

United States Department of the Interior  
 National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District

Other names/site number: VDHR #134-5874

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

## 2. Location

Street & number: Graham Road, Indian Run Road, Mill Dam Road, Strawberry Lane, and Woodhurst Drive

City or town: Virginia Beach State: VA County: Independent City

Not For Publication:  N/A Vicinity:  N/A

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination     request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets     does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

    national     statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A     B X C     D

Virginia Department of Historic Resources

Signature of certifying official/Title: DIRECTOR

Date

1. 26. 23

Julie V. Dangan

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property     meets     does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official:

Date

Title :

State or Federal agency/bureau  
 or Tribal Government

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

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#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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#### 5. Classification

##### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

##### Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>61</u>	<u>50</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>62</u>	<u>55</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

DOMESTIC: secondary structure

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

DOMESTIC: secondary structure

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MODERN MOVEMENT: Contemporary

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**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: WOOD: Weatherboard, Shingle,  
Plywood/particle board; BRICK; CONCRETE; GLASS

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

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### Summary Paragraph

The Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District, located in the Great Neck area of the City of Virginia Beach, is a mid-twentieth century residential suburban development comprised entirely of architect-designed, Contemporary-style, one-story, single-family dwellings. The wedge-shaped neighborhood, accessed only from Mill Dam Road, is bordered by residential developments on the south (Sylvan Lake) and northeast (Baycliff and Alanton). A wooded buffer and swampy land around a branch of Mill Dam Creek edge the west side of the neighborhood, and Cape Henry Collegiate School and First Colonial High School stand east across Mill Dam Road. In 1955, partners Frank P. Whitehurst and Son (contractors and developers) and James F. Doyle (real estate agent) developed the 33-acre neighborhood consisting of 81 houses in a rural area that was then a part of Princess Anne County. The Woodhurst dwellings were based on four Contemporary-style models designed by the Norfolk-based architectural firm of Oliver and Smith (Louis A. Oliver and Herbert L. Smith III). The houses in Woodhurst reflect Modernist influence in the use of low-sloped, front-facing gable roofs, a variety of sheathing materials (brick, weatherboard, and vertical board siding), prominent interior brick chimneys, and integrated carports and garages. Some of the bricks used in the construction were salvaged from buildings demolished in Norfolk for the construction of the downtown tunnel. Many of the houses stand at an angle to the street to provide privacy, but also as a conscientious effort by the designers and developers to avoid the "regimented rank-and-file" appearance typical of other suburban neighborhoods and to provide privacy for residents. Parcels range in size from about one-quarter acre to one-half acre, with larger sites being those located at the corner of street intersections and along the wooded west side of the neighborhood. Based upon current research, Woodhurst stands out as the best and most intact example of a mid-twentieth-century Contemporary-style residential development in Princess



Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District

Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA

County and State

Anne County/City of Virginia Beach—an area that experienced rapid development in the 1950s and 1960s. The district contains 81 properties with a total of 111 buildings; of that number, 61 are contributing buildings and 50 are non-contributing. Of the 81 primary resources, 59 are contributing and 22 are non-contributing. There is 1 contributing structure and 5 non-contributing structures. Woodhurst's original street grid has not been altered since the initial plat, no original houses have been demolished, and only one additional house has been constructed on a sub-divided lot (outside of the district boundaries). The most common alterations to the houses include replacement of exterior materials (siding, roofing), the enclosure of carports/garages, and replacement of some original windows; however, the majority of the individual resources retain their overall integrity and the district still possesses the appearance and character of a mid-twentieth-century suburb.

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## **Narrative Description**

### Setting and Location

The Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District is located in the City of Virginia Beach in the Great Neck area, which extends north of Laskin Road and between Linkhorn Bay and Broad Bay on the east and Lynnhaven Bay on the west. The land is generally flat; however, the western edge of the neighborhood edges a wooded buffer that slopes down to swampy land along a branch of Mill Dam Creek. The 1955 subdivision plat for Woodhurst delineates a 30-foot drainage easement along this edge that was “dedicated to Princess Anne County.” There also is a wedge-shaped “Reserved” parcel at the northern tip of the plat that serves as a buffer between the neighborhood development and the stream.<sup>1</sup>

At present, the area surrounding Woodhurst is a densely developed mix of residential, commercial, and educational buildings. At the time of construction, however, the neighborhood, then located in Princess Anne County, was predominantly rural. Aerial photographs from 1958 show woodland and cultivated fields surrounding the development. Only a few, small residential areas stood along Great Neck Road (present-day First Colonial Road) between Laskin Road and Shore Drive/Route 60. In the mid-1950s, developments along Great Neck Road, and south of Woodhurst, included Laurel Manor on the east, and Hilltop Terrace on the west. Both developments stood just north of the intersection with Laskin Road. Residential development was sparse on the north end of Great Neck Road north of Woodhurst. Great Neck Manor, consisting of one road and an adjacent loop road, is visible on historical maps and aerial photographs. Some distinguished homes on large lots had been constructed along the shoreline of Linkhorn Bay in the Alanton neighborhood, developed in the 1920s, but development in that area also was slow until the mid-1950s.

At present, the primary road leading to Woodhurst is Mill Dam Road, which was formerly the curving north end of Great Neck Road (now First Colonial Road). Early 1960s city directories list the road as “Mill Dam Road” prior to the 1963 merger of Princess Anne County and the City of Virginia Beach. Following the merger, the road was known as “First Colonial Road,” then the name reverted back to “Mill Dam” when a northern extension of First Colonial Road was built to connect to the north end of London Bridge Road (presently known as N. Great Neck Road).<sup>2</sup>

Roads within the neighborhood have not been altered in configuration or layout from the original 1955 plat. No street sidewalks are present in the neighborhood. In addition to Mill Dam Road, on the exterior east side of the neighborhood, Woodhurst consists of four interior roads, each approximately 50-feet wide. Access from Mill Dam Road into the neighborhood is via Indian Run Road on the south and Graham Road on the

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<sup>1</sup> “Subdivision of Woodhurst,” Princess Anne County Map Book 29:31, January 1955.

<sup>2</sup> In January 1962, voters in Virginia Beach and Princess Anne overwhelmingly approved a merger referendum and in February 1962, the General Assembly approved the merger charter. On January 1, 1963, the merger took effect. Stephen S. Mansfield, *Princess Anne County and Virginia Beach: a pictorial history* (Norfolk/Virginia Beach, VA: The Donning Company Publishers, 1989:196.

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District

City of Virginia Beach, VA

Name of Property

County and State

north. At its southern terminus, the curvilinear Graham Road intersects with Indian Run Road. Another interior road, Woodhurst Drive, gently curves from an intersection with Graham Road on the north to an intersection with Indian Run Road on the south. Strawberry Lane, a cul-de-sac, extends north from Indian Run Road. The somewhat ancillary nature of Mill Dam Road, limited number of access roads into the neighborhood, and the lack of through-streets all contribute to the self-contained and “hidden” character of Woodhurst.

Parcels in the neighborhood are generally rectangular in shape; however, the lots at the corners of street intersections and around the cul-de-sac tend to be wedge-shaped or irregular with sides of differing lengths. Most lots have an 80- to 90-foot street frontage and a general depth of 125 to 150 feet (excluding irregularly shaped lots). The smallest lot is 80-feet by 150-feet. Only one lot—Lot 1 in Block D, located at the northwest corner of the intersection of Mill Dam Road and Graham Road—has been subdivided and a new house built on the resulting parcel (facing Mill Dam Road and outside of the historic district boundaries).

Only a few site elements are known to be original features of the Woodhurst development. Concrete driveways, either ribbon or solid drives, extended from the street to the garage or carport openings. Due to the siting of houses at an angle to the street, sometimes the driveways curve slightly. The driveways remain intact even where the garage or carport has been enclosed. The present landscaping in the neighborhood adds to the feeling of privacy. There are few front yard fences, which were largely prohibited by original restrictive covenants; however, side and rear yards are generally fenced. Most properties feature grassy lawns, flowering shrubs and trees. Rear yards also hold large evergreen and hardwood trees. A 1958 aerial photograph of the neighborhood still under construction shows the sites were cleared of vegetation, with dense woodland edging the neighborhood on the west and northeast sides.

Most notable in the arrangement of Woodhurst’s houses is the orientation of the buildings on the parcels. Some houses face directly onto the street, while others stand at an angle to the street. Although the houses maintain a standard setback of at least 35 feet, the variation in siting was intended to provide privacy for residents and to avoid what the designers called the “rank-and-file” appearance of other residential developments where houses maintain a standard setback and all face directly onto the street. The designers stated that the Woodhurst houses were “arranged with an eye to maximum privacy and pleasing appearance.”<sup>3</sup>

### Architectural Description

The Norfolk-based architectural firm of Oliver and Smith designed four models for the Woodhurst development. Original construction drawings have not yet been located, but sketches made by the architects showing the four floorplans and front elevations provide information regarding the general appearance and layout of the original designs.<sup>4</sup> The development comprises 21 examples of Models #1, #2 and #3 and 18 examples of Model #4. The various models were distributed consciously throughout the neighborhood so that no like models were built side by side. Likewise, a variety of exterior color combinations was used with no combination duplicated.<sup>5</sup>

Woodhurst consists of 81 one-story, single-family houses built from four designs executed in a Contemporary/Mid-Century Modernist style. Generally, the buildings are of wood-frame construction clad

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<sup>3</sup> "Centuries-Old Brick Feature of New Homes, Woodhurst Development Offers Escape from Rank-and-File Look," *The Virginian-Pilot*, November 9, 1955:29. The author is indebted to Lori Shedlock, former Reference Librarian at Virginia Beach Public Library, for locating this article.

<sup>4</sup> Thanks to Woodhurst residents Wes Johnson and Jerry Teplitz for sharing copies of the one-sheet sketches with the author.

<sup>5</sup> *The Virginian-Pilot*, November 9, 1955:29.

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

with brick veneer, weatherboard siding, and/or vertical wooden siding. Present exterior cladding materials also include vinyl, wooden shingle siding, and in four cases, the application of a stucco finish. Front-facing gable roofs unify the entire footprint of the house and are distinguished by their low slopes, deep overhanging eaves, and very low side eave heights (less than five feet from the ground). The roofs were initially clad with a built-up surface topped by white marble chip aggregate. The original roofing, which did not prove long-lived, has been replaced predominantly with composition shingles; however, several houses maintain a light color roof through the use of a single-ply membrane covering (Figure 1). There also are a few roofs clad with standing-seam metal. Typical of the Contemporary style, tall, broad interior brick chimneys projected through the side slopes of the roofs. Chimneys have been removed in only two instances.



*Figure 1. Roof clad with single-ply membrane (134-5874-0064, 1312 Graham Road)*

Depending on the model design, original windows were wood-frame, fixed clerestory types, metal-frame sliding windows with or without transoms, and fixed windows with lower awning panes. Some one-over-one metal sash windows also appear to be original (primarily on model #4 examples). Most houses retain their original fenestration patterns, and many retain the original metal-frame units (Figure 2). Nearly all clerestory windows are intact and unchanged. Where windows have been replaced, in-kind or compatible sliding windows, fixed, sash, casement, or awning types have been used. In a few instances, incompatible picture and multi-pane sash windows have been installed. Observation of intact examples suggest that the original entrance doors were wooden units with a series of vertically oriented square panels down the center; such doors are located at the main house entrance, as well as on doors leading to the side patio (Model #1) (Figure 3).



Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State



*Figure 2. House retaining metal-frame windows on side elevation (134-5874-0068, 1340 Graham Road)*



*Figure 3. Detail original door (relocated) (134-5874-0080, 1305 Graham Road)*

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

Each design offered in Woodhurst had three bedrooms, one or two bathrooms, and either an attached/integrated garage or, in the Model #4 design, a carport.<sup>6</sup> In some cases, the latter elements, as well as brick veneer walls, chimneys, and fireplaces, were constructed using bricks that were salvaged from buildings demolished to make way for construction of the Norfolk-Portsmouth tunnel.<sup>7</sup> The rough appearance of the salvaged bricks—a traditional building material—provides a contrast to the sleek lines of the Modern house designs (Figure 4).



Figure 4. Chimney constructed with salvaged bricks (134-5874-0046, 1329 Woodhurst Drive)

The post-and-beam constructed houses are set on concrete slab foundations. Walls are comprised of 2" x 4" structural members clad with plasterboard. Insulated panels span the space between the ceiling rafters, which are placed 32" on center. Some of the houses feature a center ridge beam composed of two 2" x 8" beams with a 1" x 4" strip down the center, creating a large 4 1/2" beam; most center beams are 3" x 4". Many of the ceiling beams are stained and others have been painted. Brick floor-to-ceiling fireplace walls dominate one side of the living room. On the exterior, some of the chimneys feature an addition to the stack because the fireplaces often did not draw correctly.

Interior finishes also utilized a combination of modern and traditional materials. Each house was equipped with an "ultramodern" kitchen with stainless steel double sinks, birch wood cabinets, and Formica countertops. Floors in the kitchen and some adjacent areas were covered with cork tiles, while most living and dining rooms had wooden parquet flooring (9-inch square). The ceramic tiled floors and walls in the bathrooms were provided in three main colors: brown, blue, or pink.<sup>8</sup> Bedrooms had plastered walls, while living room walls were finished with Philippine mahogany paneling. Vaulted ceilings in the main living space featured exposed beams with insulated panels set between the beams. Such open framing, typical of the post-and-beam construction, lent an airy feeling to the room that was enhanced by clerestory windows and large windows with views to the outdoors. The houses had limited closet space, so the partial attic, accessed through openings placed high on the bedroom walls, provided much-needed additional storage space.

<sup>6</sup> On the Model #4 sketch plan, the bedroom behind the fireplace wall was also offered as a den with access from the living room, as well as the side corridor.

<sup>7</sup> *The Virginian-Pilot*, November 9, 1955:29.

<sup>8</sup> Joe Brown, personal communication, April 13, 2022; Hunter Folck, personal communication, July 26, 2022.



Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

The four design models ranged in size from 1,457 square feet (Model #4) to 1,617 square feet (Model #3), which included the garage and carport areas. Initial advertised prices ranged from \$13,575 to \$15,900, which included the cost of the lot. Since the development originally was located in the county, each parcel had its own septic system and a well. Following the merger with the City of Virginia Beach, municipal water and sewer services were extended to the area; however, several current residents reported that operable wells are still present on their parcels.<sup>9</sup>

The following narrative description of the original four model designs is based on the aforementioned sketches, as well as observation of the built resources. The descriptions include any known variations of the basic model design.

Model #1 (1,494 square feet)

This model design features a projecting, rectangular-shaped wing covered by a front-facing gable roof with deep overhanging eaves on the front and back, which are supported by exposed beams. The front elevation is distinguished by a brick-clad end wall with wood-frame clerestory lights above that fill out the gable end (Figure 5). The end wall projects slightly past the plane of the side elevations. Usually, the side elevations are clad with a second material (weatherboard, vertical wooden siding) and the rear elevation is clad with brick. The entrance is located on the interior side elevation of the projecting wing adjacent to the masonry garage wing, which is set back from the front of the house and connects to the left rear corner of the projecting wing. The garage holds an overhead door opening on the front and is sheltered beneath a shed extension of the main house roof. Other details include sliding windows placed high on the side elevations, a concrete-paved patio at the right rear corner of the house, and a tall interior brick chimney that projects through the left side of the roof slope.



*Figure 5. Detail of Model #1 brick end wall 9134-5874-0044, 1337 Woodhurst Drive)*

<sup>9</sup> Jerry Teplitz, Richard Rawls, Hunter Folck.

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

The entrance on the side elevation opens into a small vestibule space with a coat closet and a corridor to the right and the combined living and dining room to the left. This common area is grouped at the back of the house. The floor-to-ceiling brick fireplace wall is at the end of the living room that adjoins the masonry garage. The rear wall of the space holds a multi-paned, metal-frame window with both fixed and sliding panes, and wood-framed clerestory windows in the gable end (like those on the front elevation). The walls in this space were clad with vertical wooden paneling that was in most, if not all cases, of mahogany wood. A door on the dining room's side wall opened onto the concrete patio. The galley kitchen is shown on plans with entrances from the dining room and the side corridor. The corridor, which runs to the front of the house, provides access to a bedroom on the right, the sole bathroom on the left, and two bedrooms at the front end of the house (one to the left and one at the end of the hall). The Model #1 design is the only model that does not provide direct (interior) access between the garage and the kitchen.

A Model #1 example with limited alterations is at 1345 Mill Dam Road (VDHR #134-5874-0003). This house retains the front brick end wall, clerestory windows, garage wing with overhead door (replacement), side entrance and metal-frame sliding windows. The house was clad with a combination of materials and, at present, vinyl siding covers the side elevations. The metal-frame window and clerestory windows in the living/dining room are original. A one-room, shed-roofed addition, constructed around 1969, stands at the rear (northwest) corner of the house and occupies the site of the original patio. The addition, which is clad in brick and is sympathetic to the original house in scale and form, is not visible from the front and does not impact the house's overall integrity. Other intact examples of the Model #1 design are at 1305 Mill Dam (VDHR #134-5874-0013) and 1337 Woodhurst Drive (VDHR #134-5874-0044), both of which retain their original ribbon driveways (Figure 6).



*Figure 6. Model #1 Example (134-5874-0044, 1337 Woodhurst Drive)*

There are three Model #1 designs that feature a slightly higher roof peak than other examples: 1308 Woodhurst Drive (VDHR #134-5874-0033), 1321 Woodhurst Drive (VDHR #134-5874-0048), and 1344 Woodhurst Drive (VDHR #134-5874-0042).



Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

Model #2 (1,563 square feet)

This model design has a rectangular footprint, holding three bedrooms and one bath, and a garage wing to the right side. The house features a unifying, low-sloped, front-facing gable roof that projects over the front elevation to shelter a full-width (three-bay-wide), inset porch. The overhang is supported by exposed beams that are, in turn, supported by square wooden posts. An integrated planter takes up a portion of the inset porch floor (Figure 7). Entrances on this model were either set just off-center (three examples) or in the left end bay. Windows include metal slider types and a fixed window with an awning window below. Most often, the elevations are clad with vertical wooden or weatherboard siding on the front and brick on the sides and rear elevations. The brick garage wing, which extends about one-half the depth of the main house, is sheltered by a shed extension of the main house roof and has an overhead door on the front, doors to the exterior on the side and rear, and an entrance into the kitchen on the interior wall. Some examples also were built with a shed-roofed utility bay on the side of the garage. Other distinguishing features of this model include the brick privacy wall that extends from the left end of the front porch and the interior brick chimney that projects from the left slope of the house roof.



*Figure 7. Model #2 Integrated Planter (134-5874-0040, 1336 Woodhurst Drive)*

The entrance from the front porch opens into the living and dining room that features a brick fireplace wall, wooden paneled walls, and a high vaulted ceiling with exposed beams. Examples with an off-center entrance open into a small vestibule that is nearly on axis with the center corridor leading to the bedrooms and bathrooms. The kitchen stands on the right side of the dining area. The corridor leads to the three bedrooms, one of which is a master suite with an attached bathroom. Small hall closets also are provided.



Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

The dwelling at 1320 Woodhurst Drive (VDHR #134-5874-0036) is a Model #2 example with limited alterations. This example was clad with a combination of materials and the design includes the additional utility bay on the side of the garage. Although some material alterations have been made to this house, they do not significantly diminish the resource's integrity of design and the house retains its overall historical appearance.

The Model #2 houses featuring an off-center entrance are 1340 Graham Road (VDHR #134-5874-0068) (Figure 8), 1929 Indian Run Road (VDHR 134-5874-0074), and 1313 Strawberry Lane (VDHR #134-5874-0057). The house at 1304 Woodhurst Drive (VDHR #134-5874-0032) originally featured an off-center entrance, but the entrance door has been relocated to the left bay of the house—the more typical location in the majority of these model examples. One example of this model (1341 Woodhurst Drive, VDHR #134-5874-0043) reflects the reverse layout with the garage on the left side of the dwelling.<sup>10</sup>



*Figure 8. Model #2 Example (134-5874-0068, 1340 Graham Road)*

### Model #3 (1,617 square feet)

Woodhurst's Model #3 design featured the largest square footage of the four models. The wide, rectangular footprint of the house is covered by a low-sloped, front-facing gable roof with deep overhanging eaves on the front and rear that are supported by exposed beams. The front elevation holds two openings that most often hold narrow one-over-one sash or sliding windows. A one-bay, entrance porch is inset beneath the roof at the front left-hand corner of the façade (Figure 9). All examples of this model were originally clad with brick veneer. A distinguishing feature of the model are the fixed transoms set above the window and door openings that extend up to the wall plate. The garage wing, which stands left of the entrance porch and is set back slightly from the porch wall plane, is covered by a shed extension of the main house roof, and extends the full depth of the house. An overhead door is present on the front, and a window and entrance door are on the garage's side elevation. Other details on this model include the strip of wooden trim between the window openings and transoms above on some models and an interior brick chimney that projects through the right slope of the roof.

<sup>10</sup> Several residents relate that the dwelling at 1341 Woodhurst Drive is believed to have been the "model home" shown by agents to prospective buyers.

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State



*Figure 9. Model #3 Example (134-5874-0008, 1325 Mill Dam Road)*

The Model #3 floorplan features a short entry hall that leads to the combined space of the living and dining room. A fireplace wall is located on the right-hand side of the living room and the kitchen, accessed from the dining area, is to the left. There is a door on the side of the house that provides direct access between the kitchen and garage. From the entry hall, a corridor leads to the right to the three bedrooms. One bath stands at the end of the corridor and another is attached to the master bedroom.

The inset front porch on the Model #3 house at 1312 Strawberry Lane (VDHR #134-5874-0056) has been enclosed with screen, but otherwise, the house retains nearly all of its historical materials, appearance, and character. The exterior of the house is clad with bricks that may be some of the material salvaged from demolished buildings in Norfolk. These bricks also appear on the chimney stack and, on the interior, around the fireplace. All metal-frame windows are present on this model, and although the garage has been converted for interior living space, it retains its wooden paneled overhead door. The interior floorplan is unchanged and the living room, in addition to the brick fireplace wall, is finished with the original mahogany paneling. Another Model #3 design at 1309 Strawberry Lane (VDHR #134-5874-0058) also is little changed from its original exterior appearance with the exception of the enclosed garage opening. The house at 1333 Woodhurst Drive (VDHR #134-5874-0045) also has not been altered significantly.

#### Model #4 (1,457 square feet)

Although having the smallest square footage of the four Woodhurst designs, the Model #4 design offered two bedrooms, a third bedroom that could alternately serve as a den, and one bath. The Model #4 house consists of a rectangular-shaped projecting front-gable wing similar to the footprint of the Model #1 design. The entrance, like the Model #1 house, is located on the side elevation in proximity to the carport. The front elevation of the projecting wing holds two standard window openings rather than the clerestory windows present on the Model #1 design. Examples of this model appear to have been clad primarily with weatherboard siding or vertical board siding, with exception of the brick carport walls. Like the other models, this design has overhanging eaves supported by exposed beams, a low-sloped roof, and an interior chimney projecting through the right slope of the roof.



Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

Instead of a garage with an overhead door on the front, the Model #4 features a semi-enclosed, masonry carport on the side of the left side of the house. The carport, like the garage wings on the other models, is sheltered beneath a shed extension of the main house roof. The carport, located on the left side of the house and set back from the front, was enclosed by brick half-walls with a vehicular opening on the front.

The side entrance on the Model #4 design opens into a small foyer; the combination living and dining room is to the left with the kitchen tucked into the end of the space and adjacent to the carport. A door on the side of the house provides direct access between the kitchen and carport. The fireplace wall is on the interior wall of the living room and other walls are clad with wooden paneling. The short hall that leads from the foyer to the front of the house accesses the single bathroom and the two bedrooms and the den or alternate third bedroom.

The Model #4 house at 1329 Woodhurst Drive (VDHR #134-5874-0046) is an altered, but good example of this design. Although the carport is enclosed and an addition has been constructed at the back, the original form and character of the house is intact. This example also is notable for the use of salvaged bricks in the carport half-walls and the brick fireplace wall and chimney. The third bedroom in this example presently serves as an office. Other notable intact examples of the Model #4 design are at 1941 Indian Run Road (VDHR #134-5874-0024) (Figure 10) and 1309 Graham Road (VDHR #134-5874-0079), both of which are clad with vertical board siding.



*Figure 10. Model #4 Example (134-5874-0024, 1941 Indian Run Road)*

### Alterations

Most houses in the neighborhood have been altered in some way, but most remain substantially intact and the original design is clearly discernable. Even those resources that have been compromised by an incompatible alteration (e.g., removal of chimney) often retain a sufficient amount of original material and form so that the original character is still discernible. Alterations noted on Woodhurst houses have been

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

evaluated for those that compromise the integrity of the original design and character and those that do not. Most individual alterations may not significantly diminish the integrity of the resource, but the cumulative impact of numerous alterations can result in a loss of integrity.

A commonly noted exterior alteration is the enclosure of original carports or garages for interior living space. Most often, this alteration resulted in the removal of the overhead door and installation of a window unit in its place or, in the case of carports, the enclosure of the vehicular opening and construction of walls above the half-walls. In cases where the form of the garage wing has been retained and the footprint of the building has not been altered, this alteration is not considered significant.

One-story additions constructed to the rear or sides of the houses that are sympathetic in form, scale, and massing, are sheltered beneath an extension of the main house roof, and do not obscure important design elements (e.g., entrance doors) result in a limited impact on the historical appearance of the house. The few two-story additions that have been constructed to houses in the neighborhood are considered an incompatible alteration.

Other low-impact alterations noted in Woodhurst include the installation of skylights or enlargement of window openings or installation of sliding glass doors on the rear of the houses. Wooden decks also are often placed on the rear elevations.

Alterations to materials include replacement of original metal-frame, single-pane windows with in-kind or compatible units. Alterations to exterior siding materials most commonly include installation of vinyl siding or wooden shingle siding. Three houses have been re-clad with a stucco finish. Alteration of exterior materials is significant only if it alters the overall character of the building or obscures important design elements.

As a historic district, the neighborhood has a high level of integrity since all 81 original houses are still extant; no new houses have been built within the neighborhood boundaries since the original construction and no houses have been demolished. Each house, therefore, is important to the historic district; even the non-contributing resources continue to relate to the original plan and layout of the neighborhood and the interrelationship of the resources to each other.

### INVENTORY

The following inventory includes all resources located within the district boundaries, both primary and secondary, and notes whether they are contributing or noncontributing to the district. The properties are arranged alphabetically by street name, then numerically by house number. All resources were built during the period of significance. Non-contributing resources are so designated if they are altered to such an extent that they no longer retain sufficient integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and/or association to convey their historical appearance. Resources are keyed to the attached Sketch Map using the last four digits of the resource's 11-digit VDHR inventory number (i.e., -0001, -0002, etc.) and by the resource's current street address as shown in the inventory below.

[Note: The names of two streets in the neighborhood were changed about 1963, when the City of Virginia Beach and Princess Anne County merged. Mill Dam Road was changed to First Colonial Road, then back to Mill Dam Road. Linkhorn Road became Graham Road. House numbers for all resources also were changed at the time of the municipal merger. The original house numbers and previous street names, where applicable, have been recorded on the individual inventory forms on file at the Virginia Department of Historic Resources.]

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
 Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
 County and State

## Graham Road

<b>1300 Graham Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0061</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1956</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1301 Graham Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0081</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1957</i>		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<b>1304 Graham Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0062</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1957</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1305 Graham Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0080</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1957</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1308 Graham Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0063</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2, Style: Contemporary, 1958</i>		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<b>1309 Graham Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0079</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1957</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1312 Graham Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0064</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, Ca 1957</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<i>Secondary Resource : Outbuilding, Domestic (Building)</i>		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<b>1313 Graham Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0078</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2, Style: Contemporary, 1956</i>		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<i>Secondary Resource : Pool/Swimming Pool (Structure)</i>		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<b>1316 Graham Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0065</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1957</i>		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<b>1317 Graham Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0077</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1957</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1320 Graham Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0066</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1958</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1321 Graham Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0076</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2, Style: Contemporary, 1957</i>		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<b>1325 Graham Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0075</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1957</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1329 Graham Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0074</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1957</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<i>Secondary Resource : Shed (Building)</i>		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<b>1332 Graham Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0067</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1958</i>		Contributing	Total: 1

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

<b>1333 Graham Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0073</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1956</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<i>Secondary Resource : Shed (Building)</i>		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<b>1337 Graham Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0072</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1957</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1340 Graham Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0068</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1956</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1341 Graham Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0071</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1957</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1345 Graham Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0070</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, Ca 1957</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<i>Secondary Resource : Garage (Building)</i>		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<b>1349 Graham Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0069</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1956</i>		Non-contributing	Total: 1

## Indian Run Road

<b>1902 Indian Run Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0031</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1957</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1905 Indian Run Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0015</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1956</i>		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<i>Secondary Resource : Pool/Swimming Pool (Structure)</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1909 Indian Run Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0016</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1957</i>		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<i>Secondary Resource : Shed (Building)</i>		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<b>1910 Indian Run Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0030</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1957</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1913 Indian Run Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0017</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1956</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1917 Indian Run Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0018</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1956</i>		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<b>1921 Indian Run Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0019</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1956</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1924 Indian Run Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0029</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1957</i>		Contributing	Total: 1

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

<b>1925 Indian Run Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0020</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1956</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<i>Secondary Resource : Garage (Building)</i>		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<b>1928 Indian Run Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0028</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1957</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1929 Indian Run Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0021</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1956</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1933 Indian Run Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0022</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1956</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<i>Secondary Resource : Shed (Building)</i>		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<b>1937 Indian Run Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0023</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1956</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1940 Indian Run Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0027</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1957</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1941 Indian Run Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0024</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1956</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<i>Secondary Resource : Shed (Building)</i>		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<b>1945 Indian Run Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0025</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1956</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<i>Secondary Resource : Shed (Building)</i>		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<b>1949 Indian Run Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0026</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1956</i>		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<i>Secondary Resource : Shed (Building)</i>		Contributing	Total: 1

## Mill Dam Road

<b>1281 Mill Dam Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0014</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1957</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1305 Mill Dam Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0013</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1957</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1309 Mill Dam Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0012</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1957</i>		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<b>1313 Mill Dam Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0011</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1957</i>		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1317 Mill Dam Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0010</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1957</i>		Contributing	Total: 1

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
 Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
 County and State

<i>Secondary Resource</i> : Shed (Building)		<b>Non-contributing</b>	<b>Total: 1</b>
<b>1321 Mill Dam Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0009</b>		
<i>Primary Resource</i> : Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1956		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1325 Mill Dam Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0008</b>		
<i>Primary Resource</i> : Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1957		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1329 Mill Dam Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0007</b>		
<i>Primary Resource</i> : Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1955		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<i>Secondary Resource</i> : Shed (Building)		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<b>1333 Mill Dam Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0006</b>		
<i>Primary Resource</i> : Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1956		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<b>1337 Mill Dam Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0005</b>		
<i>Primary Resource</i> : Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1957		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<i>Secondary Resource</i> : Shed (Building)		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<b>1341 Mill Dam Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0004</b>		
<i>Primary Resource</i> : Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1956		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<b>1345 Mill Dam Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0003</b>		
<i>Primary Resource</i> : Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1955		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1349 Mill Dam Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0002</b>		
<i>Primary Resource</i> : Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1955		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1353 Mill Dam Road</b>	<b>134-5874-0001</b>		
<i>Primary Resource</i> : Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1955		Contributing	Total: 1
<i>Secondary Resource</i> : Shed (Building)		Non-contributing	Total: 1

## Strawberry Lane

<b>1300 Strawberry Lane</b>	<b>134-5874-0053</b>		
<i>Primary Resource</i> : Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, Ca 1956		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<b>1301 Strawberry Lane</b>	<b>134-5874-0060</b>		
<i>Primary Resource</i> : Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1956		Contributing	Total: 1
<i>Secondary Resource</i> : Pool/Swimming Pool (Structure)		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<b>1304 Strawberry Lane</b>	<b>134-5874-0054</b>		
<i>Primary Resource</i> : Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1956		Contributing	Total: 1
<i>Secondary Resource</i> : Shed (Building)		Non-contributing	Total: 2
<b>1305 Strawberry Lane</b>	<b>134-5874-0059</b>		
<i>Primary Resource</i> : Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1957		Contributing	Total: 1



Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

<b>1308 Strawberry Lane</b>	<b>134-5874-0055</b>		
<i>Primary Resource:</i>	<b>Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1956</b>		
		Contributing	<i>Total:</i> 1
<b>1309 Strawberry Lane</b>	<b>134-5874-0058</b>		
<i>Primary Resource:</i>	<b>Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, Ca 1956</b>		
		Contributing	<i>Total:</i> 1
<b>1312 Strawberry Lane</b>	<b>134-5874-0056</b>		
<i>Primary Resource:</i>	<b>Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1956</b>		
		Contributing	<i>Total:</i> 1
<b>1313 Strawberry Lane</b>	<b>134-5874-0057</b>		
<i>Primary Resource:</i>	<b>Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1956</b>		
		Contributing	<i>Total:</i> 1

## Woodhurst Drive

<b>1304 Woodhurst Drive</b>	<b>134-5874-0032</b>		
<i>Primary Resource:</i>	<b>Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1959</b>		
		Contributing	<i>Total:</i> 1
<i>Secondary Resource :</i>	<b>Shed (Building)</b>	<b>Non-contributing</b>	<i>Total:</i> 1
<b>1305 Woodhurst Drive</b>	<b>134-5874-0052</b>		
<i>Primary Resource:</i>	<b>Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1956</b>		
		<b>Non-contributing</b>	<i>Total:</i> 1
<i>Secondary Resource :</i>	<b>Shed (Building)</b>	<b>Non-contributing</b>	<i>Total:</i> 1
<b>1308 Woodhurst Drive</b>	<b>134-5874-0033</b>		
<i>Primary Resource:</i>	<b>Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1959</b>		
		Contributing	<i>Total:</i> 1
<i>Secondary Resource :</i>	<b>Pool/Swimming Pool (Structure)</b>	<b>Non-contributing</b>	<i>Total:</i> 1
<b>1309 Woodhurst Drive</b>	<b>134-5874-0051</b>		
<i>Primary Resource:</i>	<b>Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1958</b>		
		Contributing	<i>Total:</i> 1
<i>Secondary Resource :</i>	<b>Pool/Swimming Pool (Structure)</b>	<b>Non-contributing</b>	<i>Total:</i> 1
<i>Secondary Resource :</i>	<b>Shed (Building)</b>	<b>Non-contributing</b>	<i>Total:</i> 2
<b>1312 Woodhurst Drive</b>	<b>134-5874-0034</b>		
<i>Primary Resource:</i>	<b>Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1959</b>		
		Contributing	<i>Total:</i> 1
<b>1313 Woodhurst Drive</b>	<b>134-5874-0050</b>		
<i>Primary Resource:</i>	<b>Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1958</b>		
		<b>Non-contributing</b>	<i>Total:</i> 1
<b>1316 Woodhurst Drive</b>	<b>134-5874-0035</b>		
<i>Primary Resource:</i>	<b>Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1959</b>		
		<b>Non-contributing</b>	<i>Total:</i> 1
<i>Secondary Resource :</i>	<b>Garage (Building)</b>	<b>Non-contributing</b>	<i>Total:</i> 1
<b>1317 Woodhurst Drive</b>	<b>134-5874-0049</b>		
<i>Primary Resource:</i>	<b>Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1959</b>		
		<b>Non-contributing</b>	<i>Total:</i> 1
<i>Secondary Resource :</i>	<b>Greenhouse/Conservatory (Building)</b>	<b>Non-contributing</b>	<i>Total:</i> 1
<i>Secondary Resource :</i>	<b>Pool/Swimming Pool (Structure)</b>	<b>Non-contributing</b>	<i>Total:</i> 1
<i>Secondary Resource :</i>	<b>Shed (Building)</b>	<b>Non-contributing</b>	<i>Total:</i> 1

<b>1320 Woodhurst Drive</b>	<b>134-5874-0036</b>		
<i>Primary Resource:</i>	<b>Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1959</b>		

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
 Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
 County and State

		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1321 Woodhurst Drive</b>	<b>134-5874-0048</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1960</i>			
		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<b>1324 Woodhurst Drive</b>	<b>134-5874-0037</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1959</i>			
		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1325 Woodhurst Drive</b>	<b>134-5874-0047</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1960</i>			
		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1328 Woodhurst Drive</b>	<b>134-5874-0038</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1959</i>			
		Contributing	Total: 1
<i>Secondary Resource : Shed (Building)</i>			
		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1329 Woodhurst Drive</b>	<b>134-5874-0046</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1958</i>			
		Contributing	Total: 1
<i>Secondary Resource : Garage (Building)</i>			
		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<b>1332 Woodhurst Drive</b>	<b>134-5874-0039</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1958</i>			
		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1333 Woodhurst Drive</b>	<b>134-5874-0045</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1959</i>			
		Contributing	Total: 1
<i>Secondary Resource : Outbuilding, Domestic (Building)</i>			
		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<b>1336 Woodhurst Drive</b>	<b>134-5874-0040</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1958</i>			
		Contributing	Total: 1
<i>Secondary Resource : Shed (Building)</i>			
		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<b>1337 Woodhurst Drive</b>	<b>134-5874-0044</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1958</i>			
		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1340 Woodhurst Drive</b>	<b>134-5874-0041</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1958</i>			
		Contributing	Total: 1
<i>Secondary Resource : Shed (Building)</i>			
		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<b>1341 Woodhurst Drive</b>	<b>134-5874-0043</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1958</i>			
		Contributing	Total: 1
<b>1344 Woodhurst Drive</b>	<b>134-5874-0042</b>		
<i>Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Contemporary, 1958</i>			
		Non-contributing	Total: 1
<i>Secondary Resource : Shed (Building)</i>			
		Non-contributing	Total: 2

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

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## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1955-1960

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Oliver & Smith (Oliver, Louis A., Smith, Herbert L. III)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District, located in the Great Neck area of the City of Virginia Beach, is an example of a mid-twentieth-century suburban development comprised entirely of architect-designed, Contemporary-style houses. The historic district is eligible at a local level under Criterion A in the area of Community Planning and Development as an early example of a planned suburban residential development in the then-rural landscape of Princess Anne County, which in 1963 merged with the City of Virginia Beach. During the 1950s, and into the 1960s, the county experienced significant population growth due to increases in personnel at regional military bases and general post-World War II residential development. In 1955, partners Frank P. Whitehurst and James F. Doyle platted and developed the neighborhood, building 81 houses on approximately 33 acres. Woodhurst was advertised as offering “country living with city conveniences.” Its proximity to nearby military bases, especially Oceana Naval Air Station, made the neighborhood attractive to Navy personnel and employees who were among the earliest owners and residents in Woodhurst. Woodhurst is an example of a development built to respond to the area’s housing demand during the mid-century period. The historic district also is significant at a local level under Criterion C in the areas of Community Planning and Development and Architecture as a collection of residential architecture that is an important example of a distinctive architectural style and for its association with the Norfolk-based architectural firm of Oliver and Smith, an important contributor to mid-century Modernist architecture in the Tidewater region. The firm, which also designed several of the Mid-century Modern-style motels in the Virginia Beach Oceanfront resort area, provided four model designs for Woodhurst that they described as “Virginia Contemporary.” At the time, only a few houses in Princess Anne County/Virginia Beach were built in the Contemporary-style, and Woodhurst appears to be the only neighborhood solely comprised of Contemporary examples. These house designs had their origins in the Usonian designs of Frank Lloyd Wright and reflected influence of California designers who were experimenting with new housing forms in late-1940s and 1950s. As a collection of historic resources, the district retains a high level of overall integrity. The boundaries and street layout have not been altered since 1955; the streetscapes and form, massing, and setback of buildings have been maintained as originally planned. In addition, all 81 original houses remain extant and only one new house has been built on a subdivided lot at the northern edge of the neighborhood outside of the historic district boundaries. The identified Period of Significance extends from 1955, the date of the initial subdivision plat, to 1960, at the conclusion of initial construction.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Justification of Criteria

*Criterion A*

Community Planning and Development

The Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District is eligible under Criterion A at a local level in the area of Community Planning and Development for its association with the mid-twentieth-century development and growth of Princess Anne County/City of Virginia Beach.<sup>11</sup> Platted in 1955, the neighborhood’s development responded to the increased demand in housing by the county’s population, which grew steadily

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<sup>11</sup> David L. Ames and Linda Flint McClelland, *National Register Bulletin: Historic Residential Suburbs: Guidelines for Evaluation and Documentation for the National Register of Historic Places* ([Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office], 2022), 93, 95.

