

2. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Weston Manor stands near the western edge of Hopewell in a grove of trees on the bank of the Appomattox River. Although the fields on the land side of the house have been built up in an apartment complex, the house's immediate surroundings remain undisturbed. Also undisturbed is the handsome prospect of the wooded opposite shore of the Appomattox. None of Weston Manor's outbuildings remain, nor is there any indication where they stood.

The house itself is a typical Virginia Georgian form - a two-story rectangular block covered by a hipped roof. Both the land and river fronts are five bays in length and have center doors. The first story windows have nine-over-nine sash while the second have nine-over-six with the general proportions of the openings being diminished. All the windows are supported on finely molded sills. The entrances on either side are sheltered by small porches. The porch on the river front apparently replaces an earlier one, and is a somewhat crude Greek Revival form with four square columns. The pedimented land front porch appears to be original. The original turned pilasters on this porch are preserved but the corresponding turned posts have been replaced by two square columns. The roof is pierced by four interior end chimneys with corbeled caps and is surrounded at its base by a fine modillion cornice. A photograph of the house taken during the Civil War shows the roof covered by wood shingles but these have been replaced by sheet metal. The house stands on brick foundation laid in English bond. The basement can be entered from the east side of the house through a gabled bulkhead. Except for the minor changes in the porches, the loss of the wood shingle roof, and the loss of the paneled shutters, the exterior of Weston Manor remains amazingly unaltered. The house retains nearly all of its original sash as well as its deeply undercut beaded clapboarding.

The interior, like the exterior is essentially unaltered. The central hall extends the depth of the house and is divided in the middle by a large, semi-circular arch supported on pilasters. The hall is also embellished with flat paneled wainscoting and dentiled cornice. The stair is located in an ell off the southwest corner of the hall. It ascends for one-third of its length against the south exterior wall then curves in a tight 180 degree turn to reach the second floor central hall. The stair has a railing of square balusters and rounded handrail that spirals at the bottom step.

The plan of the second floor is identical to the first, having two rooms on both sides of the hall. Most of the original mantels on both floors are preserved. The most interesting is in the northwest first floor room which has a cornice shelf and frieze supported on stop-fluted pilasters, the whole being inset in a somewhat crude pedimented aedicula. Both the first and second floor rooms on the house's north side have chimney closets filling in the south side of the respective chimney breasts.

Although Weston Manor retains nearly all of its original fabric, the house stands in only a fair state of repair. At the present time it is being used by the owners as inexpensive rental property.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Weston Manor is an excellent example of Late-Georgian plantation architecture, and is one of the few plantation houses left on the historic lower Appomattox River. Its simple rectangular form with hipped roof illustrates the architectural conservatism that persisted in rural southside Virginia following the Revolution. The architectural interest of the house is enhanced by the fact that nearly all the original fabric is intact, and that no structural alterations have taken place. It is unusual that such a fine and imposing house should have remained generally unknown to most Virginians. Little, if anything, has ever been written about the house; it has been included in no historic site surveys of Virginia, and no photographs of it have been published. That its existence should have remained unnoticed for so long is even more surprising since the house is located so near the state's major population center.

Weston Manor stands on land originally patented in 1637 by John Baker. The land remained in the Baker family until 1668. In 1723 the property was owned by John Hooley, and in the latter part of the century it was acquired by William Gilliam and his wife, Christine Eppes Gilliam. The Gilliams erected the present house probably in the 1780's. The earliest written record of the Gilliam's house is an 1804 letter written from Weston Manor by Mrs. Gilliam to her brother at Princeton College.

During the War between the States the house was shelled by a Northern gunboat, and in the latter part of the war, when nearby City Point harbor was being used to supply troops engaged in the siege of Petersburg, the house was occupied by Northern officers among whom was General Phillip Sheridan. In 1869 Weston Manor was bought from the Gilliam family by Phillip Dolin of Ireland and New York City. The Dolin family retained ownership of the house and surrounding farmlands for the remainder of the nineteenth century. Following the DuPont development of nearby Hopewell, Weston Manor's lands were gradually sold off so that the house is now encroached upon by housing developments. A movement to preserve the house and a portion of its setting is currently underway.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

