

VLR Listed: 7/6/1971
 NRHP Listed: 11/11/1971

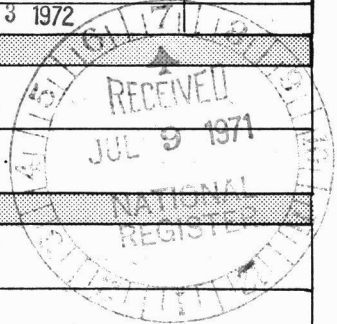
Form 10-300
 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
 INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Virginia	
COUNTY: Charles City	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
APR 13 1972	



1. NAME

COMMON:
Berkeley

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Berkeley

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
.9 mi. S of Rt. 633, .3 mi. S of intersection with Rt. 5

CITY OR TOWN:
(Charles City vic.)

STATE: Virginia CODE: 51 COUNTY: Charles City CODE: 039

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Jamieson

STREET AND NUMBER:
Berkeley Plantation

CITY OR TOWN: Charles City Court House STATE: Virginia CODE: 51

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Charles City County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Charles City STATE: Virginia CODE: 51

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1934, 1935, 1941 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D. C. CODE: 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Virginia	COUNTY: Charles City	ENTRY NUMBER APR 13 1972	DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The residence of this famous James River plantation stands on an eminence overlooking terraces leading down to the river. Flanking the house are two, two-story brick dependencies that date from the 1840's. These dependencies replace eighteenth century ones that stood in approximately the same location.

Built in 1726 the rectangular residence is a double pile house, two stories in height, five bays long on both fronts, and covered by a gable roof out of which projects two tall ridge chimneys with molded caps. Similar to the Nelson House in Yorktown, the gable ends of Berkeley are somewhat naively treated with cornices to give the ends the appearance of being pedimented. The present cornices in the gable ends are restorations, although an early photograph of the house showing the cornices removed also clearly indicates that the cornices were once a feature of the gables. This treatment of the gable ends at Berkeley marks one of the earliest attempts in America at obtaining full heroic pediments.

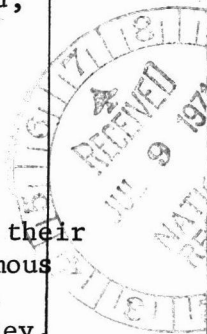
Berkeley's brick walls are laid in Flemish bond with glazed header pattern, and have rubbed brick dressings at the corners and window jambs. The windows are all topped by gauged brick flat arches. The window openings are unusual in that they have wider proportions than are generally found in Virginia structures of the period. The gauged brick pedimented doorways are new, and the survival of a piece of stone cornice in the basement indicates that the doorway trim was originally of that material. Other brick trim on the house includes a rubbed brick belt course and a beveled water table.

Little if any original woodwork survives on Berkeley's interior, although some of the framing such as floor joists and chimney girts appear to date from the original construction. Most of the present interior woodwork dates from a circa 1790 remodeling and is of a simple Early Federal type. The original plan of the house appears to have remained basically unaltered, however.

After acquisition in 1905 by John Jamieson, the house, then in poor condition, was put into good repair. Jamieson's son and daughter-in-law, the present owners, carried out an extensive program of restoration and reconstruction (1937-38). A large nineteenth-century porch that surrounded the house on all four sides was removed, window sash and exterior door framing replaced, and the center stairs rebuilt in returning the house to its eighteenth-century appearance. The restored house is in excellent condition. The first floor and basement are open to visitors and the upper floors are used as a residence.

