

VLR-5/13/69

NRHP-11/17/69

Form 10-300  
(Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Virginia	
COUNTY: Botetourt	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 69-11-45-0075	DATE 11/12/69

1. NAME

COMMON: Historic District  
FINCASTLE PRESERVATION ZONE

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
FINCASTLE

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Route 220, 14 miles North of Roanoke, Virginia.

CITY OR TOWN:  
Fincastle

STATE: Virginia      CODE: 45      COUNTY: Botetourt      CODE: 023

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>village</u>

Yes: Restricted   
Unrestricted   
No:

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:  
Varied - public and private

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Fincastle      STATE: Virginia      CODE: 45

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:  
Botetourt County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Court Square

CITY OR TOWN: Fincastle      STATE: Virginia      CODE: 45

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 85

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

DATE OF SURVEY: 1957-58      Federal       State       County       Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Washington      STATE: District of Columbia      CODE: 08

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Virginia  
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7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Historically significant, Fincastle is an excellent example of a typical small nineteenth-century town, and today retains the aura of a small agricultural community of that era. The decrease in population over the last one hundred years has been responsible in large part for the lack of modernization, and for the preservation of its early architecture. The skyline has changed very little, and is still dominated by the spires of its three churches, and cupola of the court house.

According to local tradition, the court house (1845) was based on plans submitted by Mr. Jefferson for an earlier court house. It is a fine provincial example of the Roman Revival style, beautifully rendered in red brick and whitewashed stucco. The Greek Revival is well represented by the Methodist Church and the Presbyterian Church, provincial examples of that style executed in native materials. The Gothic Revival style is seen in St. Mark's Episcopal Church, dating from 1837. The town jail should be noted as an example of late Victorian architecture.

Domestic architecture is represented by a number of fine early buildings including the Peck House, a small, 16 feet x 20 feet, log house typical of those being built in the late-eighteenth century; the Selander House (circa 1800); the Ammen House (circa 1826) on Catawba Street, a fine Federal house; and the Kyle House (1832) which is especially noteworthy for the elaborately carved woodwork on the interior.

Nearly all of Fincastle's early buildings are little altered and are well maintained. The town is unified by both the homogeneous scale of its buildings and by the use of local materials. Its appearance is further enhanced by its setting in a particularly beautiful landscape of rolling hills and mountains.

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)

- |                |                                     |              |                          |                |                          |                 |                                     |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Aboriginal     | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Education    | <input type="checkbox"/> | Political      | <input type="checkbox"/> | Urban Planning  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Prehistoric    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Engineering  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Religion/Phi-  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (Specify) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Historic       | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Industry     | <input type="checkbox"/> | losophy        | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____           |                                     |
| Agriculture    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Invention    | <input type="checkbox"/> | Science        | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____           |                                     |
| Art            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Landscape    | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sculpture      | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____           |                                     |
| Commerce       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> | Social/Human-  | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____           |                                     |
| Communications | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Literature   | <input type="checkbox"/> | itarian        | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____           |                                     |
| Conservation   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Military     | <input type="checkbox"/> | Theater        | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____           |                                     |
|                |                                     | Music        | <input type="checkbox"/> | Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____           |                                     |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

Fincastle began as a colonial frontier village. During its early years it was one of the last outposts for pioneers moving westward down through the Valley of Virginia. Its wide and shady streets have changed little since they were planned and laid out in 1770 by the County Surveyor, William Preston. The town was officially founded in 1772, being established by an act of the Virginia Assembly, and named in honor of Lord Fincastle, the son of Lord Dunmore, the royal governor. The name replaced the earlier one of Botetourt Court House.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Fincastle Historic  
District

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Virginia	
COUNTY Botetourt	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

8. Statement of Significance

Fincastle, the county seat of Botetourt County, Virginia, played an important role in the development of western Virginia in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Virtually unchanged from the time of the Civil War until recently, the village presented a little altered picture of rural 19th-century America. However, recent undistinguished construction and the unfortunate destruction by fire of the fine Neo-classical court house built in 1845 have fragmented the visual unity that is the chief asset of such areas.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Frances J. Niederer, The Town of Fincastle. Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1965; William B. O'Neal, Architecture in Virginia. Richmond: 1968.

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 ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	37° 30' 08"	79° 52' 57"				
NE	37° 30' 08"	79° 52' 12"				
SE	37° 29' 41"	79° 52' 12"				
SW	37° 29' 41"	79° 52' 57"				

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
Staff, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, James W. Moody, Jr., Director

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission      DATE: June 2, 1969

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1116 Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond      STATE: Virginia      CODE: 45

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name: Edw. P. Alexander by J. Du  
Dr. Edward P. Alexander, Chairman  
Title: Virginia Historic Landmarks Comm.  
Date: 10-7-69

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Conrad Allen  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: NOV 12 1969

ATTEST:  
William J. Stewart  
Keeper of The National Register  
Date: OCT 31 1969

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Virginia	
COUNTY	
Botetourt	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
69-11-45 0075	11/12/69

(Number all entries)

6. Virginia Historic Landmarks Report #218-1,4,5,6,9,11,12,22  
1969 State  
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission  
Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building -  
Richmond, Virginia 23219 Code: 45
  
2. Bounded on the north by the intersection of Rt. 220 and Rt. 1204,  
extending .22 miles east of the intersection of Rt. 606 and Rt. 1210,  
bounded on the south by the intersection of Rt. 220 and Rt. 1204,  
bounded on the west by the intersection of Rt. 606 and Rt. 630.

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Fincastle property description:

Following the northern boundary of Fincastle lots numbered 102, 95, 94, 93, 89, 88, 87, 86, 188, 80, 76, and 73.

Following the eastern boundary of Fincastle lots numbered 73, 72, 71, 70, 69, 138, 140, and 146.

Following the southern boundary of Fincastle lots numbered 84, 33, 32, 31, the portion of 30 which borders on 85, 23, 21, 15, 20, and 102.

See Fincastle map by O. W. Gray and Son, 1880.



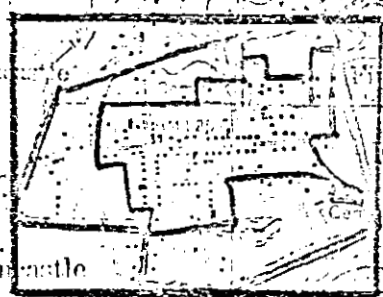


ONICKANY  
7.5-1962

SALISBURY  
7.5-1962

JW lat.  $37^{\circ}30'08''$   
long.  $79^{\circ}52'57''$

NE lat.  $37^{\circ}30'08''$   
long.  $79^{\circ}52'12''$



SW lat.  $37^{\circ}29'41''$   
long.  $79^{\circ}52'57''$

SE lat.  $37^{\circ}29'41''$   
long.  $79^{\circ}52'12''$

