THE 'I' HOUSE

AN ARCHITECTURAL FORM

IN ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA

A THESIS

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This study of the 'I' house was inspired by the failure to mention vernacular architecture in many studies of architecture. The author has found this particular field of architecture an interesting subject; and has wished to delve more deeply into the study.

Rockbridge County, Virginia, was chosen as the area of study because of its familiarity to the author, a native of the county, and its many fine examples of the 'I' house. The author's family home is itself an 'I' house. This fact helped lead to a particular interest in 'I' houses, their origins, characteristics, similarities and differences. The paper presented here is the result of the curiosity which led to an examination of the 'I' houses around my home.

There are many people without whose aid this study could not have been undertaken and completed. My thanks go to Mrs. J. W. Buchanan, Mrs. M. M.
Sterrett, Sr., Miss Nell Marchant and Mr. Bruce King for their help, particularly in the mechanics of the survey. I wish to thank Mr. Minor Wine Thomas, Mr. C. R. Jones, Dr. Erling M. Hunt and Dr. Bruce Buckley for their valuable aid in writing this paper. Most particular thanks are due to those who own 'I' houses in the county, and who very graciously allowed me to come into their homes to take measurements and photographs. And I also wish to thank Mr. Royster Lyle and Mrs. W. W. Heffelfinger, Jr. without whose aid, advice and encouragement this study would not have been completed.
INTRODUCTION

This study of the 'I' house in Rockbridge County, Virginia, has been undertaken because so often in the study of architecture the high style is emphasized to the almost complete exclusion of the vernacular, traditional forms of building. In travels about the county, this manifestation of the widespread traditional form of the 'I' house is such a frequent occurrence that it demands notice. As yet nothing has been written on the subject of the 'I' houses in the valley, although there are general studies of the 'I' house which define the form.

Studies of 'I' House

Kniffen

Fred Kniffen has been interested in the 'I' house as a geographer studying folk housing. His "Folk Housing: Key to Diffusion"\(^1\) defines the

'I' house, discusses various upper and lower floor plans, traces some origins of the type and follows the routes of its diffusion in the United States east of the Mississippi. Kniffen is interested in the eastern United States, and the aspects of folk housing which show the diffusion of cultures within this area.

**Glassie**

Henry Glassie has also been concerned with folk culture and housing in the eastern United States. In his master's thesis, which concentrates on types of folk housing in an area including: Virginia west of the Piedmont and south of the Pennsylvania-German area, eastern West Virginia, the southern corner of Kentucky, western North Carolina, northern Georgia and Cherokee County, Alabama, Glassie's sampling was limited to the hard surfaced roads, and therefore he leaves much of his territory unsampled. He, too, defines the 'I' house and its characteristics, along with those of other types of

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folk housing. He breaks down the type into three subtypes, which will be discussed later, based on differing lower floor plans. He then traces the origins and development of each subtype. Glassie and Kniffen have written the major studies on the 'I' house, although it is apparently a familiar type to most students of folk culture.

Other Studies

The 'I' house type has long been known to students of architecture as well as to folk culturalists and geographers, although not necessarily under the same or any specific name. The type was given the name 'I' house—after being recognized by students of folk housing in the Mid-West in the 1930's. It was recognized again in Louisiana soon thereafter, and is now accepted as having widespread distribution in the U.S. east of the Mississippi and some of the plains states. It is also found in Utah and parts of Arizona and Idaho. This same

3Kniffen, "Folk Housing," p. 553.
architectural form has been described by Fred Nichols in his work on Georgia, and given the name "the plantation plain style." Although it is recognized that the plain style is a legitimate designation, and one used by scholars, the term 'I' house will be used in this work to refer to this architectural form.

Rockbridge County

Location and Formation

The area chosen for the survey on which this paper is based is Rockbridge County, Virginia. This is an arbitrary choice, as the 'I' house type is found all over the Valley of Virginia without regard to the political geography of county boundaries. Rockbridge County is located in the Valley of Virginia on the Maury and the South Rivers. It was settled in the latter part of the 1730's and the 1740's when it was still a part of Augusta County. In 1777, the County of Rockbridge was formed from

the Southern part of Augusta, so that today Rockbridge lies between Botetourt and Augusta. The name Rockbridge was chosen because the Natural Bridge of stone is located within the county. Chastellux, on his travels through the valley, remarks that the natives then referred to the bridge as "Rocky Bridge." 7

Settlers

Most of the county was secured in a large land deal by William Borden—called Borden's Grant—in the late 1730's. The settlers procured tracts of land from Borden and his sons, and devoted themselves primarily to agriculture.

The Borden Tract was primarily settled by Ulstermen and by occasional families from east of the Blue Ridge. Other Ulster people were as a rule the original settlers of the remainder of the Rockbridge area.

6William Waller Hennings, The Statutes At Large being a Collection of all the Laws of Virginia from the First Session of the Legislature in the Year 1619 (New York: R.&W.&G. Barton, 1923), IX, 420.

Yet in several instances, . . . German families were on the ground at a very early day. 8

Local historians agree that the Scotch-Irish predominantly settled the county. 9 The early churches were Presbyterian churches established by the Scotch-Irish. 10 Many of the surnames in the county also show the Scotch-Irish heritage. One of the first to settle in the area in 1737 was a family called McDowell, headed by Ephraim and his son John. This family sailed from Ulster in the George and Ann and landed at a Philadelphia on September 4, 1729. 11 After a sojourn in Pennsylvania,


9Morton, pp. 21-44.


11Morton, p. 21.
they settled in Rockbridge. This example was typical of many families who left Ulster for Pennsylvania, and then moved on the Valley of Virginia and other places. 12

Survey and Methodology

A random sample survey was chosen as the best method to approach an investigation of the 'I' house in Rockbridge County. All the roads in northern Rockbridge, both primary and secondary, surfaced and dirt, were travelled in the search for the 'I' house. On these travels every other 'I' house was selected to be surveyed. Occasionally this does not hold true, as in the case of the Kirkpatrick and Crimm houses which face each other across a creek. This study includes then, approximately one half (25) of the 'I' houses in the area surveyed. This number is small enough to work with easily; and yet it represents a large enough proportion of 'I'

houses from which to draw some conclusions.

The survey was based on a photographic and floor plan study of each house. In keeping with the method used by Glassie in "Southern Mountain Houses," only the floor plan of the first floor was used. Special note was taken of the detail of doors, windows, cornices, chimneys, foundations and building material. Worksheets were made up with an allotted space for description of each of the above, as well as floor plans. These were based on R. W. Brunskill's A Systematic Procedure for Recording English Vernacular Architecture\(^\text{13}\) and the Virginia Historical Landmark Commission pamphlet, "Structural Survey Form."

This study was undertaken in order to discover the nature of the 'I' house in Rockbridge. It compares the type of 'I' house there to those found elsewhere, and examines its characteristics and details. It examines the origins of the form. And

it describes the difference in features at the beginning and the end of the time span.
CHAPTER I

DESCRIPTION OF THE 'I' HOUSE

Characteristics and Subtypes

Although the details in 'I' houses vary, the basic plan remains remarkably consistent. It is a rectangular two-story house with a pitched roof with gables on the ends. The plan is one room deep and at least two rooms long with the entrance on the long side. By definition every 'I' house must have these characteristics. This form has, however, been divided by Glassie into three subtypes.\


Subtypes

Subtype I of the 'I' house is two rooms long and has gable-end chimneys (Illustration 1). Often both of the rooms are of the same dimensions, although it is not unusual to find one larger than

14
NYE HOUSE
SCALE: 1" = 10'

ILLUSTRATION 1

SUBTYPE I

TWO ROOM PLAN
the other. There may be one central front door or
two front doors, one opening into each room. 15 The
distinguishing feature of subtype II is the central
hall between two rooms. This type usually has a
gable roof and end chimneys, either external or
internal. There is a central door in the front and
the rear. There is often a two-story front porch
which is only as wide as the hallway 16 (Illustration
2). The central chimney with a room on either side
distinguishes subtype III of the 'I' houses. There
may be a front door into each room or occasionally
a central front door. It has a gable roof 17
(Illustration 3).

According to the sample taken by Glassie all
three subtypes of the 'I' house occur most frequently
as a frame house with weatherboarding. Examples
occur, however, in both log and brick, although
the brick is more rare. The chimneys are of stone

15 Glassie, "Southern Mountain Houses,"
pp. 193-95.

16 Glassie, "Southern Mountain Houses,"
pp. 195-97.

AleXANdER HOUSE
SCALE: 1" = 10'

ILLUSTRATION 2

SUBTYPE II

CENTRAL HALLWAY PLAN
ILLUSTRATION 3

SUBTYPE III

CENTRAL CHIMNEY PLAN
or of brick or of stone with a brick stack.

Glassie also finds some secondary characteristics which are common to all the subtypes of the 'I' house. The window arrangement is usually symmetrical, with two windows on the first floor, and two or three on the second. There is usually a full stone foundation; occasionally the house is built on piers. The most common form of addition to the house is the ell, which makes either an 'L' or a 'T' form. Front porches the length of the house and one story high are common.

