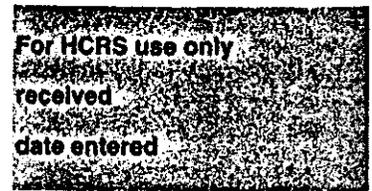


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Queen Hith Plantation
Historic Resources of Oakland Farm Industrial Park (Partial
and/or common Inventory: Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites.)

2. Location

The Property Boundaries of Oakland Farm Industrial Park

street & number Route 60 at Enterprise Drive not for publication
city, town Newport News N/A vicinity of First congressional district Paul S. Tribble
state Virginia code 51 county/city Newport News code 700

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Multiple Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industrial (future)
	<u>NA</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

Regional Redevelopment and Housing Authority for Hampton and Newport
name News, Virginia c/o Mr. William C. Phillips, Jr.
street & number 2203 Minge Drive
city, town Hampton N/A vicinity of Virginia state 23661

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Newport News Circuit Court
street & number 2501 Huntington Avenue
city, town Newport News state Virginia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title 44NN7, 44NN8, 44NN10 V.R.C.A. Site Survey Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date 1978, 1980, 1981 federal state county local
depository for survey records V.H.I.C. V.R.C.A. P. O. Box 368
city, town Yorktown state Virginia 23690

7. Description

Condition excellent deteriorated unaltered original site
 good ruins altered moved date N/A
 fair unexposed

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Summary Description

Oakland Farm, a 647 acre agricultural tract in Newport News, Virginia, scheduled for development by the Regional Redevelopment and Housing Authority of Hampton and Newport News, Virginia as the Oakland Industrial Park, contains non-contiguous archaeological sites evidencing a succession of human occupation, extending from the Early Woodland Period through the 19th century (Figure 1). The Oakland Farm tract, which is situated on the eastern bank of Skiffes Creek, a tributary of the lower James River, was in use as a dairy farm until the early 1970s. It is partially wooded and some of its once-cleared fields are now obscured by a dense growth of underbrush. The farm is immediately adjacent to the Fort Eustis Military Reservation on Mulberry Island and is bordered by urban development.

Archaeologists from the James Madison University Archaeological Research Center were employed by the Regional Redevelopment and Housing Authority to conduct comprehensive Phase I and Phase II level archaeological surveys at Oakland Farm in order to identify significant cultural resources within its boundaries, prior to the development of the tract as an industrial park. Three non-contiguous sites, consisting of an Early-Middle Woodland camp site (44NN7), the Queen Hith Plantation Complex (44NN8), and one Civil War fortification (44NN10c) were identified, tested archaeologically, and found to be significant. Each site was physically defined and demarcated to assure its preservation despite the occurrence of future development in immediately adjacent areas. The acreage included in this nomination encompasses those specific areas in which significant archaeological sites have been identified (Figure 2, RRHA plat). The Regional Redevelopment and Housing Authority intends to preserve the significant archaeological sites at Oakland Farm by including them within a proposed archaeological park (Figure 2).

Table of Contents, Description

- 44NN7, Skiffes Creek Sand Spit Site: Continuation Sheets 1-2. Figure 3; Photos 1 and 2.
- 44NN8, Queen Hith Plantation Complex: Continuation Sheets 3-5; Figures 4 and 5; Photos 3, 4, 5, 9, and 10; Map 1.
- 44NN10c, Southern Terminal Redoubt: Continuation Sheet 6; Photo 6; Map 2.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates N/A Builder/Architect N/A

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Summary Statement of Significance

The Oakland Farm Archaeological Sites Multiple Resource Area in Newport News, Virginia, includes three significant, distinct and non-contiguous archaeological sites within a tract of land proposed for development as the Oakland Industrial Park. One of the few large, undeveloped tracts within the city of Newport News, Oakland Farm contains archaeological sites representing three major periods of American history. The archaeological remains of prehistoric occupation dating to the Early-Middle Woodland Periods; the Queen Hith Plantation Complex, occupied by the Harwood family from ca. 1632 until after the Revolutionary War; and one Confederate earthworks, the southerly terminus of the band of fortifications constructed by General J. B. Magruder in 1862 as part of the Peninsula Campaign, have survived intact at Oakland Farm and will be preserved in situ by the Regional Redevelopment and Housing Authority of Hampton and Newport News, Virginia. Scientific excavation of these sites would add considerably to extant knowledge of sites dating to the Early/Middle Woodland Periods, early historic settlements, and the evolution of plantation architecture and cultural adaptation within the James River Basin through the eighteenth century. These data are significant to understanding the development of the local area, the state, and the nation.

Table of Contents, Significance

- 44NN7, Skiffes Creek Sand Spit Site: Continuation Sheet 7.
- 44NN8, Queen Hith Plantation Complex: Continuation Sheets 8-11. Figures 6, 7 and 8.
- 44NN10c, Southern Terminal Redoubt: Continuation Sheet 12.

