

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

VLR 3/20/8  
NRHP 5/15/8

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

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 Whitaker's Mill Archaeological Complex  
other names/site number Archaeological Sites 44YO385, 44YO394, 44YO395, 44YO396, and 44YO1026;  
Burwell's Mill; #099-5275

2. Location

street & number 6/10 Mile Southeast of I-64 and Rt. 199 Intersection not for publication x  
city or town Williamsburg vicinity x  
state Virginia code VA county York code 199 zip code 23185

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      nationally      statewide X locally. (     See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] 3/27/08  
Signature of certifying official Date  
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  
     See continuation sheet.  
     determined not eligible for the National Register  
     removed from the National Register  
     other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

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**5. Classification**

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**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	
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register** 0

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

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**6. Function or Use**

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**Historic Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Industry Sub: Manufacturing Facility (mill)  
Defense Fortification  
Transportation Road-Related  
Domestic Single Dwelling

**Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Landscape Sub: Forest  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**7. Description**

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**Architectural Classification** (Enter categories from instructions)

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials** (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation N/A  
roof N/A  
walls N/A  
other N/A

**Narrative Description** (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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**8. Statement of Significance**

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**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)

Archaeology, Historic/Non-Aboriginal  
Commerce  
Military  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance** 1726-1863

**Significant Dates** 1862

**Significant Person** (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

**Cultural Affiliation** Euro-American, African-American

**Architect/Builder** N/A

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

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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(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

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**10. Geographical Data**  
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**Acreage of Property** 12.22 acres

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

Zone	Easting	Northing									
1	18	354820	4	18	354940	3	18	355180	4	18	355000
		4124320			4124400			4124240			4124100

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.)

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**11. Form Prepared By**  
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name/title J. Michael Moore, Curator and Registrar  
and E. Randolph Turner, III, Archaeologist and Director of the Tidewater Regional Preservation Office, VDHR  
organization Division of Museums/Historic Services, City of Newport News date January 7, 2008  
street & number 163 Yorktown Road telephone 757-888-3371  
city or town Newport News state VA zip code 23603

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**Additional Documentation**  
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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 The Marquis at Williamsburg, LLC  
street & number 8425 Woodfield Crossing Blvd., Suite 210E telephone 317-284-8306  
city or town Indianapolis state IN zip code 46240

=====  
**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

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service****NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET****Whitaker's Mill Archaeological Complex  
York County, Virginia**Section   7   Page   1  **7. Description****Summary Description**

The Whitaker's Mill Archaeological Complex is situated adjacent to Kings Creek in York County, Virginia. It consists of five archaeological sites, 44YO385, 44YO394, 44YO395, 44YO396, and 44YO1026, including a mid-eighteenth-to-early-nineteenth-century mill, several domestic sites and related brick kilns, two Civil War gun emplacements and adjacent camps, and a segment of the principal colonial road connecting Williamsburg and Yorktown. These archaeological sites are encompassed within twelve forested acres and are in a good to excellent state of preservation.

**Background**

As summarized by Fessler and Laird (2005), Alan Simpson brought attention to the Whitaker's Mill tract in 1980 when he discovered Nathaniel Burwell's eighteenth-century mill book and ledger (Simpson et al. 1984). This in turn prompted a brief archaeological investigation by Colonial Williamsburg Foundation archaeologist Ivor Noel Hume who located the foundation of the miller's house and mill, with both being in a good state of preservation. Additional testing by the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation in 1983 further documented the mill complex, including identifying the mill dam and mill race along with four other nearby archaeological sites (Hunter 1984).

Building on the above research, James River Institute for Archaeology conducted a comprehensive archaeological survey of the Whitaker's Mill tract in 2003 (Laird and Lutton 2004) followed by archaeological test excavations in 2005 (Fessler and Laird 2005). Based on their investigations as well as those preceding them by the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, five well-preserved archaeological sites have been identified within the nominated acreage (Figure 1). Each of these is described below (see especially Fessler and Laird 2005 for additional details).