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

during the post-World War II era. The growth was due in part to the expansion of local military bases and subsequent personnel increases, as well as the desire of Tidewater urban dwellers to move to less crowded suburban neighborhoods. Review of property cards and city directories show that many of the early owners and residents (tenants) in Woodhurst were stationed at the Oceana Naval Air Station or were employed by one of the military bases. The 1950-1960 decade was one of tremendous growth that significantly altered the rural landscape into residential and commercial development.

Woodhurst is a local example of a merchant-builder development in which the developer acquired the land, designed and installed streets and infrastructure, designed and built houses, and sold the finished houses as part of a new community.<sup>12</sup> This national trend was part of the post-World War II economic boom in housing across the country. Although Woodhurst is not a unique example of such developments and was completed on a smaller scale than other merchant-builder endeavors both nationally and locally, it is an intact and well-preserved example in which the developers controlled the entire production from land acquisition through final construction and sales. The neighborhood character was further controlled by the use of four model, or standardized, architectural designs. The result was an entire neighborhood characterized by its Contemporary-style architecture that was featured in advertisements to suggest a “modern” lifestyle for its residents. Partners Frank P. Whitehurst and James F. Doyle, as officers of the Woodhurst Corporation, acquired the property along Great Neck Road, engaged architects Oliver and Smith to provide model designs, and constructed the 81 houses that make up the neighborhood. Whitehurst and Son served as developers and builders and Doyle initially served as real estate agent. The dwellings were built on speculation and local property cards indicate that the Woodhurst Corporation sold directly to buyers. The costs included both lot and dwelling. Construction began in 1955, with the first homes being sold in December 1955, and continued through the end of 1959. All construction was completed by 1960 and the company had sold all the houses by 1962.

### *Criterion C*

#### Community Planning and Development and Architecture

The Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District is eligible under Criterion C at a local level in the area of Community Planning and Development as an intact collection of residential architecture that reflects a visual cohesiveness of style and organization. The use of four model designs provided a continuity of architectural elements, forms, scale, and massing throughout the neighborhood. The overall plan of the subdivision reflects principles of design that promoted privacy, including street layout, building setbacks, arrangement of dwellings on lots, and interrelationship of dwellings to one another.

In the area of Architecture, Woodhurst is significant as a neighborhood comprised entirely of Contemporary-style dwellings that were produced by a locally prominent architectural firm. Woodhurst is an early example of Princess Anne County's mid-century suburban development and is a collection of architect-designed houses that reflects Modernist tenets. Although other suburban developments in the county offered model home designs (e.g., Aragona Village), this is the first development thus far identified that is associated with a local architectural firm and that is comprised entirely of Contemporary-style houses. Using the four model designs promoted a level of architectural homogeneity in the neighborhood, but “sameness” was avoided by careful placement of the models so that no two of the same design were placed side-by-side, and the use of color combinations that, likewise, were not repeated. In addition to its

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<sup>12</sup> Emily Pettis, Amy Squitieri, Christina Slattery, Christine Long, Patti Kuhn, Debra McClane, and Sarah Groesbeck, “A Model for Identifying and Evaluating the Historic Significance of Post-World War II Housing.” National Cooperative Highway Research Program Report 723. (Washington, D.C.: Transportation Research Board, 2012):67. See also Ames and McClelland, 28-29.

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District

Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA

County and State

Modernist architectural style, Woodhurst also is notable for its non-traditional, non-orthogonal placement and arrangement of buildings on the individual parcels, which was done, in part, to promote privacy between neighbors.

The Norfolk-based firm of Oliver and Smith, headed by principals Louis A. Oliver and Herbert L. Smith III, was responsible for the Woodhurst designs that incorporated broad, low-sloped gable roofs, expanses of glass, integrated garages and carports, minimal applied detailing, de-emphasized entries on some models, and exposed post-and-beam construction. The houses were of wood-frame construction clad with brick veneer or wooden siding, and were covered by built-up roofing topped with chipped white marble. The firm referred to the house style as “Virginia Contemporary,” but nationwide such houses were known as Contemporary, Modern, and Post-and-Beam. Recent historians have termed the design of the period “Mid-Century Modern.”

Current research has located only one additional housing development completed by the firm, Meadowbrook Terrace (1961) in Norfolk, which featured Colonial Revival-style and Ranch-style houses. The firm, one of the leading practitioners of Modernist architecture in the Tidewater region during the mid-twentieth-century, was known for its commercial work, including several of the Mid-century Modern motels and hotels it designed for the Oceanfront resort area. The firm also was known for its award-winning educational, institutional, and governmental designed that were primarily completed in the Tidewater area and predominantly, but not exclusively, Modernist in style. Both Oliver and Smith were elevated as Fellows in the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and were active members and officers in the state and regional chapters of the AIA.

#### 1950s Residential Development in Princess Anne County/Virginia Beach

Although the Virginia Beach oceanfront resort area had steadily developed during the early twentieth century, the surrounding county remained largely rural with small crossroads communities serving as commercial centers for most of the population. The build up to World War II initiated the rapid establishment and expansion of military bases in Princess Anne County. Fort Story, established in 1914 for coastal defense at the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay, expanded in the 1940s and served as a hospital during the war. Aviation arrived in Princess Anne County with the creation of Oceana Air Station in 1941, which became Naval Air Station Oceana in 1957, and anti-aircraft training facilities at Dam Neck. In 1942, the Navy began building the Amphibious Training Base at Little Creek. Both the Little Creek and Oceana bases expanded throughout the mid-twentieth century bringing thousands of military personnel to the area. The rapid growth of military installations had far-reaching implications for the mid-twentieth century transformation of Princess Anne County and Virginia Beach into a suburban community.<sup>13</sup>

Between 1880 and 1940, the populations in Princess Anne County and the Town of Virginia Beach doubled; between 1940 and 1950, the populations in those areas doubled again.<sup>14</sup> To meet the housing demand, land developers envisioned large-scale planned residential communities along the area’s major road corridors that provided easy access to military bases, the oceanfront, Norfolk, and other localities. In 1955, John

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<sup>13</sup> Virginia Beach Public Library, *The Beach: A History of Virginia Beach, Virginia*. Revised Edition. (Virginia Beach, VA: Department of Public Libraries, City of Virginia Beach, 2006), 100-102; Laura R. Purvis and Debra A. McClane, *Historic Architectural Resource Survey Update, City of Virginia Beach, Virginia – Northern Half*. Prepared for the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia. Prepared by Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc., Henrico, Virginia. 2018:17.

<sup>14</sup> Frazier Associates, *Reconnaissance Architectural Survey Report, City of Virginia Beach*. Prepared for the City of Virginia Beach and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, 1992:8. The town of Virginia Beach became a city of the second class in 1952.

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

Aragona, an Italian immigrant and developer active in Norfolk, platted the first part of Aragona Village--a large-scale tract housing development on the north side of Virginia Beach Boulevard in Princess Anne County.<sup>15</sup> Later additions to the initial plat resulted in 3,200 houses constructed on a 900-acre swath of former farmland. Notable in Aragona's design was the inclusion of an associated commercial center. In 1959, Aragona also established the first section of his Princess Anne Plaza development, located south of Virginia Beach Boulevard and east of S. Rosemont Road. The plan for Princess Anne Plaza, which eventually encompassed over 2,100 acres, included single-family houses, multi-family housing, a shopping center, a school, and a hospital and was intended as a self-sufficient neighborhood.

Aragona's efforts were notable for their large size, but most developments of the early 1950s were smaller in scale and lacked associated commercial development. In 1953, the Viking Construction Company developed the 234-parcel "Hilltop Manor," which stood on the west side of Great Neck Road and north of Laskin Road. Given its location, many of the early residents were Naval personnel stationed at the nearby Oceana base. Period advertisements for Hilltop Manor show Contemporary-style houses with low-sloped gable roofs, interior chimneys, and integrated carports, but Ranch houses and other Minimal Traditional forms also were constructed in the neighborhood (Figure 11).<sup>16</sup>



Country Living With City Conveniences

**HILLTOP MANOR**  
**\$9,990**

3 BEDROOMS . CONTEMPORARY DESIGN  
CARPORT . STORAGE .  
COMPLETE GE KITCHEN-LAUNDRY

8 left with 30-year FHA insured loans.  
Down payment \$800 (including closing costs).  
In-Service Loan \$600 (including closing costs).

LASKIN RD. NEAR VIRGINIA BEACH DRIVE-IN THEATER	<b>FOR SALE BY DALE</b> Fairless Realty & Insurance Corp. Virginia Beach Realtor	PHONE MA 2-1980 VIRGINIA BEACH 2782 NIGHTS 2009-J
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Figure 11. Hilltop Manor Advertisement  
(The Virginian-Pilot published as The Virginian-Pilot and The Portsmouth Star, November 13, 1955, 62).

<sup>15</sup> Mansfield, 172.

<sup>16</sup> "No League in Old Neighborhood," *The Beacon*, November 21, 1968:6.



Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

The Laurel Manor subdivision, established on the former 40-acre Clyde Hill farm known as “Somerset,” stood just north of Laskin Road and east of present-day First Colonial Road. Laurel Manor is distinctive as an early, and possibly the first, neighborhood of all prefabricated housing units built on speculation in the Norfolk-Virginia Beach area. The early 1950s neighborhood consisted of 160 prefabricated Gunnison Homes (and later, houses prefabricated by the American Homes company) that were of wood-frame construction and featured such Modernist elements as clerestory windows and shed-roofed carports (Figure 12). Planning began about 1952 with first phase of construction commencing in 1955 and ending in 1965. The developers were Nicholas C. Wright and F.A. Van Patten, identified as “investment builders.” Newspapers reported that the Laurel Manor site was “selected because of its proximity to Virginia Beach and the expanding Navy jet base at Oceana, each of which is within five minutes driving distance of the subdivision.”<sup>17</sup> Laurel Manor was platted with about 140 parcels along seven curving and gridded streets.



Figure 12. Example of Contemporary-style House in Laurel Manor (134-5589, 1620 Bailey Lane) (Purvis, 2018)

A smaller development, known as “Great Neck Manor,” located north of Woodhurst along Great Neck Road, encompassed but a single road, with a looping side road, that ended in a cul-de-sac. The 1956 plat shows 61 parcels in the subdivision. Most houses, constructed between 1955 and 1960, were one-story, brick-clad Ranch-style dwellings.<sup>18</sup>

<sup>17</sup> Purvis and McClane, 190-192; “Pre-Fabricated Housing Given FHA Approval,” *The Virginian-Pilot* (published as *The Norfolk Virginian-Pilot*), May 7, 1952:32.

<sup>18</sup> Princess Anne County Deed Book 465:110, 1956, Great Neck Manor Housing Corporation. Plat recorded in Princess Anne County Map Book 42:14.

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

Woodhurst differed from these neighborhoods in its size—a medium-scale development of 81 houses—and its use of model house designs produced by a local architectural firm that were all executed in the Contemporary style. The curvilinear character of the interior streets, the isolated location, and the use of the existing terrain and vegetation also differentiated the neighborhood from those closer to the major roadways.

Marketing of the neighborhood highlighted the availability of Federal Housing Administration (FHA)-backed loans and conventional loans, and focused on attracting Naval personnel, specifically pilots stationed at the nearby Oceana Naval Air Station (Figure 13). Young pilots and their wives and families appear to have embraced the modern air of the neighborhood and the distinctive image of the architecture. Gerrie West, a Virginia Beach-based architect who has renovated one of Woodhurst's houses, stated that perhaps these individuals equated the low-sloped roofs and low eaves of the houses to the design of airplanes and the industrial character of Quonset huts and other prefabricated elements found on a naval base. In short, they were used to such elements, which conveyed a modern, up-to-date image.<sup>19</sup> Wylie Cooke, an architect who joined Oliver and Smith as a partner in the early 1970s, noted that certainly the Contemporary style would have “struck a chord” with naval personnel, some of whom were from or had been stationed out west and were familiar with Modernism.<sup>20</sup> No doubt, the Woodhurst houses met several qualifications: they were new, they were efficient, they were affordable, and they projected an image that was much different from the Colonial Revival-style, Ranch-form, and Split-level houses being built in other neighborhoods. They were, in a word, modern.

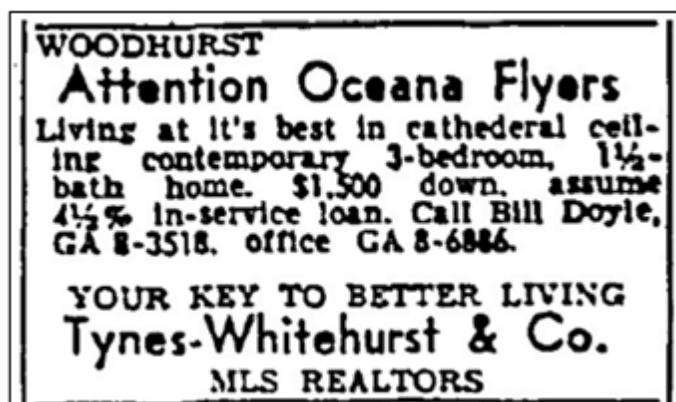


Figure 13. Woodhurst Advertisements targeting Oceana Pilots and other Military Personnel (*The Virginian-Pilot* and *The Portsmouth Star*, August 10, 1959, 31; *The Virginian-Pilot* and *The Portsmouth Star*, March 27, 1960, 48)

<sup>19</sup> Gerrie West, personal communication, telephone conversation, July 22, 2022.

<sup>20</sup> Wylie Cooke, personal communication, telephone conversation, July 26, 2022.

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District

Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA

County and State

### Historic Property Ownership

In the early twentieth century, the land on which Woodhurst stands was part of the “Brooks Place.” The owner, Dr. Thomas Lee Brooks, Sr. (1883-1948), was a native of Black Creek, North Carolina, and practiced medicine in the Tidewater area for 30 years. Dr. Brooks and his wife, Daisy Smith Brooks, did not live on the property, which was farmland, but rather had a home in the Oceana neighborhood (VDHR 134-0968, National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-listed) located south of Virginia Beach Boulevard.<sup>21</sup>

About 1937, the “Brooks Place” was purchased by J. Smith Ferebee, whose family had lived on Broad Bay but who was then living in Chicago working as a stockbroker. Ferebee was the nephew of Dr. Brooks and shared a half-interest in the property with his friend Fred R. Tuerk, who also was a broker. At the time, the property comprised almost 300 acres. Newspaper accounts stated that the property “is now in corn and peas. There is no old “big house” on it, only two tenant houses.” The land was further described as “excellent farmland.”<sup>22</sup>

By 1940, Jean Tuerk, Chicago resident and wife of Fred Tuerk (later divorced), held title to the property and in 1943, she conveyed the “Brooks Place,” then assessed at 39.3 acres, and several adjacent parcels to Frank P. Whitehurst. J. Smith Ferebee and his wife, Angeline, were included in the conveyance in order to release their interest in the land formerly owned by Ferebee. A 1907 plat referenced in the deed shows the Brooks Place bordered by Great Neck Road on the north and east, Mill Dam Creek on the west, and the lands of Charles Gornto on the south.<sup>23</sup>

Franklin Pierce Whitehurst (1890-1968), a lifelong resident of Norfolk, was a real estate developer active in the Princess Anne County area. During the 1950s and 1960s, he was president of the James Island Corporation, the North Alanton Corporation, the Woodhouse Corporation of Virginia Beach, and the Woodhurst Corporation. Later, he served as a director of the Southern Bank of Norfolk and of Mortgage & Development Corporation. He was a member of the Norfolk Yacht and Country Club, as well as the Princess Anne Country Club. Whitehurst, whose mother was Henrietta Woodhouse Whitehurst, married

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<sup>21</sup> “Dr. T.L. Brooks Dies in Oceana,” *The Virginian-Pilot* (published as *The Norfolk Virginian-Pilot*), August 22, 1942:7.

<sup>22</sup> “Ferebee Family Follow Closely Golf ‘Marathon,’” *The Virginian-Pilot* (published as *The Norfolk Virginian-Pilot*), August 6, 1938:3.

