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)

RECEIVED JUN 9 1969 NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE:	
Virginia	
COUNTY:	
Gloucester	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
69-10-45-0029	10/1/69

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Rosewell

AND/OR HISTORIC: Rosewell

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: .1 mi. W of Carter Creek, .5 mi. SE of Rt. 644, .3 mi. S of intersection of Rt. 644 and Rt. 632.

CITY OR TOWN: Gloucester vicinity

STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Virginia	45	Gloucester	073

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District ☐ Building ☒	Public ☐	Public Acquisition:	Occupied ☐	Yes:
Site ☐ Structure ☐	Private ☒	In Process ☐	Unoccupied ☒	Restricted ☐
Object ☐	Both ☐	Being Considered ☐	Preservation work in progress ☐	Unrestricted ☐
				No: ☒

PRESENT USE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

Agricultural ☐	Government ☐	Park ☐	Transportation ☐	Comments ☐
Commercial ☐	Industrial ☐	Private Residence ☐	Other *(Specify)* ☒ Ruins	
Educational ☐	Military ☐	Religious ☐		
Entertainment ☐	Museum ☐	Scientific ☐		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME: Miss Nellie Deans Greaves; Col. Fielding Lewis Greaves

STREET AND NUMBER: Box 3033

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE
Alexandria	Virginia	45

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	CODE
Gloucester	Virginia	45

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 3 acres (total property 250 acres)

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1941 Federal ☒ State ☐ County ☐ Local ☐

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

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

STATE: Virginia

COUNTY: Gloucester

FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One) Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated ☐ Ruins ☒ Unexposed ☐	
INTEGRITY	(Check One) Altered ☐ Unaltered ☒	(Check One) Moved ☐ Original Site ☒

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL *(If known)* PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Constructed of brick laid in Flemish bond with random glazed headers, Rosewell stood three stories tall above a high basement. The deck-on-hip roof was originally topped by two cupolas and four T-shaped chimneys with deep Portland stone caps. Belt courses above the first and second stories gave horizontal accents to the high walls. All of the windows were accentuated with gauged brick "bibs", and were topped by shallow rubbed brick segmental arches with finely carved Portland stone keystones. The brick architectural decoration surrounding the two main entrances is among the finest and most elaborate of the period.

The house was originally flanked by two dependencies which were intended to be connected to the house by curved passageways. The dependencies no longer stand. The plan of the house was in the shape of a cross with the stair wells contained in the projecting side pavilions. The main floor contained an off-center hall with three principal rooms. Early documents describe the main rooms as being full and elaborately paneled with walnut and mahogany. Old photographs of the main staircase show it to be the finest and richest foundation in any Virginia colonial mansion, being decorated with elaborately carved scrolls of flowers and a magnificently carved fascia board.

The house was significantly altered in 1838 when it passed out of the hands of the Page family. All of the interior decoration except for the stairs was removed, and the original roof and cupolas were removed to be replaced by a gable roof. The house finally burned in 1916 and only sections of the walls remain.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Form 10-300a
(Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Virginia	
COUNTY	
Gloucester	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
69-10-45-0029	10/1/69

(Number all entries)

RECEIVED
JUN 9 1969
NATIONAL REGISTER

6. Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory
1959 Federal
Library of Congress
Washington, D. C. Code: 08

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Report #36-41
1968 State
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building
Richmond, Virginia 23219 Code: 45

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		Education	☐	Political	☐	Urban Planning	☐
Prehistoric	☐	Engineering	☐	Religion/Philosophy	☐	Other *(Specify)*	☐
Historic	☐	Industry	☐	Science	☐		
Agriculture	☐	Invention	☐	Sculpture	☐		
Art	☒	Landscape Architecture	☐	Social/Humanitarian	☐		
Commerce	☐	Literature	☐	Theater	☐		
Communications	☐	Military	☐	Transportation	☐		
Conservation	☐	Music	☐				

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

Begun circa 1725 and completed by 1744, Rosewell has been called the largest and finest of the colonial mansions. Its greatest architectural distinction was its superb brickwork including the brick doorways which Thomas T. Waterman called "the finest and most elaborate of the period, with the possible exception of those of Christ Church" (Lancaster County). Waterman also proclaimed the stair at Rosewell to be "unrivaled as the finest of all American examples", and called its carved fascia "a fine example of the high craftsmanship of the period".

Until recently the cemetery at Rosewell was noted for its well preserved table tombs.

Rosewell was the seat of the Page family of Virginia and perhaps most notably the home of John Page (1744-1808), a member of Congress from 1789 to 1797, and Governor of Virginia from 1802 to 1805.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

(2)

RECEIVED JUN 9 1969 NATIONAL REGISTER

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Howells, John Mead, Lost Examples of Colonial Architecture, New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 1963.

Hime, Ivor Noel, Excavations at Rosewell in Gloucester County, Virginia, 1957-1959, United States National Museum Bulletin 225, Smithsonian Institute.

Lancaster, Robert A., Historic Virginia Homes and Churches, Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott, 1915.