**Site Inventory and Descriptions**

44YO385 contains the archaeological remains, including intact subsurface deposits, of the actual mill and miller's house in addition to the adjacent mill dam, and mill race. These are remarkably documented in a May 4, 1862 watercolor sketch by Union Private Robert Knox Sneaden entitled "View of Whittaker's Mill near the battlefield of Williamsburg, Va." which also shows a Civil War gun emplacement (44YO394) and encampment (44YO396) in the background (Figure 2; original in the collections of the Virginia Historical Society, Richmond, Virginia, see Bryan et al. 2001). This specific location also is identified as a mill site on Desandrouin's 1781 map "Carte des Environs de Williamsburg," Abbott's 1862 map "Yorktown to Williamsburg," and Dix's 1862 map "Military Map of a Part of the Peninsula from Fort Monroe to Williamsburg" (cf. Fessler and Laird 2005:10,18,23). The Desandrouin map specifically labels it "Burwell's Mill" followed by "Whitakers Mill" on the Dix map, thereby accurately showing changes of ownership during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries (see also section 8).

44YO394 is a multi-component site containing a historic brick clamp and nearby clay extraction pit, a thirty-by-thirty-foot, late eighteenth-century foundation and surrounding artifact concentration, a colonial twelve-foot historic brick foundation, a large artifact concentration dating to the second half of the eighteenth century when Carter Burwell and Nathaniel Burwell operated the mill here, and a twenty-three-by-forty-foot Civil War Gun emplacement. The above-noted latter half eighteenth-century remains like represent structures depicted at this location on the 1781 Desandrouin map. Intact subsurface brick features document the site's good preservation and research potential.

44YO395 is a well-preserved brick clamp, measuring approximately twenty-five-by-thirty-feet in diameter; ten feet away is a brick rubble concentration. The clamp includes seven brick benches. Only one dateable historic artifact was recovered from the site – a fragment of Rhenish stoneware dating to the eighteenth century. Archaeological evidence suggests that the brick clamp was fired only once, probably to produce bricks for the construction of Philip Lightfoot's nearby mill in the 1720s, its rebuilding by Carter Burwell in the 1750s, or its renovation in the 1770s by Nathaniel Burwell (Fessler and Laird 2005).

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44YO396 is another multi-component site containing a thirty-five-by-fifteen-foot, lunar-shaped Civil War earthwork and two concentrations of domestic artifacts representing possible Civil War encampments (Camps 1 and 2 on Figure 1). Within the site's boundaries, the recovery of early to mid-eighteenth-century artifacts also indicates earlier domestic occupation as well. Archaeological testing documented intact features associated with this artifact concentration, which by their context are indicative of this portion of the site functioning as a slave quarter site in the first half of the eighteenth century while under the ownership of Philip Lightfoot (Fessler and Laird 2005). Slaves are documented historically as living on the property throughout the eighteenth century, with this being the best candidate for the location of at least one or more of their residences.

44YO1026 is an approximately thousand-foot segment of the historic Williamsburg-Yorktown Road, a major eighteenth and nineteenth century thoroughfare. Well worn through long use, it varies in width from ten to twenty-five feet, with it being as deep as fifteen feet below grade at some locations.

Archaeological testing throughout the forested twelve-acre Whitaker's Mill Archaeological Complex consisted of a combination of screened shovel tests at a ten-to-twenty-foot interval in association with text excavations. These investigations have documented all sites in the nominated acreage to be in a good to excellent state of preservation and of high archaeological significance for future researchers. Much of the property, being in forest cover, has not been plowed since the Civil War, thereby allowing the sites here to remain relatively undisturbed for the past century and more.

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**8. Statement of Significance**

**Summary Paragraph**

The Whitaker's Mill Archaeological Complex is locally significant with a period of significance of 1726-1863, in that it can address important historical and archaeological issues related to domestic and commercial life in eighteenth and nineteenth century Virginia as well as military life during the Civil War. It meets the following two criteria established by the National Register of Historic Places:

Criterion A. The site is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history, namely

- \* Traces of the Williamsburg-Yorktown Road remain well preserved in the nominated acreage, an historically significant roadway in eighteenth and nineteenth century Virginia, both from a commercial and military perspective.
- \* The nominated acreage contains locally rare but well-preserved Civil War earthworks and encampments dating to 1862 which were part of the Battle of Williamsburg, being occupied by both Confederate and Union troops as well as serving as the headquarters of Union Brigadier General Winfield Scott Hancock during portions of the Battle of Williamsburg.