Origins

The 'I' house seems to have appeared along with prosperity in the rural areas. Throughout the upland South the 'I' house was symbolic of economic success in an agriculture society. These, then, are not the homes of the first occupants of the land, but of the later generations. The necessary characteristics of the 'I' house form are found in

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19 Kniffen, "Folk Housing," p. 555.
the basic floor plan and the appearance of the form in conjunction with economic success in agrarian areas.

**English Origins**

The features of the 'I' house are found in many places and it is difficult to tell just when the first one appeared. The 'I' house, however, apparently came to the colonies from England. The earliest 'I' house was probably compounded from the old English unit of one room and a chimney, when additional rooms were added to the original single unit. This was sometimes done in emulation of the larger English houses. By the 17th century it had become established as the home of the English yeoman. As such it was brought to America where it was commonly found in all the English colonies. This is due, no doubt, to the large number of English yeomen and offspring of the artisans and merchants who formed the bulk of the immigrants. All of these would have

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20 Kniffen, "Folk Housing," p. 555.

been familiar with the 'I' type of house and would have carried on old traditions in a new country. Both in New England and Virginia colonists built homes in the tradition which had been prevalent in their native area. Some of the oldest surviving houses in the Tidewater area are 'I' houses. The 'I' house was known in the Delaware and Chesapeake areas in the seventeenth century. It is, however, always well to keep in mind that American regional characteristics affected the traditions brought from the old world, and produced an architecture which was altered from the original. The mild winter did not require as much conservation of heat as did the more severe winter farther North.

As time went on the early two-room plan found in Virginia gradually acquired a central passage, flanked first by one room on either side, and


23 Kniffen, "Folk Housing," p. 555.


25 Eberlein, Colonial America, p. 80.
later by two. The central hallway shows the influence of Georgian architectural ideas on houses built in that time. The plan with a central hall persisted among the builders of 'I' houses long after the Georgian style lost its popularity. Other architectural styles, particularly those of the late eighteenth and the early nineteenth centuries, influenced 'I' houses. They contributed a moderately pitched roof, a front door graced with transom and sometimes sidelights and internal end chimneys. All variations reflect an English traditional 'I' house, which has been modified by time, new architectural styles and regional requirements.

Origin Subtype I

Each of the subtypes, however, seems to have a slightly differing influence in its origins. Subtype I has definite English antecedents. Sulgrave in England, built in 1540, is but one example of


this common English type. Subtype I is also in some ways related to the Quaker plan found in Pennsylvania, which is divided in the middle, and then has one of these rooms divided again.

Origin Subtype II

Subtype II may also claim English origins. The central passageway was an English tradition, and became a standard early plan in Virginia with the central passage flanked by a hall and a parlor. In Williamsburg the central hallway plan with two rooms is that most commonly found. In fact, the


29 Waterman, Dwellings, p. 41.


32 Whiffen, Eighteenth Century Houses, p. 159.
central-hall plan became that most frequently found in the South. It served not only as a stylish Georgian feature in the mid-eighteenth century, but it also was functional.

Origins Subtype III

It is not surprising, in view of the overall English origins of the 'I' house, to find that the subtype III plan was also known in England. The massive central chimney was a dominant feature in New England architecture. The appearance of the central chimney in the Southern upland may stem from the union of the English tradition of the 'I' house with the German continental-house tradition often followed in Pennsylvania, and which incorporated the central chimney feature.

Development from Log Cabin

There is another suggested origin for the 'I' house. Many may have been produced from a single

33 Waterman, Dwellings, p. 17.
unit log dwelling to which additions were made. A log cabin that was enlarged by the dogrot method and given a second story, at some point, would result in an 'I' house of subtype II. If the cabin was enlarged by the saddlebag method and given a second story, subtype III resulted. In these cases, many of the second storys are weatherboard. 36 Many 'I' houses were built in this way.

Distribution in the United States

The 'I' house is widely distributed in this country. It is found in all of the English colonies; settlers from these colonies took their traditions with them as they moved west. Although there is variation in detail, the basic plan differs very little. As such, the 'I' house is probably the most common traditional English house form in the United States. 37 The 'I' house is found in the Tidewater, 36 Kniffen, "Folk Housing," p. 555. Glassie, "Southern Mountain Houses," p. 199. 37 Glassie, "Southern Mountain Houses," p. 205.
Piedmont and Upland South, in New England and Upstate New York, in Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin in the Mid-west, and in Louisiana. The Mormons carried the 'I' house form to Utah, Arizona and Idaho. The routes of dispersion which affected the Southern United States stemmed from Delaware and Chesapeake area in the seventeenth century.

The form moved south along the Appalachian Mountains, went to the west, and then continued to spread south and north. To the north, it spread across the Ohio River to rejoin the earlier westward movement from Pennsylvania.

**Appearance in the Valley of Virginia**

The 'I' house is found all over the Valley of Virginia, which has been influenced by both Pennsylvania and Tidewater Virginia Traditions.

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38 Glassie, "Southern Mountain Houses," pp. 204-205.


40 Francaviglia, "Mormon Central Hall Houses," p. 66.

41 Kniffen, "Folk Housing," p. 555.

42 Waterman, *Dwellings*, p. 43.

The movement of the 'I' house form down the Appalachians presents one route by which it arrived in the Valley of Virginia. Great numbers of the settlers of the valley, beginning in the mid-eighteenth century, came down this natural passage bringing the 'I' house with them. The influence of Tidewater Virginia, however, spread to the west, throughout the later part of the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. There can be no doubt that this influence was strong in the Valley, especially in view of the preponderance of the Tidewater central hallway floor plan there. It is therefore, reasonable to assume that the Valley manifestation of the 'I' house stemmed from both the Pennsylvania and Tidewater traditions.
CHAPTER II

THE 'I' HOUSES OF ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY

Location

Description of Land and House Location

Rockbridge County, although in the Valley of Virginia, is made up of fairly rough terrain. The hills roll down to the major creeks, leaving bottom land along the banks. In places only small streams and branches intersect the high hills. In others the bottom land stretches for several hundred yards back from the bank of the creek. Much of the area of the county is taken up by mountain, which runs down to the edge of the rivers and hills. It is limestone country and springs are abundant.

The 'I' houses are located in all types of terrain found in Rockbridge with the exception of the forested mountain land. For convenience the locations have been divided into three types or areas. These are: on or very near the major creek
bottoms; on substantial rises from the low land; and
on the hills well removed from any major creeks.
All the houses are near a source of water for house­
hold purposes, usually a spring or spring branch.
Even those houses which are very near the creek
usually have a spring branch close at hand. Of
the twenty-five houses surveyed, seven are built
near the creek bottoms and eight are on the rises.
Ten houses are on the hills removed from a major
creek bottom, but near a spring or branch.

'I' houses are numerous in Rockbridge County.
It is difficult to drive down almost any road and
not see one. These simple oblong buildings, with
the entrance in the long side, are easily recogniza­
ble, even among the many additions which have grown
from them over the years.

Yet examination of their features reveals dif­
ferences or variations as well as similarities.
The distinguishing features used in this description
are: floor plan, size, material, elevation facade,
detail of windows and doors, cornices, chimneys,
basements and foundations.
KEY TO HOUSE LOCATION

1  Brairwood
2  Brown House
3  Nye House
4  Withrow-Swisher House
5  Level Loop
6  Bare House
7  Watts House
8  Bobbitt House
9  Maxwelton
10 Reid House
11 Mast House
12 Brownlee House
13 Davis House
14 Burch House
15 Lowry House
16 Kirkpatrick House
17 Crimm House
18 Sterrett House
19 Tuscan Villa
20 MacKay-Williams House
21 Alexander House
22 Bryant-Koogler House
23 Culton-Koogler House
24 Raphine Hall
25 Walnut Grove
Floor Plan

The basic criterion which determines an 'I' house is the floor plan. Some of the oblong houses that appear to be 'I' houses from the outside do not have the necessary floor plan. They are, instead, structurally two rooms deep. The 'I' house is only one room deep. Of the three subtypes of floor plan discussed in the previous chapter, subtypes I and II are found, but subtype III is not. Each of the subtypes also possesses several variations.

Subtype I

Subtype I occurs less often than subtype II; there are six examples of subtype I, and three variations are found among them. Each, of course, has two adjoining rooms and end chimneys. The variations occur in the number of doors and the arrangement of the staircase. To facilitate discussion, the variations will be designated A, B, and C.

Variation A (Illustration 5) has two doors
ILLUSTRATION 5

SUBTYPE I VARIATION A'

TWO DOORS, OPEN STAIRCASE
and an open staircase. In this variation there are two front doors and there may also be two back doors. The staircase arises in one of the rooms. There are two examples of this variation.

In variation B (Illustration 6), there are two doors and an enclosed staircase. Two back doors match the two front doors. The entrance to the staircase juts out into one of the rooms. There is one house with this variation.

Variation C (Illustration 7) has one front door and an enclosed staircase. The entrance to the stair may either jut into the room, or it may be flush with the wall. The back door is in the same room as the front. There are three houses with a C variation.