9. Major Bibliographical References

- Anonymous. "List of the Living and Dead in Virginia." British Public Records Office (Colonial State Papers), Volume III, No. 2.
 Anonymous. "350 Years of Harwoods." Fort Eustis Museum Archives, n. p.
 Anonymous. "Vicinity of Yorktown and Williamsburg," 1871.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property (See Continuation Sheets)

Quadrangle name Yorktown

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

 Zone Easting Northing

B

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

 Zone Easting Northing

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

F

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

G

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

General Verbal boundary description and justification: Bound by the meanders of Skiffes Creek on the west and northwest, by the property line of Oakland Industrial Park on the north, by Warwick Boulevard (Route 60) and Rum Road on the east and by the property line of Oakland Industrial Park on the south. (See continuation sheets for individual sites nominated).

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A	code	county	code
-----------	------	--------	------

state N/A	code	county	code
-----------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dr. Clarence R. Geier and Staff

organization James Madison University Archaeological Research Center
Dept. of Anthropology, Sociology & Social Work date April 1982

street & number James Madison University telephone 703-433-6266

city or town Harrisonburg state Virginia 22807

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *H. Bryan Mitchell*

title _____ date SEP 16 1982

For HCRS use only I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
Keeper of the National Register	date
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

EXP. 12/31/84

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Historic Resources of Oakland Farm Industrial Park (Partial
Inventory: Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites). 7

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Page 1

Description, 44NN7, Skiffes Creek Sand Spit Site

44NN7, a prehistoric site showing evidence of occupation during the Early to Middle Woodland Periods, is situated on the northern terminus of a sand spit which protrudes between Skiffes Creek and an immediately adjacent tidal marsh. It is located on the western boundary of the Oakland Industrial Park. The site locale, which encompasses an area 200' X 90' in size, is located north of a recently constructed turnaround. The site's surface varies from 3 to 5 feet above sea level, with its greatest elevation being at the extreme northern end of the spit. 44NN7 is currently covered by deciduous and evergreen forest and the ground surface is obscured by dense underbrush (Photo 1).

44NN7 was evaluated archaeologically by a combination of surface reconnaissance and subsurface testing. A baseline was established to serve as a reference for the placement of test pits (Figure 3), which consisted of one 2 1/2' X 5' and ten 2 1/2' X 2 1/2' test excavations. Careful visual examinations were made where the site follows the bank of Skiffes Creek. Test excavations were conducted in arbitrary 4 inch levels, shifting to the use of natural levels as feasible.

No testing was done along the western edge of the spit north of the turnaround, due to its low elevation and dense vegetation. Visual inspection of the eroded creek bank in this area revealed little evidence of artifactual remains, suggesting that the site lies predominately to the north and east of that area.

Field testing established the presence of a well-preserved prehistoric component. Some marginal damage has resulted from erosion. Over the years part of the western periphery of the sand spit has been undercut. Evidence of a historic structure, possibly a wharf or dock, was identified in the southwestern area of the site. Although part of 44NN7 may have been lost as a result of these activities, the site component appears to be essentially intact and protected.

Artifacts extend to a depth of 20 inches below the site surface and are distributed across the sand spit within the site area. Greatest artifact density occurs near the center of the spit and along its western side. Projectile points, aboriginal ceramics, and faunal remains, including shellfish and animal bone, were found (Photo 2). One feature, a pit feature containing fire hearth and shell debris, was identified eroding out of the terrace edge. The artifact and faunal material recovered suggests that the site may have been a small seasonal campsite or base camp. Behavioral routines appear to have included the gathering of food resources from the neighboring tidal marsh.

Pottery found at 44NN7 consisted of almost equal quantities of sand-tempered Popes Creek and shell-tempered Mockley wares, the two being stratigraphically mixed in the upper site levels. Popes Creek wares were slightly more common in the lower excavation levels. Only 16 tools were recovered out of a total of 2,028 artifacts. Six projectile points were identified including two Potts and one Bare Island-like type. The remainder were unidentified. Both Potts points were recovered from deep strata.

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

For NPS use only
received
date entered

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Historic Resources of Oakland Farm Industrial Park (Partial
Inventory: Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites).
Continuation sheet 2 Item number 7

The artifact distribution and typology at 44NN7 suggests the existence of a possibly transitional Early-Middle Woodland site. The greater quantity of sand-tempered Popes Creek wares and Potts points in the lower strata may indicate the presence of an earlier underlying Early Woodland occupation. No evidence of any other period of site use was obtained during test excavations.

The Regional Redevelopment and Housing Authority of Hampton and Newport News, Virginia is seeking to have 44NN7 included as part of a State Archaeological Zone, a designation which will encourage its preservation. Funds have been allocated for data retrieval along the western limit of the site, where erosion is occurring.