Criterion D. The site has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in history, namely

- \* The nominated acreage contains a well-preserved mill complex dating to the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, with archaeological deposits that have been shown to have potential to expand upon our knowledge of commercial and domestic life associated with mills in Virginia at that time.
- \* With the presence of African-American slaves historically documented as on the nominated acreage in association with the mill complex here during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, archaeological investigations have shown that well-preserved sites here have the potential to expand upon our understanding of African-American lifeways in Virginia prior to the Civil War.
- \* Archaeological investigations have documented the locations of both Civil War earthworks and associated camps dating to 1862-63 and associated with both Confederate and Union troops. Supplementing historical accounts, these well-preserved sites have the potential to expand upon our knowledge of camp layout and camp life during this period of the Civil War in Virginia.

**Background**

Whitaker's Mill is an archaeologically significant complex with a Colonial-era mill site and other domestic sites from the eighteenth century. In addition, there are two extant Civil War earthen field fortifications situated near the original road trace of the Williamsburg-Yorktown Road. They figured prominently in a skirmish between Confederate and Union cavalry on May 4, 1862. The early history of Whitaker's Mill is also well documented for the war-torn Peninsula.

Colonel Philip Lightfoot owned the first recorded mill on King's Creek in the 1720s. The mill was active between 1726 and 1743, but court records indicate that Lightfoot failed to maintain the mill bridge and public thoroughfare over King's Creek. His 1748 will does not even mention the grist mill. Carter Burwell was the next owner of the Mill Quarter who acquired that parcel from William Lightfoot in 1751. Burwell rebuilt a mill on the same vicinity as the Lightfoot mill from the 1720s. Various overseers maintained a profitable concern there until Carter Burwell's death in 1756. The mill fell into disuse again until its restoration by Burwell's son, Nathaniel, in the 1770s. Burwell's Mill was rebuilt and received two new millstones. The mill was operational when the

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Continental Army and the French Army marched over King's Creek at Burwell's Mill during their advance to Yorktown on September 28, 1781. The Continentals even fought a brief skirmish with elements of Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton's British Legion near the mill site. After the British surrender at Yorktown on October 19, 1781, the elements of the Continental Army marched back up the Peninsula across the mill dam to camps up north. Burwell's Mill is also marked on the French military map of the Williamsburg area drawn by Nicholas Desandrouin. The map shows a group of structures at the site. After the American Revolution, the mill site again changed ownership as the Tidewater planters abandoned their lands for richer western acreage (Tyrer and Laird 2004:9-13).

Nathaniel Burwell left the Peninsula in the early nineteenth century and settled at "Carter Hall" in Clarke County, Virginia. The mill was leased to various tenants even after Burwell's death in 1814. Thomas Hugh Nelson Burwell sold the mill in 1835 to a tenant Henry Edloe who renovated and improved the sixty-year old mill (Tyrer and Laird 2004:13). Three years later Edloe sold the mill to Scervant Jones of Williamsburg. Jones, a Baptist minister, sold the mill and property at a loss to Robert Saunders in 1843. Saunders, the president of the College of William and Mary, kept the mill until Thomas Wills Whitaker purchased it in 1858. His father, Richard Whitaker, purchased the separate Mill Quarter tract from Allen Davis in 1843. The 1860 United States Census lists Thomas Whitaker operating a grist mill valued at \$1,000.00 which produced 2,500 bushels of meal. Thomas Whitaker supplied flour and corn meal for the local market (U.S. Census, 1860; York County Land Tax Records, 1832-1850). The Civil War, however, disrupted Thomas Whitaker and other Peninsula resident's economic prosperity.