FILES OF VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

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 ° 18 ' 31 "	77 ° 18 ' 16 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 3 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, James W. Moody, Jr., Director

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE: August 9, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER:
Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building

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 _____

James W. Moody, Jr., Director

Title Va. Historic Landmarks Commission

Date 11/16/71

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

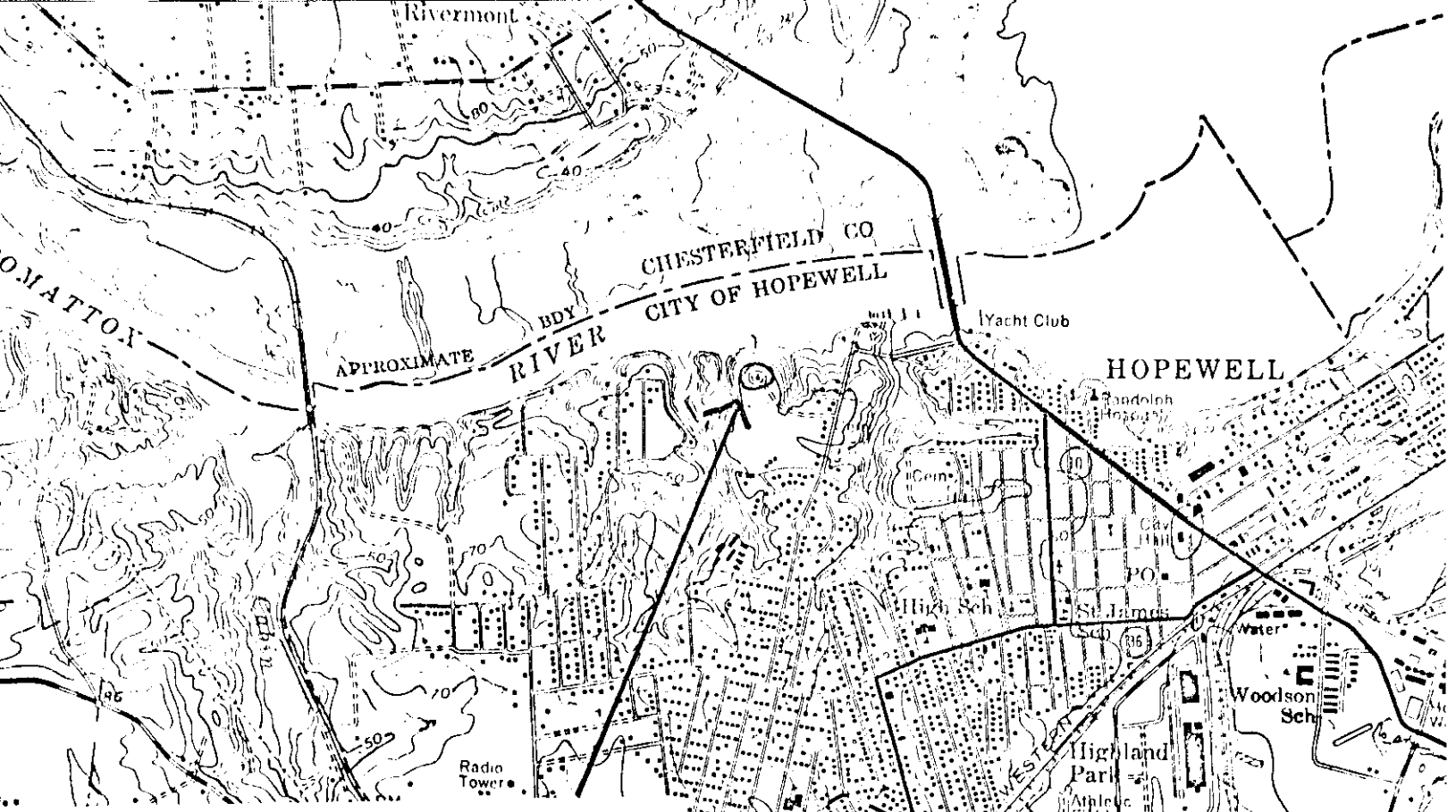
Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date 4/13/72