**Subtype II**

Subtype II is the most common floor plan in the county. In this survey, there are eighteen surviving examples of this type, as compared with the six of the subtype I plan. The houses of this plan, too, possess several variations, which
ILLUSTRATION 6

SUBTYPE I VARIATION B

TWO DOORS, ENCLOSED STAIRCASE
WATTS HOUSE
SCALE: 1" = 10'

ILLUSTRATION 7

SUBTYPE I VARIATION C

ONE DOOR, ENCLOSED STAIRCASE
are based on the location of the stair. There is one example each of A, B and C.

Variation A of subtype II (Illustration 8) has the central hallway, but there is no stair in the hall or in either of the rooms. The upper floor was apparently reached through an addition. There is a front and back door in the hall.

In variation B (Illustration 9) the stair is in the center hall, rises from the front and fills it completely. The hall in front of the stair is flared and narrows back to the stair.

Variation C (Illustration 10) is the only one in subtype II to possess an enclosed stairwell. The stair begins to rise at one side, and the stairwell is completely enclosed, giving the house a small squarish entrance hall rather than a long rectangular one.

In the last variation, variation D (Illustration 11) the stair rises along one side of the hall. The stair is open, begins just behind the door frame, and has one landing over the back door. There is one front door and a back door. The stair
DAVIS HOUSE
SCALE: 1" = 10'

ILLUSTRATION 8

SUBTYPE II VARIATION A

CENTRAL HALL, NO STAIR
KIRKPATRICK HOUSE
SCALE: 1" = 10'

ILLUSTRATION 9
SUBTYPE II VARIATION B
STAIR FILLS CENTRAL HALL
ILLUSTRATION 10

SUBTYPE II VARIATION C

CENTRAL HALL, ENCLOSED STAIR
LEVEL LOOP
SCALE: 1" = 10'

ILLUSTRATION 11

SUBTYPE II VARIATION D

CENTRAL HALL, OPEN STAIR
may be on either the right or the left side. Four examples rise on the left, twelve on the right.

One house, Tuscan Villa (Illustration 12), which now has the subtype II, variation D plan, was originally in subtype I, variation A. It was, however, altered to its present plan about 30 years after it had been built. This is a further indication of the popularity of the central hallway plan. It has been included in this study as subtype II, variation D.

Size
Exterior Dimensions

The 'I' houses are of many different sizes. Few are alike; most are unique. There is a wide range in the exterior dimensions. The greatest variation in size falls between the lengths of the houses; the differences in the width is not so great. The largest house has a length of 50 feet (House 1), the smallest 28 feet (House 14). The greatest dimension in width measures 24 feet.
TUSCAN VILLA
SCALE: 1" = 10'

ILLUSTRATION 12

HOUSE CHANGED FROM SUBTYPE I TO II
(House 11, 1), while the smallest measures 17 feet (House 17).

'I' houses in subtype I are shorter than those of subtype II, having lengths of 37 feet 3 inches or less. The subtype II house, with two exceptions, ranges in length from 40 feet to 50 feet. The two remaining subtype II houses are 38 feet and 39 feet (Houses 13 and 20). This marked difference does not occur in the dimensions of width. Houses of greater and lesser lengths have the same width. For example, Briarwood (House 1) with a length of 50 feet and the Mast House (House 11) with one of 32 feet both have a width of 24 feet. The Burch House (House 14), the shortest, 28 feet 4 inches in length and 18 feet wide, but there are houses up to 40 feet long (House 17, for example), which are only 17 feet wide. The most common width is 20 feet; this is found in houses with lengths from 44 feet to 32 feet 2 inches, although it is most common on houses more than 40 feet long. In subtype I, the lengths most commonly fall in the range of the low thirties. There is no one common pattern
other than the maintenance of a rectangle of varying dimensions.

**Interior Dimensions**

The interior dimensions depend to a large extent upon the exterior dimensions, and vary as they do. Both rooms are the same length, which is the width of the house. Often both rooms are also of the same width, but one room may be wider than the other. Usually this difference in width measures about two feet, although it may be as much as five feet. Sometimes one room is only about one foot wider than the other. Of six examples of subtype I, the rooms are the same size in four, differ by one foot in one, and by two feet in the other. In subtype II seven rooms are the same size, three differ by one foot, six by two feet and three by more than two feet.

Halls are the same length as the rooms. In width they range from 7 feet 7 inches to 11 feet 1 inch. The halls tend to be at the smaller end of this scale. If the house has a greater over-all
length, the width of the hall is greater.

The width of the stairs in the hall varies from 38 inches to 47 inches with one exception, in which the stair takes all of a narrower rear hall and measures 4 feet 6 inches (Illustration 9). There seems to be no correlation between the width of the hall and the width of the stair. The widest stair is not in the widest hall nor does the narrowest hall have the narrowest stair.

The 'I' house characteristically affords large rooms and halls, but these are relative to the size of the house which contains them. The sizes of the houses vary and, therefore, the sizes of the rooms vary as well. All of the examples are different in some dimension. This is an interesting development, as traditional or vernacular architecture, such as the 'I' house, usually follows strict limits in dimension.

Material

In Rockbridge County, 'I' houses are built of three different materials—stone, wood and brick. The
preponderance of brick houses today may result from the greater stability and fire resistance of the material, or it may be that more brick houses were built. It is not known which of these premises is correct, although Mary Jane Boggs noted on a journey through the county in 1851 that there were nice brick houses along the road.\textsuperscript{43} Therefore, in 1851 there were enough brick houses to be worthy of note.

\textbf{Stone}

Apparently, even though the tradition of working in stone was familiar to the Scotch-Irish settlers in the county,\textsuperscript{44} stone houses were not as frequently built as houses of other material. The stone 'I' house's craftsmanship is a refinement of the stone that is used as it is knocked off ledges, and which is laid flat with no mortar.\textsuperscript{45} The stone


\textsuperscript{44}Glassie, "Southern Mountain Houses," p. 99.

\textsuperscript{45}Glassie, "Southern Mountain Houses," p. 103.
in the house is very roughly squared limestone, which is easily found in the area, and is laid with mortar (Illustration 13).

Wood

There was also a tradition of wooden construction with weatherboarding. Weatherboarding may be plain or it may have a bead along the lower edge. Beaded weatherboarding was common, even the hallmark of colonial eastern Virginia work. It is occasionally found in the Valley. One of the wooden houses has beaded weatherboard. This not only produces a good shadow, but the bead helps prevent splintering (Illustration 14). The other house has plain weatherboards (Illustration 15).

Brick

The most common construction material found in 'I' houses in Rockbridge County is brick. The tradition of building in brick is an old one in Virginia. It stems from colonial days in Tidewater

46 Whiffen, Eighteenth Century Houses, pp. 68, 91.
ILLUSTRATION 13 - STONE CONSTRUCTION, MACKEY-WILLIAMS HOUSE
where there was little or no stone for building. This tradition spread across the mountains to the valley, where it continued to be strong.

Early brick varies to a certain degree in size. Although the standard size for brick was 8 1/4 x 2 1/2 x 4 1/4 inches, it is not uncommon to find differences of 1/2 inch or more.

Differences may be attributed to different mold sizes. The brick used in Rockbridge varies from 8 1/4 x 2 3/4 x 4 inches to 8 1/2 x 3 x 4 1/4 inches. Most frequently, however, the brick measures 8 1/2 x 3 x 4 inches, which is slightly longer and thicker, but not as wide as the standard pattern for eastern Virginia. Possibly the measurement 8 1/2 x 3 x 4 inches does not make a standard for the county on the basis of this sample, but it occurs more often than any or all of the other combinations. The joints between bricks vary between 1/4 and 1/2 inch.


Brick is laid up in different patterns called bond. There are three of these commonly found. Flemish bond, used in eastern Virginia in the eighteenth century, alternates headers and stretchers in the same course. In English bond, courses of headers alternate with courses of stretchers. This bond was used in the eighteenth century chiefly for construction below the water table and in chimneys. Common or American bond has one course of headers to a number of courses of stretchers (Illustration 16).

All three types of bond are found in Rockbridge County. All of the brick houses are laid up in Flemish bond on the front of the house. Sometimes the sides are laid in Flemish bond, as well. Four houses have sides, front and back in the Flemish bond. In all other cases, however, the back is laid in common bond. The sides, if they are not Flemish, are of common bond. The common bond most often has four or five courses of stretchers to each course of headers. Occasionally, however, there are two or three courses of stretchers to each one of headers.
ILLUSTRATION 16
TYPES OF BOND IN BRICK
In the Flemish bond, there is some irregular use of closers.

In one house (House 15), dark gray-maroon glazed headers make patterns in the brick. On the sides, they make large diaper and diamond patterns; the date of the house is set (Illustration 17) on the front. Glazed headers occur infrequently at scattered intervals in other houses. Nowhere else are they used to consciously make a pattern in the brick.