<sup>23</sup> Princess Anne County Deed Book 218:422. (See also Princess Anne County Deed Book 201:362, Jean Tuerk and Angeline P. Ferebee to James F. Sullivan, March 22, 1940 and Princess Anne County Deed Book 201:364, James F. Sullivan to Jean Tuerk, March 22, 1940.) For 1907 plat see Princess Anne County Map Book 4:7. Mrs. Tuerk, likely through her relationship with Ferebee, appears to have been active in Princess Anne County real estate development/investments throughout the 1960s. In 1964, the city directory lists her as president of the Broad Bay Island Corp., a real estate company, with James F. Doyle as vice-president and treasurer, and J. Smith Ferebee as secretary. Tuerk and Ferebee maintained residences in Chicago, so Doyle, who lived with his wife Penny on North Alanton Drive, was the only company officer who lived in the county. Jim Ducibella’s book *King of Clubs* relates the story of a golf bet between Ferebee and Tuerk in which Ferebee would play 144 holes of golf in 24 hours without shooting a round over 95. The winner would receive full ownership of the Brooks “plantation.” *King of Clubs: the Great Golf Marathon of 1938* (Washington, D.C.: Potomac Books, 2012). Ducibella says that in 1938, prior to his purchase of the land, Whitehurst held a lease agreement for the property with Tuerk and Ferebee. Ferebee won, but the land transfer does not appear to have ever occurred and the two remained co-owners until Ferebee sold his interest to Jean Tuerk and she sold to Whitehurst. Ducibella, 114. See also “Ferebee Wins Golf Bet,” *The Virginian-Pilot*, published as the *Norfolk Virginian-Pilot*, August 6, 1938:1, 3.

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District

Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA

County and State

Frances Cherry, who is listed as an owner on the deed of conveyance to the Woodhurst Corporation. When Whitehurst died in 1968, he was living on North Shore Road.<sup>24</sup>

In January 1955, Frank P. Whitehurst and his wife, Frances Cherry Whitehurst, sold two tracts of land to the Woodhurst Corporation: a 151-acre parcel and a 35.5-acre parcel. The former became part of the North and East Alanton developments, and the latter became Woodhurst. The transaction included a plat showing the Woodhurst subdivision.<sup>25</sup>

Frank P. Whitehurst and Son were the contractors and developers for Woodhurst. Woodhurst was the firm's second major housing development, having developed North Alanton in the previous year.<sup>26</sup> In the initial advertisements and news articles, James F. Doyle was identified as the real estate agent for Woodhurst. Doyle, a native of Petersburg, began his real estate career in the Tidewater about 1951. In addition to working with Whitehurst on the North Alanton development, his firm, "Doyle's Real Estate," was the agent for Bay Island, an exclusive residential neighborhood in Broad Bay north of Alanton. In the late 1950s, Doyle, who died in 1979, lived in the North Alanton neighborhood.<sup>27</sup> Whitehurst (as vice-president), his son Frank P. Whitehurst, Jr. (president), and his nephew, Grayson Whitehurst, Jr. (salesman) formed the Whitehurst Realty Co. Inc. Grayson, Jr., lived at 1332 Woodhurst Drive (VDHR 134-5874-0039) in the late 1950s.

#### Woodhurst Development

An example of a merchant-builder development, Woodhurst was subdivided by a corporation with an associated real estate agent responsible for selling the lots and houses. In addition to securing the land and laying out the sub-division plat, Frank P. Whitehurst and Son, also constructed the houses. Land records indicate that the houses were largely built on speculation with lot and dwelling sold together. Over the years, advertisements for the neighborhood listed various companies as agents. In October 1955, James F. Doyle, located on Pacific Avenue, was listed as the agent. In 1957, C.M. Tynes became an agent for Woodhurst, and in 1958 and 1959, the Tynes-Whitehurst Company on Atlantic Avenue was listed as exclusive real agents for the new development. In 1962, the Whitehurst Realty Co., the aforementioned

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<sup>24</sup> "Franklin P. Whitehurst, 78, Director of Norfolk Bank," *The Virginian-Pilot*, November 18, 1968:14. Whitehurst platted the North Alanton (1950) and East Alanton (1954) neighborhoods on his property located east of Woodhurst across Mill Dam Road. Those neighborhoods adjoined the north end of the 1920s Alanton development created by Alan McCullough and his wife Virginia. The former Henry Woodhouse dwelling, built in 1830 and known as "Old Comfort," stood at the center of the Alanton neighborhood, whose large acreage lots edged the Linkhorn Bay shoreline. Old Comfort (Woodhouse Farm) is listed as a landmark on the Virginia Beach Historical Register (2003). Sandra J. Pennecke, "Neighborhood Closeup: Alanton," *The Virginian-Pilot*, March 8, 2016. Accessed on Pilotonline website, August 22, 2022, at: [https://www.pilotonline.com/life/article\\_b53ea250-8eee-5a96-b691-45dfdd6a2954.html](https://www.pilotonline.com/life/article_b53ea250-8eee-5a96-b691-45dfdd6a2954.html).

McCullough's son, Alan, Jr. (1909-1993), was an architect known for his Modernist designs that reflect the use of regional materials and elements for residences, schools, banks, and commercial buildings. He designed the Tides Inn in Irvington, where he last had his practice. See "Alan McCullough," John E. Wells and Robert E. Dalton, *The Virginia Architects, 1835-1955: A Biographical Dictionary* (Richmond, VA: New South Architectural Press, 1997) and Carrie Nieman Culpepper, "Mid-Century Rebirth: A Collaborative Couple Updates a Modernist Home on Riverside Drive," *R-Home, Richmond Magazine*, Jan/Feb 2009:44-51.

<sup>25</sup> Princess Anne County Map Book 37:58, 59. The plats recorded with this deed show the 151-acre parcel (located east of Mill Dam Road and north of Woodhouse Road) labeled also as "Woodhurst." That area was later re-named "North Alanton" with "Woodhurst" referring solely to the development on the west side of Mill Dam Road.

<sup>26</sup> *The Virginian-Pilot*, November 9, 1955:29.

<sup>27</sup> "Bay Island Beauty on Broad Bay," *The Virginian-Pilot*, published as *The Virginian-Pilot and The Portsmouth Star*, September 24, 1961:129; "James F. Doyle," Obituary, *The Virginian-Pilot*, April 26, 1979:58.

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

Whitehurst family operation, took over as agents for the development. Their offices were conveniently located at Hilltop on Laskin Road, less than two miles from Woodhurst.

The name for the new development, Woodhurst, appears to be a combination of “Woodhouse,” a reference to Henry Woodhouse, the nineteenth-century property owner, and Whitehurst’s own name. One of the interior streets of the subdivision also was named “Woodhurst.” Linkhorn Road was named for Linkhorn Bay, but following the 1963 municipal merger, it was renamed Graham Road since a road of the same name already existed in the City of Virginia Beach. The southernmost road in the development was named Indian Run Road, perhaps a reference to the nearby branch of Mill Dam Creek. One resident relayed oral history that claimed Strawberry Lane, the sole cul-de-sac in the neighborhood, was named for the fields of that crop that historically were grown in the area. Henry Woodhouse’s large farm produced strawberries, among other crops, may support this derivation.<sup>28</sup>

Research has not yet located documentation pertaining to the selection of the Contemporary-style for Woodhurst’s houses or the selection of Oliver and Smith as the architects. Oral history from a present-day resident suggests that Mrs. Whitehurst had visited California and became enamored with the Contemporary-style houses there.<sup>29</sup> It may have been that Whitehurst was aware of the modern trend in housing and knew of Oliver and Smith’s well-publicized local projects. By 1958, Herbert L. Smith and his family were residents of North Alanton and may have made acquaintance of Whitehurst or Doyle through that transaction. The location near Oceana Naval Station provided a ready audience of naval personnel who were familiar with and, seemingly, drawn to the sleek modern appearance of the houses. In addition, Whitehurst was able to secure FHA and VA mortgages for the new residents; although the FHA often balked at backing loans for modern architectural designs, the fact that the houses had traditional gable roofs and many were clad with brick may have satisfied the federal agencies.

The FHA, which provided government-backed security for many mid-century homeowners, recommended that developers file protective covenants in new neighborhoods with the initial plat aimed at creating a uniform appearance and homogenous character throughout the development. Most of these restrictions, filed with the initial plat to provide “blanket encumbrances against the entire tract,” regulated land use and the placement, style, and type of buildings to be erected.<sup>30</sup> Another common restriction was a prohibition against the sale or rental of a property to members of a specific ethnic or racial group, most commonly against anyone not of the Caucasian race. Recorded with the initial plat, the restrictions were to last for a specified period of time (usually 25 years). Deeds of the period recorded in several Princess Anne County/Virginia Beach neighborhoods, such as Linkhorn Park and Cavalier Shores, included racially restrictive covenants. In 1948, the U.S. Supreme Court invalidated the enforcement of racially restrictive clauses, yet the FHA continued to insure such developments until 1950. It was not until the Fair Housing Act of 1968 (Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act), which outlawed housing discrimination based on “race, color, disability, religion, sex, familial status, or national origin,” that the official policies of the FHA and VA were changed (42 U.S.C. 3601 et seq., 1968). Throughout the 1950s and 1960s, however, real estate practices and prejudiced policies of White-owned financial institutions continued the racial segregation of

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<sup>28</sup> Jill Shelton, personal communication, April 13, 2022. Rita Frankenberry, “Beach House Dates to When Scribbling on the Walls was OK,” *The Virginian-Pilot*, August 12, 2010. Accessed on Pilotonline website, August 22, 2022, at: [https://www.pilotonline.com/news/article\\_e00a10f5-3e44-5d95-9f3d-e9c942d509ed.html](https://www.pilotonline.com/news/article_e00a10f5-3e44-5d95-9f3d-e9c942d509ed.html).

<sup>29</sup> Joe Brown, personal communication, April 13, 2022.

<sup>30</sup> Pettus et al., 65-66. See also U.S. Federal Housing Administration, *Planning Profitable Neighborhoods*, Technical Bulletin No. 7, 1938:6, 34.



Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District

Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA

County and State

neighborhoods, and homebuilders asserted their right to refuse sales to Black persons and other minorities or ethnic groups.<sup>31</sup>

In August 1955, the Woodhurst Corporation, with Whitehurst as president and James F. Doyle as secretary, filed a “Declaration of Restrictions” for the new development, which restricted the area to residential use only and set a minimum cost and size for dwellings, and property setbacks. All lots in the subdivision were to be for residential purposes only and could hold only one single-family residence of no more than two-and-a-half-stories in height. Private garages could hold no more than two vehicles. Any buildings “erected, altered or moved” into the subdivision was required to conform “in external design and appearance with existing structures” and by approval of the developer/owners. Additional restrictions set minimum limits for the cost of new dwellings (no less than \$9,000.00) and the size of the building footprint (no less than 1,000 square feet). A front setback of 35 feet was established with side yard setback at 10 feet (exclusive of eaves, steps, and open porch lines); front yard ornamental fences were restricted to a height of 36 inches and no signs were permitted in front yards (excepting sales or construction signs).<sup>32</sup> Although by the time of Woodhurst’s development racial restrictions were deemed unconstitutional, local property cards that recorded initial sales in the neighborhood indicate that all original owners were White. Some advertisements for Woodhurst noted that the neighborhood was “highly restricted to protect your investment,” which may have referred to minimum house sizes and the quality of construction, but also may have implied a racial bias in sales.

Local newspaper coverage about the Woodhurst development included details about the model designs and highlighted the fact that some of the houses were built with “centuries-old brick.”

When block after block of Norfolk’s oldest buildings were razed to make room for the Norfolk-Portsmouth Tunnel, few ever expected see their centuries-old brick again.

Certainly no one expected to find them built into striking modern homes as fireplaces and carports, their time-worn faces contrasting charmingly with Philippine mahogany panelling (sic) and cork tile flooring.<sup>33</sup>

Demolition of buildings for the Norfolk tunnel commenced around March 1950. Although construction of Woodhurst was not begun until 1955, it is possible that bricks were salvaged and stockpiled during demolition and were available when the Woodhurst houses were begun. Research into the Norfolk tunnel construction project has not produced information that specifically cites salvage of bricks from demolished buildings, but several ordinances and newspaper articles provide details about the project.<sup>34</sup> In August 1950, a Norfolk City Council ordinance authorized the construction of “adequate access” for the Elizabeth River Bridge-Tunnel Project on the Norfolk side of the crossing. The Elizabeth River Tunnel Authority, through

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<sup>31</sup> Andrew Weise, *Places of Their Own: African American Suburbanization in the Twentieth Century* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2004), 99, 129, 223; Matthew D. Lassiter and Susan Cianci Salvatore, “Civil Rights in America: Racial Discrimination in Housing: A National Historic Landmarks Theme Study.” Prepared by the Organization of American Historians and National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers Consultant. Produced by the National Historic Landmarks Program, Cultural Resources, National Park Service, Washington, D.C., 2021:33, 65-66.

<sup>32</sup> “Woodhurst Corporation, Declaration of Restrictions,” Princess Anne County Deed Book 416:448-450, January 27, 1955.

<sup>33</sup> *The Virginian-Pilot*, November 9, 1955:29.

<sup>34</sup> The author is indebted to research assistance on this topic provided by Mark A. Reed, Historic Preservation Planner for the City of Virginia Beach, and Sarah Osorio, Cataloger, Sargeant Memorial Collection, Slover Library, Norfolk.

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

land acquisition, condemnation, and land exchange with the City of Norfolk, cleared both houses and businesses in the area, largely owned or occupied by Black residents, that would become the site of the bridge plaza. The area was bounded roughly by Harvey Street on the east, Virgin Street on the north, Fenchurch Street on the west, and Bermuda Street on the south. One newspaper article stated that 150 families faced eviction from housing units in the area that were slated for demolition; many residents stated that they received eviction notices only days before demolition was scheduled to begin. About 30% of the houses were frame with the rest being of brick construction. Although formerly “regarded as some of the city’s modern homes,” in 1950, the area was described as a “slum settlement.” Frame houses were in poor condition, but the brick houses were noted as “slightly better preserved, [but] notably marked with decay. Doubtless, some have stood for a century or more.”<sup>35</sup>

Given its location along the river, the area had indeed been in development for a century or more. In the late seventeenth century, this part of Norfolk was owned by Nicholas Wise, who sold land along the Eastern Branch of the Elizabeth River for the establishment of the town of Norfolk. Adjacent land, also owned by Wise, was later purchased by Anthony Walke, whose family retained ownership of the property into the mid-nineteenth century. A history from the 1850s described the tract as “extending from Bermuda Street to Plume’s Cove, including Fenchurch Street and the whole of Briggs’ Point.”<sup>36</sup> Maps from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries depict the area as well developed with stores, dwellings, and other buildings lining the streets.<sup>37</sup>

The clearance of buildings for the bridge-tunnel appears to have coincided with Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority’s (NRHA) first major redevelopment slum clearance project. Such projects continued through the 1970s and relocated many Black families from older downtown housing to public housing developments. In 1951, Louis A. Oliver was part of an architectural team that designed some of the new housing developments for the NRHA.<sup>38</sup> As a Norfolk resident and through his association with the NRHA, Oliver would have known of the widespread demolitions taking place for these projects. Perhaps in the wake of building material shortages that had occurred during and following World War II, the architect saw the opportunity to salvage, stockpile, and reuse the “centuries-old” bricks rather than waste the material.

Such reuse appears to have been a general practice of the NRHA beginning in 1951. Records of the NRHA located at the Norfolk Public Library’s Sargeant Memorial Collection include a folder titled “Use of Old Brick.”<sup>39</sup> The contents indicate that salvage and reuse of old bricks from buildings demolished by the

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<sup>35</sup> Clifton L. Williams, “150 Norfolk Families Must Move: Area Must Be Cleared for Tunnel,” *Norfolk Journal & Guide*, March 18, 1950. City of Norfolk Ordinance 14945, January 9, 1951. Accessed online at: <https://lfweblink.norfolk.gov/WebLink/DocView.aspx?id=276033&dbid=0&repo=Shared&cr=1>.

<sup>36</sup> William S. Forrest, *Historical and Descriptive Sketches of Norfolk and Vicinity, Including Portsmouth and The Adjacent Counties, During a Period of Two Hundred Years* (Philadelphia: Lindsay and Blakiston, 1853), 47-49. Accessed on Making of America Books website (University of Michigan), on September 6, 2022, at: <https://quod.lib.umich.edu/m/moa/afk4097.0001.001?view=toc>.

<sup>37</sup> See Sanborn Fire Insurance Company Maps for the City of Norfolk, Library of Virginia, Richmond, and H[enry] Wellge, *Panorama of Norfolk and surroundings* (Milwaukee, WI: American Publishing Co., 1892), in the collections of the Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/item/75696649/>.

<sup>38</sup> “Housing Bids High; Project to be Delayed,” *The Virginian-Pilot* (published as *The Norfolk Virginian-Pilot*), April 5, 1951:43.

<sup>39</sup> The author is indebted to Sarah Osorio, cataloguer at the Seargant Memorial Collection, for finding this folder and sharing its contents with Mark Reed, City of Virginia Beach, Historic Preservation Planner. Mr. Reed provided Ms. Osorio’s electronic mail message and the cited newspaper article with the author. Sarah Osorio, personal communication with Mark Reed, September 23, 2022.

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

NRHA began with its first redevelopment project in 1951.<sup>40</sup> The city's massive urban renewal program in the 1960s further stimulated the use of the salvaged bricks, which brought the same or higher market price than new bricks. George M. Webb, demolition supervisor for NRHA, said that the agency had no problem selling all of its bricks; Hall Wrecking Company was cited as a local company that participated in wrecking, reclamation, and selling of the bricks. A newspaper article on the NRHA's practice noted that the bricks had been used in "hotels, motels, garages, private clubs, wells, and elsewhere."<sup>41</sup> Most of Norfolk's salvaged bricks were estimated to date from the early 1800s. Photographs found in the library's folder identified new buildings constructed in the 1960s that were built in total or in part with the old bricks. Such buildings included the City Airport Motel by the Norfolk Municipal Airport, the White Heron Motel formerly on Laskin Road in Virginia Beach, the Bay Harbor Club in Virginia Beach, and a Norfolk home in the Lakewood neighborhood.

### Contemporary Style

Woodhurst stands out from some of the other residential areas developed in Princess Anne County in the 1950s for the use of all Contemporary, or Modernist, designs rather than traditional styles, such as the Colonial Revival, or the common forms of the Minimal Traditional, Ranch, Cape Cod or Split-Level, which are most often offered in Princess Anne/Virginia Beach housing developments of the period. A 2018 architectural survey update for the northern half of Virginia Beach focused on mid-twentieth-century neighborhoods and included about two dozen residential developments initiated between 1940 and 1960. Only a few of the neighborhoods included examples of Contemporary design.

The NRHP Multiple Property Documentation Form for Historic Residential Suburbs, 1830-1960 provides a framework concerning the emergence of the Contemporary-style house and the ways in which Modernist tenets were promulgated throughout the architectural community:

...modernists inspired many architects to look to new solutions for liveable homes using modern materials of glass, steel, and concrete, and principles of organic design that utilized cantilevered forms, glass curtain walls, and post-and-beam construction. The contemporary home featured the integration of indoor and outdoor living area and open floor plans, which allowed a sense of flowing space. Characteristics such as masonry hearth walls, patios and terraces, carports, and transparent walls in the form of sliding glass doors and floor-to-ceiling windows became hallmarks of the contemporary residential design....

