

VLR-6/19/91 NRHP-2/6/92

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Port Micouother names/site number DHR 28-274

2. Location

street & number VA Route 674N/A ☐ not for publicationcity, town Loretto☒ vicinitystate Virgicode VAcounty Essexcode 057zip code 22509

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

☒ private☐ public-local☐ public-State☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

☒ building(s)☐ district☐ site☐ structure☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing

2

Noncontributing

1 buildings sites structures objects21 Total

Name or related multiple property listing:

N/ANumber of contributing resources previously
listed in the National Register N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ 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 ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official

Director, VA Dept. of Historic Resources

Date

12 Dec 91

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

☐ entered in the National Register.☐ See continuation sheet.☒ determined eligible for the NationalRegister. ☐ See continuation sheet.☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register.☐ removed from the National Register.☐ other, (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Agriculture: storageDomestic: Single Dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Agriculture: storageVacant (dwelling)**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Federal (dwelling)No Style (granary)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brickwalls Woodroof Metal

other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

Port Micou is situated on the south bank of the Rappahannock River in northern Essex County, Virginia. Founded in the early eighteenth century, Port Micou was a vital trading center throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Today the Port Micou tract is slightly more than one thousand acres, with the historic core of the agricultural enterprise located immediately along the river at the southeast corner of the property. Port Micou's role in river trade is evidenced by an earthen and rubble jetty which projects thirty feet into the Rappahannock River. Two early buildings, both erected ca. 1825-50, stand near the jetty about thirty feet from the river's edge. These are a large story-and-a-half, wood-frame granary, and a story-and-a-half frame dwelling with a tall raised basement. North of the dwelling is a noncontributing mid-twentieth-century ranch house of wood-frame and brick veneer construction.

ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS

The site, on the inside of a oxbow of the Rappahannock, is only thirty feet from the deep water channel. This proximity to navigable water, and the intervening shallows, simplified the building of a jetty and wharf complex. The jetty remains, and extends about thirty feet into the river. Evidence of a wharf exists in the form of wooden pilings that extend further into the river channel, and some that run southward for about forty feet. The present jetty is composed of a variety of materials with fragments of stone, reinforced concrete, and brick visible. Some of this material may have been deposited in the 1950s when the owner of the land, John Raines, cleared the area west of the warehouse of large quantities of brick.¹

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Agriculture

Architecture

Period of Significance

1835-1860

Significant Dates

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The antebellum granary and dwelling at Port Micou are significant for their association with the agricultural history of the region and also as unusually well-fashioned and intact examples of their building types. Port Micou is located in northern Essex County along the Rappahannock River, the region's main transportation artery in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The granary and farmhouse date from a period of agricultural renaissance in the second quarter of the nineteenth century, being erected by an unknown builder for Robert Payne Waring (d. 1847) or his son-in-law Richard Baylor. Waring was one of the wealthiest men in Virginia, owning over five thousand acres of choice farmland worked by more than five hundred slaves. Both Waring and Baylor ran highly capitalized, progressive farming operations that presaged the large-scale, mechanized agriculture that came to dominate eastern Virginia in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The large two-story frame granary, notable for its exceptionally fine workmanship, originally stored wheat and perhaps flour that was shipped directly to tidewater cities from the wharf at Port Micou. The small story-and-a-half frame dwelling nearby, probably intended to serve as an overseer's house, may have been erected at the same time by the same builder.

HISTORICAL ANALYSIS

The part of Essex County that became known as Port Micou was granted to John Meador and Henry Peters in 1667.¹ There is no evidence that these men intended to farm this patent of 4200 acres, and the land was subsequently divided and sold. The French Huguenot Paul Micou (1657-1736) made his first purchase of land in Essex County in 1697, and continued buying land until 1714.² By this time he had amassed 931 acres on the Rappahannock. The historic descriptions are difficult to trace today, but the total acreage is similar to the

9. Major Bibliographical References

☒ See continuation sheet

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State historic preservation office
☐ Other State agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☐ Other

Specify repository:

Virginia Dept. of Historic Resources
221 Governor St., Richmond, VA 23219

10. Geographical Data

Acres of property 102 acres

UTM References

A 18 319830 4221470
Zone Easting Northing
C 18 319030 4220985

B 18 319775 4220975
Zone Easting Northing
D 18 319140 4221485

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated property is delineated by the polygon whose vertices are marked by the following UTM reference points: A 18/319830/4221470, B 18/319775/4220975, C 18/319030/4220985, and D 18/319140/4221485.

☐ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the farmhouse, outbuildings, and fields that have historically been associated with Port Micou and that maintain historical integrity.