Whether the bond used was Flemish, English, or common, it took many bricks to build an 'I' house. These bricks were often made near the site of the house. John Walker records in his diary that the bricks for Maxwelton (House 9) were made nearby, and that it required 2 1/2 months or from the 30th of June until the 16th of September to complete the brickmaking and firing.

\[49\] John Walker, Diary (unpublished manuscript in possession of Mary Moore Mason, 1811-1813), June 30, September 16.
ILLUSTRATION 17 - USE OF GLAZED HEADERS, LOWRY HOUSE
Symmetry is a distinguishing feature of the elevation façade of the 'I' house. To a certain extent, the symmetry established depends on the floor plan of the house. The elevation is always two storys. However in subtype I, variations A and B, two front doors, one opening into each room, are symmetrically arranged with two back doors nearly opposite them. In all other types, the front door, near the center of the long side, opens into the larger room or the central hall of subtype II. The back door usually is opposite the front door. In the central hall plan, there is sometimes a door on the upper floor directly above the main door.

The windows continue the symmetrical arrangement of the façade. On the front of the house they are positioned above each other or above a door. There may be two, three, four or five windows on the upper floor of the front of the house. In subtype I, variation A and B, there are four windows across the top; one over each door and one over
each lower window (Illustration 18). In one instance, however, one of the four windows is over a third window on the bottom; the second bottom door has no window over it (House 6) (Illustration 19). Thus there are three windows on the lower floor and four on the upper.

If there is a door on the upper floor of subtype I or II, there are two or four windows flanking it (Illustration 20). A house, however, will occasionally have only two windows and no door on the upper floor (Illustration 21).

Commonly, either three or five windows open across the upper floor. The center window is over the front door, which may be flanked by either two or four windows. The remaining upper windows are located over the lower ones. In one instance, the center window has a fanlight which exactly corresponds to that of the front door (Illustration 22). In the case of three windows, each room has one front window. In that of five, each has two front windows (Illustration 23). Houses with the three window arrangement occur more frequently than those
ILLUSTRATION 18 - FENESTRATION--FOUR WINDOWS, WITHROW-SWISHER HOUSE
ILLUSTRATION 19 - FENESTRATION--FOUR WINDOWS ALTERNATE PATTERN, BARE HOUSE
ILLUSTRATION 20 - FENESTRATION WITH UPPER DOOR AND TWO WINDOWS, KIRKPATRICK HOUSE
ILLUSTRATION 21 - FENESTRATION--TWO WINDOWS, BURCH HOUSE
ILLUSTRATION 22 - FENESTRATION--THREE WINDOWS, WALNUT GROVE
ILLUSTRATION 23 - FENESTRATION--FIVE WINDOWS, LEVEL LOOP
with five. There is no correlation between the size of the house and the number of windows on the front.

The fenestration on the gable ends often is not symmetrical. Frequently there are no windows there. All of the following combinations, however, are possible on the gable end: a window on either side of the chimney on both upper and lower floors or only on the lower floor, one window upstairs and two down, or only one down. It is usual to have a window in only one gable end, although this is not always the case. It is also possible to have an additional door in one gable end.

**Window Detail**

**Size**

In the 'I' house, windows usually measure two feet eleven inches. It is also possible for windows to measure three feet (House 11), three feet two inches (House 19), three feet four inches (House 8), three feet eight inches (House 17), or three feet ten inches (House 10). One example (House 18) which has sidelights for each window measures five feet
ten inches (Illustration 24). In this house, however, the gable end window does not have sidelights, and measures the usual two feet eleven inches.

**Lights**

Although some 'I' houses have modern windows, usually two over two, most still have the original lights. The number of lights in each window varies from house to house and from floor to floor. The number usually remains constant on each floor. There are always at least six over six lights. The number of lights will be discussed in combinations, as upper and lower level windows frequently vary. The most frequent combination is six lights over six on both upper and lower floors and is followed by the combination nine over six on the lower floor and six over six on the upper. There is one example of each of the following combinations: twelve over twelve down and twelve over eight on the upper floor (House 10), nine over nine down and six over nine up (House 19), nine over nine down and six over six up (House 20), six over nine both up and
ILLUSTRATION 24 - WINDOW WITH SIDELIGHTS, STERRETT HOUSE
down (House 6), and nine over nine on the lower floor with nine over six on the upper (House 18).

**Brick over Window**

The arrangement of brick over the window also varies among the houses. Frequently the bond over the lower windows differs from that over the upper windows. The common arrangement is that of a course of headers over each window. These may be arranged in ordinary header fashion. Or the headers may be laid so that what is ordinarily the width of the brick becomes the height and the thickness becomes the width. Other arrangements include a course of stretchers over each window, or a continuation of the surrounding Flemish bond. A different brick, approximately 5 inches to 6 inches high and 3 inches long is sometimes laid on end across the top of the windows. The other arrangement found in 'I' houses in the county is some form of flat arch (Illustration 25). These may be made of stretchers laid on end, headers and stretchers, or in cement. Another arrangement of brick is sometimes found
ILLUSTRATION 25 - FLAT ARCH OVER WINDOW, NYE HOUSE
over the basement window. This consists of a low arch of projecting headers, turned so the width serves as the height. The center of the arch is filled in down to the casement with brick laid in Flemish bond. This particular arrangement is found only in the small basement window near the ground (Illustration 26).

**Door Detail**

**Size**

The width of the front doors in the houses falls between 2 feet 11 inches and 3 feet 6 inches. The width tends to fall in the lower range of numbers. The back door, which is opposite, is usually of the same size as the front door; it may, however, be an inch or two smaller. Other doors are usually between 2 feet 10 inches and 3 feet 2 inches in width.

**Transom**

The transom arrangement also differs from house to house. The predominant type of transom is rectangularly shaped. It may consist of three
ILLUSTRATION 26 - ARCH OVER BASEMENT WINDOW, WALNUT GROVE
rectangular lights, although examples are found of one, two and four lights. Some transoms have as many as eight (House 16) smaller lights. An example of a rectangular transom with hourglass figures formed by the muntins occurs at Level Loop (House 5); it is unique in this survey (Illustration 27). Sidelights sometimes appear with the rectangular transom. The sidelights may be in a single row with five or six lights to a side. They may however be smaller and in double rows with as many as fourteen to a side (Illustration 28). There are 16 houses with transoms.

Fanlights are also found. The muntins form seven or eight radiating fans with an arched muntin over a semi-circle of glass below. There are examples (House 23) of muntins forming tulip patterns (Illustration 29) as well as very lacy muntins forming patterns within the fans (House 1). There are seven examples of fanlights. One example (House 18) has sidelights with four lights to each side (Illustration 30). There are two examples of houses which have no transom at all.
ILLUSTRATION 27 - TRANSOM WITH HOURGLASS PATTERN, LEVEL LOOP
ILLUSTRATION 28 - TRANSOM WITH SMALL LIGHTS, KIRKPATRICK HOUSE
ILLUSTRATION 29 - FANLIGHT WITH TULIP PATTERN, CULTON-KOOGLER HOUSE
ILLUSTRATION 30
DOOR WITH FAN AND SIDELIGHTS
STERRETT HOUSE
Brick Arrangement over Door

The pattern of brick arrangement over the door is more consistent. It is almost always a course of headers. These are laid either in an arch over the fanlight or a straight course over the rectangular transom. Sometimes these headers are laid with the width becoming the height, as has been described in the window brick arrangement. Examples of other arrangements are a course of stretchers, the regular Flemish bond or a flat arch. In one case (House 11) the door is finished with a wooden entablature (Illustration 31) set in regular Flemish bond.

Cornices

Brick

The majority (18) of the 'I' houses have molded brick cornices. These usually consist of four or five courses of brick. The first course is stretchers corbelled very slightly. Then there is a course of ovolo-shaped brick followed immediately by a course of cavetto to make a cyma recta
ILLUSTRATION 31
DOOR TOPPED BY ENTABLATURE
MAST HOUSE
(Illustration 32 and 33). This is followed by another course of stretchers. An alternate plan of cornice is of five courses, where a course of stretchers intrudes between the cavetto and ovolo courses (Illustration 34). The courses which make up the cornice may protrude slightly over the face of the wall on the gable end. Sometimes each course will corbel over the one below it. Another plan lays the bricks of the cornice flush with the gable end wall.

Wood

Seven wooden cornices appear. Both wooden houses (Houses 12 and 13) have wooden cornices, as does the stone house (House 20). They also occur on (4) brick houses. Most of these are built in a simple box form under the eaves, bordered by a flat piece of wood against the wall. One cornice exhibits a Georgian dentil pattern; the lower dentil work is larger than the upper (Illustration 35). Another wooden cornice is supported by Italianate brackets, each bracket having a pendant drop (Illustration 36).
ILLUSTRATION 32 - MOLDED BRICK CORNICE FORMING CYMA RECTA, LEVEL LOOP
ILLUSTRATION 33 - MOLDED BRICK CORNICE FORMING CYMA RECTA, RAPHINE HALL
ILLUSTRATION 34 - MOLDED BRICK CORNICE FORMING CYMA RECTA SPLIT BY STRETCHER
STERRETT HOUSE
ILLUSTRATION 36 - WOODEN ITALIANATE CORNICE, BROWN HOUSE
Chimney

All the 'I' houses of subtypes I and II have two chimneys, one in each gable end. Each chimney is usually an exterior one, although several examples of the interior chimney do occur. There is one example which has interior chimneys with a slight exterior protrusion (House 9). Another example has one exterior and one partially exterior-interior (House 1).

