

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

RECEIVED

Listed On

VLR: 6/17/1980

DATE ENTERED

NRHP: 11/25/1980

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Warner Hall

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Route 629

CITY, TOWN

Gloucester

STATE

Virginia

VICINITY OF

CODE

51

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First (Paul S. Tribble, Jr.)

COUNTY

Gloucester

CODE

073

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY (2) (See Continuation Sheet #1)

NAME (1) Mr. Bolling R. Powell, Jr.

STREET & NUMBER
Route 3, Box 313

CITY, TOWN
Gloucester

VICINITY OF

STATE
Virginia 23061

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Gloucester County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN
Gloucester

STATE
Virginia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (3) (See Continuation Sheet #1)

TITLE
(1) Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

DATE
1959

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN
Washington

STATE C.

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input 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

Warner Hall, set on the northern shore of the Severn River, reveals three centuries of architectural development on the site. The ca. 1905 Colonial Revival core of the expansive dwelling is attached to two colonial wings, originally free-standing dependencies, that remain from an 18th-century house which burned ca. 1840s. The west wing was enlarged and remodeled shortly after the fire.

A pedimented portico visually dominates the facade (north elevation) of the imposing frame center portion. It is likely that this section of Warner Hall occupies the site of the 18th-century dwelling which burned. Four giant order Ionic columns support the steep pediment. The three center bays are closed by Ionic pilasters. The entrance bay is distinguished by its handsome elliptical fanlight and sidelights. Double doors open on to the second-floor balcony. Plain architraves and an entablature with recessed panels set over major window openings on the north and south elevations impart a simplified classical window treatment. Block modillions fill the pediment interior and run the length of the cornice with returns on the north and south elevations. The gable roof is broken by a west exterior end chimney and an east interior chimney set parallel to the ridge and by four dormers arranged two per slope. These gabled dormers with returns mirror the roof line. A well-proportioned screened porch extends across the first floor of the south (river facade) elevation. The center three bays project forward and are capped by a modillioned gable with returns. The tympanum contains a lunette. The center portion of Warner Hall is underpinned by brick and sits on a full basement; there are no basements under the wings. Reused brick, likely from a structure which previously stood on the site, has been used to construct portions of the basement foundation walls.

The interior of Warner Hall is marked by a profusion of rich and eclectic ornament characteristic of the Colonial Revival style. The expansive center passage separates the parlor from the dining room and library. The stretched elliptical arch and wide stair visually and physically dominate the space. At the landing the stair divides and rises to the second floor as a double stair. The broken pediment motif is used extensively to ornament doors and windows and the dining room overmantel. A boxed summer beam supported at each end by consoles runs the width of the parlor. Transitional hyphens containing a kitchen (east) and law office (west) join the main body of the house to the wings.

The oddly proportioned east wing survives from the 18th-century dwelling. The walls are laid in Flemish bond and a water table encircles it at grade. All openings are framed by double closers. Patched brickwork indicates that the north door has been rebuilt. Corbeled interior end chimneys are found at each gable end. Three pedimented dormers per slope break through the roof. A brick garage shed is attached to the wing's east wall. Now used as guest quarters, the interior has been completely modernized.

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Ideally situated at the head of the Severn River in Gloucester County, the present dwelling house at Warner Hall stands on a neck of land that has been occupied and built upon continually from the mid-17th century. The two families associated with the property from this early period until well into the 19th century, the Warners and the Lewises, were among the most prominent families in Colonial Virginia. Today, the only visible marks left by these families are the colonial east and west dependencies of the present structure, two colonial outbuildings, and a remarkable collection of 17th-century and early 18th-century tombstones southeast of the house. Of the tombstones, the most notable are those of Augustine Warner I (1610-1674), the Gloucester Justice and member of the Virginia Council who first patented land on this neck in the 1640s and probably built a house on the site sometime before 1653; Mary Warner (d. 1662), Augustine Warner's wife, whose gravestone is the oldest in the collection; Augustine Warner II (d. 1681), Speaker of the House of Burgesses during Bacon's Rebellion and a member of the Virginia Council; Colonel John Lewis (1669-1725), also a member of the Virginia Council, who acquired Warner Hall by marriage to Elizabeth Warner in 1690; and Elizabeth Warner Lewis (1672-1720), the daughter of Augustine Warner II, who bore John Lewis fourteen children during their residence at Warner Hall. After a fire ca. 1740 destroyed what remained of 17th-century building on the site, John Lewis II (the son of John and Elizabeth Warner Lewis who inherited Warner Hall) rebuilt the main part of the 17th-century house for his second wife, Priscilla Carter Lewis, the widow of the first Robert Carter of Nomini Hall, Westmoreland County. Except for the east and west wings of the present structure, nothing visible remains of this 18th-century dwelling house; but Lewis's position in the Virginia Council and his marriage to the wealthy Priscilla Carter Lewis would suggest that it was comparable both in scale and quality to Kingsmill, James City County, or even Nomini Hall. The house remained in the Lewis family until the 1820s; the center portion was destroyed by fire in the 1840s. Like the previous structures at Warner Hall, all of which indicated the prominence of their owners, the Colonial Revival core of the present dwelling, built ca. 1905, is a grand architectural gesture. Its architect has not been identified.