Architects and others promoted the development of small houses reflecting modernistic design principles to meet the postwar housing shortage through plan books and detailed instructions that pointed out the construction and space efficiencies offered by modern design.<sup>42</sup>

As early as the 1930s, American architect Frank Lloyd Wright addressed the need for low-cost private housing for twentieth-century American living in the development of his Usonian designs. Wright claimed that his term "Usonian" was derived from "United States of North America" and applied to his vision for affordable architecture that responded to and reflected the American landscape. The Usonian house

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<sup>40</sup> Frank Sullivan, "Colonial Bricks are Chips Off the Old Block," *The Virginian-Pilot*, June 21, 1964:A-20. It has not been determined whether the bricks from NRHA's first redevelopment project were in fact the ones used in the construction at Woodhurst.

<sup>41</sup> Ibid.

<sup>42</sup> Linda Flint McClelland, David L. Ames, and Sarah Dillard Pope, National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, "Historic Residential Suburbs in the United States, 1830-1960," 2004.



Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

provided an architecturally distinct residence for families who did not have domestic servants and desired open floorplans with informal communal spaces, preferably with a direct connection to the outdoors.<sup>43</sup> The house stood directly on a concrete slab, emphasizing the connection to the earth and not raised above it. Wright celebrated the idea of the hearth as the center of the American home by creating an “integral fireplace”—that is, a fireplace set in a full-height masonry wall integrated into the building without mantel or surround. Wright’s designs also included the use of clerestory windows, built-in furniture, and de-emphasized entrances. Although compact in nature, vaulted ceiling heights and walls of glass gave the interiors a spacious feeling. In 1954, Wright codified much of his domestic design ethos in his book *The Natural House*. The Usonian concept of open plan (unified living room, dining room, and kitchen) and sequestered private spaces later informed the development of the Ranch form house, which became ubiquitous across the United States. Locally, Wright designed a Usonian house for Dr. Andrew Cooke and his wife, Maude on the eastern shore of Virginia Beach’s Crystal Lake. Designs for the Cooke House were begun in 1953, but the house was not completed until 1959—one year before Wright’s death.<sup>44</sup>

Between 1945 and 1966, one of the most influential experiments in modern housing design occurred under the auspices of publisher John Entenza's *Arts & Architecture* magazine.<sup>45</sup> In its January 1945 issue, Entenza announced the program stating its goal was “to create contemporary dwelling units” that used modern technology and building materials.<sup>46</sup> Known as the “Case Study House Program,” Entenza selected the program architects—most of whom were practicing in Southern California with devotion to Modernism—to design modern, single-family residences that would take advantage of the latest advances in construction methods, planning, materials, furnishings, landscape design, and living arrangements. The program encouraged experimentation, but not at the sacrifice of utility and, at least at first, the program focused on low-cost modern housing. An emphasis of the designs was the blending of interior and exterior spaces through use of glass walls, folding partitions, and continuity of flooring that extended between inside and outside.

For most of the program, Entenza promoted contemporary design solutions to the problem of providing American families with well-designed, forward-looking, yet modest homes. The built examples were opened to the public to showcase the compact and economical architectural models and to acquaint the average homeowner with good, integrated, and achievable architectural, interior, and landscape design.<sup>47</sup>

Perhaps we will cling longest to the symbol of 'house' as we have known it, or perhaps we will realize that in accommodating ourselves to a new world the most important step in avoiding retrogression into the old, is a willingness to understand and to accept

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<sup>43</sup> Wright’s house for the Jacobs family, which he dubbed “Usonian One” was constructed in 1936. See Brendan Gill, *Many Masks: A Life of Frank Lloyd Wright* (New York: Ballantine Books, 1987), 386-393.

<sup>44</sup> “Frank Lloyd Wright Designs Home on Crystal Lake, Virginia Beach,” *The Virginia-Pilot*, May 9, 1958:10. In plan, the Cooke house is an example of one of Wright’s “hemicycle” houses.

<sup>45</sup> Entenza (1905-1984) is considered one of the foremost proponents of American Modernism in the twentieth century, primarily through his work at *Arts & Architecture*. He was born in Michigan, but his family moved to San Francisco when he was a teen. Entenza attended the University of Virginia in the 1920s, worked in the film industry in California in the 1930s, and then purchased and became editor of the California-based magazine *Arts & Architecture*.

<sup>46</sup> John Entenza, “Announcement: the case study house program,” *Arts & Architecture*, January 1945:37.

<sup>47</sup> Peter Moruzzi, Los Angeles Conservancy Modern Committee, National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, “Case Study House Program: 1945-1966,” December 2012, Revised March 2013; Elizabeth A.T. Smith, *Case Study Houses, 1945-1966: The California Impetus* (Los Angeles, CA: Taschen, 2006).

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

contemporary ideas in the creation of environments that is responsible for shaping the largest part of our living and thinking."<sup>48</sup>

It was Entenza's hope that the program would result in houses reflecting "... the spirit of our time, using as far as is practicable, many war-born techniques and materials best suited to the expression of man's life in the modern world."<sup>49</sup>

Unlike the Levitt and Son suburbs being developed in the East at the same time, the Case Study houses were experiments intended for duplication, but not mass re-production.<sup>50</sup> Most program houses were sponsored by a client (even Entenza commissioned one of the program houses), though several lacked clients or remained unbuilt.<sup>51</sup>

Originally focused on wood-frame and post-and-beam construction, the Case Study houses of the late 1950s evolved into the use of industrial construction methods and materials, such as steel framing and glass curtain walls, and more overtly referenced the International Style of Swiss-born architect Le Corbusier.<sup>52</sup> Whether of wood-frame or steel-frame construction, the houses share the modern hallmarks of flat roofs, deep overhangs, open floor plans, extensive use of glass, and concrete slab foundations. The designs rejected applied ornamentation or historical references. Many of the early program houses were of modest size, in keeping with Entenza's original manifesto, but slowly grew into larger footprints. In addition, all of the houses were designed by master architects, many of whom became nationally known because of their pioneering work within the program. In all, 36 Case Study house designs were published with 25 constructed. The program ended in 1966 when *Arts & Architecture* ceased publication.

Oliver and Smith's Woodhurst designs reflect knowledge and influence of these experimental movements and progressive ideas. As active members of the AIA, both architects would have been aware of trends in the profession and would have met architects practicing in other parts of the state and country. Although the Case Study Houses were primarily influential in the West, the program was popular among Modernist architects throughout the U.S. And although inspired by those mid-century trends in architecture, due to a difference in climate, the Woodhurst designs did not utilize full-height curtain wall elevations as seen in California examples, or flat roofs, which would have proven problematic in the Tidewater climate. Woodhurst designs, however, did embrace the character defining features of the Contemporary style in the use of a single-story footprint covered by a low-sloped, unifying gable roof with deep overhanging eaves, exposed post-and-beam construction, concrete slab foundations, geometric massing, minimal decorative detailing, de-emphasized entries, and integrated garages/carports. Important stylistic elements included clerestory windows, modern metal-frame windows (fixed, casement, awning type, or sliding), and

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<sup>48</sup> Entenza, 39.

<sup>49</sup> Moruzzi.

<sup>50</sup> See McClelland, Ames, and Pope, 2004. The late 1940s developments built by William Levitt's company, Levitt and Sons, in the suburbs of New York City are the best-known examples of American mass-produced, low-cost housing. Those developments were marketed to military veterans returning from World War II service who were guaranteed loans by the VA or the FHA. Levitt produced thousands of identical houses that were produced quickly on an assembly line. Like other developments of the period, Levitt houses were not sold to Black families, and the FHA included racially restrictive covenants with each deed for a Levitt house. Lassiter and Salvatore, 2021:31-32.

<sup>51</sup> Entenza's house (1945-1949), known as Case Study House #9, designed by Charles Eames and Eero Saarinen, stands in the West Los Angeles suburb of Pacific Palisades on the same street with three other Case Study Houses. The Case Study House, like Wright's early Usonian houses, were turned down for FHA-backed loans due to the use of flat roofs and other non-traditional elements that did not meet the agency's construction loan guidelines.

<sup>52</sup> From 1945 to 1948, all Case Study House designs were of wood-frame construction. Beginning in 1949, steel construction was most common among the examples; in the 1960s, a mix of wood- and steel-frame designs appeared.

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District

Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA

County and State

prominent fireplaces. The floorplans exhibited the merged living and dining space adjacent to a kitchen with a pass-through opening that allowed for family gatherings and informal entertaining. The public spaces were oriented towards a rear or side yard, either accessed through a door to a patio (Model #1) or visually through a large multi-pane window and clerestory lights, which reinforced a fluid connection of interior space to outdoor space. The private spaces of bedrooms and bathrooms were located opposite the public spaces and accessed via a narrow corridor.

### Oliver and Smith

Oliver and Herbert L. Smith III formed their architectural firm, headquartered in Norfolk, Virginia, in 1950, although newspaper accounts indicate that the two worked together beginning in the late 1940s. Over the life of their partnership, the two designed numerous commercial, educational, medical, governmental, and institutional buildings in the Tidewater area. Much of the firm's work was executed in the Modernist style, but also included examples of Colonial Revival and Classical Revival designs. Both partners were very active in the American Institute of Architects (AIA) professional organization, and held offices in the local and state chapters. Although Modernist in their views, and eager to observe progressive architecture in other cities and countries, the two architects also appreciated historical resources and historical architectural precedents; Herbert Smith served as chairman of the Virginia Beach Historical Review Board.

In 1970, Oliver and Smith merged with Virginia Beach-architect Wylie R. Cooke, Jr., to form Oliver, Smith & Cooke (OSC), which in 1981 became a division of the MMM Design Group. The local firm closed in 2014, though Mr. Cooke remains in active practice. Cooke, noted that, at the time of his merger with the firm, Oliver and Smith primarily undertook large commercial and institutional projects, while his firm focused on residential and small commercial commissions.<sup>53</sup>

Oliver and Smith had an illustrious career that spanned several decades and garnered numerous awards. The firm made notable contributions to the Virginia Beach Oceanfront resort area through designs for several Modernist hotels and motels during the 1950s and 1960s. These included the La Playa Motel and Holiday Sands Motel (1957), both of which utilized the then-new “concrete lift-slab construction” method, the Thunderbird Motor Lodge (1959), with its distinctive full-height breeze-block solar screen façade, and the Americana Motor Lodge (1963), which was fronted by a six-story glass lobby tower and featured a staggered arrangement of oceanfront rooms. *Virginia Record*, the magazine for the Virginia AIA, stated that the La Playa design “exemplifies the forward thinking that architects are accomplishing for their clients and certainly exhibits a change in the concept of architectural design.” The same publication stated that through their Modernist design for the Thunderbird Motor Lodge, “[i]t is hoped by the architects that this structure will set an example for future structures at Virginia Beach.”<sup>54</sup>

The firm completed numerous award-winning educational designs for regional schools including Virginia Beach’s Linkhorn Park Elementary School (1955), with a continuous ridge skylight over the classroom wings, the Princess Anne High School (1957), which featured two-stories of continuous metal-frame windows with porcelain enameled panels on the façade and prefabricated movable room partitions on the

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<sup>53</sup> “Architecture Firm Formed,” *The Virginian-Pilot*, February 6, 1970: 29. Cooke, a native of Lynchburg, earned his architectural degree from the University of Virginia in 1963. Cooke was named a partner in the firm in 1971.

<sup>54</sup> The La Playa, Holiday Sands, and Thunderbird motels have been demolished; the Americana has been recently renovated and encompassed by, and obscured by, a much larger motel complex. “Modern Multi-Story Motel at Virginia Beach,” *Virginia Record* Vol. LXXVII, No. Seven (July) 1955:21, 27; “La Playa Motel to be Constructed at Virginia Beach,” *Virginia Record* Vol. LXXIX, No. Two (Feb) 1957:33; “Thunderbird Motor Lodge,” *Virginia Record* Vol. LXXXI, No. Eight (Aug) 1959:34-35; “Virginia Beach Hotel Expansion,” *Virginia Record* Vol. LXXXV, No. Eleven (Nov) 1963:19.

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District

Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA

County and State

interior, and the Frank W. Cox High School (1961) that was touted as “among the most modern in design and equipment in the State of Virginia and the country.” In 1960, Oliver and Smith, with nationally prominent architect Edward Durrell Stone, and Kilham and O’Connor as consulting architects, completed designs for the Robert Morton Hughes Memorial Library of the Norfolk extension of the College of William and Mary and Virginia Polytechnic Institute (present-day Old Dominion University); the library design is distinguished by its aluminum curtain wall behind a solar screen wall. In 1963, Oliver and Smith completed a master plan for the Old Dominion University campus.<sup>55</sup>

The firm also was well-regarded for its high profile and significant municipal commissions. Among these were the Norfolk City Hall (1954, as consultants to Vincent G. Kling of Philadelphia) and the 1959-1961 Federal Building in Portsmouth (in association with T. David Fitz Gibbons). A demolished, but notable, project completed early in the firm’s existence was the erection of the aluminum dome that Oliver and Smith incorporated into the Virginia Beach Convention Center, completed in 1958. Similar to the geodesic domes of Buckminster Fuller, sections of the 145-foot-diameter dome were prefabricated by the Kaiser Aluminum Corp. “The Dome,” formerly at the intersection of 19<sup>th</sup> Street and Pacific Avenue, was a highly visible project and one of special interests to architects interested in progressive technologies and designs. In 1958, the Virginia AIA held its spring meeting at the newly constructed civic center.<sup>56</sup>

The firm’s only other known built design for a residential development is Meadowbrook Terrace in Norfolk.<sup>57</sup> The 1960 plan included six house models executed in various examples of the Colonial Revival-style. Oscar B. Ferebee, Jr., Vice President of Goodman-Segar-Hogan Residential Sales Corporation of Norfolk, was the agent and Jacob Brody, was the land developer. An article about the 70-acre/154-house development proclaimed that it was “one of the first on the East Coast to be completely planned even to include underground electrical and telephone distribution.”<sup>58</sup>

The firm’s dedication to Modernism was affirmed in an unrealized 1955 design for their office building at 333 West Freemason Street in Norfolk. The design, which a newspaper article said included “a touch of the modern, and even the future,” utilized the tilt-slab form of concrete construction, raised the building on stilts (“piloti”), and consisted of four stories of ribbon-type windows with cantilevered sun screens, and a flat roof with a rooftop pavilion.<sup>59</sup> The firm eventually built an office building on Freemason Street in the early 1960s, but used a different design. The two-story building featured a flat roof with projecting sun

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<sup>55</sup> A new Linkhorn Park Elementary was constructed in 1999 and the original school became “The Virginia Beach City Public Schools Preschool Assessment Center.” Campbell Clay on behalf of Virginia Beach Historic Preservation Commission, “Linkhorn Park Elementary,” April 21, 2021. Accessed on Clio: Your Guide to History website, September 5, 2002, at <https://theclio.com/entry/131210>. “Princess Anne High School, Thalia,” *Virginia Record* Vol. LXXIX, No. Two (Feb) 1957:27; “New Frank W. Cox High School in Princess Anne County,” *Virginia Record* Vol. LXXXIII, No. Nine (Sept) 1961:36, 38; “Robert Morton Hughes Memorial Library Finished at Cost of One Million Dollars,” *Virginia Record* Vol. LXXXII, No. Three, (March) 1960:49-50.

<sup>56</sup> Oliver and Smith also collaborated with Kling on the 1959 Norfolk Medical Tower. The Dome, officially named the Alan B. Shepard Civic Center, was demolished in 1994. “Hardy Announces: Architects are Selected to Plan Federal Building,” *The Virginian-Pilot, Portsmouth News*, February 5:1; “Portsmouth Federal Office Building,” *Virginia Record* Vol. LXXXIV, No. Five (May) 1962:16; “First Aluminum Dome on ‘Mainland’ Under Construction at Virginia Beach,” *Virginia Record* Vol. LXXIX, No. Eight (Aug) 1957:45; “Virginia Beach Aluminum Dome,” *Virginia Record* Vol. LXXIX, No. Eleven (Nov) 1957:32-33, 62.

<sup>57</sup> In 1980, the firm executed designs for nine townhouse units in the Llewellyn Mews section of Ghent Square in Norfolk but were not responsible for the overall design of the neighborhood development.

<sup>58</sup> “Unique Residential Development Planned for Norfolk Area,” *Virginia Record* Vol. LXXXI No. Five (May) 1960:24-25.

<sup>59</sup> “Modern, New Office Building Slated Next to Library,” *The Virginian-Pilot*, December 12, 1955:17.

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District

Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA

County and State

shades over the clerestory windows, brick panels and a full-height pilasters clad with marble that emphasized the building's verticality. Upon the occasion of the architect's election as president of the state chapter, an image of the office was featured on the cover of the March 1964 *Virginia Record* with an inset photograph of Mr. Oliver.

Both Oliver and Smith designed Modernist homes for themselves. Oliver's home at 911 Larchmont Crescent in Norfolk, built about 1967, is a two-story frame structure covered by a shallow-pitched side-facing gable roof. The windows are tall, two-pane sliding types, and the original cladding was vertical wooden boards. Smith's home at 1228 Crystal Lake Circle, on the shores of Crystal Lake in in the Virginia Beach neighborhood of Bay Colony, features sections of one- and two-story, gable-roofed wings including an attached garage. The house is sited to take advantage of the lake views, which are enjoyed from a wide wooden deck on one end of the house and a second-floor porch that is covered by a sloping shed roof.<sup>60</sup>

#### Louis Arthur Oliver (1912-1975)

Louis A. Oliver was born in 1912 in Winston Salem, North Carolina, and attended North Carolina State University with additional studies at the Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech), and Harvard's Graduate School of Architecture's summer school. In 1938, he married Alma Bryant, who had been a telephone operator and supervisor for Bell Atlantic. Early in his career, Oliver worked for the North Carolina Park Service, then went to Norfolk to work for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers during World War II.<sup>61</sup> After his entrance into professional practice, Oliver participated in architectural and urban planning lectures and presentations on topics pertaining to city planning and progressive design and architectural trends. He often traveled abroad, including a 1960 trip to Stockholm for a session on urban planning, and to European cities to "to observe planning results." In his lectures and interviews, he espoused views encouraging a progressive attitude towards architecture and in his own work strove for advancement of new ideas. Oliver was an outspoken critic of what he called the "cult of mediocrity" in architecture.<sup>62</sup> He was an avid photographer, as well, and often his own photographs accompanied published articles about the firm's work.<sup>63</sup>

Louis Oliver was described as a proponent of the ideas of Frank Lloyd Wright and Cooke described Oliver as "very contemporary for his time." Oliver's obituary stated that his architectural designs favored "clean, simple lines for urban living as opposed to suburban life." Cooke presumes that Oliver was the partner primarily responsible for the Woodhurst designs, stating that Smith was the partner generally responsible for marketing and obtaining new commissions, and serving as the public face of the firm. Oliver served as president of the Virginia AIA from 1964-1965, was named to Norfolk's first Arts Group in 1964 (under the City Planning Commission), and in 1968, Governor Mills Godwin named Oliver to the State Art Commission (presently known as the Art and Architecture Commission), which oversees architectural projects on state-owned buildings. In 1971, he was elevated to AIA's College of Fellows, an honor bestowed on AIA members who have achieved a standard of excellence in the profession and made a significant contribution to architecture and society on a national level.