The Commonwealth of Virginia seceded from the Union on April 17, 1861. Both Union and Confederate leaders soon realized the strategic importance of the Virginia Peninsula with the navigable James and York rivers as perfect avenues of advance. On May 24, 1861, Confederate Colonel John Bankhead Magruder was placed in command of the Peninsula's defenses. Magruder laid out three different lines of defenses to halt any Union advance from Fort Monroe. The first line went from Young's Mill on Deep Creek to Ship's Point on the Poquoson River. The second line went from Mulberry Island, following the swampy Warwick River to within one mile of Yorktown, and linked with fortifications around the old colonial port. The third line consisted of fourteen redoubts between College and Queen's Creeks near Williamsburg (Moore 2002:64). Whitaker's Mill was located on the Williamsburg Road between Yorktown and the Confederate third line of defense. The Confederates erected two redans to guard the Williamsburg Road's crossing of King's Creek at Whitaker's Mill. This site was the scene of a cavalry skirmish on May 4, 1862, during the Peninsula Campaign of 1862.

In March 1862, the Union Army of the Potomac landed on the Virginia Peninsula with the objective of capturing the Confederate capital of Richmond. A flotilla of almost four hundred vessels transported 121,500 soldiers, 101 heavy siege guns, 44 field artillery batteries, 14,592 animals, 1,150 wagons, and other equipage for this massive operation, the largest American amphibious operation landing prior to World War II. Magruder, now a major general, had only the 13,000-man Confederate Army of the Peninsula to defend this approach to Richmond. Union Major General George Brinton McClellan ordered a two-column general advance on April 4, 1862. The III Corps marched from Fort Monroe up the Hampton-Yorktown Highway toward the Yorktown defenses. The IV Corps also advanced up the Hampton or Great Warwick Road from Camp Butler at Newport News Point toward the Halfway House between Yorktown and Williamsburg. General McClellan planned to trap the Confederates in a two-pronged maneuver with the III Corps holding General Magruder's forces at Yorktown while the IV Corps blocked their retreat toward Williamsburg. The Battle of Lee's Mill on April 5, 1862, stopped this Union flanking maneuver. The Confederates stationed at Yorktown also halted the Union advance. McClellan's maps incorrectly showed the Warwick River flowing parallel to the James River. Therefore, he was unaware that the Warwick flowed from near Yorktown across the Peninsula and emptied into the James River (Moore 2002:63-67). His plan for a quick advance faltered without naval support, and McClellan besieged the twelve-mile Warwick-Yorktown line for over three weeks.

With the Federals besieging Magruder, the Confederate War Department dispatched further reinforcements to the Peninsula. General Joseph Eggleston Johnston brought three divisions from Northern Virginia and took command of the Departments of the Peninsula and Norfolk. Johnston outranked Magruder who was relegated to commanding the army's right flank. The new Confederate commander was unimpressed with the Confederate defenses, believing that Richmond was best defended near her gates and ordered a retreat on the night of May 3, 1862. Johnston's forces withdrew toward Williamsburg where they fought a rear-guard battle against the Federals on May 4 and May 5, 1862 (Moore 2002:67-70).

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After occupying Yorktown on the morning of May 4, General McClellan sent out two columns in pursuit of the Confederates. On his right flank along the Williamsburg Road, Brigadier General George Stoneman led two brigades of cavalry, under Brigadier General William Emory and Brigadier General Phillip St. George Cooke, and four batteries of artillery. Brigadier General Joseph Hooker's infantry division of the III Corps marched behind the artillery. On the Union left flank, Captain William Chambliss' squadron of the 5<sup>th</sup> United States Cavalry screened the advance of Brigadier General William "Baldy" Smith's division of the IV Corps on the Great Warwick Road. The two Union columns encountered Confederate cavalry and infantry around 12:00 p.m. on May 4 and brought about an unplanned skirmish. Brigadier General J.E.B. Stuart (General Cooke's son-in-law) commanded the Confederate rearguard and placed his cavalry in blocking positions. Lieutenant Colonel Williams Carter Wickham's 4<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry and elements of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Virginia Cavalry were posted at Whitaker's Mill on the Williamsburg Road. Meanwhile, Lieutenant Colonel William Martin's Jeff Davis Legion was stationed at Lee's House (Lee Hall Mansion) and behind the Skiffes Creek Bridge on the Hampton Road. General Stuart with the remainder of Colonel Thomas Goode's 3<sup>rd</sup> Virginia Cavalry and a section of artillery waited at Blow's Mill to cover the withdrawal of his men farther down the Hampton Road (Hastings and Hastings 1997:32-33; U.S. War Department 1880-1901: Series I, Vol. 11, Part I:440-441,427-429,444-445).

