

VLR-9/17/74 NRHP-7/16/76

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: VIRGINIA
COUNTY: SURRY
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
PLEASANT POINT

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
(see continuation sheet)

CITY OR TOWN:
(Scotland vicinity)

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Fourth (Robert W. Daniel, Jr.)

STATE: VIRGINIA CODE: 51 COUNTY: SURRY CODE: 181

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work In progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mr. and Mrs. John R. Curtis

STREET AND NUMBER:
Pleasant Point

CITY OR TOWN:
Surry

STATE:
Virginia

CODE:
51

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Surry County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Surry

STATE:
Virginia

CODE:
51

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey (see continuation sheet)

DATE OF SURVEY: 1932, 1934, 1935 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: SURRY

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" 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

Altered to its present appearance in the 1950's, Pleasant Point nonetheless retains its early lines, original structural system and out-buildings, as well as its landscape features. Characterized by a simple story-and-a-half elevation, the dwelling house is the central element of a modified forecourt plan, created by the symmetrical placement of a dairy and smokehouse on opposite arms of the four-step terrace leading down to the bluffs overlooking the James River.

Built with a timber frame and brick ends, the house was probably originally designed on a hall-parlor, double-pile plan similar to nearby Walnut Valley. The brick ends are laid in Flemish bond with interior end chimneys. A single chevron of glazed-header diapering follows the rake of the roof. The simple brick lintels over the attic windows consist of alternating glazed and unglazed headers. The first-floor windows, in particular the poorly executed jack arches, have been reworked. Although much of the framing fabric of the house is original, the frame facades have been altered with the renewal of the weatherboarding, the enlargement of original window openings and the construction of modern dormer windows. Similarly the house's plan has been modified into a center-hall plan arrangement with an open modern colonial-revival staircase that has been relocated at least once. The original stair has been removed.

While much of the interior woodwork is modern, it reflects the colonial-revival vogue of the 1950's. A significant element of the original interior trim survives in a fine raised-panel, round-arched chimney cupboard with butterfly shelves located in the northwest first-floor room. In the east second-floor room and in the stair to the full basement are early architectural elements salvaged from other period buildings.

Standing in conjunction with the house are an original frame dairy, with sawn work grills and pyramidal roof, frame smokehouse with a gable-end dovecote and frame wash house with an English-bond exterior end chimney; all of which have been altered to some degree in the process of renovation.

With its axial placement at the top of the terracing and flanked by its minor advance buildings, Pleasant Point is a remarkable statement on the formality a simple, early-eighteenth-century plantation house complex could assume.

BLH

S E E I N S T R U C T I O N S

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	<u>History</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input checked="" 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

Pleasant Point as it stands today is an impressive reminder of the wealth and prestige of one of Surry County's leading colonial families. The simple house, with its symmetrical forecourt arrangement of advance buildings and formal terraced landscaping, still evinces an air of eighteenth-century charm. Located across the James River from Jamestown Island, Pleasant Point's unaltered ruralism forms a fitting historical backdrop for the nation's first permanent English settlement.

Patented to William Edwards, Gentleman in 1657, Pleasant Point was the Edwards' family seat in Surry County from the early-eighteenth until the early-nineteenth century. Influential in the seventeenth and eighteenth century political and economical development of Surry County, William Edwards I served as a Burgess for the newly formed county in 1652 and was its clerk from 1653 until his death in 1673. Similarly his son William Edwards II served as clerk from 1673 until his death in 1698. William Edwards III served in turn as a Burgess from 1702-1706 and as the Surry County sheriff in 1713.

As the Edwards family prospered in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, the descendants of William Edwards II possessed over 6,200 acres of Surry land by 1700. Among these holdings was the future site of the Edwards' home at Pleasant Point. When William Edwards III died in 1721, he divided his land holdings between his sons Benjamin, who received "the plantation whereon I now live" in the area of Pigeon Swamp, and William who inherited the Pleasant Point tract, "...known by the name of my old plantation on Crouches Creek."

The existing house and outbuildings were probably built shortly after William Edwards IV took up residence at Pleasant Point. In 1737 he was recommended as a tobacco inspector for nearby Gray's Creek. It was probably under William Edwards IV that the distinctive terraces leading to the river bluff were excavated and constructed.

BLH

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Boddie, John B. Colonial Surry. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1966.
 Cabell, James Branch. "Hunnicutts of Prince George Co.," William and Mary College Quarterly Historical Magazine, Series 1, Volume 27, pp. 34-43.
 Nugent, Nell Marion. Cavaliers and Pioneers. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1963.
 Surry County Records: Deed Books, Wills, Orders, and Plat Books.

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	37° 10' 30"	76° 46' 38"		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	37° 10' 30"	76° 46' 27"				
SE	37° 10' 20"	76° 46' 27"				
SW	37° 10' 20"	76° 46' 38"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 12 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission DATE: July, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:
 221 Governor Street

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond STATE: Virginia CODE: 51

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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., Executive
 Director, Virginia Historic Landmarks
 Title _____
 Commission.

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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 SURRY	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

2. S. Bank of James River on Timber Neck Creek, N. side of Rt. 637,
.5 mi. SE of intersection of Rt. 637 and Rt. 31, .5 mi. S of
Scotland.

6. Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

1959 Federal

Library of Congress

Washington, D. C. (Code 11)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

1. NAME		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
PLEASANT POINT		
2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
VIRGINIA	SURRY	
STREET AND NUMBER		
(see continuation sheet)		
3. MAP REFERENCE		
SOURCE	DATE	SCALE
U.S.G.S. 7.5' quadrangle Surry, Virginia	1965	1:24000

REQUIREMENTS: PROPERTY BOUNDARIES, WHERE REQUIRED, AND NORTH ARROW.

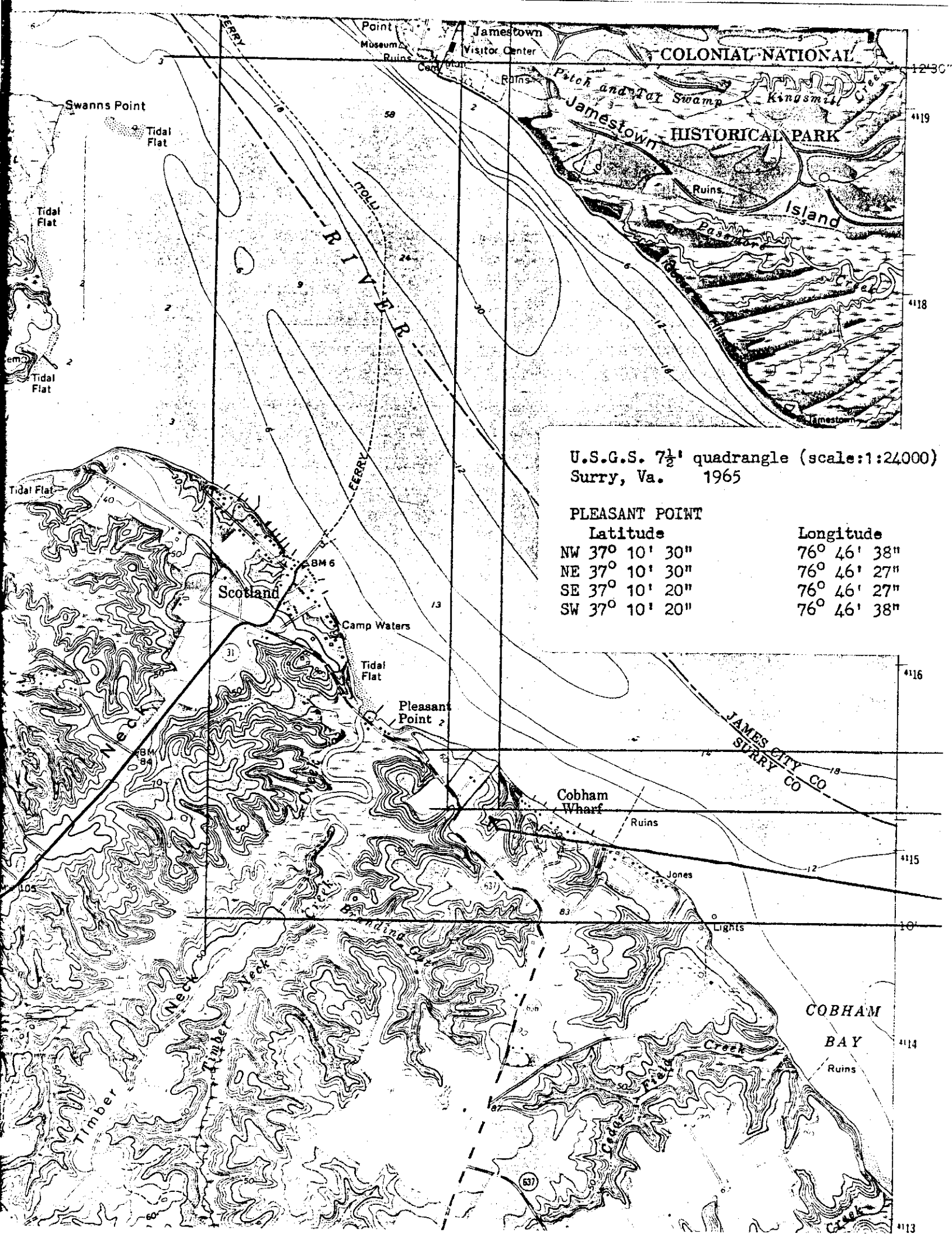
GPO 932.010

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
PLEASANT POINT		
2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
VIRGINIA	SURRY	
STREET AND NUMBER		
(see continuation sheet)		
3. PHOTO REFERENCE		
PHOTO CREDIT	DATE	NEGATIVE FILED AT
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission	1974	Virginia State Library Richmond, Virginia
4. IDENTIFICATION		

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

VIEW FROM SOUTHWEST.



U.S.G.S. 7½' quadrangle (scale:1:24,000)
 Surry, Va. 1965

PLEASANT POINT

	Latitude	Longitude
NW	37° 10' 30"	76° 46' 38"
NE	37° 10' 30"	76° 46' 27"
SE	37° 10' 20"	76° 46' 27"
SW	37° 10' 20"	76° 46' 38"