UTM's: Zone 18 Easting 359-350 Northing 4-115-920 .041 acres

Verbal Boundary Description/Justification: 44NN7, located on the tip of a sand spit to the northeast of 44NN8, is bound on the west by the meanders of Skiffes Creek and to the north and northeast by marshland. The acreage nominated is defined by the periphery of the sand spit itself and does not extend into the marshland. It extends upland from the sand spit in a southwesterly direction, joining the northeastern perimeters of 44NN8. 44NN52, an upland prehistoric site representing temporary use during the Early-Middle Woodland Periods, lies between 44NN7 and 44NN8 and is also encompassed by the bounds of the acreage nominated.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS Use only
received
date entered

Historic Resources of Oakland Farm Industrial Park (Partial
Inventory: Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites). 7
Continuation sheet 3 Item number

Description, 44NN8, the Queen Hith Plantation Complex

44NN8, a multi-component archaeological site, is located on a north-facing upland terrace overlooking Skiffes Creek, which lies 650 feet to the north. Artifacts from the site suggest that it was occupied briefly during the Late Woodland Period. The primary dates of occupation extend from the early 17th century through the first quarter of the 19th century, during which time the land was owned by the Harwood family of Warwick County. Field testing at 44NN8 revealed the presence of at least six distinct cultural features within the acreage nominated. Other intact archaeological deposits are expected to be present. The field, at the present time, is covered by soybean stubble. It is bounded by pine and hardwood forest (Photo 3).

In 1978 a student archaeologist reported a scattering of prehistoric and historic artifacts across the surface of the terrace, at which time the site was designated 44NN8 and listed in the state's official inventory of archaeological sites. The site was subsequently tested by archaeologists from James Madison University Archeological Research Center in 1980 and 1981, at which time subsurface deposits and artifact concentrations were identified and the site's perimeters defined.

Because the surface of the terrace on which 44NN8 is located had been recently plowed, a systematic surface collection was made in an attempt to identify specific activity areas and artifact concentrations within the site. A study grid of 25 foot square survey cells oriented 50 degrees west of north was superimposed across the area designated 44NN8 (Map 1). Each cell was surveyed and its artifact density mapped, thereby delineating site boundaries and areas of artifact concentration. A series of 1 foot squares were placed in a series of transect lines across the site, oriented with the survey grid. These were excavated to determine plowzone depth at the site, and to assess the impact plowing had had on subsurface structural features.

A light scattering of prehistoric artifacts was found upon the surface of the site, including a core and a quartz triangular projectile point. The remainder of the artifact assemblage consisted of quartz or quartzite flakes and shatter with no spatial pattern being evidenced. No pottery was recovered at the site. The presence of the triangular projectile point suggests that the site may have been occupied briefly during the Late Woodland Period. It appears that historic period construction and other human activities badly disturbed or destroyed any prehistoric site components which may have been present.

Phase II level archaeological testing revealed that 44NN8 occupies an area 300' north-south X 475' east-west, acreage marked by soil discoloration and increased vegetal growth. Artifact distribution at the site is concentrated along a northeast-southwest axis upon the top of the terrace, which is flanked by deep ravines descending to Skiffes Creek. A freshwater spring is located within the easternmost ravine. Test pitting demonstrated that the plowzone at 44NN8 ranges in depth from 7 to 11 inches.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

Historic Resources of Oakland Farm Industrial Park (Partial
Inventory: Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites).
Continuation sheet 4 Item number 7 Page 2

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Spatial distribution of 17th and 18th-century artifacts, in combination with intact archaeological features evidence the presence of post and brick structural features at 44NN8, and suggest the probability of at least two periods of building activity at the site. A total of six structural features were identified in the course of archaeological testing (Figure 4).

Feature 1, a brick feature consisting of a series of colonial bricks bonded together with shell mortar, occupies an area 8' X 4' and is oriented on an east-west axis. It is believed to be a chimney base or building foundation. Twenty feet to the west of this feature, a deposit of mortar and brickbats extends into the subsoil.

Feature 2, a linear sequence of five colonial bricks bonded together with shell mortar and embedded in the subsoil, is situated approximately 100 feet west of Feature 1. These bricks, which appear to be in situ, run on a southeast-northwest axis. No artifacts were found in association with this feature, which was not fully exposed.

Feature 3, a prominent dark brown linear soil stain extending in a southeast-northwesterly direction, is believed to be the remains of a ground-laid timber building sill, a ground set pole fence or drainage ditch. This stain, which extends into the subsoil to a minimum depth of 4 inches, contains small bits of charcoal and brick.

Features 4 and 5, mottled brown circular soil stains in the western portion of 44NN8, are believed to be post holes, the remains of vertically placed wooden post supports. Features 4 and 5 measure 9 inches in diameter. Feature 6, a mottled brown rectangular feature measuring 7" X 10", is believed to be a post hole with an inset post.

During the controlled surface survey of 44NN8, three major areas of artifact concentration were identified southwest of the datum point and a fourth, less distinct, irregularly shaped concentration was noted to the southeast. Artifacts recovered from these four areas range in date from the second quarter of the 17th century to the first quarter of the 19th century. The earliest dated historical artifacts associated with 44NN8 were found southeast of the datum point, whereas later-dated objects were concentrated on the western portion of the site (Figure 5). The disparity in date of these areas of primary artifact density suggest that there may have been two consecutive periods of building construction at the site, a hypothesis also supported by the disparity in alignment among the six features identified during the 1981 survey.