On the Federal right flank, Cooke's cavalry brigade galloped up the Williamsburg Road and pushed back the Confederate pickets toward Whitaker's Mill. There, Colonel Wickham had the 4<sup>th</sup> Virginia positioned behind King's Creek in an earthwork and deployed in the forest surrounding Yorktown Road. A section of mountain howitzers also covered the creek bottom and roadbed. Troopers of the 6<sup>th</sup> United States Cavalry halted and exchanged fire with the Confederates. Cooke promptly ordered Lieutenant W. D. Fuller's section of Captain Horatio Gibson's Battery C, 3<sup>rd</sup> United States Artillery into action. The Union cannons shelled the Confederates from only a few hundred yards. Moreover, Cooke deployed a squadron of the 6<sup>th</sup> United States Cavalry to charge the Confederate position. Wickham's troopers, however, spiked a howitzer and abandoned their position before the Federals could mount an attack. The 4<sup>th</sup> Virginia withdrew toward Fort Magruder with Cooke's men in close pursuit (U.S. War Department 1880-1901: Series I, Vol. 11, Part I:427-429,431-432,444-445). Afterwards, the Federals occupied Whitaker's Mill and the adjacent Whitaker's House. Brigadier General Winfield Scott Hancock, Brigadier Samuel Heintzelman, Brigadier General Erasmus Keyes, and Brigadier General Edwin Sumner used Thomas Whitaker's house for the next two days as their headquarters during the Battle of Williamsburg. General McClellan even visited the house after arriving on the battlefield near dusk on May 5, 1862.

After the Peninsula Campaign, Thomas Wills Whitaker died at another family estate "Alabama" near present day Croaker on August 6, 1862 (Whitaker Family Bible). Whitaker's Mill was also destroyed during the Civil War. The grist mill's ruins and surrounding land, however, still played host to Union occupational forces. The 5<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Cavalry encamped at Whitaker's Mill during the fall of 1862 and the spring of 1863. The Federals also established a hospital near the mill site. The Union occupied the Virginia Peninsula from Williamsburg to Fort Monroe, but the old colonial capital still proved a tempting target. The Confederates launched several raids against Williamsburg and Fort Magruder in 1863. During one raid on April 11, 1863, Confederate troops under Colonel William A. Tabb captured the Federals at Whitaker's Mill. The Confederates burned the hospital and destroyed the commissary supplies. The area remained peaceful after 1863, but the war's effects were felt for generations afterwards (Dubbs 2002:293-294). The Whitaker family did not have the funds to rebuild the grist mill and the property went up for auction in 1868. By 1890, the creek had broken through the dam and the pond had dried up. Squatters who lived in the former miller's house had occupied the land. The United States Navy bought the property on the opposite bank of King's Creek in 1918. The Williamsburg Road was bypassed by more modern highways and fell into disuse (Tyrer and Laird 2004:16,18). The Whitaker's Mill site remained untouched until archaeologists from Colonial Williamsburg Foundation in the 1980s began excavating the site. The present-day development of the old Mill Quarter and Mill tract around the nominated acreage has prompted further investigation of the important colonial and Civil War sites here.

Bisecting the Whitaker's Mill Archaeological Complex is the Williamsburg-Yorktown Road, one of the most historically significant roadways in Virginia. With portions of it dating back to the last quarter of the seventeenth century, its importance increased significantly when the colony's capital was shifted from Jamestown to Williamsburg in 1699 by serving as an important commercial link with the port of Yorktown throughout the eighteenth century. The road was noted on dozens of historic maps, including the famous Fry-Jefferson map of 1755 where its length was shown as twelve miles (Fessler and Laird 2005:88). It also served as a major transportation link in 1781 during the Siege of Yorktown as well in 1862 during the Peninsula Campaign.

