Plantation, of which he was the manager. In 1714 Custis began construction of a house in Williamsburg and by 1721 permanently moved there (Jones 2001:36-37).

The archaeological deposits associated with the Custis occupation include, but are not limited to, the foundations and cellars of the Arlington mansion, wells, possible garden beds, scaffold postholes, and a trash midden. Further research at the site should provide more information about the architectural features of the house, including the location of the kitchen in the mansion (Chappell 1999:25) and the sources of building components, the landscape of the Arlington mansions' yard. Additional research is likely to identify additional features on the site, such as wells, slave quarters, other outbuildings, and activity areas. Additional archaeological research at the site is likely to

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organic objects such as pollen and bone might permit the reconstruction of landscaping features, environment of the Old Plantation Creek vicinity, and the diet and health of the Custis household. It also should provide additional information about the Custis family's activities and tastes and how they compare to Chesapeake society of the late seventeenth through early eighteenth century—as their house was larger, more flamboyant, and exotic than most contemporary homes, their taste in interior decorating, attire, and dining may have differed from that of Virginia colonial tastes of the time.

Absentee Landowner Era. Although John Custis IV left Arlington in 1721, the Custis family kept the property, renting it to tenant farmers, until his grandson George Washington Parke Custis sold the property in 1832. The site continued to be the location of residences and outbuildings associated with tenant farmers, slaves, and/or overseers throughout this absentee landowner era. The absentee landowner period archaeological deposits include a midden, cellar, possible chimney base, and well. Further research is needed to positively identify the location of this component on the Arlington site to locate grid point nails or previously excavated features. Additional field research should identify additional features and trash deposits associated with this era. The absentee landowner era component is significant under Criterion D for its potential to provide information about the evolution of plantation life through the eighteenth

and early nineteenth century and the lifeways of African-American slaves. Additional research may also identify the ethnicity and lifeways of the overseers and tenant farmers. Together the Custis era and absentee landowner era represent the late seventeenth century, when Virginia and other colonies were transitioning from indentured servitude to race-based slavery, through the early nineteenth century, when the Abolitionist Movement and related movements were achieving some of their goals, the Underground Railroad was at its height of use, and some slaves, such as Nat Turner, were rebelling. The Arlington Archaeological Site has the potential to provide information on the changing activities, health, and diet of slaves in comparison to their white owners or overseers over this important time period.

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9. Bibliography

Accomack County

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Figure 2. Lucketti's three areas of investigation at 44NH0092 (Lucketti 1999:11).

Figure 3. Plan of archaeological features in Area 1 (Lucketti 1999:14).

Figure 4. Plan of archaeological features in Area 2 (Lucketti 1999:17).

Figure 5. Plan of archaeological features in Area 3 (Lucketti 1999:24).

Figure 6. Conjectural reconstruction of west and east elevations of the Arlington mansion (Chappell 1999:28)

Appendix A. John White's 1585-1586 *Map of Raleigh's Virginia*

Appendix B. John Smith's 1612 *Map of Virginia*

List of Photographs

The following applies to all the photographs:

Name: Arlington Archaeological Site (44NH0092, DHR #065-0001)

County: Northampton, VA

Photographer: David Hazzard

Date: 11/1999

Location of Negatives: Virginia Department of Historic Resources

1. General view of the site, looking east.
2. General view of the site during shovel testing, looking northwest.
3. General view of the site, looking northwest.
4. Exposed archaeological feature—the cellar entrance.
5. Exposed archaeological feature—the Arlington Mansion foundation.

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Arlington Archaeological Site (44NH0092)
Northampton County, VA

10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The Arlington site being nominated consists of the 7.3 acres tract owned by the Arlington Foundation, Inc. This tract begins at the edge of Old Plantation Creek, then follows the shoreline, then turns and runs south approximately 568 feet, then turns and runs west to Arlington Chase Road, then follows the curve of the road, then turns and runs north to the beginning point. This is Parcel BD as shown on the "Plat of Survey, Arlington Plantation, Section I Revised, Located Capeville District, Northampton County, Virginia" found in Northampton County Plat Book 23 Page 55. It is referred to as tax parcel 97A-2-A as shown on the attached scaled map provided by the County of Northampton.

Boundary Justification

Although the archeological deposits of the Arlington site originally encompassed a larger area than is being nominated, only the 7.3 acre tract owned by the Arlington Foundation retains enough integrity to answer important research questions under Criterion D. The deposits outside the track lack integrity because the area has been developed as a residential subdivision.

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