Base

The chimneys are usually brick, laid in the same bond as the wall (Illustration 37). After the chimney base narrows to the stack at about the point of the front roof line level, the courses are all stretchers. If the foundation is of stone, the foundation base of the chimney is also of stone, with the brick being laid at the same level on the chimney as on the wall. In one instance, the chimney is of stone and the stack of brick; this was on a wooden house (Illustration 38). The other frame house (House 12) had a brick chimney which had been
ILLUSTRATION-37 - BRICK CHIMNEY, LEVEL LOOP
ILLUSTRATION 38
STONE AND BRICK TIDEWATER CHIMNEY
DAVIS HOUSE
covered with cement.

**Stack**

The stack is always narrower than the base of the chimney. There are between four and eight steps of brick at the shoulder. The stack, which is pronouncedly narrower than the base (giving the profile of a Tidewater chimney without being set away from the wall), is more common than the type which has less slope at the shoulder and a wider stack. One house (House 13) has a Tidewater chimney, in which the brick stack is set away from the wall of the house. The number of steps from the base to a narrow or wide stack does not clearly differ. The difference in the width of the stack is in the depth of the brick step.

**Cap**

The cap on the chimney has many variations. It involves corbelled courses of brick in some combination. There are many arrangements of cap—from a corbelled course followed by one course set back in, to four successively corbelled courses.
Frequently there are two courses which protrude the same distance and which are followed either by a corbelled course, or a series of corbelled courses, or by a course that is set in. The chimneys which have narrower stacks tend to have more layers of corbelled course giving a cap of elaborate appearance.

**Foundation**

**Stone**

Foundations in the county are usually made of native stone. This stone, limestone, is roughly shaped and laid with mortar. The stone is sometimes laid roughly. The 'I' houses are often built on a slope of some degree. Therefore, the foundation may be from 6 inches to several feet high (Illustration 39). Nineteen of the houses, including both wooden ones, have stone foundations.

**Brick**

The rest of the houses, including those built on slopes, continue the brick work to the ground. The bond of the brick continues from the ground to the roof to be the same (Illustration 40). The
ILLUSTRATION 39
RAISED STONE FOUNDATION
WATTS HOUSE
ILLUSTRATION 40
BRICK FOUNDATION FLUSH WITH GROUND
BOBBITT HOUSE
stone house is also flush to the ground. The houses in appearance seem to have no foundation and to be sitting on the ground.

**Basements**

These 'I' houses are found both with and without basements. There are eight houses with no basements at all. Seventeen houses have basements of some type. Five of these are full English type basements. Of the remaining twelve, some are complete basements, while others occupy only the space under one room.

Although the presence of a large fireplace and hearth often indicates that the cooking was carried on in some of the basements, in others this is obviously not the case. In these houses and in those with no basements, the cooking took place in separate buildings, or later, in an addition to the house. In most cases then, the basement is not finished or is used as a root cellar.

The 'I' houses in Rockbridge appear on first glance to be all alike. When they are examined more closely, it is seen that there are many differences
among them. The same features are discerned again and again; however, they do not appear in the same combinations. It is possible to describe the features as they occur, and to list some possible combinations. It is not possible to describe a house which possesses all of the features, for no house does; each house is unique.

The 'I' house in Rockbridge remains fairly easily recognizable in its total appearance. From the above description it is also possible to know some of the features to expect, and what not to expect, in looking more closely at this manifestation of the 'I' house.
CHAPTER III

CHANGES IN DETAILS IN THE 'I' HOUSE

Time Span

Dates

The 'I' houses in Rockbridge County cover a wide time span. Although the 'I' house was symbolic of economic success in the rural area, and was, no doubt, first built in keeping with this spirit in the county, its construction continued.

The dates of the houses in this survey range from 1796 to c. 1895. Dates have not been found for five houses.

Dates of 'I' Houses in Rockbridge County

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<th>House</th>
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<th>Source</th>
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</thead>
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<td>House</td>
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<td>1819-1822</td>
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<td>1819-1822</td>
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<td>Maxwelton</td>
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<td>VPI</td>
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<td>1824</td>
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<td>Nye House</td>
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<td>House and Land Book</td>
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<td>1827</td>
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<td>1834</td>
<td>Land Book</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sterrett House</td>
<td>1856</td>
<td>Land Book</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crimm House</td>
<td>1856</td>
<td>Land Book</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirkpatrick House</td>
<td>1856-1857</td>
<td>Land Book</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raphine Hall</td>
<td>1866</td>
<td>House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brownlee House</td>
<td>C. 1870</td>
<td>Owner's Record</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown House</td>
<td>Built 1848</td>
<td>Land Book</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rebuilt c. 1895</td>
<td>Former Owner's Record</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davis House</td>
<td>n.d.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burch House</td>
<td>n.d.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexander House</td>
<td>n.d.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bare House</td>
<td>n.d.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culton-Koogler House</td>
<td>n.d.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is difficult to assign a date for the undated houses. The Culton-Koogler House, however, presents certain similarities with a nearby dated house. This is not direct evidence of being built at the same time, although it does indicate that they were probably built within several years of each other by the same carpenter or designer.

**Variation in Features**

**Change in Features in Time**

There is little evidence of change in design related to time. The only feature of the houses
which shows any change is the cornice. The cornice on the Mackey-Williams House, the earliest (1796), is a Georgian dentil-work cornice. The latest house, the Brown House, built 1848, rebuilt in 1895, shows a wooden cornice supported by Italianate brackets. The rest of the houses have either molded brick cornices or wooden box-shaped cornices. Georgian and Italianate cornices are not enough evidence on which to base a definite conclusion, particularly in view of the rebuilding of the latter house and the indefiniteness of the time of the placement of the Italianate bracket. However, they indicate that current style did have some influence on this feature of the houses. 50

The houses of subtype I, four of which are dated, fall into the decade of 1823-1834. This may indicate that this plan was better known in that decade. However, as there were more houses built during these years 1819-1834, this figure may mean no more than the subtype I house was built during

50 It must be remembered that styles in the Valley of Virginia, particularly in rural areas, were several decades behind those of cultural centers.
a time when many houses were built.

**Stability of Features**

The variations in other features of the 'I' houses are spread throughout the time scale. This conclusion holds true when applied to each variation separately or when used in combinations. A specific instance is found in the width of the windows. Windows measure 2 feet 11 inches in 1819, 1870 and years in between.

The cornice presents evidence that in some cases style was followed. This does not appear to be the case in most of the examples. The majority of the features of the 'I' house do not change with time.

**Similarity of Variation in Near Locations**

There is, however, another possible explanation of the similarities in the houses. Many of the surviving 'I' houses are located near each other or are near the same community. Some of these show definite similarities in certain features.

Near Raphine, there are three houses: Walnut
Grove, Raphine Hall and the Culton-Koogler House. Raphine Hall is 45 years later than Walnut Grove and shows little similarity to it. Walnut Grove, however, resembles the Culton-Koogler House in several of its features. The windows are the same size. The brick arrangement over the windows—flat arches, the doors—an arch of headers, and basement windows—a low arch over Flemish bond are similar. The fanlights over the front doors are the same design. The stairs are the same width. This presents evidence that the houses were designed or built by the same person. This is not unreasonable in that both houses are near the same community; the builder would have had his special ways of construction and design.

Another instance occurs when two houses share several similar features. These are the Kirkpatrick and the Crimm Houses, which face each other across a small creek at Alone Mill. These are similar in window size; the number of lights per window; and the brick arrangement over the windows. The front doors are near the same size. The light arrangement
in the transom and sidelights differs little between the two houses. The two houses are also near each other in date. Both were probably influenced by the same designer or builder.

There is a slightly different story in the Brownsburg area. Four out of six houses that are near the community have one common point. The brick arrangement over the windows is 6 x 3 inch brick laid so that the 6 inches is the height. This particular arrangement is found only on Brownsburg houses; it does not occur in any other area. It is not on all Brownsburg houses but it is peculiar to the area.

Some of the variation in the Rockbridge County 'I' house may be traced to similarities within an area, rather than to construction at the same time. It seems probable that local builders and craftsman had a good deal of influence on the final finished product.
CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSIONS

The 'I' House in Rockbridge County

This study focuses on the 'I' house in Rockbridge County, Virginia. Based on a random sample, it attempts to bring to light the primary characteristics of the 'I' houses there. In examining the characteristics and details which have been delineated on these pages, there is one striking fact. Although each is similar in floor plan and overall, formwise nearly every house is unique in details. Each house may have several details in common, but no house possesses all the same details as another. Ordinarily, traditional, vernacular housing abides by unwritten, but strict rules. An example of this may be seen in log cabin structures, which require that each unit is of the same size. It would be expected that all 'I' houses would be the same size. It has been seen that this is not
so; the sizes of the houses vary greatly. In other examples, as well, the details vary from house to house; each house is really unique.