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Archaeological testing by the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation in the 1980s and the James River Institute for Archaeology in 2003 and 2005 demonstrate the potential of the five sites at the Whitaker's Mill complex to expand our knowledge of the lifeways in colonial and antebellum Virginia, both from a commercial and domestic perspective, and for both Euro-Americans and African-Americans that lived adjacent to and worked at the mill complex here. Of particular significance is the documented presence of intact subsurface features believed to represent one or more slave quarters during the eighteenth century. Further, the nominated acreage is associated with both Confederate and Union troops that took part in the 1862 Battle of Williamsburg. Archaeological testing by the James River Institute, through the identification of well-preserved deposits, has documented the property's potential to add to our knowledge of Civil War camps, both from the perspective of camp layout and life within such camps.

**9. Major Bibliographic References**

- Bryan, Charles F. Jr., James C. Kelly, and Nelson D. Lankford (eds). *Images from the Storm*. The Free Press, New York, 2001.
- Dubbs, Carol Kettenburg. *Defend This Old Town: Williamsburg During the Civil War*. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2002.
- Fessler, Garrett, and Matthew Laird. Phase II Archaeological Significance Evaluations of Sites 44YO394, 44YO395, 44YO396, and 44YO1026 at the Whitaker's Mill Tract in York County, Virginia. James River Institute for Archaeology, Williamsburg, Virginia, 2005.
- Hastings, Early C., and David S. Hastings. *A Pitiless Rain: The Battle of Williamsburg, 1862*. Shippenburg, Pennsylvania: White Mane, 1997.
- Hunter, Robert R. Jr. Preliminary Archaeological Survey of the Burwell's Mill Site, York County, Virginia. Department of Archaeology, Office of Excavation and Conservation, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, Williamsburg, Virginia.
- Laird, Matthew R., and Hank D. Lutton. Phase I Archaeological Survey of Approximately 130 Acres at the Whitaker's Mill Property, York County, Virginia. James River Institute for Archaeology, Williamsburg, Virginia. 2004.
- Moore, J. Michael. "That Dam Failure: The Battles of Lee's Mill and Dam No. 1." *North & South* 5 (July 2002): 62-71.
- Simpson, Alan, Helen Byrd, and Mary Simpson. The Discovery of Burwell's Mill, Carter's Grove Plantation. Two Vol's., John D. Rockefeller Library, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, Williamsburg, Virginia, 1984.
- Tyrer, Carol, and Matthew Laird. Phase I Archaeological Survey of Archaeological Survey of Approximately 230 Acres at the Whitaker's Mill Property York County, Virginia. James River Institute for Archaeology, Williamsburg, Virginia, 2004.
- U.S. Census, 1860. Agriculture Schedule. York County, Virginia.
- U.S. War Department. *War of the Rebellion: The Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, 128 vols. Washington, D.C.: GPO, 1880-1901.
- Whitaker Family Bible. Whitaker Papers. Private Collection. Williamsburg, Virginia.
- York County Land Tax Records. Library of Virginia. Richmond, Virginia.

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Verbal Description Boundaries**