Artifacts ranging in date from ca. 1632 to 1680 and found exclusively on the southeast portion of the site included locally made pipestems, dated to ca. 1620-1680, English kaolin pipestems, and bowl fragments dating stylistically to the 17th century, delftware fragments and Rhenish stoneware (Photos 4 and 5). A Rhenish brown stoneware vessel handle fragment has been identified as part of an "elector" jug; a type of vessel which was manufactured ca. 1580-1632, portraying the seven people who elected the emperor of Germany. The handle fragment found at 44NN8 contains part of the framing of the visage of the Bishop of Tier.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Historic Resources of Oakland Farm Industrial Park (Partial
Inventory: Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites).
Continuation sheet 5 Item number 7

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Fragments of Bellarmine jugs and grey and blue cobalt-decorated vessels were also found in the same area.

In the western portion of the site fragments of 18th-century winebottle glass, windowglass, and glass from a pharmaceutical phial were found in association with white salt-glaze stoneware, creamware, and pearlware, demonstrating the continuous occupation of the site. Chinese porcelain and English kaolin clay pipestems and bowl fragments dating to the 18th century were found as well as a few sherds of whiteware, dating to post 1820.

Metal objects found on the surface of 44NN8 included a furniture castor, a key, a flattened brass thimble, kettle fragments, a decorative brass harness boss, and a small brass eyepiece containing glass, part of a pair of spectacles. Twenty-two gun spalls of predominantly English origin were found at the site.

Phase II testing at 44NN8 determined that surface plowing has not significantly disturbed the distribution of artifacts across the site nor has it significantly impacted the site's subsurface features. The field will not be farmed in subsequent years, but rather will be preserved by the Regional Redevelopment and Housing Authority, which is seeking to have the site included in a State Archaeological Zone.

UTM's: Zone 18 Easting 359-250 Northing 4-115-660 3.27 acres

Verbal Boundary Description/Justification: 44NN8, located on an upland terrace overlooking Skiffes Creek, consists of a flat field bounded on the west, north and east by ravines containing pine and hardwood forestation. The acreage nominated extends to the bottom of these ravines and includes a section of the tidal marshes of Skiffes Creek. An arbitrary survey line running east to west forms the southerly boundary of 44NN8. All of 44NN8's significant archaeological deposits are expected to lie within the acreage nominated.

EXP. 12/31/84

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

Historic Resources of Oakland Farm Industrial Park (Partial
Inventory: Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites).
Continuation sheet 6 Item number 7

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Description, 44NN10c, Southernmost Terminal Redoubt

44NN10c, a nearly square earthworks, measuring 210' X 220' along its exterior defensive trench, is located upon a small point of land flanked by steep slopes which descend to Skiffes Creek. The earthworks' trench or moat, when measured from its apex to its outermost perimeter, varies from 30 to 42 feet, achieving its maximum width along the northeast wall of the redoubt. This ditch descends to a maximum depth of 9 feet below grade along the redoubt's southwest wall, at which point the defensive embankments rise to a maximum height of 6 feet above grade (Photo 7).

An earthen ramp traverses the ditch at the midpoint of the northeast wall, permitting access to the redoubt's interior. Three sloping gunramps within the walls of the redoubt are placed along the southwest wall, permitting control of the terrain along Skiffes Creek (Map 2). The ramps' mounting platforms are set within and slightly below the maximum height of the defensive embankment. Their armament's range of fire would have overlapped that of its most immediately adjacent counterpart, 44NN10b.

The site, at present, is covered with light underbrush and scattered hardwoods. 44NN10c is in an excellent state of preservation, unparalleled by other extant remnants of Magruder's line. It will be maintained as a park by the Regional Redevelopment and Housing Authority which is seeking to have it declared a State Archaeological Zone.

UIM's: Zone 18 Easting 359-550 Northing 4-115-910 1.06 acres

Verbal Boundary Description/Justification: The acreage nominated includes all of the upland point of land on which 44NN10c, a Civil War earthworks, is located. It extends down the ravines flanking the site and includes a small section of the marshland below that point. The acreage nominated is expected to include all of the archaeological features associated with the site as well as sections of associated terrain that enhances its defensive character.

EXP. 12/31/84

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Historic Resources of Oakland Farm Industrial Park (Partial
Inventory: Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites).
Continuation sheet 7 Item number 8

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Page 1

Significance, 44NN7, Skiffes Creek Sand Spit Site

The Skiffes Creek Sand Spit Site, 44NN7, is a well-preserved, possibly stratified archaeological site containing evidence of prehistoric habitation dating to the Early and Middle Woodland eras. Located adjacent to Skiffes Creek in the vicinity of a rich tidal flat marsh, the site is known to contain projectile points and ceramics which suggest a possible stratified sequence. Evidence of in situ cultural remains and well preserved faunal materials render the site invaluable in documenting settlement patterning and environmental and cultural adaptation in Tidewater Virginia during the period 500 B.C. to A.D. 500.