Warner Hall is also significant for the part it played in the drama of Bacon's Rebellion, one of the most important events of early Virginia history. Nathaniel Bacon made the property his headquarters after he burned Jamestown.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities (Joseph Bryan Branch). Epitaphs of Gloucester and Mathews Counties in Tidewater Virginia through 1865. Virginia State Library, 1959, pp. 95-100.
 - Files of the Virginia Historical Society, Richmond, Virginia.
 - Gloucester County Land Tax Books, 1782-1853.
 - Gloucester County Personal Property Tax Books, 1800-1815.
- (See Continuation Sheet #3)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 38 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Achilles, Va. QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 8	3, 6, 9	2, 9, 0	4, 1	3, 3	6, 9, 0	B	1, 8	3, 6, 9	4, 7, 0	4, 1	3, 3	3, 7, 0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING
C	1, 8	3, 6, 9	0, 6, 0	4, 1	3, 3	1, 1, 0	D	1, 8	3, 6, 8	9, 9, 0	4, 1	3, 3	2, 7, 0
E	1, 8	3, 6, 9	1, 0, 0	4, 1	3, 3	7, 0, 0	F						
G							H						

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION Beginning at a point on S side of State Route 629, at intersection with feeder creek, about 4950' SE of intersection of routes 629 and 614; thence extending about 600' E along said side, then continuing SE along W side of Route 629 to N side of feeder creek; thence extending about 3900', first SW to N bank of NW branch of Severn River, then continuing NW then N around the neck, following E side of original feeder creek to point of origin. COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES LIST ALL STATES AND

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE

June 1980

STREET & NUMBER

221 Governor Street

TELEPHONE

(804) 786-3144

CITY OR TOWN

Richmond

STATE

Virginia 23219

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE X

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Tucker Hill, Executive Director
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE JUN 17 1980

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

ATTEST:

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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Warner Hall, Gloucester County, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET 1 ITEM NUMBER 4, 6 & 7 PAGE 1

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

- (2) Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities
C/o Mr. Robert A. Murdock, Executive Director
2705 Park Avenue
Richmond, Virginia 23220

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

- (2) Virginia Research Center for Archaeology Survey
1980 State
Virginia Research Center for Archaeology/College of William and Mary
Williamsburg, Virginia 23186
- (3) Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey
1968, 1979 State
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
221 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

7. DESCRIPTION

The 18th-century west wing was enlarged and remodeled ca. 1840s probably to house the family after the center portion was destroyed by fire. Greek Revival moldings are used almost exclusively throughout the structure. Laid entirely in Flemish bond, the wing was raised from its original 1-1/2 stories to two stories. The north door lost its transom during this enlargement to allow for the installation of the stair. A dwarf portico shields the center bay of the north elevation. The wing has a beveled water table, and the first-floor windows are capped by gauged-brick jack arches. Corbeled interior end chimneys (one original, one rebuilt) terminate the gable ends. A box cornice with returns and unmolded entablature runs the length of the north and south elevations. This single-pile, center-passage structure has retained much of its interior fabric. Interior walls are laid in English bond and were originally plastered. The studs with lath were probably added during the 1840s rebuilding. The center passage contains the open-string, dog-leg stair which has a carved newel and handrail and two square balusters per tread. A three-light transom caps the south door, and both the south and north doors are Colonial Revival replacements. Fireplace openings have been rebuilt to facilitate the installation of stoves. This wing is being restored for use as a law office.