In the case of houses having some details in common, it might be assumed that these details are related to the period when the house was built. It appears that this is not so. One exception, the cornice, occurs, which relates to time. In the earliest house (House 20) there is a dentil cornice. The house which was rebuilt in 1895 (House 2) has an Italianate cornice. The rest have cornices of molded brick or of wood.

In some cases, a detail will re-occur several times. The explanation, as stated before, is not date or period. Several of these instances, such as the peculiar size brick over the windows around Brownsville (Houses 5, 6, 1, 4) and the arch of headers over the basement windows in two houses (Houses 23 and 25) near Raphine, occur near the same community. Local builders or custom exerted more influence in reoccurrence of distinct details than did the date of the construction. Other details
occasionally re-occur at random, and cannot be related to either period or location.

**Similarity to Other 'I' Houses**

The 'I' houses in Rockbridge County in gross description are very similar to those described by both Glassie and Kniffen. The greatest similarity occurs in floor plan, although the central chimney described by Glassie is not found. Neither do interior chimneys flanking a central hall occur. End chimneys are the rule. Subtype I does not appear to replace subtype II. Brick buildings are frequent and not a rarity as expected by Glassie and Kniffen. 'I' houses in other areas are constructed of wood, stone or perhaps brick; all of these are found in Rockbridge County. 51 However, there are no 'I' houses of adobe, as are sometimes found in the Southwest. 52 Elevations and fenestration are usually symmetrical, as stated by Glassie; however

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52 Francaviglia, "Mormon Central Hall Houses," p. 68.
in Rockbridge County a five-window arrangement (as well as the two and three window) across the upper story is common. Once again in agreement with Glassie's findings, 'I' houses often have a basement, but not always, and they may have a full stone foundation. This is not always true in Rockbridge; often houses are brick from the ground up. None is on piers. The appearance of transoms and sidelights is expected and occurs. Other variations, such as detail and variations in material and window treatment, are not discussed in other works on 'I' houses, and are presented here as a guide to Rockbridge County.

The 'I' houses studied in Rockbridge are constructed as a single unit (not including ell and T additions), and did not rise with the addition of a second story to a saddle bag or dogtrot cabin, which Glassie and Kniffen feel was the origin of

many 'I' houses. They do appear as a symbol of economic attainment in the farming community, thus bearing out Kniffen's statement. But the 'I' house, as Glassie found, remained a popular form through the nineteenth century.

Origins in Rockbridge County

The settlers in Rockbridge County brought knowledge of the 'I' house with them from the Pennsylvania area. Many contacts across the mountains, with the Tidewater influenced Piedmont area, made the Tidewater influence strong in the Valley. This is stated in both Glassie and Kniffen. It is well to remember that the Tidewater influence was very strong in Rockbridge County.

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This paper, basically, has attempted to describe the 'I' house as it is found in Rockbridge County, Virginia. It has described the gross appearance of the house, and noted the variations of the details. It has compared the 'I' houses in the county, attributed similarities to nearness in location and suggested a common builder as the reason for these similarities. It has indicated, finally, comparisons between these 'I' houses and those elsewhere, and it has suggested origins for the 'I' house in Rockbridge.
APPENDIX

The Houses Surveyed

1 Brairwood
2 Brown House
3 Nye House
4 Withrow-Swisher House
5 Level Loop
6 Bare House
7 Watts House
8 Bobbitt House
9 Maxwelton
10 Reid House
11 Mast House
12 Brownlee House
13 Davis House
14 Burch House
15 Lowry House
16 Kirkpatrick House
17 Crimm House
18 Sterrett House
19 Tuscan Villa
20 MacKay-Williams House
21 Alexander House
22 Bryant-Koogler House
23 Culton-Koogler House
24 Raphine Hall
25 Walnut Grove
Briarwood

OWNER: Mr. & Mrs. Richard Glenn
ADDRESS: Rt. 1, Raphine
LOCATION: about 1 mile from 620 in Pisgah
LOCATION ON MAP: 1

FLOOR PLAN: Subtype II, Variation D

MATERIAL: Brick
BRICK BOND: Flemish on front and sides, common on the back.

FENESTRATION: symmetrical
NUMBER OF WINDOWS ON UPPER FLOOR: three
NUMBER OF LIGHTS ON UPPER WINDOWS: 6 over 6
NUMBER OF LIGHTS IN LOWER WINDOWS: 6 over 6

DOORS:
NUMBER: One
TRANSOM ARRANGEMENT: lacy fanlight

CORNICES: molded brick

CHIMNEYS: two brick
ARRANGEMENT: one exterior, one partially
PROFILE: base narrows to interior stack

BASEMENT: full basement under both rooms

FOUNDATION: brick to the ground

MATERIAL:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 1819-1822
DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: March, 1971
Briarwood
Brown House

OWNER: J. Clemmer Brown
ADDRESS: Rt. 1, Raphine
LOCATION: on 252 north of Brownsburg
LOCATION ON MAP: 2

FLOOR PLAN: Subtype II, Variation D

MATERIAL: brick
  BRICK BOND: Flemish on front, common on sides and back

FENESTRATION: symmetrical
  NUMBER OF WINDOWS ON UPPER FLOOR: three
  NUMBER OF LIGHTS ON UPPER WINDOWS: modern
  NUMBER OF LIGHTS IN LOWER WINDOWS: modern

DOORS:
  NUMBER: one
  TRANSOM ARRANGEMENT: fanlight

CORNICES: wood with Italianate brackets

CHIMNEYS: two brick
  ARRANGEMENT: exterior
  PROFILE: base narrows to the stack

BASEMENT: full basement

FOUNDATION: yes
  MATERIAL: stone

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: built 1848, rebuilt 1895
DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: March, 1971
Nye House

OWNER: Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Nye
ADDRESS: Brownsburg
LOCATION: on 252 near Brownsburg
LOCATION ON MAP: 3

FLOOR PLAN: Subtype I, Variation A

MATERIAL: Brick
BRICK BOND: Flemish on front, back and sides

FENESTRATION: Symmetrical
NUMBER OF WINDOWS ON UPPER FLOOR: three
NUMBER OF LIGHTS ON UPPER WINDOWS: 6 over 6
NUMBER OF LIGHTS IN LOWER WINDOWS: 6 over 6

DOORS:
NUMBER: one (there were originally two)
TRANSOM ARRANGEMENT: Square

CORNICES: Molded brick

CHIMNEYS: Two brick
ARRANGEMENT: Exterior
PROFILE: Base narrows to stack

BASEMENT: Yes

FOUNDATION: Yes
MATERIAL: Stone

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1826

DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: April, 1971
OWNER: Mattie Wade
ADDRESS: Rt. 1, Raphine
LOCATION: Brownsburg
LOCATION ON MAP: 

FLOOR PLAN: Subtype I, Variation A

MATERIAL: brick
    BRICK BOND: Flemish on the front, common on the back and sides

FENESTRATION: symmetrical
    NUMBER OF WINDOWS ON UPPER FLOOR: four
    NUMBER OF LIGHTS ON UPPER WINDOWS: 6 over 6
    NUMBER OF LIGHTS IN LOWER WINDOWS: 9 over 6

DOORS:
    NUMBER: two on lower floor
    TRANSOM ARRANGEMENT: square

CORNICES: molded brick

CHIMNEYS: two brick
    ARRANGEMENT: exterior
    PROFILE: base narrows to stack

BASEMENT: yes

FOUNDATION: yes
    MATERIAL: stone

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1827

DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: March, 1971
WITHROW-SWISHER HOUSE
SCALE: 1" = 10'
Withrow-Swisher House
Level Loop

OWNER: Mrs. W.W. Heffelfinger, Jr.
ADDRESS: Brownsburg
LOCATION: On 724 west of Brownsburg
LOCATION ON MAP: 5

FLOOR PLAN: Subtype II, Variation D

MATERIAL: Brick
    BRICK BOND: Flemish on front and sides, common on the back.

