

Listed On:

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NRHP -----

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

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: Stafford	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Marlborough Point

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Marlborough Town

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: **S side of intersection of Rt. 621 and Rt. 681 -
Marlborough Point.**

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE Virginia	CODE 45	COUNTY: Stafford	CODE 179
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____
Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Varied ownership

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Stafford County Clerk's Office

STREET AND NUMBER:
Route 1

CITY OR TOWN: **Stafford** STATE: **Virginia** CODE: **45**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, Archaeology Office, File 89-1

DATE OF SURVEY: **1969** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: **Richmond** STATE: **Virginia** CODE: **45**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Virginia
COUNTY: Stafford
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE
FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The town of Marlborough, once the seat of Stafford County, was established under the town act of 1691 on land owned by Giles Brent. After the decline of the town, John Mercer established Marlborough as his seat and attempted to revive the town-building scheme. However, Mercer was frustrated in his plan and eventually was ruined financially through business overexpansion. After Mercer, Marlborough was all but forgotten until a team from the Smithsonian Institution made archaeological investigations there in 1956.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Archaeologically, Marlborough is important as a well documented example of a port town of the early-eighteenth century. As a plantation of a wealthy merchant, knowledge of Marlborough may prove to be a capsule of the commercial life of the middle years of the eighteenth century. Although much of the town was destroyed by modern cottage-building, and although the archaeological methods of the Smithsonian Institution left something to be desired, the site warrants attention because of the place it has taken in American historiography, if for no other reason.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Darter, Oscar H., "Where the West Began; Historical Sketch of Old Marlborough Town, Stafford County, Virginia," Northern Neck of Virginia Historical Magazine (December, 1959).
 Watkins, C. Malcolm, Cultural History of Marlborough, Virginia. Washington, D. C.: The Smithsonian Institution Press, 1968.

11/01 1969

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 TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
NW	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
NE						
SE						
SW						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **200 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

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

ORGANIZATION: **Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission** DATE: **November 3, 1969**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: **Richmond** STATE: **Virginia** CODE: **45**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

<p>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:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Dr. Edward P. Alexander, Chairman Title Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission</p> <p>Date _____</p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p>_____ <i>Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</i></p> <p>Date _____</p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p>_____ <i>Keeper of The National Register</i></p> <p>Date _____</p>
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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

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

STATE	
Virginia	
COUNTY	
Stafford	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Marlborough Point			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Marlborough Town			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: [REDACTED] Marlborough Point.			
CITY OR TOWN:			
STATE:		CODE	COUNTY:
Virginia		45	Stafford
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: U.S.G.S. map [REDACTED] Passapatanzy, Va.-Md.			
SCALE: 1:24000			
DATE: 1966			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

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

STATE	
COUNTY	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON:			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN:			
STATE:		CODE	COUNTY:
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT:			
DATE OF PHOTO:			
NEGATIVE FILED AT:			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			

FOR USE BY ALL THOSE WHO MAY BE CONFUSED BY THE NATIONAL REGISTER FORM:

1. Common Name: Marlborough Point
Historic Name: Marlborough Town
2. Owner of Property (name and address)
various
3. Survey Number (if any): 89=1
4. Condition (circle one): Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed
Condition (circle one): Altered Unaltered
5. Bibliography

Watkins, C. Malcolm, The Cultural History of Marlborough, Virginia. Washington, D. C. : The Smithsonian Institution Press, 1968.

6. Level of Significance (circle one): National State Local
7. Supply map showing area to be protected and quad name Passapatanzy 7.5
8. Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance.

The town of Marlborough, once the seat of Stafford County, was established under the town act of 1691, on land owned by Giles Brent. John Mercer, after the decline of the town, established Marlborough as his seat and attempted to revive the town-building scheme. Mercer was frustrated in his plan, and eventually was financially ruined through business overexpansion. After Mercer, Marlborough was all but forgotten until a team from the Smithsonian Institution made archaeological investigations there in 1966.

9. Statement of Significance (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

Archaeologically, Mrlbro is important as a well - documented example of a port town of the early-eighteenth century. As a plantation of a wealthy merchant, knowledge of Marlborough may prove to be a capsule of the commercial life of the middle years of the eighteenth century. Although, ~~unfortunately,~~ much of the town was destroyed by modern cottage-building, and although the archaeological methods of the Smithsonian left something to be desired, the site warrants attention because of the place it has taken in American historiography, if for no other reason .