Much of the land that comprised the chief part of the original Berkeley Hundred remains part of the present plantation, including the site of the original landing. Once more a productive farm, the Berkeley lands, with their open fields and woodlands, provide a handsome historic setting for the famous house. The scenic land approach to the house has changed little from the time when William Byrd of nearby Westover was a frequent visitor to Berkeley.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



6. SIGNIFICANCE

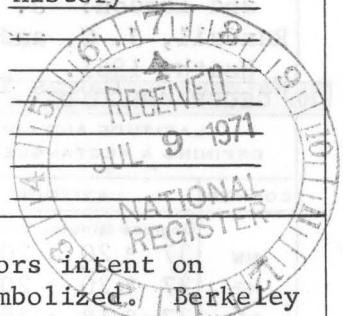
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

On three occasions Berkeley has been despoiled by warriors intent on overthrowing the domestic order which the Plantation symbolized. Berkeley Hundred, one of the more enterprising of the "Particular Plantations" ^(can) founded under authority of the Virginia Company, fell victim to Opechanough during the Massacre of 1622. One hundred-fifty-nine years later, Berkeley was pillaged by Benedict Arnold during his James River campaign. In 1862 the army of the Potomac occupied the plantation.

Much that is known of agricultural experimentation and production in early-Virginia has been derived from the unique record of the affairs of Berkeley Hundred kept by John Smythe of Nibley. Smythe and his associates sold Berkeley to a group of London Merchants during the mid-1630's. About the same time, Benjamin Harrison became Clerk of the Court at Jamestown. Harrison's son purchased Berkeley in 1691; his grandson removed there from the family's Southside home. The fourth Benjamin Harrison (1700-1744) married Anne, daughter of Robert "King" Carter, and built the present Georgian plantation house at Berkeley in 1726.

The third Benjamin Harrison had brought Berkeley to the first rank among Virginia plantations; Harrison's Landing was, for most of the eighteenth century, among the main shipping points on the James River. The fifth Benjamin Harrison (1726-1791)--signatory of the Declaration of Independence, sometime member of the Virginia House, and Governor, and father of a future President of the United States--was master of Berkeley during the last years of Virginia's "Golden Age," and through the struggle for Independence.

For Tidewater Virginia, separation from England coincided with economic decline. Berkeley, a decayed and heavily mortgaged shadow of the once "Great Plantation," was sold by the Bank of the United States soon after the death of the seventh Benjamin Harrison (died 1842).

In the summer of 1862, the camp fires of the Army of the Potomac consumed every tree, but one, along the three-mile river front at Berkeley. One twilight, on the plantation lawn, a buglar sounded the notes of a new call, "Taps." The tune provided a diversion for an invading army which had, according to its commanding general, a "passion for destruction." The soldiers broke "mahogany chairs for the fire and split up a rosewood piano for kindling. But any protest," General McClellan continued, was "immediately received by the soldiers with cursing of the Rebels and all who sympathize with them."

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Christian, Frances Archer and Susanne Williams Massie, editors. Homes and Gardens in Old Virginia. Richmond: Garrett and Massie, Inc., 1962.
 Craven, Wesley. The Southern Colonies in the Seventeenth Century, 1607-1689. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1949.
 Dowdey, Clifford. The Great Plantation. Charles City, Va.: Berkeley Plantation, 1957.
 Lancaster, Robert A., Jr. Historic Virginia Homes and Churches. Philadelphia and London: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1915.
 Randall, J. G. and D. Donald, The Civil War and Reconstruction, Boston: D. C. Heath, 1961.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	37 ° 19 ' 58 "	77 ° 11 ' 47 "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	37 ° 19 ' 58 "	77 ° 10 ' 00 "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	37 ° 18 ' 38 "	77 ° 10 ' 00 "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	37 ° 18 ' 38 "	77 ° 11 ' 47 "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **850 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Staff, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, James W. Moody, Jr., Director
 ORGANIZATION
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
 STREET AND NUMBER:
Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building
 CITY OR TOWN:
Richmond
 STATE
Virginia
 CODE
51

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name James W. Moody, Jr.
 James W. Moody, Jr., Director
 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