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

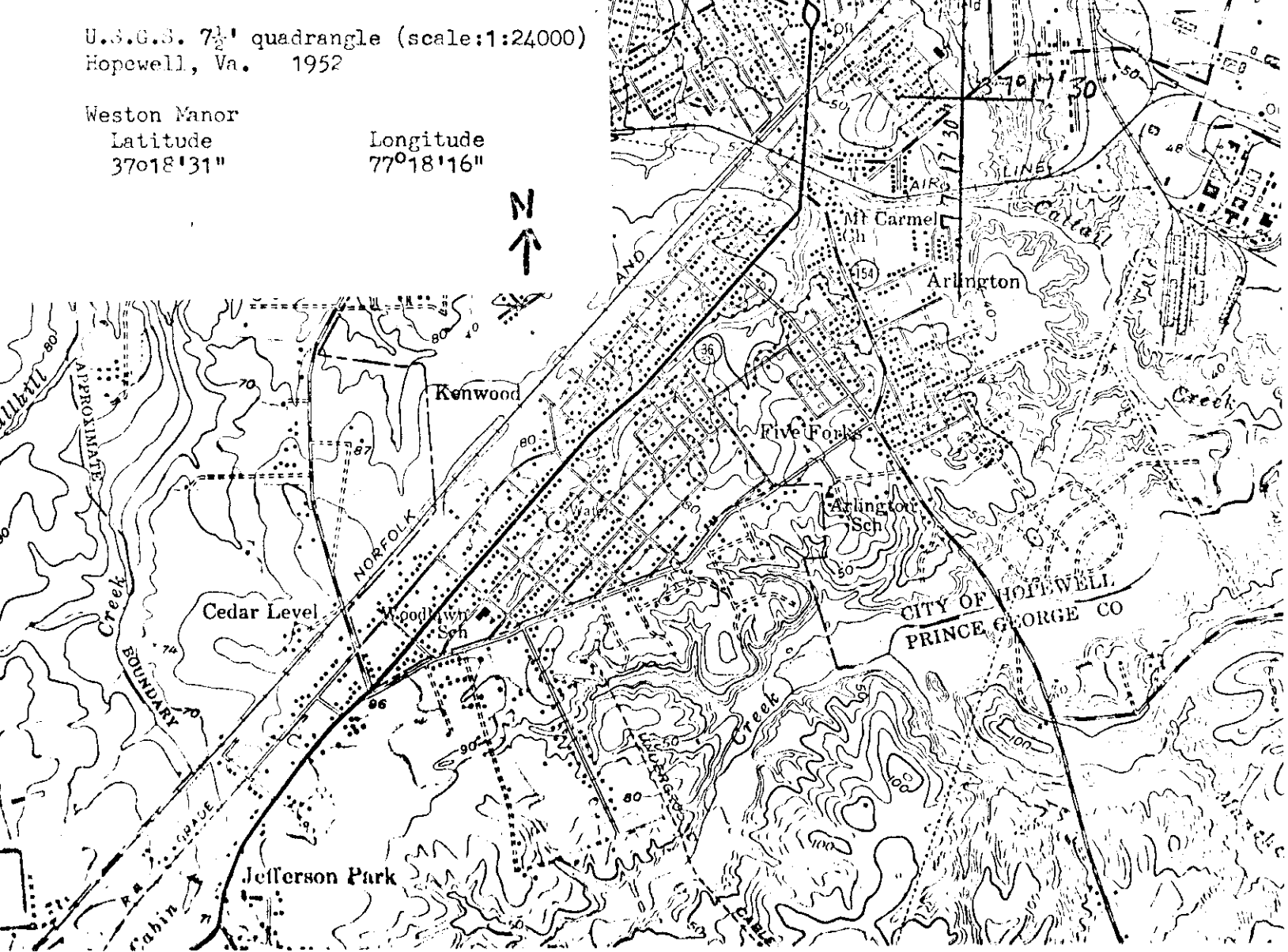


U.S.G.S. 7½' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)
Hopewell, Va. 1952

Weston Manor

Latitude
37°18'31"

Longitude
77°18'16"



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
VIRGINIA	
COUNTY	
HOPEWELL (in cit.)	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

4.

Mr. Thomas J. Broyhill
c/o American Realty Trust Company
2000 Jefferson Davis Highway
Arlington, Virginia

Joel T. Broyhill
Congressman 10th District
Washington, D.C.