

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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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
College Landing
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN Williamsburg, VICINITY OF 1 (Thomas Downing)
STATE Virginia CODE 51 COUNTY James City CODE 095

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
City of Williamsburg,
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN Williamsburg VICINITY OF STATE Virginia 23185

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
James City County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN Williamsburg STATE Virginia 23185

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
State-wide survey of archaeological sites
DATE April 1975 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Virginia Research Center for Archaeology, Wren Kitchen, William and Mary The College of
CITY, TOWN Williamsburg STATE Virginia 23186

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Established in 1699 at the confluence of tributary Paper Mill Creek and larger College Creek, College Landing remains sited much as it was throughout the colonial period.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Today, these lots and the Landing Commons are unoccupied and are unused except by an occasional hiker or fisherman. Pine scrub forest and viny growth cover the area. This present quiet belies the fact that the Landing was once an essential part of the Williamsburg community, bustling with the activity of trade and commerce. The hum of life left the Landing during the first quarter of the nineteenth century. All that remains of this activity are the material objects discarded by occupants of the area and the ruins of the houses and structures that formed the loci of their daily activities. With the aid of two eighteenth century maps, the sites of these activities have been located and examined archaeologically and represent a significant segment of colonial commercial and middle class domestic life.

Two of these sites have already been the subject of intensive archaeological research. Highway construction necessitated the salvage excavation of domestic sites on the eastern side of the College Landing Road. The backfilled basement of a 16' x 20' domestic structure and its nearby well represented the site of a small middle class household occupied from circa 1750 and abandoned circa 1815. This small frame house had been built over a complete basement. Backfilled partial basement, root cellar, and chimney complex habited from circa 1680 to 1740. The construction alignment of this structure does not conform to the criteria established in 1699 and represents habitation in the Williamsburg area prior to its incorporation. This same area was later utilized as cemetery space for a portion of Williamsburg's black population.

Other sites at the Landing have been identified by map and documentary study and field located by archaeological survey. These sites remain as the sole evidence of commercial and domestic activities that took place at the Landing, and are the only remaining testimony of a transient segment of the colonial populace. Three sites were found within the western range of lots. Small test excavations revealed domestic artifactual debris that may represent the site of a small domestic structure identified on the 1774 survey and abandoned circa 1780, a brewery site, and a privately owned storehouse which sold naval supplies and goods. Survey also located the probable site of one of three public warehouses. Recorded as having been 20 feet by 40 feet, these structures served as public storage space and as the site for the inspection of tobacco. These warehouses stood at the foot of the College Landing Road, adjacent to the Landing Commons.

Timber remains of nineteenth century wharves also remain at the Landing.

18 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
___PREHISTORIC	___ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	___LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	___RELIGION
___1400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	___CONSERVATION	___LAW	___SCIENCE
___1500-1599	___AGRICULTURE	___ECONOMICS	___LITERATURE	___SCULPTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	___ARCHITECTURE	___EDUCATION	___MILITARY	___SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	___ART	___ENGINEERING	___MUSIC	___THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	___EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	___PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
___1900-	___COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	___POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	___OTHER (SPECIFY)
		___INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1699 - 1825

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

College Landing, created in 1699 by the "Act Directing the Building of the Capitol and the City of Williamsburg", became an integral part of Virginia's colonial capital.

The Landing served and received shipping traffic from the James River. Ships bound to and from various ports of the English colonial world tied up, unloaded and took on outward bound cargoes. Warehouses and wharves were erected to serve these ships. Supportive structures including storehouses, a tavern, and light industries sprang up to complement the shipping. Near the water's edge, a public warehouse for the storage and inspection of tobacco became the focal point of the community. At this transportation juncture carts and flatboats were available for local delivery. A ferry ran regularly between College Landing and Hog Island, across the James. During the Revolution the Landing served as an important military supply point. The archaeological record at College Landing retains a record of some of these activities and contains significant data representing a continuity of commercial endeavor from the last quarter of the seventeenth until the first quarter of the nineteenth centuries when the tempo at the Landing slowed in counterpoint to Williamsburg's loss of political preeminence in Virginia.

As an aspect of a planned community, College Landing provided a means of meeting the transportation needs of Williamsburg so that the city could become a viable social as well as political entity. The Landing's distance from the main body of the city allowed it to become a neighborhood inhabited by transients and members of the lower middle class. This distance also allowed a noxious minor industry, brewing, to be located there without disturbing a majority of the city's residents.

College Landing with its domestic, industrial, and transportation sites, contains a record of urban community development in the context of rural Virginia. The architectural remains and associated evidence of material culture provide documentation of a transient lower and middle class that worked and lived on the periphery of the larger colonial society. Their lifeways provide a complement to already studied class groups.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Hening, W. W. The Statutes at Large, New York: 1823.
 Hudgins, Carter. "First Interim Report on the Salvage Excavations at College Landing," ms., Virginia Research Center for Archaeology: 1976.
 McCartney, Martha. "A History of College Landing," ms., Virginia Research Center for Archaeology: 1976.
 Stevenson, Mary. "Queen Mary's Port; Princess Anne's Port, 1699-1800," ms., Colonial Williamsburg: 1951.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 22 acres

UTM REFERENCES

E ~~██████████~~

A ~~██████████~~ ~~██████████~~ ~~██████████~~
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B ~~██████████~~ ~~██████████~~ ~~██████████~~
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

~~Property is bounded on the north and east by College Creek, on the west, north and east by the boundary of Williamsburg.~~

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE

Carter Hudgins, Historical Archaeologist

ORGANIZATION

Virginia Research Center for Archaeology

DATE

December 10, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

Wren Kitchen, The College of William and Mary

TELEPHONE

804-220-2773

CITY OR TOWN

Williamsburg

STATE

Virginia 23186

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 in the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Junius R. Fishburne, Jr., Executive Director
 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE DEC 11 1976

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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

College Landing

Form No. 10-300a
(Rev. 10-74)

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College Landing, Williamsburg, Va

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

Exent remaining: Approximately sixty percent of the site remains intact. The approximately twenty-two acres nominated is the original College Landing acreage surveyed in 1699 by Theodorick Bland. Please note: the ten acres referred to in Section #7 is a typographical error; the sentence should read twenty-two rather than ten acres.