Date 6/30/71; 7/6/71

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

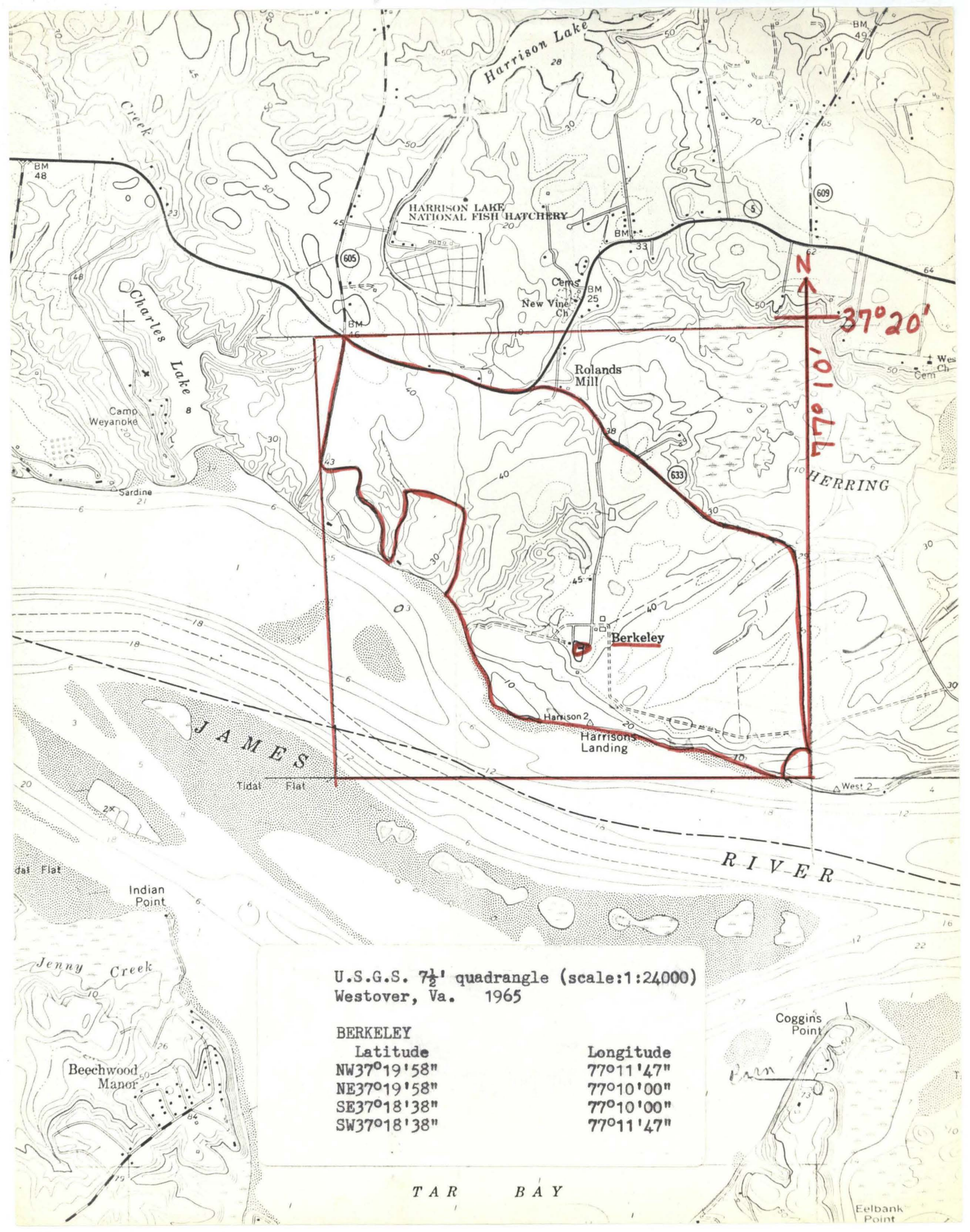
Robert M. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 4/13/72

ATTEST:
William H. Huntley
 Keeper of The National Register

Date APR 1 1972

JTM REF
 10-17-75 um
 18/308020/4133760
 18/307980/4131340
 18/305460/4133820
 18/305420/4131390
 SEE INSTRUCTIONS



U.S.G.S. 7½' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)
 Westover, Va. 1965

BERKELEY	
Latitude	Longitude
NW37°19'58"	77°11'47"
NE37°19'58"	77°10'00"
SE37°18'38"	77°10'00"
SW37°18'38"	77°11'47"

T A R B A Y