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<sup>60</sup> Carol Mather, "Houses and Gardens on Tour," *The Virginian-Pilot*, April 18, 1976, 93. Smith's Bay Colony house was featured on the Garden Club of Virginia's 1976 Historic Garden Week Tour. Previously, the family had lived on North Alanton Drive and in Linkhorn Estates. The Crystal Lake property stands southwest of, and has a direct view of, Frank Lloyd Wright's Cooke House.

<sup>61</sup> "Architect Will Take Part in Panel Discussion," *The Virginian-Pilot* (published as *The Norfolk Virginian-Pilot*), January 27, 1954: 15; "Architect Louis A. Oliver; Designed City Edifices," *The Virginian-Pilot*, February 8, 1975:6.

<sup>62</sup> Frank Sullivan, "New Home Pool of Ideas," *The Virginia-Pilot*, June 3, 1962:A-22.

<sup>63</sup> Jim Gehman, former Oliver and Smith employee, personal communication, telephone interview, April 8, 2022.

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

Herbert Livingston Smith III (1920-1982)

Herbert L. Smith III was born in 1920 in Norfolk, Virginia. In 1949, Smith earned his degree in Architecture from the University of Virginia (UVa). He served in the Navy during World War II and was engaged in naval architecture work at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard and Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company.<sup>64</sup> Having served in various officer roles in the UVA student chapter of the AIA, Smith was elected president of the Virginia Society AIA in 1958. In 1959, Smith passed the state exam to become a Professional Engineer. In 1967, he was elevated to AIA's College of Fellows and in 1979, Mr. Smith was honored by the Virginia Society AIA with the William C. Noland Award, the Society's highest award for "significant contributions to the architectural profession and for outstanding public service." He was a member and chair of the Virginia Beach Historical Review Board. In 1948, Smith married Martha Macklin, who was a graduate of the College of William and Mary, taught in Virginia Beach Public Schools for 20 years, and was an accomplished amateur golf champion. The couple were active members of Galilee Episcopal Church of Virginia Beach, and both are buried at the Eastern Shore Chapel Cemetery.<sup>65</sup>

Integrity

The Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District retains a high level of overall integrity and as a whole continues to convey its historical character and appearance as a mid—twentieth-century residential neighborhood comprised entirely of architect-designed Contemporary-style houses. In particular, the district retains very high integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association. No changes have been made to the neighborhood boundaries or street layout since its original plat in 1955. Only one parcel, located in the extreme northern corner of the district, has been subdivided. All 81 original houses are extant—no houses have been demolished and only one house, outside of the historic district boundaries, has been built in the neighborhood since the 1960 completion of construction.

The overall integrity of design, materials, and workmanship is very good. All residences, even heavily modified non-contributing examples, retain enough physical integrity to be identified as one of the four model designs. Nearly all houses in Woodhurst have been altered in some regard, either through additions or material alterations. A few original garages are intact, but all original carports have been enclosed. The historic forms and construction of the houses allow for sensitive additions that do not detract from the overall appearance and character of the original house.

Contributing resources retain original construction materials or utilize in-kind or compatible materials that are consistent with the original design and materials. These resources retain a preponderance of character-defining features such as low-sloped gable roofs with overhanging eaves and supporting beams, dominant brick interior chimneys, and integral garage/carport wings. The enclosure of garages or carports, which is a commonly seen alteration in the neighborhood, does not impact the original footprint of the building and does not significantly diminish the house's integrity. Likewise, one-story additions that have been incorporated into the overall design in a sympathetic manner do not significantly impact the overall integrity of design. Non-contributing resources are those buildings where alterations or additions have obscured significant architectural design features or where additions (such as two-story additions) are incompatible with the original house in scale, form, and/or massing.

Comparable Properties

Scattered examples of Contemporary-style or Modernist dwellings have been recorded in Virginia Beach and within the City's mid-century suburban developments. The aforementioned Cooke house (1959),

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<sup>64</sup> Ibid.

<sup>65</sup> "In Memoriam, Herbert L. Smith III, FAIA" *Virginia Record*, Vol. 104, No. 5 (Sept-Oct 1982):7.

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, is still extant and retains its historical integrity. Prefabricated examples of Contemporary-style houses, such as those in Laurel Manor, have been recorded and developer John Aragona also included Modern houses in his mid-century suburban developments of Aragona Village, Princess Anne Plaza, and Diamond Springs (see VDHR 134-5433, 134-5435, 134-5576, and 134-5462) (Figure 14). The Cavalier Shores Historic District, an area of mostly Colonial Revival, Tudor Revival, and Minimal Traditional houses, included two Contemporary-style houses, which were infill houses that date from the end of the district's period of significance (1927-1968) (VDHR 134-5379-0100) (Figure 15).<sup>66</sup>



Figure 14. Contemporary-style house in Diamond Springs (134-5462, 5520 Forest View Drive) (McClane, 2018)

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<sup>66</sup> Purvis and McClane, 2018; Robert J. Taylor, Jr., National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, "Cavalier Shores Historic District," 2018.



Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State



Figure 15. Contemporary-style house in Cavalier Shores Historic District (134-5379-0100, 106 43rd Street) (Taylor, 2018)

The mid-century all-Contemporary or all-Modernist suburban developments in Northern Virginia, particularly in Fairfax County, although exponentially larger in scale than Woodhurst, provide the closest comparison to Woodhurst. The NRHP-listed Hollin Hills Historic District (VDHR 029-5471) contains 475 houses executed in a Modernist/Post-Modern style. The district, significant for the period between 1946 and 1971, is an example of a merchant-builder subdivision planned and designed by Robert C. Davenport and architect Charles M. Goodman, who designed eight Modernist, modular house types for the development with variations in square footage and interior amenities, comprising 15 different combinations. Hollin Hills is notable for its incorporation of the landscape with the building development; the planning included landscape architects Lou Bernard Voigt, Daniel Urban Kiley, and Eric Paepcke.<sup>67</sup>

Another excellent mid-century example of an all-Contemporary-style development is Fairfax's Holmes Run Acres, which consists of about 350 houses (VDHR 029-5183). Although larger in scale than Woodhurst, the house sizes in this neighborhood are comparable to the small footprints of Woodhurst and were intended as affordable family homes. The planned development also included a school, recreation center, and pool. Constructed between 1951 and 1958 by the Luria Brothers, Holmes Run Acres in the vicinity of Falls Church and adjacent to the east side (Inner Loop) of the Capital Beltway (I-495). Architects Nicholas Satterlee and Francis D. Lethbridge designed the four modular models for the neighborhood. The developers and architects cited Frank Lloyd Wright and his Usonian houses as an influence on their designs. Many of the same design and site plan elements utilized by the architects and developers in Holmes Run Acres are similar to those found in Woodhurst. Holmes Run Acres and suburbs like them were a rejection of the more prevalent suburbs composed of Colonial Revival- and Ranch-style houses. The neighborhood was listed in the NRHP in 2006.<sup>68</sup>

<sup>67</sup> Laura V. Trieschmann, Architectural Historian; Andrea F. Schoenfeld, Historian, EHT Tracerics, Inc., and Jere Gibber, member of the Civic Association of Hollin Hills organization, National Register of Historic Places Registration Form "Hollin Hills Historic District," 2013; Jill Devine, "Hip, Historic Hollin Hills," *Virginia Living* Vol. 20, No. 3 (April) 2022:78-81.

<sup>68</sup> Gail H. Baker, National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, "Holmes Run Acres Historic District," 2006. The Luria Brothers also developed the neighborhood of Pine Spring (with Satterlee and Lethbridge).



Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

A Richmond-area mid-century suburb of note is Highland Hills, located in the Bon Air section of Chesterfield County. The development consisted of about 80 prefabricated National Homes, which were designed by architect Charles Goodman and reflected Modernist tenets (e.g., VDHR 020-6277). The neighborhood, a wooded and hilly area, was developed by George “Bruce” Sowers. Selective survey has been completed in the area, but it has not been fully documented.<sup>69</sup>

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<sup>69</sup> Noted Richmond architect, Frederick “Bud” Hyland, an apprentice under Frank Lloyd Wright, produced about two dozen designs for Modernist houses in the Richmond suburbs of Bon Air, Stratford Hills, Hillcrest, and Westham. Likewise, Tidewater-area Alan McCullough, a native of Norfolk and former Princess Anne County resident, produced several Modernist designs found in Richmond and Westover Hills. These are stand-alone examples, however, and do not constitute a historic district. Marissa Hermanson, “Richmond’s Modern Movement,” *R-Home, Richmond Magazine*, February 14, 2019. Accessed at Richmond Magazine website, Sept. 2, 2022, at: <https://richmondmagazine.com/home/richmonds-modern-movement/>.

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

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Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

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Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

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Personal Communication

Jean Bailey, Woodhurst resident, April 13, 2022  
Joe Brown, Woodhurst resident, April 13, 2022  
Wylie R. Cooke, Virginia Beach-based architect, former partner Oliver, Smith, and Cooke, July 26, 2022  
Hunter Folck, Woodhurst resident, July 26, 2022, and September 7, 2022  
Jim Gehman, retired architect, former employee Oliver and Smith, April 8, 2022  
Aubrey and Jill Shelton, Woodhurst resident, April 13, 2022  
Jerry Teplitz, Woodhurst resident, April 13, 2022  
Gerrie West, Virginia Beach-based architect, July 22, 2022

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**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** VDHR #134-5874

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

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## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreage of Property** 33

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

### Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 36.878907 | Longitude: -76.033757 |
| 2. Latitude: 36.874524 | Longitude: -76.030837 |
| 3. Latitude: 36.875213 | Longitude: -76.035351 |
| 4. Latitude: 36.877516 | Longitude: -76.035167 |
| 5. Latitude: 36.878814 | Longitude: -76.034368 |
| 6. Latitude: 36.878682 | Longitude: -76.034076 |

**Or**

### UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927    or     NAD 1983

- |          |           |           |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting:  | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting:  | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting:  | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

### Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District is bounded on the east and northeast by Mill Dam Road, on the south by a development line with Sylvan Lakes, and on the west and northwest by a wooded buffer and 10-foot drainage easement along a branch of Mill Dam Creek. The true and correct boundaries are depicted on the accompanying scaled Sketch Map and Photo Key (City of Virginia Beach GIS).

### Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The historic district boundaries conform to the original boundaries of the Woodhurst development plat (1955), excepting the .3-acre parcel known as Lot 1B, Block D, created in 1988 by the subdivision of the original Lot 1, Block D parcel (1639 Mill Dam Road, GPIN 24084818290000, Virginia Beach Deed Book 2776, Page 1841). The boundaries of the neighborhood have not changed since 1955. The property's historic setting and all known associated historic resources have been included within the historic boundary.

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

### 11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Debra A. McClane/Architectural Historian  
organization: Debra A. McClane, Architectural Historian  
street & number: 4711 Devonshire Road  
city or town: Richmond state: VA zip code: 23225  
e-mail: dmcclane1@verizon.net  
telephone: 804/233-3890  
date: September 21, 2022

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### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

### Photo Log

Name of Property: Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
City or Vicinity: Virginia Beach  
County: Independent City State: Virginia  
Photographer: Debra A. McClane  
Date Photographed: October 2021; April 2022

### Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photo 1 of 21	Virginia_CityofVirginiaBeach_WoodhurstNeighborhoodHistoricDistrict_0001 Model 1 Example, 1345 Mill Dam Road, Oblique view looking northwest (front)
Photo 2 of 21	Virginia_CityofVirginiaBeach_WoodhurstNeighborhoodHistoricDistrict_0002 Model 1 Example, 1345 Mill Dam Road, Rear elevation
Photo 3 of 21	Virginia_CityofVirginiaBeach_WoodhurstNeighborhoodHistoricDistrict_0003 Model 1 Example, 1345 Mill Dam Road, Interior, Living Room showing fireplace
Photo 4 of 21	Virginia_CityofVirginiaBeach_WoodhurstNeighborhoodHistoricDistrict_0004 Model 1 Example, 1345 Mill Dam Road, Living Room paneling, rear windows, and exposed beam ceiling

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District

City of Virginia Beach, VA

Name of Property

County and State

Photo 5 of 21	Virginia_CityofVirginiaBeach_WoodhurstNeighborhoodHistoricDistrict_0005 Model 1 Example, 1344 Woodhurst Drive, Interior, Living Room, paneling, clerestory windows, and exposed beam ceiling
Photo 6 of 21	Virginia_CityofVirginiaBeach_WoodhurstNeighborhoodHistoricDistrict_0006 Model 1 Example, 1344 Woodhurst Drive, Interior, Parquet flooring
Photo 7 of 21	Virginia_CityofVirginiaBeach_WoodhurstNeighborhoodHistoricDistrict_0007 Model 1 Example, 1333 Graham Road, Interior, Cork flooring
Photo 8 of 21	Virginia_CityofVirginiaBeach_WoodhurstNeighborhoodHistoricDistrict_0008 Model 1 Example, 1337 Woodhurst Drive, View from street
Photo 9 of 21	Virginia_CityofVirginiaBeach_WoodhurstNeighborhoodHistoricDistrict_0009 Model 1 Example, 1933 Indian Run Road, View from street
Photo 10 of 21	Virginia_CityofVirginiaBeach_WoodhurstNeighborhoodHistoricDistrict_0010 Model 1 Example, 1924 Indian Run Road, View from Street
Photo 11 of 21	Virginia_CityofVirginiaBeach_WoodhurstNeighborhoodHistoricDistrict_0011 Model 2 Example, 1937 Indian Run Road, Oblique view of front
Photo 12 of 21	Virginia_CityofVirginiaBeach_WoodhurstNeighborhoodHistoricDistrict_0012 Model 2 Example, 1928 Indian Run Road, View from street
Photo 13 of 21	Virginia_CityofVirginiaBeach_WoodhurstNeighborhoodHistoricDistrict_0013 Model 2 Example, 1320 Woodhurst Drive
Photo 14 of 21	Virginia_CityofVirginiaBeach_WoodhurstNeighborhoodHistoricDistrict_0014 Model 3 Example, 1312 Strawberry Lane, View from street
Photo 15 of 21	Virginia_CityofVirginiaBeach_WoodhurstNeighborhoodHistoricDistrict_0015 Model 3 Example, 1312 Strawberry Street, Interior, Fireplace constructed with salvaged bricks
Photo 16 of 21	Virginia_CityofVirginiaBeach_WoodhurstNeighborhoodHistoricDistrict_0016 Model 4 Example, 1340 Woodhurst Drive, Looking southeast
Photo 17 of 21	Virginia_CityofVirginiaBeach_WoodhurstNeighborhoodHistoricDistrict_0017 Model 4 Example, 1329 Woodhurst Drive
Photo 18 of 21	Virginia_CityofVirginiaBeach_WoodhurstNeighborhoodHistoricDistrict_0018 Streetscape, Woodhurst Drive, Looking south
Photo 19 of 21	Virginia_CityofVirginiaBeach_WoodhurstNeighborhoodHistoricDistrict_0019 Streetscape, Woodhurst Drive, Looking southeast
Photo 20 of 21	Virginia_CityofVirginiaBeach_WoodhurstNeighborhoodHistoricDistrict_0020 Streetscape, Strawberry Lane, Looking northwest
Photo 21 of 21	Virginia_CityofVirginiaBeach_WoodhurstNeighborhoodHistoricDistrict_0021 Streetscape, Intersection of Strawberry Lane and Indian Run Road, Looking southeast

Figures

- Figure 1. Roof clad with single-ply membrane (134-5874-0064, 1312 Graham Road)  
Figure 2. House retaining metal-frame windows on side elevation (134-5874-0068, 1340 Graham Road)  
Figure 3. Detail original door (relocated) (134-5874-0080, 1305 Graham Road)  
Figure 4. Chimney constructed with salvaged bricks (134-5874-0046, 1329 Woodhurst Drive)  
Figure 5. Detail of Model #1 brick end wall 9134-5874-0044, 1337 Woodhurst Drive)  
Figure 6. Model #1 Example (134-5874-0044, 1337 Woodhurst Drive)  
Figure 7. Model #2 Integrated Planter (134-5874-0040, 1336 Woodhurst Drive)  
Figure 8. Model #2 Example (134-5874-0068, 1340 Graham Road)  
Figure 9. Model #3 Example (134-5874-0008, 1325 Mill Dam Road)  
Figure 10. Model #4 Example (134-5874-0024, 1941 Indian Run Road)



Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District  
Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, VA  
County and State

- Figure 11. Hilltop Manor Advertisement
- Figure 12. Example of Contemporary-style House in Laurel Manor (134-5589, 1620 Bailey Lane)
- Figure 16. Woodhurst Advertisements targeting Oceana Pilots and other Military Personnel
- Figure 14. Contemporary-style house in Diamond Springs (134-5462, 5520 Forest View Drive)
- Figure 15. Contemporary-style house in Cavalier Shores Historic District (134-5379-0100, 106 43rd Street)

Additional Documentation

1. Detail from newspaper article about Woodhurst and use of bricks salvaged from historical buildings demolished in Norfolk.
2. Detail of 1958 aerial photograph showing Woodhurst development (near center) and surrounding rural landscape.
3. Detail of 1958 aerial photograph showing progress of construction in Woodhurst neighborhood.
4. USGS maps showing development in area in 1955.
5. 1955 Subdivision Plat for Woodhurst Development.
6. Sketches of the four house models designed by the architectural firm of Oliver and Smith for Woodhurst.
7. Advertisement for Woodhurst showing Model #1 (1955).
8. Photograph from newspaper article about Oliver and Smith's plans for new office.
9. Cover of *Virginia Record* (Feb 1964).
10. Newspaper articles announcing the elevation of Herbert L. Smith III (left) and Louis A. Oliver (right) to the college of Fellows in the AIA.