Waterman, Thomas Tileston, The Mansions of Virginia, 1706-1776, New York: Bonanza Books, 1945.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	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° 19' 40"	76° 34' 36"
NE	° ' "	° ' "			
SE	° ' "	° ' "			
SW	° ' "	° ' "			

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

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE: April 25, 1969

STREET AND NUMBER: Room 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 [x] State [ ] Local [ ]

Name Edw P. Alexander per JWM

Dr. Edward P. Alexander, Chairman

Title Virginia Historic Landmarks Comm.

Date June 2, 1969

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Ernest Allen Connally

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date OCT 1 1969

ATTEST:

William J. Murtagh

Keeper of The National Register

Date SEP 29 1969

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Form 10-301
(Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

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CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Virginia	45	Gloucester	073

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE: U.S.G.S. 7½', quadrangle Clay Bank, Va.

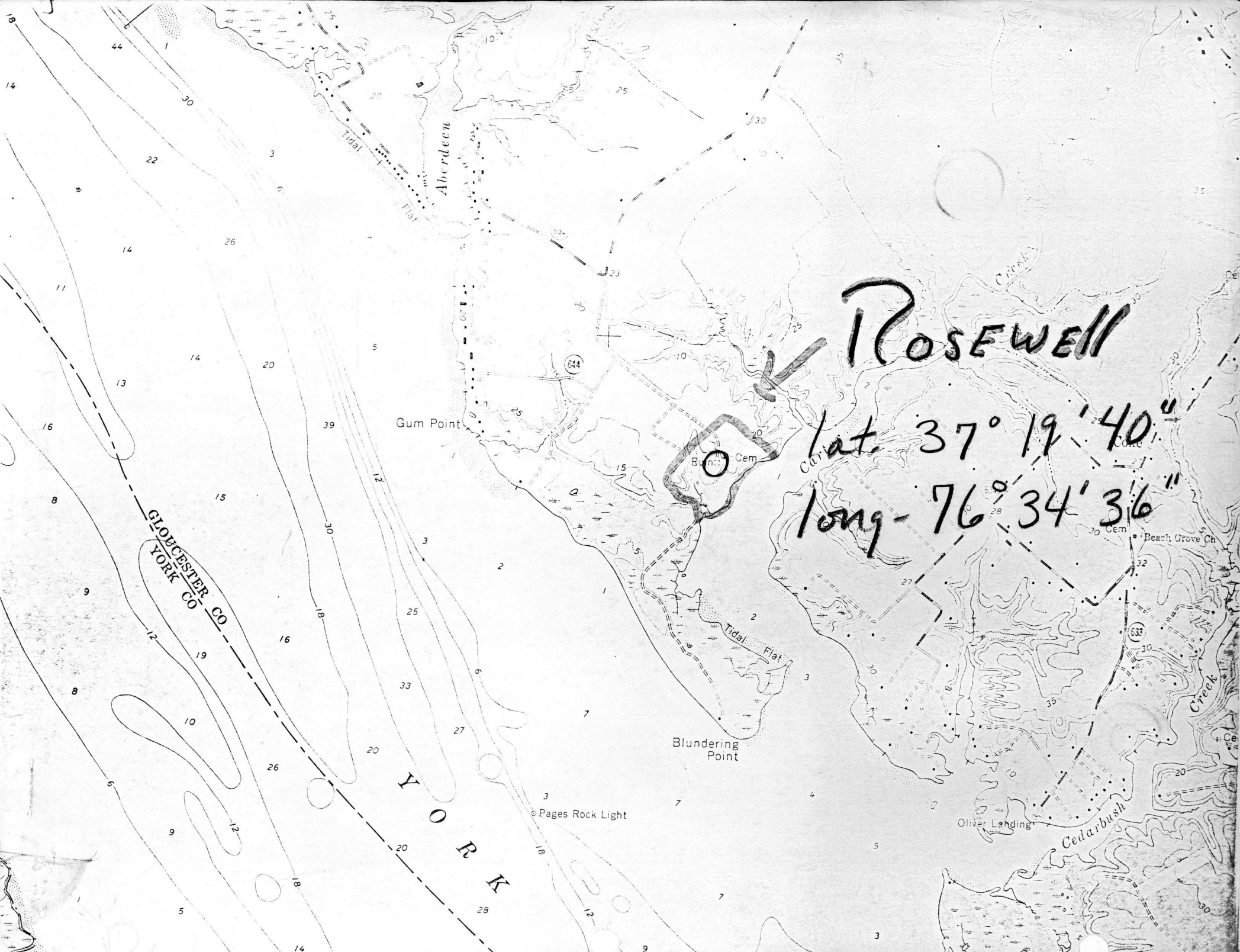
SCALE: 1:24000

DATE: 1965

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property broundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.


Rosewell
lat. 37° 19' 40"
long - 76° 34' 36"
Aberdeen
Tidal Flat
Gum Point
Cem
Tidal Flat
Blundering Point
Pages Rock Light
GLOUCESTER CO
YORK CO
YORK
Beach Grove Ch
Oliver Landing
Cedarbush
Creek