



## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Situated on Stafford Heights above the Rappahannock River, Clearview, with its scattered outbuildings, retains the air of a working farm. Its site, overlooking Fredericksburg, is a strategic as well as a scenic one and was used by the Union army as an artillery position during the Battle of Fredericksburg in December, 1862. The gun pits are still visible.

The dwelling house itself, built late in the eighteenth century, is a two-story, hipped-roof, frame-with-weatherboard building, 42 by 26 feet, to which an 18 by 26 foot, one-and-one-half-story frame wing was added to the east in 1918-19. The five-bay front of the main building is pierced by tall windows with nine-over-nine and nine-over-six sash and louvered blinds. The second-story windows retain their original trim with plain white lintels, but the window frames on the first story have been altered to match those in the wing. The front doorway with its side and transom lights and a six-panel, three-panel-wide door is a product of the Greek Revival era. The distyle Tuscan front porch is probably another addition contemporary with the wing.

The rear has a three-bay facade with the same type of doorway as on the front, but with double four-panel doors and a full-length hexastyle porch. A handsome modillion cornice adorns the eaves, and exterior brick end chimneys with seven-course corbelled caps and stepped weatherings complete the original block.

The wing is two bays long with nine-over-nine window sash and heavy frames duplicating those in the main block as well as two gable-roof dormers with six-over-four sash on each slope of the steep gable roof. The roof encloses one of the original exterior chimneys and has a small interior end chimney of its own.

Clearview's plan is a variation of the center-hall, double-pile plan. To the west of the passage is a large parlor. Behind this room is a smaller chamber, one wall of which is formed by the rear wall of the rounded, enclosed stairwell. To the east of the passage were formerly two rooms of approximately equal size. The partition has been removed, making this area one large dining room. The wing is also two rooms deep.

A rich store of Federal-period trim remains in the building. The parlor contains a fine mantel with a boldly projecting shelf broken out over paneled pilasters, a fretwork cornice, and a central reeded tablet. Flush wainscoting with a baseboard and fretted chair rail carries around the remainder of the room, as does a denticulated cornice.

The dining room corner fireplaces have small mantels with architrave surrounds, plain frieze blocks, fretted cornices, and moulded shelves. These are separated by a short wall, perhaps a portion of the original partition, with matchboard wainscoting and a jamb reeded in imitation of a classical pier. Part of the room is wainscoted, as in the living room, with flush boards and a fretted chair rail. The remainder has later matchboard sheathed wainscoting. The four-panel, raised-panel doors here have architrave frames and attractive H-hinges.

(see continuation sheet)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 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/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE			
<p>Clearview, atop one of the wooded hills which surround Falmouth and adjacent Fredericksburg, is an important element in the visual environment of those communities. The house is an integral part of a group of five eighteenth-century houses which overlook the two towns, and is in itself a good example of a lesser plantation house of the early republic. Clearview's use as a Federal gun emplacement during the Battle of Fredericksburg in December, 1862, adds to its historic value.</p> <p>Originally patented to Thomas Vicars before 1748, and then in the possession of the Dodd, Dixon and Lawson families, the property was sold by Gaven Lawson in June, 1786, to Andrew Buchanan, a major in the Caroline County militia during the American Revolution and the probable builder of the present house. A series of Mutual Assurance Society policies ranging in date from 1796 to 1839 shows the house with its three outbuildings--study, kitchen, and meathouse. No changes occurred during that time except for the disappearance of the meathouse by 1836 and the listing of the study in the later policies as a "study or dwelling." No name for the estate appears in these policies or in any other early record.</p> <p>Andrew Buchanan died before 1805, and the insurance policy written in that year was issued to Zachariah Fowler as guardian for William Buchanan. By 1814, William James owned the house which was valued at \$3500, but eight years later Alexander Walker was listed as the owner. The 1836 policy was issued to John C. Scott. "Scott" is also the name shown on the Civil War maps of the area. The family of the present owner, Mrs. Michael Wallace, obtained Clearview from the Scotts.</p>			
D. T. U.			

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Official Atlas of the Civil War. New York: Thomas Yoseloff, 1958.  
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Archives.

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		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	38° 19' 31"	77° 27' 55"				
NE	38° 19' 31"	77° 27' 41"				
SE	38° 19' 21"	77° 27' 41"				
SW	38° 19' 21"	77° 27' 55"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 22 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: October 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:  
221 Governor Street

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: Junius R. Fishburne, Jr.  
Junius R. Fishburne, Jr., Exec. Director  
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: NOV 19 1974

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of The National Register

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Virginia	
COUNTY Stafford	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

(2) Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey

1972, 1974 State

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

221 Governor Street

Richmond, Virginia code: 51

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Virginia	
COUNTY	
Stafford	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

7. In the central passage, the wainscot with its fretted chair rail and the denticulated cornice are used again. Opening off the passage on the west is a very plain, enclosed, rounded left-to-right stair. A simple mantel similar to those in the dining room is in the west bedroom over the living room.

Early nineteenth-century insurance policies show three outbuildings--a study 12 by 16 feet, a 30 by 16 foot kitchen, and a 12-foot square "meat house", respectively--ranked from west to east, north of the main house. These have all disappeared, but a later cottage stands on the foundations of the study. To the east of the house are a frame, pyramidal-roofed smokehouse and a long equipment shed. Southeast of the house is another frame outbuilding. A board-and-batten barn, surrounded by earthen gun pits, lies some distance to the east of this outbuilding.

D. T. U.

CLEARVIEW

RICHMOND ST. MI.  
7 MI. TO D. U.

38° 19' 31"

38° 19' 21"

5460 1 SE  
(SALEM CHURCH)

U.S.G.S. 7½' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)  
Fredericksburg, Va. 1966

CLEARVIEW

	Latitude	Longitude
NW	38° 19' 31"	77° 27' 55"
NE	38° 19' 31"	77° 27' 41"
SE	38° 19' 21"	77° 27' 41"
SW	38° 19' 21"	77° 27' 55"

41  
17'30"

49