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

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Tier 2 – 120 hours  
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Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

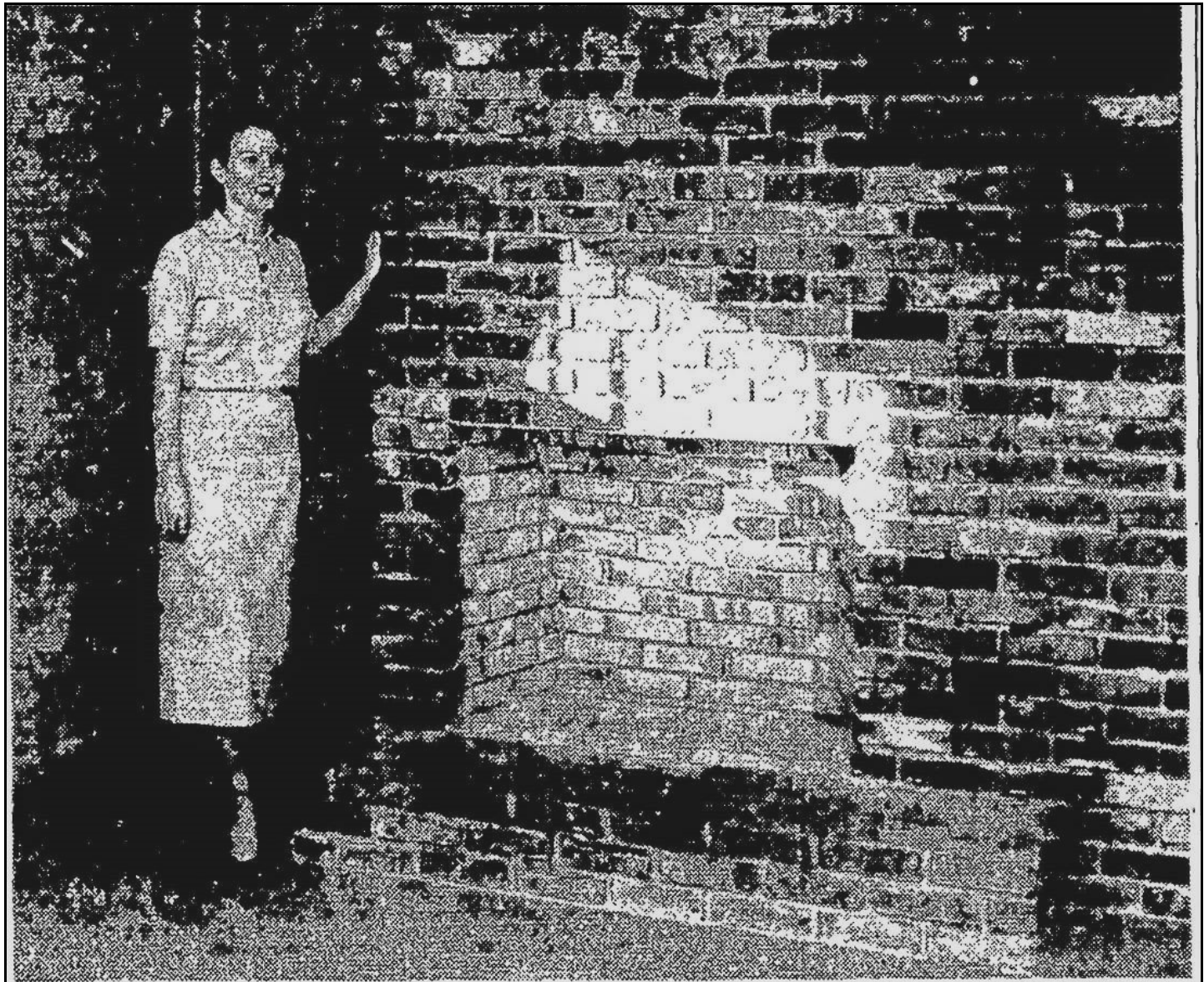
Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District

Name of Property  
City of Virginia Beach, Virginia

County and State  
N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 1



Virginian-Pilot Photos by Kelley

A "five thousand brick" fireplace in the Woodhurst Design No. 4. These bricks also are from the tunnel razing project. At left is Mrs. Julia Morgan Smith.

1. Detail from newspaper article about Woodhurst and use of bricks salvaged from historical buildings demolished in Norfolk. Source: "Centuries-Old Brick Feature of New Homes, Woodhurst Development Offers Escape from Rank-and-File Look," *The Virginian-Pilot*, November 9, 1955:29.



**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District
Name of Property
City of Virginia Beach, Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 2



2. Detail of 1958 aerial photograph showing Woodhurst development (near center) and surrounding rural landscape. The few houses in Alanton can be seen at the right along the shores of Linkhorn Bay and Broad Bay. Source: City of Virginia Beach Center for GIS.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District

Name of Property

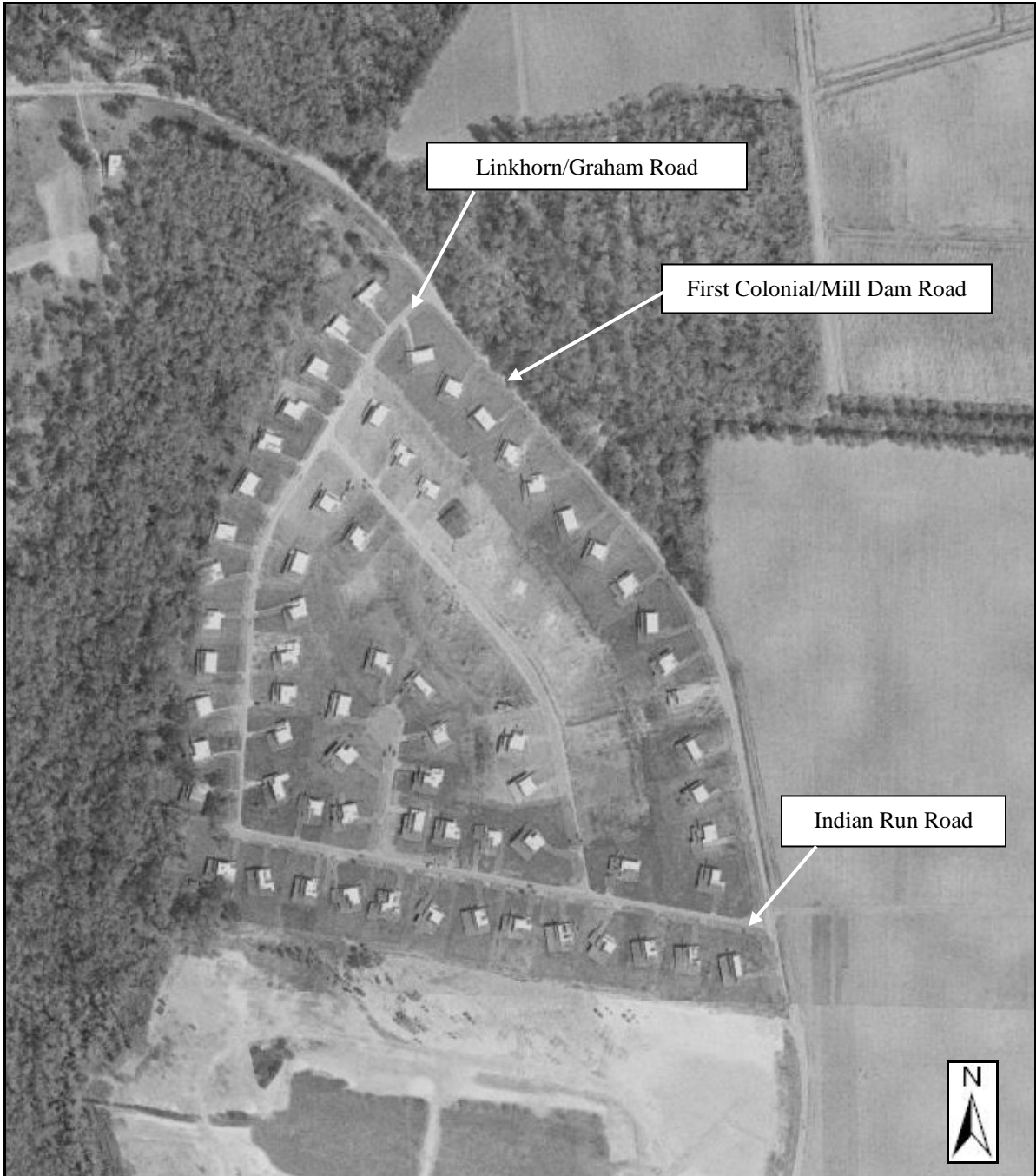
City of Virginia Beach, Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 3



3. Detail of 1958 aerial photograph showing progress of construction in Woodhurst neighborhood. Note that houses on Woodhurst Drive (center street) are still underway. Source: City of Virginia Beach Center for GIS.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District

Name of Property

City of Virginia Beach, Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 4



4. USGS maps showing development in area in 1955.

Source: U.S.G.S. Topographic Quadrangles 1:24000 (1955), Cape Henry and Princess Anne.

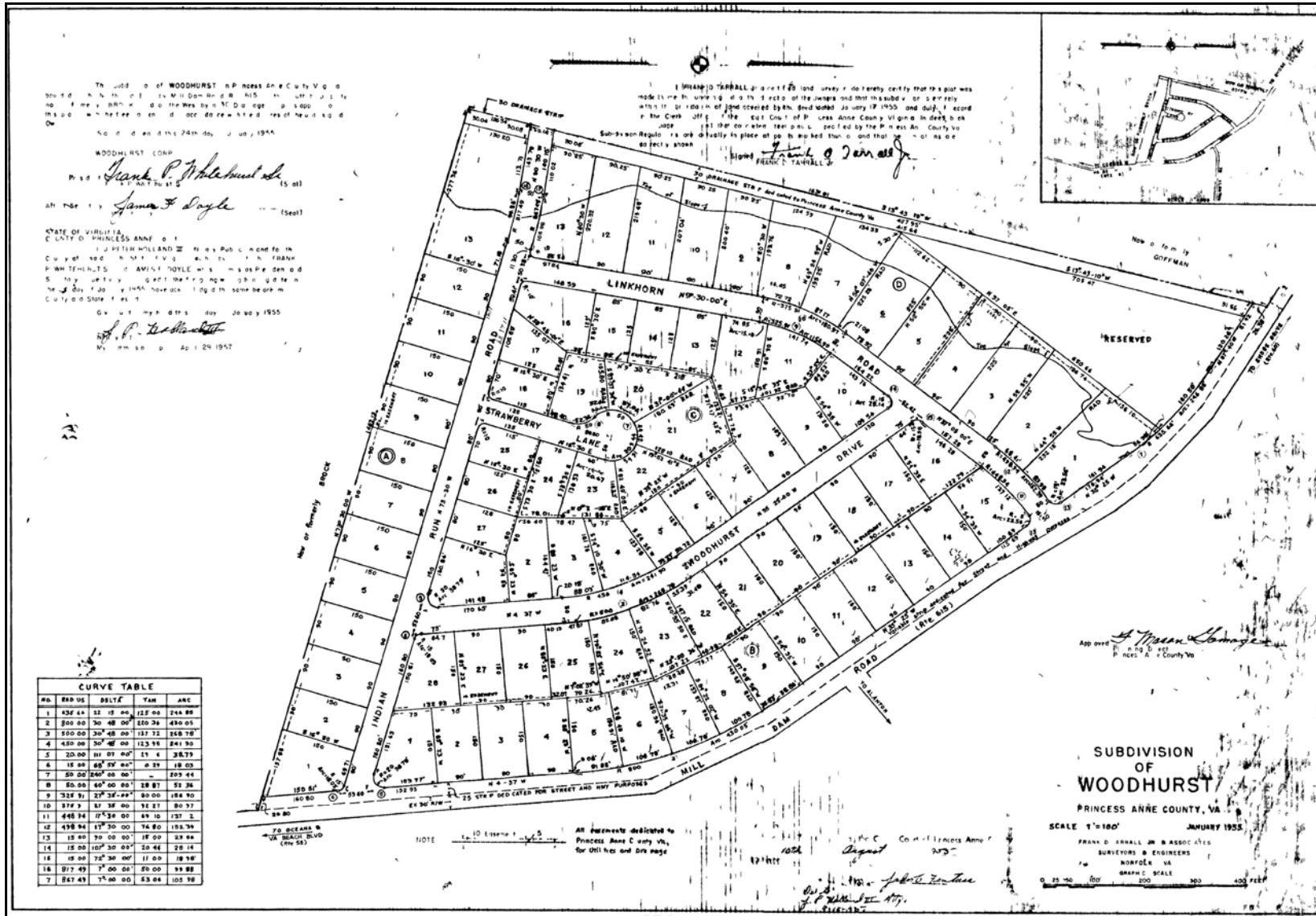


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Additional Documentation Page 5

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District
Name of Property
City of Virginia Beach, Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



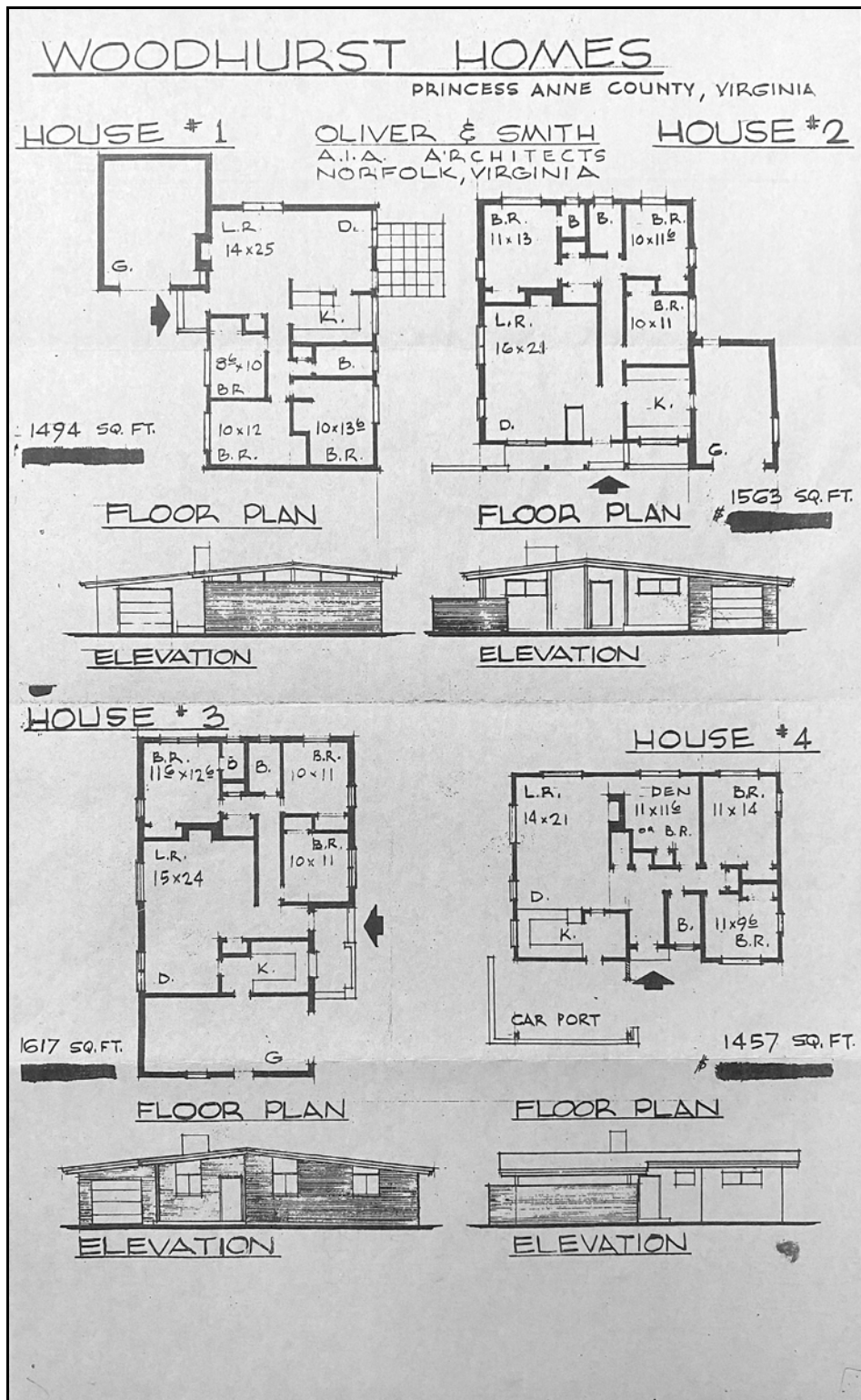
5. 1955 Subdivision Plat for Woodhurst Development. Source: Princess Anne County/City of Virginia Beach Map Book 39:21

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District
Name of Property
City of Virginia Beach, Virginia
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Section number Additional Documentation Page 6



6. Sketches of the four house models designed by the architectural firm of Oliver and Smith for Woodhurst. Courtesy of Wes Johnson, Woodhurst resident.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District
Name of Property
City of Virginia Beach, Virginia
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N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 7

THE FINEST HOMES IN TIDEWATER ...

# Woodhurst Homes

A VIRGINIA CONTEMPORARY

DESIGNED AND ALL CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISED BY OLIVER & SMITH, AIA, NORFOLK, VA.

ALL HOMES HAVE  
3 BEDROOMS

SOME WITH  
1½ BATHS

GENUINE  
PHILIPPINE  
MAHOGANY  
PANELING



MINIMUM SIZE  
12,000  
SQUARE FEET

HIGH, WELL  
DRAINED,  
FERTILE  
LOTS

PRICES FROM  
\$13,575 to \$15,700

MINIMUM FINANCING 5% PLUS CLOSING COSTS. GI, FHA, IN-SERVICE  
AND CONVENTIONAL LOANS AVAILABLE

These are not "gadget houses," but homes in which quality construction has been emphasized throughout. Compare the features in these homes with any other homes in this area for quality of materials, construction, liveability. Highly restricted to protect your investment.

**KITCHEN**

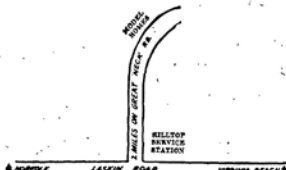
- Built-in Thermador units
- Stainless steel wall ovens
- Natural birch cabinets
- Formica cabinet tops
- Stainless steel sinks
- Exhaust fans
- Vinyl plastic floors, choice of colors

**BATH**

- Sliding door medicine cabinets
- Built-in vanity-lavatories
- Ceramic tile walls and floors, choice of colors

**OTHER FEATURES**

- Raised brick fireplaces
- Perimeter forced air heating
- Sidewall and roof insulation
- Brick construction
- Abundant closet space
- Aluminum sliding windows and screens
- All have lifetime copper plumbing
- Sills and studs termite proofed
- School bus service, mail delivery, milk delivery, free garbage collection
- Washer and 220-volt system
- Built-up marble chip roofs
- Exposed beam ceilings
- Choice of interior and exterior colors
- No like models side by side
- Plastered interiors
- 100 ampere electric service
- Silent wall switches
- Circuit breaker panels



DIRECTIONS: 2 miles from Virginia Beach on Laskin Road. Turn north at Hilltop Service Station and follow Great Neck Road. Models approximately 2 miles on the left.

## DOYLE'S REAL ESTATE

EXCLUSIVE AGENT

3102 PACIFIC AVENUE, VIRGINIA BEACH  
PHONE VIRGINIA BEACH 2791  
NIGHTS 2344 or DIAL MA7-5593

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District
Name of Property
City of Virginia Beach, Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 8



- 8. Photograph from newspaper article about Oliver and Smith's plans for new office.  
Source: *The Virginian-Pilot*, June 3, 1962:A-22.