FENESTRATION: symmetrical
    NUMBER OF WINDOWS ON UPPER FLOOR: five
    NUMBER OF LIGHTS ON UPPER WINDOWS: 6 over 6
    NUMBER OF LIGHTS IN LOWER WINDOWS: 6 over 6

DOORS:
    NUMBER: one
    TRANSOM ARRANGEMENT: square with hourglass figures

CORNICES: molded brick

CHIMNEYS: two brick
    ARRANGEMENT: exterior
    PROFILE: stack pronouncedly narrower than base

BASEMENT: yes, under one room

FOUNDATION: yes
    MATERIAL: stone

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1819-1822

DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: December, 1970
LEVEL LOOP
SCALE: 1" = 10'
Bare House

OWNER: Mr. & Mrs. L. Claude Bare
ADDRESS: Rockbridge Baths
LOCATION: on 720 west of Brownburg
LOCATION ON MAP: 6

FLOOR PLAN: Subtype I, Variation B

MATERIAL: Brick
  BRICK BOND: Flemish on front, sides and back

FENESTRATION:
  NUMBER OF WINDOWS ON UPPER FLOOR: four
  NUMBER OF LIGHTS ON UPPER WINDOWS: 6 over 9
  NUMBER OF LIGHTS IN LOWER WINDOWS: 6 over 9

DOORS:
  NUMBER: two
  TRANSOM ARRANGEMENT: none

CORNICES: molded brick

CHIMNEYS: two brick
  ARRANGEMENT: exterior
  PROFILE: base narrows slightly to stack

BASEMENT: none

FOUNDATION: yes
  MATERIAL: stone

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: unknown

DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: March, 1971
Watts House

OWNER: Mr. & Mrs. Francis Bloxton
ADDRESS: Rockbridge Baths
LOCATION: on 720 SW of Brownsburg
LOCATION ON MAP: 7

FLOOR PLAN: Subtype I, Variation C

MATERIAL: brick
- BRICK BOND: Flemish on the front, common on the sides and back

FENESTRATION: symmetrical
- NUMBER OF WINDOWS ON UPPER FLOOR: three
- NUMBER OF LIGHTS ON UPPER WINDOWS: 6 over 6
- NUMBER OF LIGHTS IN LOWER WINDOWS: 9 over 6

DOORS:
- NUMBER: one
- TRANSOM ARRANGEMENT: square

CORNICES: molded brick

CHIMNEYS: two brick
- ARRANGEMENT: exterior
- PROFILE: wide stack

BASEMENT: no

FOUNDATION: yes
- MATERIAL: stone

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1834
DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: March, 1971
Watts House
Bobbitt House

OWNER: William E. Bobbitt
ADDRESS: Rockbridge Baths
LOCATION: on 724 west of Brownsburg
LOCATION ON MAP: 8

FLOOR PLAN: Subtype II, Variation D

MATERIAL: Brick
BRICK BOND: Flemish on the front, common on the sides and back.

FENESTRATION: symmetrical
NUMBER OF WINDOWS ON UPPER FLOOR: three
NUMBER OF LIGHTS ON UPPER WINDOWS: 6 over 6
NUMBER OF LIGHTS IN LOWER WINDOWS: 6 over 6

DOORS:
NUMBER: one
TRANSOM ARRANGEMENT: square

CORNICES: wood

CHIMNEYS: two brick
ARRANGEMENT: exterior
PROFILE: wide stack

BASEMENT: full basement under one room

FOUNDATION: brick to the ground
MATERIAL:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1830
DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: March, 1971
BOBBITT HOUSE
SCALE: 1" = 10'
Maxwelon

OWNER: Mrs. Lee McLaughlin
ADDRESS: Rockbridge Baths
LOCATION: on 602 on Walkers Creek
LOCATION ON MAP: 0

FLOOR PLAN: Subtype II, Variation D

MATERIAL: Brick
  BRICK BOND: Flemish on the front, common on the back and sides
  FENESTRATION: symmetrical
  NUMBER OF WINDOWS ON UPPER FLOOR: four
  NUMBER OF LIGHTS ON UPPER WINDOWS: modern
  NUMBER OF LIGHTS IN LOWER WINDOWS: modern

DOORS:
  NUMBER: two, one on upper floor, one on lower
  TRANSOM ARRANGEMENT: square

CORNICES: molded brick

CHIMNEYS: two brick
  ARRANGEMENT: interior
  PROFILE: wide stack

BASEMENT: yes

FOUNDATION: yes
  MATERIAL: stone

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1819-1822
DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: March, 1971
MAXWELTON
SCALE: 1" = 10'
Maxwelton
Reed House

OWNER: Sterling Reed
ADDRESS: Rockbridge Baths
LOCATION: on 60? on Walkers Creek
LOCATION ON MAP: 10

FLOOR PLAN: Subtype II, Variation D

MATERIAL: brick
BRICK BOND: Flemish on the front, common on the sides and back

FENESTRATION: symmetrical
NUMBER OF WINDOWS ON UPPER FLOOR: two
NUMBER OF LIGHTS ON UPPER WINDOWS: 12 over R
NUMBER OF LIGHTS IN LOWER WINDOWS: 12 over 12

DOORS:
NUMBER: two, one on upper floor, one on lower
TRANSOM ARRANGEMENT: square

CORNICES: molded brick

CHIMNEYS: two brick
ARRANGEMENT: exterior
PROFILE: wide stack

BASEMENT: no

FOUNDATION: yes
MATERIAL: stone

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1827

DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: March, 1971
REED HOUSE
SCALE: 1" = 10'
Reed House
Mast House

OWNER: Mr. & Mrs. John Mast
ADDRESS: Rockbridge Baths
LOCATION: Rockbridge Baths
LOCATION ON MAP: 11

FLOOR PLAN: Subtype I, Variation B

MATERIAL: brick
  BRICK BOND: Flemish on the front, common on the back and sides
  FENESTRATION: symmetrical
  NUMBER OF WINDOWS ON UPPER FLOOR: three
  NUMBER OF LIGHTS ON UPPER WINDOWS: 6 over 6
  NUMBER OF LIGHTS IN LOWER WINDOWS: 9 over 6

DOORS:
  NUMBER: one
  TRANSOM ARRANGEMENT: square and entablature

CORNICES: molded brick

CHIMNEYS: two brick
  ARRANGEMENT: exterior
  PROFILE: wide stack

BASEMENT: yes

FOUNDATION: brick to the ground
MATERIAL:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1923
DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: March, 1971
MAST HOUSE
SCALE: 1" = 10'
Brownlee House

OWNER: J. M. Brownlee
ADDRESS: Rockbridge Baths
LOCATION: Rockbridge Baths
LOCATION ON MAP: 12

FLOOR PLAN: Subtype II, Variation D

MATERIAL: wood

BRICK BOND:

FENESTRATION: symmetrical
  NUMBER OF WINDOWS ON UPPER FLOOR: two
  NUMBER OF LIGHTS ON UPPER WINDOWS: 6 over 6
  NUMBER OF LIGHTS IN LOWER WINDOWS: 6 over 6

DOORS:
  NUMBER: two, one on the upper floor, one on lower
  TRANSOM ARRANGEMENT: square

CORNICES: wood

CHIMNEYS: two brick and cement
  ARRANGEMENT: exterior
  PROFILE: base narrows slightly to stack

BASEMENT: yes

FOUNDATION: yes
  MATERIAL: stone

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1870

DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: March, 1971
Davis House

OWNER: Elizabeth Davis
ADDRESS: Lexington
LOCATION: on 30 east of Rockbridge Baths
LOCATION ON MAP: 13
FLOOR PLAN: Subtype II, Variation A
MATERIAL: wood with headed weatherboard
BRICK BOND:
FENESTRATION: symmetrical
NUMBER OF WINDOWS ON UPPER FLOOR: three
NUMBER OF LIGHTS ON UPPER WINDOWS: 6 over 6
NUMBER OF LIGHTS IN LOWER WINDOWS: 6 over 6
DOORS:
NUMBER: one
TRANSOM ARRANGEMENT: square
CORNICES: wood
CHIMNEYS: two stone with brick stack
ARRANGEMENT: exterior, Tidewater type
PROFILE: Base narrows to stack
BASEMENT: no
FOUNDATION: yes
MATERIAL: stone
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: unknown
DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: March, 1971
DAVIS HOUSE
SCALE: 1" = 10'
Burch House

OWNER: Connie R. Burch
ADDRESS: Rockbridge Baths
LOCATION: on 623 south of Rockbridge Baths
LOCATION ON MAP: 14

FLOOR PLAN: Subtype I, Variation B

MATERIAL: brick
BRICK BOND: Flemish on the front and sides, common on the back

FENESTRATION: symmetrical
NUMBER OF WINDOWS ON UPPER FLOOR: two
NUMBER OF LIGHTS ON UPPER WINDOWS: modern
NUMBER OF LIGHTS IN LOWER WINDOWS: modern

DOORS:
NUMBER: one
TRANSOM ARRANGEMENT: none

CORNICES: molded brick

CHIMNEYS: two brick
ARRANGEMENT: exterior
PROFILE: base narrows to the stack

BASEMENT: none

FOUNDATION: yes
MATERIAL: stone

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: unknown

DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: March, 1971
Burch House
Lowry House

OWNER: S. Todd Lowry
ADDRESS: Rt. 1, Rockbridge Baths
LOCATION: at the end of 727, near Turkey Hill
LOCATION ON MAP: 15

FLOOR PLAN: Subtype II, Variation D

MATERIAL: brick
BRICK BOND: flemish on front, common on sides and back, glazed headers

FENESTRATION: symmetrical
NUMBER OF WINDOWS ON UPPER FLOOR: three
NUMBER OF LIGHTS ON UPPER WINDOWS: 6 over 6
NUMBER OF LIGHTS IN LOWER WINDOWS: 9 over 6

DOORS:
NUMBER: one
TRANSOM ARRANGEMENT: square

CORNICES: molded brick

CHIMNEYS: two brick
ARRANGEMENT: exterior
PROFILE: wide stack

BASEMENT: yes

FOUNDATION: yes
MATERIAL: stone

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1829

DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: March, 1971
Gable End Lowry House
Wirkostrick House

OWNER: Mrs. H. T. Kirkostrick
ADDRESS: Rt. 1, Lexington
LOCATION: on 602 at Alone
LOCATION ON MAP: 16

FLOOR PLAN: Subtype II, Variation B

MATERIAL: Brick
BRICK BOND: flemish on front, common on sides and back

FENESTRATION: symmetrical
NUMBER OF WINDOWS ON UPPER FLOOR: two
NUMBER OF LIGHTS ON UPPER WINDOWS: 6 over 6
NUMBER OF LIGHTS IN LOWER WINDOWS: 6 over 6

DOORS:
NUMBER: two, one on upper floor, one on lower

TRANSOM ARRANGEMENT: square with small panes

CORNICES: wood

CHIMNEYS: two brick
ARRANGEMENT: exterior
PROFILE: wide stack

BASEMENT: full basement

FOUNDATION: yes
MATERIAL: stone

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1857

DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: March, 1971
Grimm House

OWNER: Col David M. Crimm
ADDRESS: Rt. 4, Lexington
LOCATION: on #02 near Alone
LOCATION ON MAP: 17

FLOOR PLAN: Subtype II, Variation D

MATERIAL: Brick
BRICK BOND: Flemish on Front, Common on back and sides.