Background: Preserved sites in Virginia's coastal plain dating to the Early-Middle Woodland Periods transition are rare. The presence of well-preserved faunal remains, including bone and shellfish, makes this site particularly important in that archaeological excavation could answer research questions on changes in subsistence and settlement patterning occurring in Virginia's coastal plain between 500 B.C. and A.D. 500. Specific information on the utilization of the Tidewater marsh microenvironment would be provided. Such data, when correlated with data from other similarly dated sites in Virginia's coastal plain and neighboring areas, will contribute to a better understanding of not merely local but also regional adaptations occurring during this time period.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

Historic Resources of Oakland Farm Industrial Park (Partial
Inventory: Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites). 8

Continuation sheet

8

Item number

Page

2

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Significance, 44NN8, The Queen Hith Plantation Complex

The Queen Hith Plantation Complex, 44NN8, located upon an upland terrace overlooking Skiffes Creek, contains archaeological remains which range in date from the second quarter of the 17th century to the early 19th century. Situated upon land patented by Thomas Harwood in 1632, who called his plantation the Queen Hith, 44NN8 is near Mulberry Island which was settled under the aegis of the Virginia Company in the earliest days of the colony. Thomas Harwood and his descendents, who attained prominence in the political and economic life of Virginia, made the Queen Hith their family home until ca. 1720, when they re-located further inland. Archaeological features and artifactual evidence at 44NN8 suggest that there may have been two distinct periods of building activity at Queen Hith Plantation, the earliest being post-type structures typical of early 17th-century Virginia architecture and the later being more substantial structures built upon mortared brick footings. Archaeological research at the Queen Hith site could potentially yield new insights into the evolution of 17th and 18th-century plantation architecture as well as the cultural adaptation and changes effected by early Virginia planters as they made the New World their permanent home.

Historical Background: Thomas Harwood, the earliest recorded inhabitant of the Oakland Farm tract, was born in England in 1600, the youngest son of George Harwood of Thurby, Lincolnshire, England. In 1622 he set sail for Virginia aboard the Margaret and John, intending to join his brother, William, who was captain of the Martin's Hundred settlement, and his uncle, Sir Edward Harwood, a Virginia Company stockholder, both of whom had preceeded him to the colony. However, the Margaret and John's captain failed to bring his passengers directly to Virginia, electing instead to tarry in the West Indies. Consequently, upon arriving in the colony in 1623, Thomas Harwood and other Margaret and John passengers sought legal redress for their losses, claiming that they had, of necessity, consumed most of their provisions before arriving in Virginia because of the captain's procrastination.

In February 1623 when an accounting was made of the colony's inhabitants, Thomas Harwood was living at the Neck of Land near Jamestown. By the time the January 1624/25 muster was made, he and his wife, Grace, had moved to Mulberry Island where they were tenants of Captain William Peirce. Their household included an elderly manservant, Thomas Read, and they possessed eight barrels of corn, two pounds of powder, two firearms, two suits of armor and two swords. According to the Minutes of the Council and General Court of Colonial Virginia, in May 1626, Thomas Harwood was granted acreage at Blunt Point, southeast of Mulberry Island. By January 1627, however, he had successfully demonstrated to the Council that he was "much scanted for want of ground to plant"¹ and gained permission to plant elsewhere.

EXP. 12/31/84

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Historic Resources of Oakland Farm Industrial Park (Partial
Inventory: Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites). 8
Continuation sheet 9 Item number

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Page 3

During the late 1620s Thomas Harwood made three separate appearances in court on behalf of other planters, actions which suggest that he may have been an attorney or that he was, at least, well educated. In 1627 Harwood, as second to Captain William Peirce, led retaliatory expeditions against the Chickahominy and Pamunkey Indians, military service for which he was assigned the rank of captain. By 1629 he had been elected a member of the Grand Assembly, representing the Mulberry Island area. Later that year he was one of the "adventurers" to finance the seating of planters at Kiskiake, in return for which he acquired the right to 100 acres of land in York County.

In September 1632 Thomas Harwood's earliest extant patent appears in Virginia Land Office records, although his service in the Grand Assembly indicates that he was already well-established in the community near Mulberry Island by that time. His first patent entitled him to 140 acres on Skiffes Creek and a second, recorded the same day, conveyed to him an additional 100 acres of immediately adjacent land, tracts which had been formerly owned by Sergeant Hugh Heyward. Heyward's grants were located on the lower side of Skiffes Creek above the land of Jacob Avery, whose acreage lay nearer the creek's mouth. Throughout the 1630s Thomas Harwood acquired additional land in what was, by 1634, Warwick County. In 1635 he patented 1,500 acres at the head of Skiffes Creek adjacent to his earlier patents thereby becoming the primary landowner in that area, and in November, 1637, he acquired 1,850 acres on the other side of Skiffes Creek in Martin's Hundred.

Thomas Harwood's manor plantation by 1643 was known as the Queen Hith or Hive, at which time the tract was used as a reference point in patent records. The Old English word "hith" or "hithe" means river landing or small haven, a not inappropriate name for the Harwood home which was situated near a natural landing site on Skiffes Creek. The creek to the south of the Harwood site, now known as Bailey's Creek, was called Queen Hive Creek until the close of the 19th century. The Queen Hith Plantation, located on a navigable tidal creek adjacent to the James River, a major artery of domestic and international shipping and commerce, was also located adjacent to the main road which traversed the length of the Lower Peninsula. A road to Mulberry Island which bordered the eastern side of Queen Hith plantation, terminated at a ferry which plied across the James River to Surry County. Thus, Queen Hith Plantation was in what would have been considered a prime location for commerce and shipping, providing the Harwood family with a ready market for the agricultural yield of their large plantation (Figure 6).