All that certain piece of land being a portion of Parcel 3, Whitaker's Mill Tract situated in the Bruton District of The County of York, Virginia containing approximately 12.22 acres and being more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at a point on the easterly right of way line of State Route No. 199; thence leaving said right of way line the following 12 courses: 1) S70°22'44W, 16.20 feet to a point; 2) along a curve to the right having a radius of 517.47 feet, an arc length of 323.73 feet, a chord length of 318.48 feet and a chord bearing of S52°27'23"E to a point; 3) S34°32'01"E, 37.71 feet to a point; 4) along a curve to the left having a radius of 174.75 feet, an arc length of 135.16 feet, a chord length of 131.82 feet, and a chord bearing of S56°41'33"E to a point; 5) S21°02'03"W, 59.72 feet to a point; 6) along a curve to the left having a radius of 433.97 feet, an arc length of 136.64 feet, a chord length of 136.08 feet and a chord bearing of S12°00'49"W to a point; 7) continuing along a curve to the left having a radius of 923.31 feet, an arc length of 90.42 feet, a chord length of 90.38 feet, and a chord bearing of S06°24'36"E to a point; 8) continuing along a curve to the left having a radius of 461.94 feet, an arc length of 677.52 feet, a chord length of 618.41 feet and a chord bearing of S57°23'28"E to a point; 9) along a curve to the right having a radius of 575.00 feet, an arc length of 419.60 feet, a chord length of 410.35 feet and a chord bearing of N78°30'12"W to a point; 10) S57°35'52"E, 35.85 feet to a point in the centerline of a creek, being the common corner of Parcel 3 and the property now or formerly of Busch Entertainment Corporation and being the True Point of Beginning; Thence from said point beginning following along the centerline of said creek, being the common boundary line of Parcel 3 and the property now or formerly of Busch Entertainment Corporation and the property now or formerly of U.S. Naval Mine Depot; thence continuing along the centerline of said creek, being the common boundary line of Parcel 3 and the property now or formerly of U.S. Naval Mine Depot, in a southerly direction approximately 781 feet to a point in the centerline of the creek, being the common corner of Parcel 3 and the property now or formerly of U.S. Naval Mine Depot; thence S63°47'04"W, 82.53 feet to a point; thence S78°31'22"W, 359.42 feet to a point; thence N76°01'05"W, 49.10 feet to a point; N00°00'00"W, 275.82 feet to a point; thence along a curve to the left having a radius of 1360.00 feet, an arc length of 629.75 feet, a chord distance of 624.15 feet and a chord bearing of N13°15'56"W to a point, N59°29'52"E, 171.18 feet and returning to the point of beginning.

**Boundary Justification**

Boundaries were determined through a series of screened shovel tests at ten-to-twenty-foot intervals and test excavations documenting intact archaeological deposits through the twelve acres being nominated.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Whittaker's Mill Archaeological Complex  
York County, Virginia**

**Section Photographic Data Page 8**

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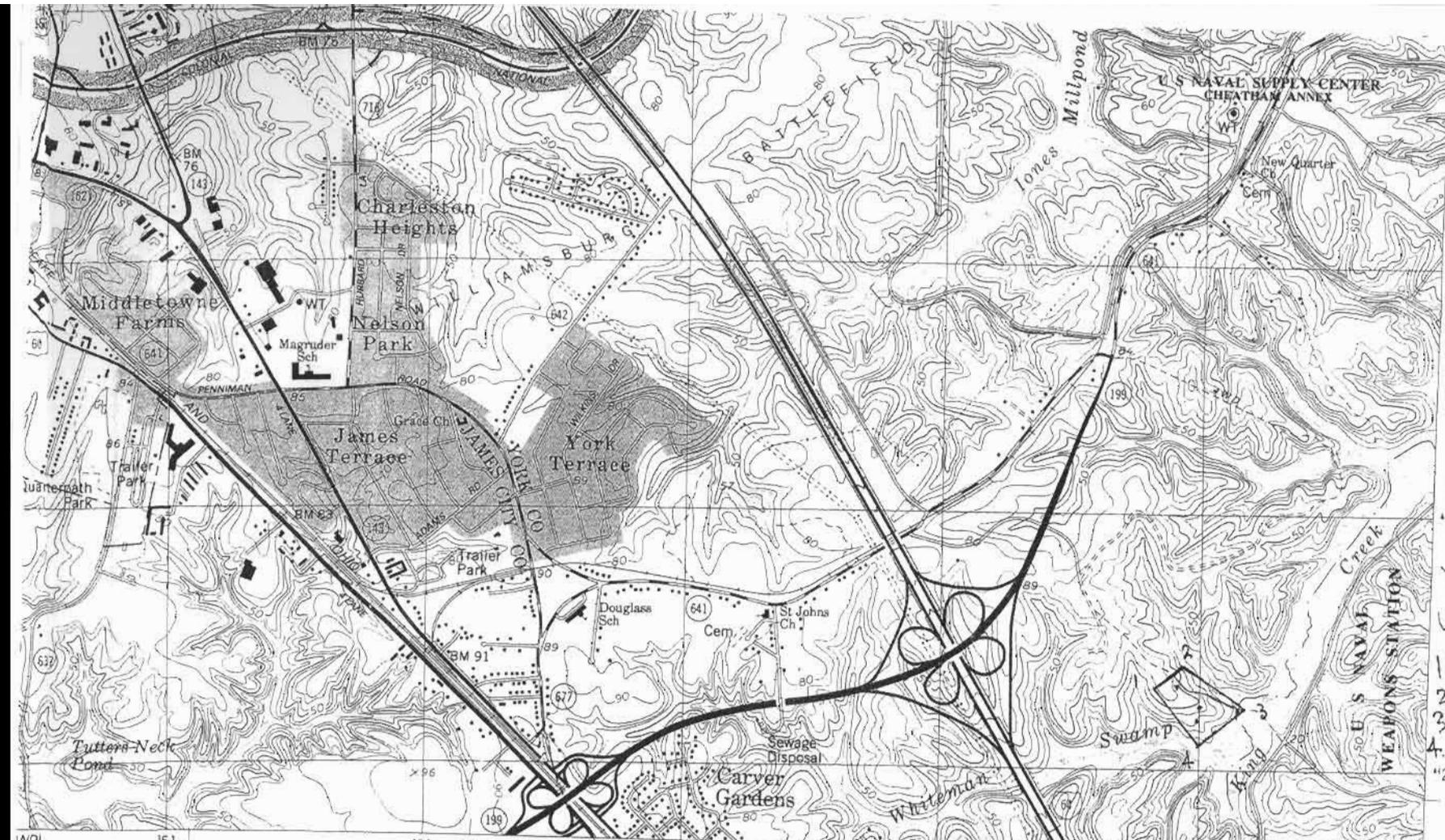
**Photographic Data**