PENETRATION: symmetrical

NUMBER OF WINDOWS ON UPPER FLOOR: Three
NUMBER OF LIGHTS ON UPPER WINDOWS: 6 over 6
NUMBER OF LIGHTS IN LOWER WINDOWS: 6 over 6

DOORS:
NUMBER: one
TRANSOM ARRANGEMENT: square with small panes

CORNICES: wood

CHIMNEYS: two brick
ARRANGEMENT: exterior
PROFILE: wide stack

BASEMENT: none

FOUNDATION: brick to the ground
MATERIAL:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1856-57
DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: March, 1971
Starrett House

OWNER: 
ADDRESS: 601 in Bells' Valley
LOCATION: 18
LOCATION ON MAP: 18

FLOOR PLAN: Subtype II, Variation D

MATERIAL: brick
BRICK BOND: Flemish on front and sides, common on the back

FENESTRATION: symmetrical
NUMBER OF WINDOWS ON UPPER FLOOR: three
NUMBER OF LIGHTS ON UPPER WINDOWS: 9 over 6
NUMBER OF LIGHTS IN LOWER WINDOWS: 9 over 9

DOORS:
NUMBER: one
TRANSOM ARRANGEMENT: fanlight

CORNICES: molded brick

CHIMNEYS: two brick
ARRANGEMENT: partially interior
PROFILE: wide stack

BASEMENT: full basement

FOUNDATION: brick to the ground

MATERIAL:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1856
DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: March, 1971
STERRETT HOUSE
SCALE: 1" = 10'
Tuscan Ville

OWNER: Mr. & Mrs. David W. Srunt
ADDRESS: Rt. 1, Lexington
LOCATION: on 602 south of Mountain View
LOCATION ON MAP: 10

FLOOR PLAN: Subtype II, Variation D

MATERIAL: brick
BRICK BOND: Flemish on front and one side, common on one side and back
FENESTRATION: asymmetrical
NUMBER OF WINDOWS ON UPPER FLOOR: four
NUMBER OF LIGHTS ON UPPER WINDOWS: 6 over 9
NUMBER OF LIGHTS IN LOWER WINDOWS: 9 over 9

DOORS:
NUMBER: one
TRANSOM ARRANGEMENT: square (fan over side door)

CORNICES: molded brick

CHIMNEYS: two brick
ARRANGEMENT: exterior
PROFILE: base narrows to stack

BASEMENT: yes

FOUNDATION: yes
MATERIAL: stone

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1824
DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: March, 1971
Tuscan Villa
Mackey-Williams House

OWNER: Mrs. Inez Mackey Williams
ADDRESS: Rt. 5, Lexington
LOCATION: off 716 at Timber Ridge
LOCATION ON MAP: 20

FLOOR PLAN: Subtype II, Variation D

MATERIAL: Stone
BRICK BOND:

PENETRATION: symmetrical
NUMBER OF WINDOWS ON UPPER FLOOR: three
NUMBER OF LIGHTS ON UPPER WINDOWS: 6 over 6
NUMBER OF LIGHTS IN LOWER WINDOWS: 9 over 9

DOORS:
NUMBER: one
TRANSOM ARRANGEMENT: square

CORNICES: wood with dentil work

CHIMNEYS: two stone
ARRANGEMENT: interior
PROFILE: wide stack

BASEMENT: no

FOUNDATION: stone to the ground
MATERIAL:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1706
DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: March, 1971
Mackey-Williams House
Alexander House

OWNER: R. Tate Alexander
ADDRESS: Fairfield
LOCATION: on 710 east of Fairfield
LOCATION ON MAP: 21

FLOOR PLAN: Subtype II, Variation D

MATERIAL: brick
BRICK BOND: Flemish on front and one side,
common on one side and back

FENESTRATION: symmetrical
NUMBER OF WINDOWS ON UPPER FLOOR: five
NUMBER OF LIGHTS ON UPPER WINDOWS: modern
NUMBER OF LIGHTS IN LOWER WINDOWS: modern

DOORS:
NUMBER: one
TRANSOM ARRANGEMENT: square

CORNICES: molded brick

CHIMNEYS: two brick
ARRANGEMENT: exterior
PROFILE: wide stack

BASEMENT: no

FOUNDATION: yes
MATERIAL: stone

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: unknown
DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: April, 1971
Bryant-Kooler House

OWNER: Mr. & Mrs. Stewart Kooler
ADDRESS: Fairfield
LOCATION: on 702 north of Fairfield
LOCATION ON MAP: 22

FLOOR PLAN: Subtype II, Variation C

MATERIAL: brick
BRICK BOND: Flemish on the front, common on the sides and the back.

FENESTRATION: symmetrical
NUMBER OF WINDOWS ON UPPER FLOOR: five
NUMBER OF LIGHTS ON UPPER WINDOWS: modern
NUMBER OF LIGHTS IN LOWER WINDOWS: modern

DOORS:
NUMBER: one
TRANSOM ARRANGEMENT: fanlight

CORNICES: molded brick

CHIMNEYS: two brick
ARRANGEMENT: exterior
PROFILE: base narrows to stack

BASEMENT: none

FOUNDATION: brick to the ground
MATERIAL:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1831

DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: March, 1971
BRYANT-KOOGLER HOUSE
SCALE: 1" = 10'
Bryant-Koogler House
Culton-Koogler House

OWNER: Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Koogler
ADDRESS: Raphine
LOCATION: on 017 south of Raphine
LOCATION ON MAP: #3

FLOOR PLAN: Subtype II, Variation D

MATERIAL: Brick
	BRICK BOND: Flemish on the front, common on the side and back.

FENESTRATION: symmetrical
	NUMBER OF WINDOWS ON UPPER FLOOR: five
	NUMBER OF LIGHTS ON UPPER WINDOWS: modern
	NUMBER OF LIGHTS IN LOWER WINDOWS: modern

DOORS:
	NUMBER: one
	TRANSOM ARRANGEMENT: fanlight with tulip pattern

CORNICES: molded brick

CHIMNEYS: two brick
	ARRANGEMENT: exterior
	PROFILE: base narrows to stack

BASEMENT: full basement

FOUNDATION: yes
	MATERIAL: stone

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: unknown

DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: March, 1971
Culton-Koogler House
Owner: Shannon John Jackson
Address: Raphine or Palatka, N.M Box 77
Location: Raphine
Location on map: 24

Floor plan: Subtype II, Variation D

Material: brick
  Brick bond: Flemish on the front, common on the back and sides.

Fenestration: symmetrical
  Number of windows on upper floor: five
  Number of lights on upper windows: 6 over 6
  Number of lights in lower windows: 6 over 6

Doors:
  Number: one
  Transom arrangement: square

Cornices: molded brick

Chimneys: two brick
  Arrangement: exterior
  Profile: base narrows slightly to stack

Basement: yes

Foundation: yes
  Material: stone

Date of construction: 1866

Date of photograph: March, 1971
RAPHINE HALL
SCALE: 1" = 10'
Walnut Grove

OWNER: Virginia Polytechnic Institute
ADDRESS: Raphine
LOCATION: on 606 east of Raphine
LOCATION ON MAP: 25

FLOOR PLAN: Subtype II, Variation D

MATERIAL: Brick
   BRICK BOND: Flemish on the front, common on sides and back

FENESTRATION: Symmetrical
   NUMBER OF WINDOWS ON UPPER FLOOR: three
   NUMBER OF LIGHTS ON UPPER WINDOWS: 6 over 6
   NUMBER OF LIGHTS IN LOWER WINDOWS: 6 over 6

DOORS:
   NUMBER: one
   TRANSOM ARRANGEMENT: Fanlight with tulip pattern

CORNICES: Molded brick

CHIMNEYS: Two brick
   ARRANGEMENT: Exterior
   PROFILE: Base narrows to stack

BASEMENT: Yes

FOUNDATION: Yes
   MATERIAL: Stone

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1821

DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: March, 1971
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