Thomas Harwood was elected to nearly consecutive terms in the Virginia Assembly between 1629 and 1652 and served as Speaker of the House in 1649. In 1635 he was one of so-called "mutineer Burgesses" who undertook the deposition of Governor John Harvey, an action for which he was widely acclaimed in the colony. In April 1652 he was appointed to the Governor's Council, an indication of his prominence in the affairs of the colony. Harwood died, however, before Council reconvened.

Captain Thomas Harwood's eldest son, Humphrey, a minor at the time of his father's death in 1652, acquired title to the family's landholdings along Skiffes Creek when his mother, Anne, Thomas Harwood's second wife, relinquished her interest in the property in 1654. Humphrey Harwood repatented his patrimonial lands in 1663.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Historic Resources of Oakland Farm Industrial Park (Partial
Inventory: Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites).

Continuation sheet

10

Item number

8

Page

4

For NPS use only
received
Date entered

Humphrey Harwood, like his father, added to his landholdings and participated actively in the political life of the colony. By 1670 he had amassed a total of 2,644 acres on the east side of Skiffes Creek. He served as Naval Officer of the district between Skiffes Creek and the Warwick River and was a member of the House of Burgesses. During the 1690s he was elected sheriff of Warwick County and served as Justice of the Peace. Land tax records demonstrate that by 1704 Humphrey Harwood had accumulated a total of 4,000 acres in Warwick County and his son, William, 625 acres.

It was most likely Humphrey Harwood's son and heir, William, who elected to construct a new house near the head of Skiffes Creek on the road to Yorktown, a structure which became known as Endview. Archeological findings at the Queen Hith house site suggest that its most intense period of occupation occurred between the second quarter of the 17th century and the first quarter of the 18th century, inferring that the house was abandoned by its primary occupants at that time. Archeological deposits at Endview, which has been dated architecturally to ca. 1720, commence during the first quarter of the 18th century. Perhaps William Harwood, despite his ancestral ties to the Queen Hith house, perceived the older manor house as too outdated or inadequate for his family's use. Endview's placement with respect to the York road and the head of Skiffes Creek would also have enhanced the plantation's economic enterprises.

Artifact evidence at 44NN8 suggests that the Queen Hith plantation complex may have continued to be occupied until the very early 19th century. Perhaps after its abandonment by the Harwood family, it became the home of a plantation overseer. William Harwood and his son and heir, William Jr., lived successively at Endview and followed their forebearer's tradition of public service. After the close of the American Revolution William Harwood, Jr., sold 1,322 acres of his land along Skiffes Creek, the nucleus of the Queen Hith Plantation, to Colonel James Southall. Southall's descendants owned the Queen Hith until after the Civil War. A Southall heir, George W. Southall, constructed a building on the Queen Hith tract ca. 1820. It was during his ownership that the plantation became known as Oakland.

After George Southall's death in 1852, the property was tied up in complex court litigation which was not settled until 1866. In 1862, while the property was in the possession of an absentee owner, George Southall's widow, Confederate General J.B. Magruder's men constructed a series of earthworks at Oakland. In 1866, one Southall heir, Mrs. Helen Anderson, acquired an 897 acre share of the Oakland tract, property which included the site of the Queen Hith manor house. In 1869 Mrs. Anderson sold her land to Robert A Bright, who in 1871 conveyed it to William H. Aspinwall of New York City, an entrepreneur who, with other developers, proposed to build a canal connecting the James and York Rivers through the narrowest portion of the peninsula (Figure 7). It is not known whether Aspinwall made any improvements to the property, but an 1873 map of the area shows a cluster of buildings in the vicinity, but to the southwest of the Queen Hith site and included within the acreage nominated (Figure 8).

In 1885 the Old Dominion Land Company purchased Oakland Farm from the executors of William H. Aspinwall's estate. In 1912 the property was sold to J.W. Clements, whose son, H.M. Clements, in 1979 acquired his father's land. He, in turn, sold Oakland Farm one year later to J.M. and Annie R. Dozier, who until 1944 operated a Dairy Farm there. In 1944 the Doziers sold their farm to another dairyman, Hugh N. Rakes, who in separate transactions in 1970 and 1971, conveyed the Oakland tract to Anheuser-Busch.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Historic Resources of Oakland Farm Industrial Park (Partial
Inventory: Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites). 8
Continuation sheet 11 Item number

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Anheuser-Busch traded part of the Oakland property adjacent to Fort Eustis to the United States Government in 1971, in exchange for Camp Wallace near Kingsmill, but retained the land containing the Queen Hith site until 1973, at which time they sold it to the W. N. Jennings Construction Company. In 1976 Oakland Farm was sold at a sheriff's sale to the Cameron Brown Investment Group, who in 1979 conveyed it to the Regional Redevelopment and Housing Authority of Hampton and Newport News, Virginia.