**List of Figures**

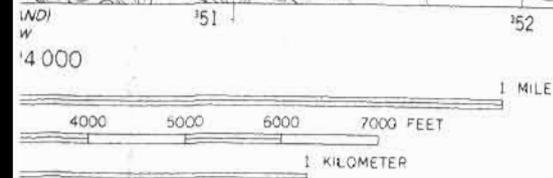
- Figure 1 Location of Archaeological Sites Within Whittaker's Mill Archaeological Complex.
- Figure 2 "View of Whittaker's Mill near the battlefield of Williamsburg, Va." Sketched by Union Private Robert Knox Sneaden, May 4, 1862. Virginia Historical Society, Richmond.

**List of Photos, Digital images stored at the Virginia Department of Historic Resources**

- Photo 1 44YO394, Excavation of Chimney Base, Facing Southwest. James River Institute for Archaeology, Williamsburg. 2005.
- Photo 2 44YO394, North Terminus of Civil War Gun Emplacement, with Visible Ditching. James River Institute for Archaeology, Williamsburg. 2005
- Photo 3 44YO395. Excavation of Brick Clamp, Facing East. James River Institute for Archaeology, Williamsburg. 2005.
- Photo 4 44YO1026, Williamsburg-Yorktown Road, Facing East. James River Institute for Archaeology, Williamsburg. 2005.

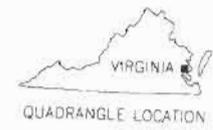


WATAKER'S Mill  
 #25 ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
 COMPLEX  
 YORK COUNTY, VA  
 UTM REFERENCES  
 1. 18/354280/4124320  
 2. 18/354940/4124400  
 3. 18/355180/4124240  
 4. 18/355000/4124100  
 1124000N



VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929  
 MEAN LOW WATER  
 MEAN HIGH WATER  
 APPROXIMATELY 2.8 FEET

MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
 COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
 CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22903  
 SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY RESTON, VIRGINIA—1989  
 FORT EUSTIS INTERCHANGE 7 MI.  
 NEWPORT NEWS (U.S. 17) 24 MI.

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road

Interstate Route   
 U. S. Route   
 State Route

WILLIAMSBURG, VA.  
 37076-C6-TF-024

1984

DMA 5658 I SW—SERIES V834