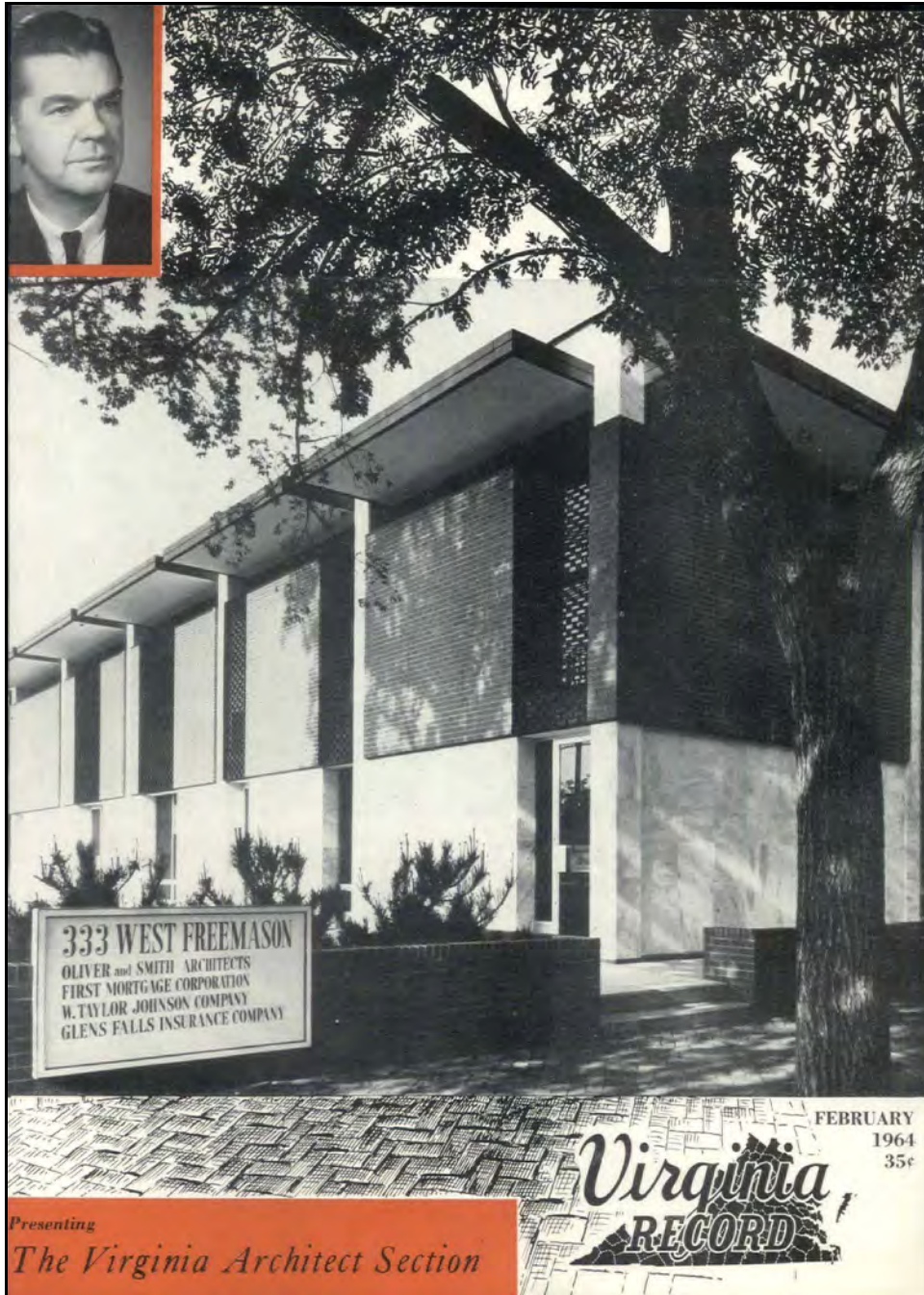


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District
Name of Property
City of Virginia Beach, Virginia
County and State
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Section number Additional Documentation Page 9



9. Cover of *Virginia Record* featuring the new office of Oliver and Smith (photograph by Mr. Oliver) with an inset photograph of Louis A. Oliver, newly elected president of the Virginia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA). Source: *Virginia Record*, Vol. LXXXVI, No. Two (Feb), 1964.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District
Name of Property
City of Virginia Beach, Virginia
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Section number Additional Documentation Page 10



Smith

*Architect  
Fellowship  
For Smith*

WASHINGTON — Herbert L. Smith III, of Norfolk, is one of 82 architects in the country to be advanced this year to fellowship in the American Institute of Architects.

This year's selections bring to 762—11 from Virginia—the number of architects who hold this distinction.

Smith, 46, a native of Norfolk, practices architecture in the Norfolk firm of Oliver & Smith and lives at 1608 Duke of Windsor Road, Virginia Beach. He received his degree in the subject from the University of Virginia.



Oliver

*Architect Selected*

NORFOLK—Louis Arthur Oliver, Norfolk architect, has been elected to the College of Fellows of The American Institute of Architects.

He is one of four Virginians and 62 in the country to be invested at the annual meeting of the AIA in Detroit on June 21. The other Virginians are Charles Burchard, dean of the College of Architecture, Virginia Polytechnic Institute; Frederick Doveton Nichols, professor of architecture at the University of Virginia; and

William Frederick Vosbeck Jr. of Alexandria.

Oliver is a partner in the architectural firms of Oliver & Smith of Norfolk and Oliver, Smith & Cooke of Virginia Beach. Herbert L. Smith III, a partner, was elected a fellow in 1967.

Oliver headed the Virginia chapter, AIA, for two terms and is chairman of the Governor's Research Advisory Committee for School Planning. He has been concerned with school design since the 1950s.

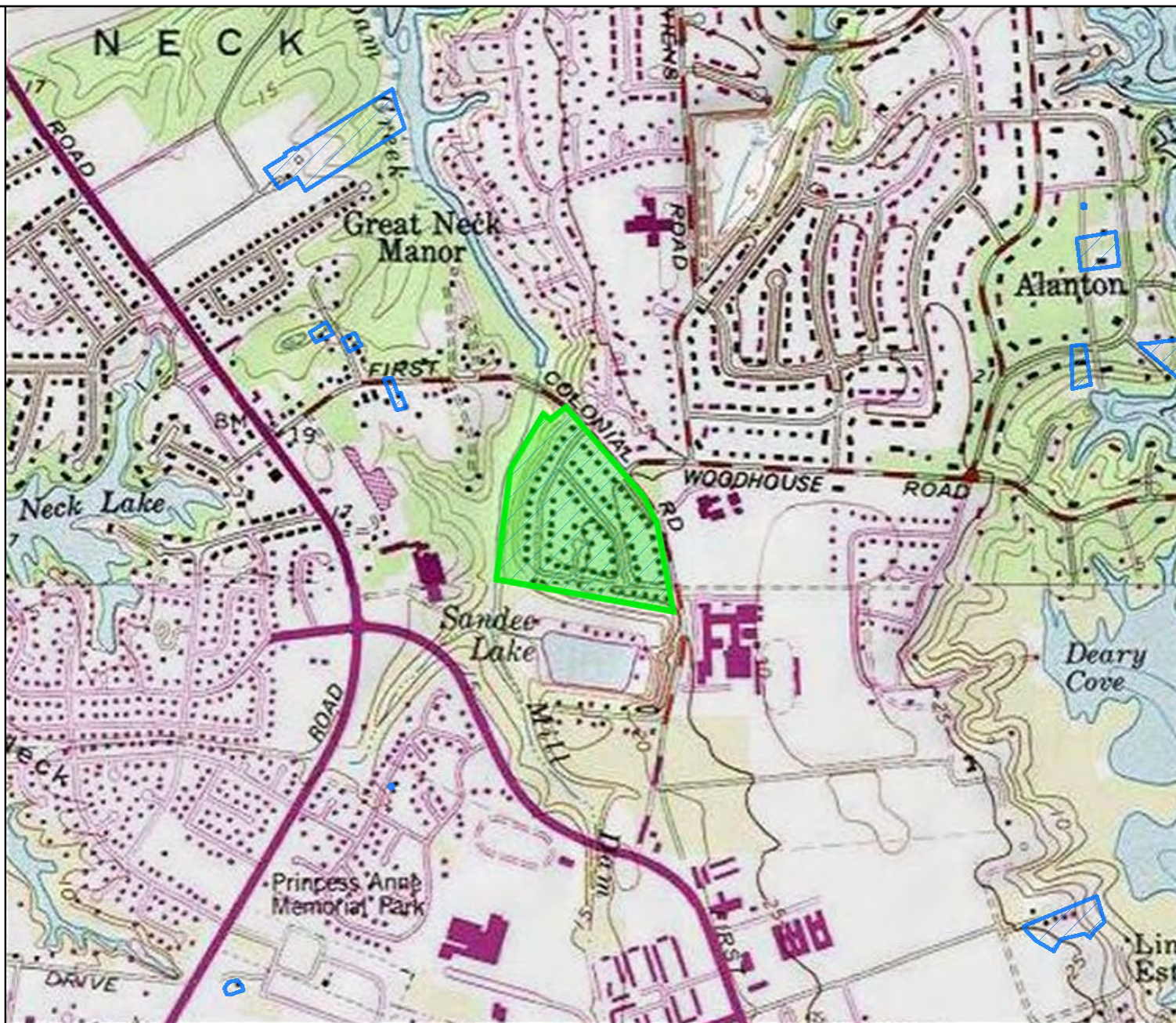
- 10. Newspaper articles announcing the elevation of Herbert L. Smith III (left) and Louis A. Oliver (right) to the college of Fellows in the AIA. Source: *The Virginian-Pilot*, April 23, 1967:64 (Smith); June 8, 1971:7 (Oliver).



Historic District Boundaries

(Cape Henry, Princess Anne Topographic Quadrangles)

TOPOGRAPHIC MAP



Feet

0 500 1000 1500 2000

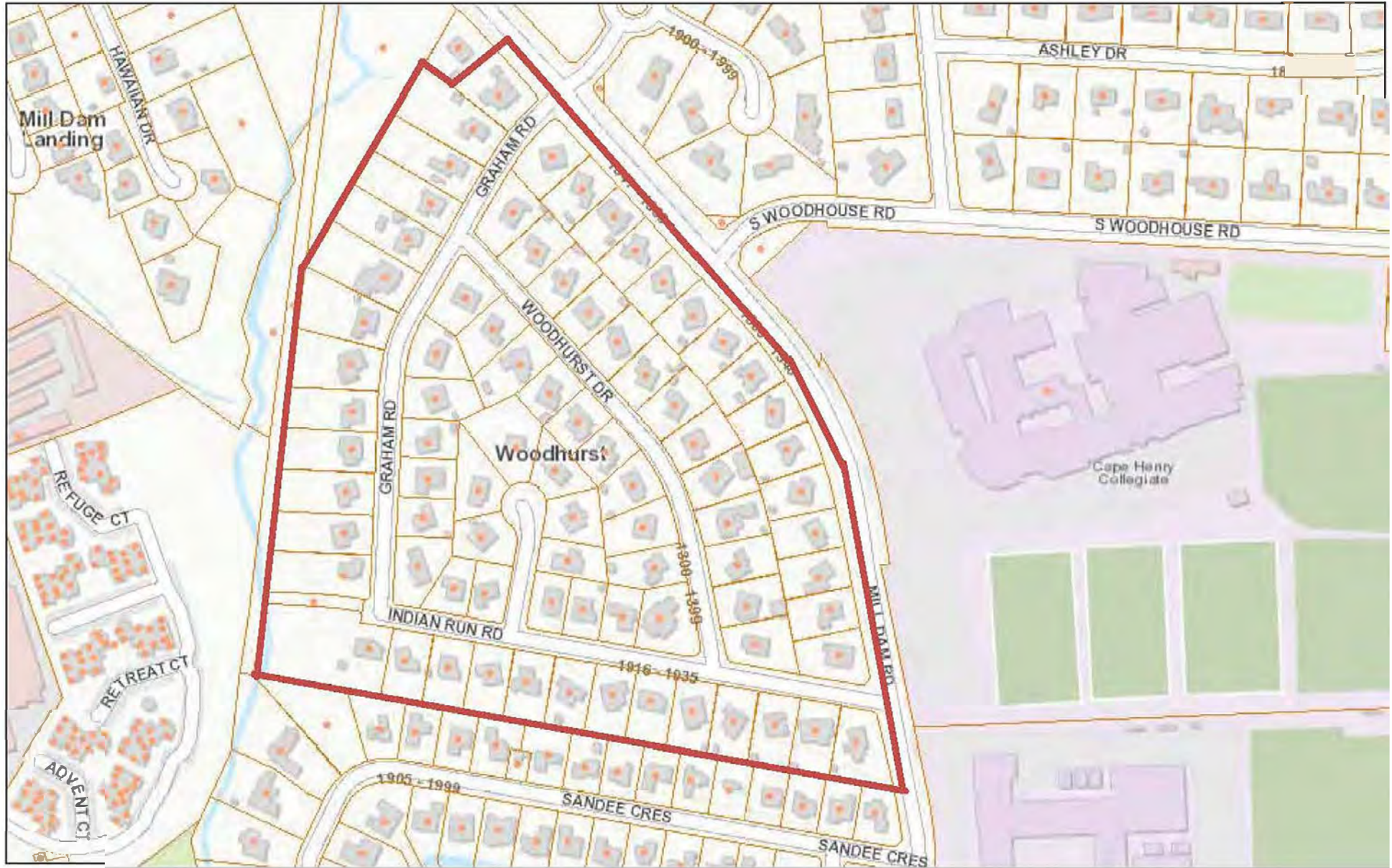
1:18,056 / 1"=1,505 Feet

Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District, 134-5874, Virginia Beach, VA Date: 9/22/2022

DISCLAIMER: Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years from a variety of sources and the representation depicted is a cumulative view of field observations over time and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general information purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses. Map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". More information is available in the DHR Archives located at DHR's Richmond office.

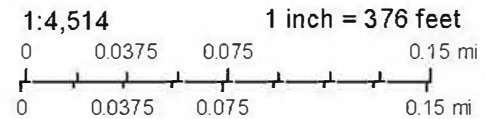
Notice if AE sites: Locations of archaeological sites may be sensitive the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) and Code of Virginia §2.2-3705.7 (10). Release of precise locations may threaten archaeological sites and historic resources.





1/21/2021, 4:36:03 PM

- |             |               |         |               |
|-------------|---------------|---------|---------------|
| HD Boundary | Parcels       | RAMP    | ALLEY         |
| Primary     | City Boundary | PRIMARY | NC            |
| Non-Primary | INTERSTATE    | LOCAL   | Street Ranges |



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri

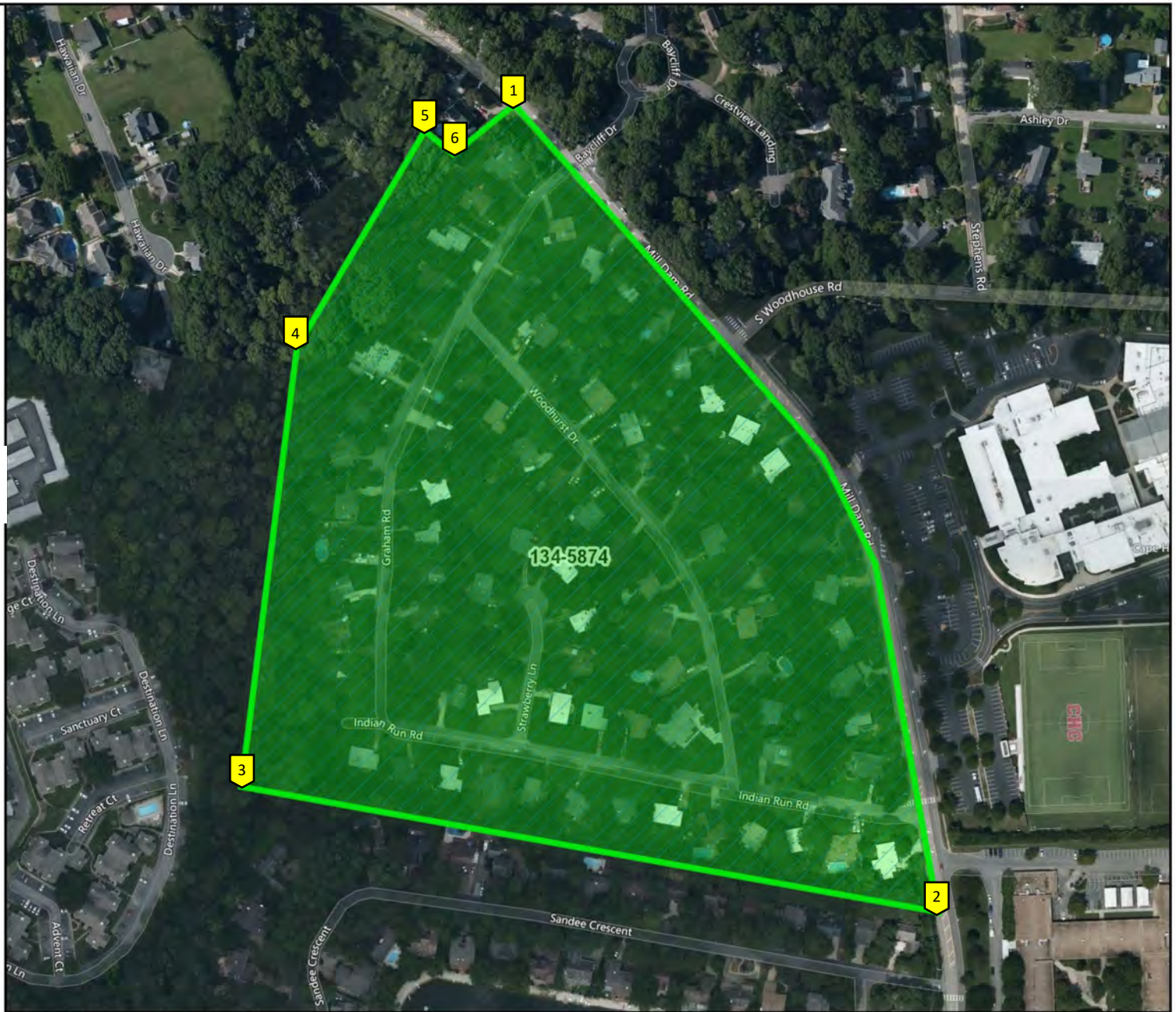


**Legend**

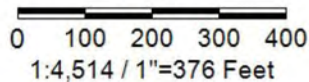
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4.	36.877516	-76.035167
5.	36.878814	-76.034368
6.	36.878682	-76.034076

Nominated Property Boundaries

**LOCATION MAP**



Feet



**Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District, 134-5874 City of Virginia Beach, VA Date: 9/20/2022**

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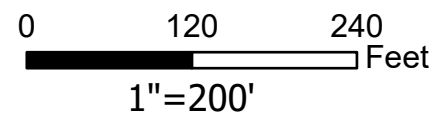
# City of Virginia Beach, VA Woodhurst Historic District SKETCH MAP



DHR #134-5874



-  District
-  Structures
-  Contributing Resources
-  Non-Contributing Resources
- DHR Label = (134-5874-XXXX)
-  Parcels
-  Streets



REFUGE C DESTINATION LN



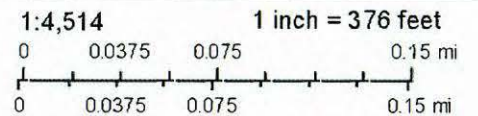
# Woodhurst Neighborhood Historic District City of Virginia Beach City

## Photo Location Map



1/21/2021, 4:36:03 PM

- |             |               |         |               |
|-------------|---------------|---------|---------------|
| HD Boundary | Parcels       | RAMP    | ALLEY         |
| Primary     | City Boundary | PRIMARY | NC            |
| Non-Primary | INTERSTATE    | LOCAL   | Street Ranges |



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, Geo Base, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri

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