The Queen Hith Plantation site at Oakland Industrial Park is one of the few surviving 17th-century plantation sites in the lower James-York Peninsula, a rapidly urbanizing area. Archaeological research at the Harwood site could potentially yield new data on early plantation life from the cultural, architectural, social and economic perspectives. Comparative research studies could be made between Queen Hith and Kingsmill, Wolstenholm Town, Denbigh Plantation, and Governor's Land, also on the northern bank of the James River, sites which have already been partially excavated and which are currently listed in the National Register. As well, Queen Hith, the original manor plantation of the Harwood family, who were significant in the economic, social and political life of old Warwick County, represents an important part of the history of Tidewater Virginia. Archaeological excavation of the Queen Hith site which is in an excellent state of preservation, could potentially yield new information on early Warwick County, a political jurisdiction whose governmental records were destroyed during the Civil War.

Footnote 1: H.R. McIlwaine, Minutes of the Council and General Court of Virginia, (Richmond 1924), 159.

EXP. 10/31/84

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Historic Resources of Oakland Farm Industrial Park
(Partial Inventory: Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites).

Continuation sheet

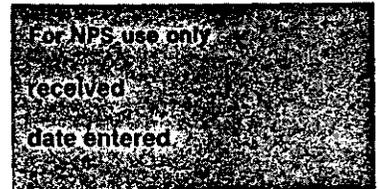
12

Item number

8

Page

6



Significance, 44NN10c, Southern Terminal Redoubt

44NN10c, is a uniquely intact component of General J. B. Magruder's defensive line. A relatively small defensive earthwork which directly overlooks Skiffes Creek, it represents, literally, the southern end of General Magruder's line. Because it constitutes one of the few surviving and undisturbed remnants of the 1862 Peninsula Campaign in Virginia, it is representative of a major military feat significant to the outcome of the Civil War and exemplifies diverse types of defensive adaptation. An archaeological investigation of this site could potentially yield new insights into Civil War military architecture.

Background: During the Civil War when the lower peninsula became absorbed in its own defense, Mulberry Island and the Skiffes Creek area became the scene of extensive military activity. In 1861 Confederate General J. B. Magruder set about constructing a broad band of fortifications across the peninsula from Fort Monroe to Williamsburg, intended to delay to the maximum the progress of Union troops up the peninsula toward Richmond. Magruder's strategy lay in constructing two readily tenable lines of defense, interfaced with a densely wooded area which would itself form a third barrier. By March 1862 Magruder's lines had been laid out and partially completed.

According to the official account of the battle, Magruder considered his real line of defense "the one at the front, seven miles below Yorktown, or at that point between Howard's (Harwood's) and Young's Mills, where the setting back of the Poquoson River from the York and the Mouths of the Warwick and Deep Creek...contact the intervening solid ground to the short distance of three miles. Both flanks...were defended by boggy and difficult streams and swamps."¹ Thus, by building redoubts and strategically damming portions of streams across the lower peninsula, Magruder was able to use the terrain as a natural deterrent to the invasion of Federal troops.

In all, five dams were built. The ironclad Merrimac (Virginia) was to protect the southern end of the Confederate line from the James River, supplemented by the guns of Fort Crawford at the tip of Mulberry Island. Yorktown, on the York River, the northern terminus of Magruder's line, was to be defended by earthworks erected during the Revolutionary War and fortifications across the river at Gloucester Point. The Confederate line was strongly fortified at Lee's Mill and from that point swung in a slightly northwesterly arc across Mulberry Island to Skiffes Creek. The Union army maps of A. A. Humphreys and C. H. Worrett, drawn in 1861-1862, depict the fortifications at Skiffes Creek, indicating that their terminus was on the Oakland Farm property (Figures 9 and 10). The earthwork designated 44NN10c and included in this nomination constitutes the southwestern terminus of the Confederate line.

Footnote 1: Alexander S. Webb, The Peninsula, McClellan's Campaign, 1862 (New York 1881), 47.

EXP. 12/31/84

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Historic Resources of Oakland Farm Industrial Park (Partial
Inventory: Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites). 9
Continuation sheet 13 Item number