Three dependencies of note, a smokehouse, dairy, and stable, are associated with Warner Hall. The 19th-century smokehouse is laid in seven-course American

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CONTINUATION SHEET

2

ITEM NUMBER 7 & 8 PAGE 2

7. DESCRIPTION

bond and is utilized for storage. Partially constructed of 18th-century brick with shell mortar, the dairy shows evidence of 19th-century rebuilding. Its small windows and spacial division indicate that it may have been used as a stable. The large 18th-century brick stable was enlarged with a frame addition in 1903 designed by the Richmond firm Noland and Baskervill. Exterior walls of the original section are laid in Flemish bond, while interior walls are English bond. The windows were originally like those on the dairy. A beveled water table circles the structure. Notches in the plate evidence an addition, now removed. The walled family cemetery of the Warner and Lewis families is located on the property, southeast of the house. It is owned and maintained by the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities.

MEH

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

Register bounds have been drawn to include the house and three dependencies and a ca. 1900 tenant house. The total nominated acreage is approximately thirty-eight acres.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

Also adding to Warner Hall's historic interest is the potential archaeological significance of the site. Artifacts from the 17th and 18th centuries, if they are preserved on the property, could yield valuable information about the settlement and expansion of early Virginia as well as important clues to the cultural history of Warner Hall. In the vicinity of the present 20th-century structure are possibly the remains of a mid-17th-century house, a dwelling built by John Lewis in the 1690s, the house built by John Lewis II for Priscilla Carter Lewis in the mid-18th century, and subsequent buildings erected on the site during the 19th century. The grounds were tested for archaeological evidence by the Virginia Research Center for Archaeology in the spring of 1980, and various 18th-century artifacts were unearthed. As of yet, no full-scale archaeological investigation has taken place. The Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities acquired the cemetery at Warner Hall in 1903, since which time the Association's Gloucester Branch, now known as the Joseph Bryan Branch, has zealously maintained it.

MTP/RAC

FHR-8-300A

(11/78)

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Warner Hall, Gloucester County, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET

3

ITEM NUMBER

9

PAGE

1

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Mason, P. C. Records of Colonial Gloucester County, Virginia, Vol. 1,
Berryville, Va. 1965.

Nugent, N. B. Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1 (1963), Vol. II (1977), Baltimore.
"Tombstones of Gloucester and Mathews Counties," in William and Mary Quarterly,
1st Series, Vol. 2, p. 226.

WARNER HALL
 Gloucester County, Va.
 Copy of Site Plan done by
 Arthur A. Shurtleff, Landscape
 1929 Architect
 Scale: 1"=100'



GRAVEYARD

TENANT
 HOUSE
 OFF MAP

not extant
 ← 1979

SMOKEHOUSE

STABLE/DAIRY

MAIN HOUSE

not ↑
 extant (?)
 1979

not
 extant
 ← 1979

STABLE

WARNER HALL
 GLOUCESTER COUNTY
 VIRGINIA

0 100 200

MEASURED BY ARTHUR A. SHURTLEFF

OCTOBER 1929

ON TOUR WITH
 HUSBAND
 MURRAY



1133
000 085

4135

4134

4133

20'

4132

010

Northwest

Branch

Brayshore
Park

Northwest

Shiloh
Ch

R O B I N S

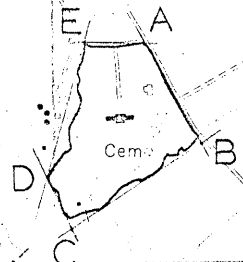
Cem. Severn
Ch

Jiddorse
Creek

BM
10

Naxera

N E C



USGS 7.5' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)
Achilles, Va. 1965 (711973)

WARNER HALL, Gloucester County, Va.

UTM References:
 A-18/369290/4133690 E-18/369170/4133370
 C-18/369060/4133110 D-18/368990/4133270
 E-18/369100/4133700

Cod Point

▲Cod

School Neck
Point