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Page 1

Bibliographical References

- Chapman, B.A. Wills and Administrations of Elizabeth City County, 1610-1800. Smithfield, 1941.
- Donn, John. "James River from Burwell's Bay to College Creek," 1873.
- Frye, Joshua, and Jefferson, Peter. "Map of Virginia," 1751.
- Geier, C.R.; Mullen, H. B.; and McCartney, M. "A Phase II Cultural Evaluation of Certain Historic and Prehistoric Sites Located on the Oakland Dairy Property, Newport News, Virginia." J.M.U.A.R.C., 1982.
- Hall, W.L., ed. Executive Journals, Council of Colonial Virginia. Richmond, 1945.
- Harrison, Fairfax. The Devon Carys. New York, 1920.
- Herrman, Augustin. "Virginia and Maryland," 1673.
- Humphreys, A.A. "York and James Peninsula," 1861-1862.
- Jester, A.L. and Hiden, M. W. Adventurers of Purse and Person, Virginia 1607-1625. Richmond, 1956.
- Kingsbury, S.M. Records of the Virginia Company. Vol. III. Washington, 1935.
- Lamb, F. "Virginia," 1670.
- McIlwaine, H.R., ed. Journals of the House of Burgesses, 1619-1658/59. Richmond 1915.
- McIlwaine, H.R., ed. Legislative Journals of the Council of Colonial Virginia. Richmond, 1918.
- McIlwaine, H.R., ed. Minutes of the Council and General Court of Colonial Virginia. Richmond, 1924.
- Mullen, H.; Geier, C. R.; and McCartney, M. "A Phase I Cultural Resources Evaluation of the Oakland Dairy Property, Newport News, Virginia." J.M.U.A.R.C., 1980.
- Nelms, Colonna and McMurrin. "Abstract of Title to a Part of Oakland Farm, The Property of J.M. Dozier." Newport News, 1944, n.p.
- New York County (New York State) Will Book 230.
- Nugent, Nell M. Cavaliers and Pioneers: Abstracts of Virginia Land Patents and Grants. Vol. I. Baltimore, 1964.
- Porter, Charles W. "Historical Report of the Fort Eustis Tract." National Park Service, 1936, n.p.
- Vollertsen, Arthur and Dorothy. Warwick County, Virginia, 1782-1880, Who Was Who. Newport News, 1977.
- Warwick County Deed Book, 1877.
- Warwick County Land Tax Records, 1782-1800. Microfilm, Virginia State Library.
- Webb, Alexander S. The Peninsula, McClellan's Campaign of 1862. New York, 1881.
- Worrett, C.H. "Military Reconnaissance, Department of Virginia," 1865.

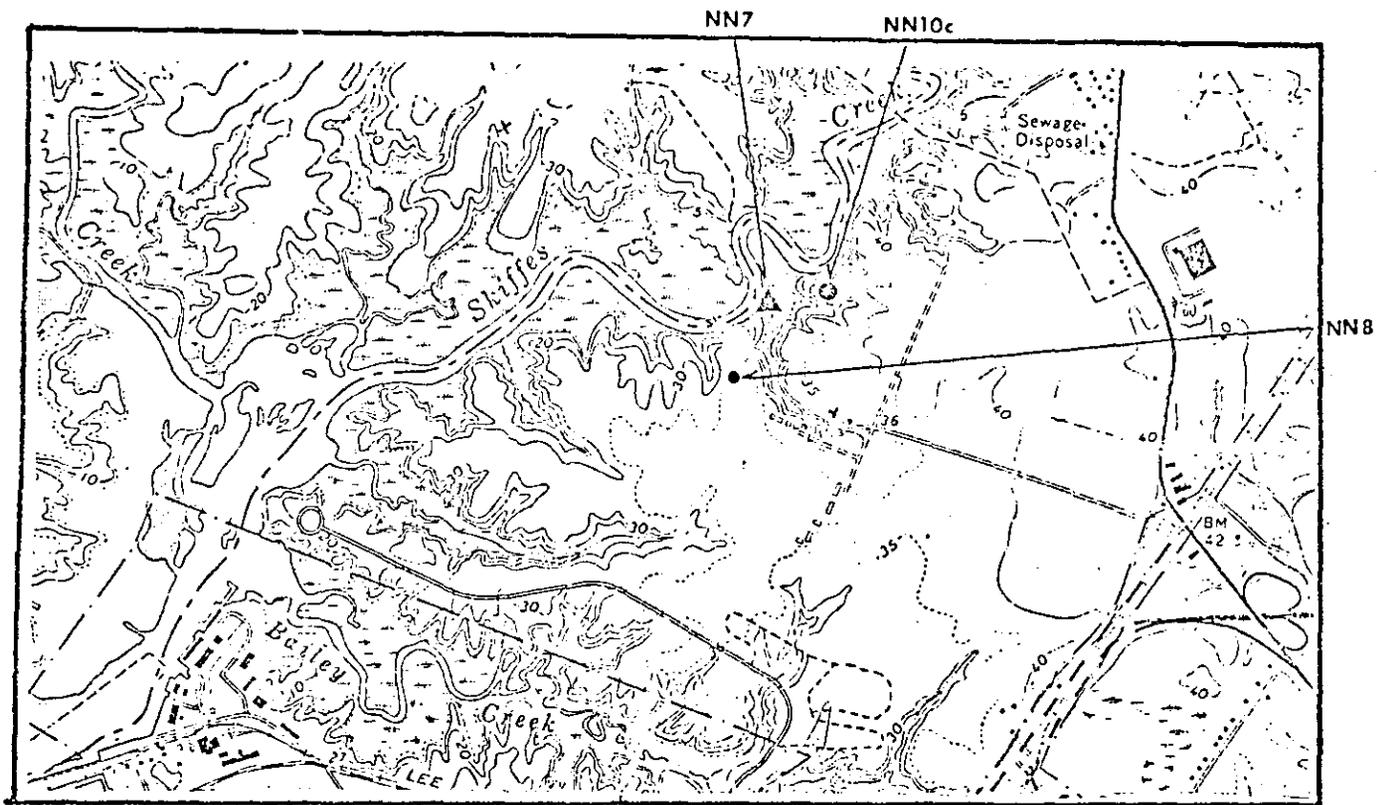


Figure 1: Placement of Sites on the Oakland Dairy Tract Property