☐ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

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Granary

Slightly southwest of the jetty stands the grain warehouse of Port Micou. This one-story, wood-frame structure sits atop a raised brick basement laid in five-course common bond. It measures approximately forty feet square, and has later shed additions on the north and south. The building has a gable-end orientation, with its east end facing the river. It has a very tall loft accessible from an interior staircase. There is no chimney, nor evidence of one, in the structure. The warehouse is sheathed in random-width weatherboard, and is roofed with standing-seam metal. Architectural evidence, such as the use of fully mature machine-made nails, suggest it was built in the second quarter of the nineteenth century.

The granary rests on a low brick basement. This basement, which appears to have partially silted in, presently measures five feet from dirt floor to floor joists. The basement is entered from the east (river) side through a ground-level entrance about eight feet wide. Flanking this opening are two windows that measure one-by-two feet and are secured by one-inch-square, horizontal wrought-iron bars. Other, similar windows admit light on the other walls.

At main-floor level there are three louvered windows in the east gable end. A loft door set directly above the central window provides access to the loft. Two additional louvered windows are placed directly over this door high in the gable. Louvered windows are used throughout the granary. This type of window design allowed ventilation while preventing rain or direct sunlight from damaging stored grain. On the west elevation, two windows flank a six-by-three foot door with louvered transom; this door opens into the first floor, which is three feet above grade. The stair that once led to the door is now gone.

Along the north and south elevations central six-by-four-foot doors with louvered transoms are flanked by two-by-five-foot, louvered windows. These large doors facilitated the movement of bulky goods into and out of the granary. Now vacant mortises located in the sills on both sides of the doors suggest that platforms and stairs once existed. The doors are constructed of two layers of lumber, one of boards arranged vertically and one of boards set diagonally; these are fastened to three horizontal inner rails, creating solid wooden doors about three inches thick. To further increase security, the doors are studded with clenched nails spaced in rows and columns one to two inches apart. Three two-inch-wide strap hinges run the full width of each door. These hinges, and the hinge pintels, are of wrought iron. All the doors in the granary are built in this fashion. Open wooden sheds have been added the full length of both sides of the building. They are supported by six unevenly spaced, stripped log poles. The craftsmanship in these additions is inferior to the rest of building.

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An examination of the interior of the granary/warehouse reveals that it is built entirely of oak timbers assembled in post-and-beam fashion. The main structural elements are hand-hewn and pit-sawn timbers varying from seven to twelve inches square. The framing is assembled with mortise-and-tenon joints that are pegged. All posts are chamfered. Two large summer beams that support the first-floor joist run east-west across the basement and are supported by three evenly spaced wooden posts set on brick piers. These beams each support two first-floor posts that are seven inches square. They in turn support two large beams that run the width of the building. These beams measure eighteen by ten inches, and are of solid timber. Brackets four inches thick and five feet long distribute the load from the beams to the posts. The beams are fastened to the brackets by seven-inch-long wrought-iron spikes. The loft floor joists span the distance from the wall plates to the beams. The joists average four by twelve inches in size. The joists are notched over both the beams and the plates, and are spaced roughly fourteen inches on center. The warehouse employs false plate construction for the eaves. The roof framing employs a variety of lumber sizes. The distance from the loft floor to the ridge of the roof is nineteen and one-half feet, and required many of the rafters to be made by joining shorter pieces with scarf joints and pegs. These rafters were later reinforced by scabbing two-by-four-inch lumber to the sides. Rafters are mitered and nailed at the ridge; there is no ridge board. Short lengths of lumber are mortised into the gable end rafters creating a one foot gable end roof overhang. These outriggers are wedged in place with oak pegs driven through the exposed end of the mortise. Exterior siding is a combination of original, straight-sawn and circular-sawn. The roof sheathing is circular-sawn, and fastened with fully mature machine-made nails. Loose shingles in the loft suggest that a wood shingles once covered the roof.

The first floor of the structure was once a single large room, but was divided in the twentieth century into storage bins by low board partitions. The first-floor walls are sheathed with closely fitted one-inch boards to a height of about fifty inches. Nailed to the wall posts and studs, this sheathing is capped with a one-inch board that is notched to fit around studs and posts. This sheathing, and the structure's tightly jointed floor, created a storage envelope forty feet square by fifty inches high to prevent grain from dropping from the warehouse through cracks in the joinery. It also created a smooth surface for shovelling loose grain, and hindered the movement of rodents into the grain storage area. All interior sheathing and flooring is circular-sawn, and fastened with fully mature machine-made nails. All flooring is two inches thick and of random width. Some interior materials are hand-planed.

A stairway is located just north of center of the structure. This stairway is of closed-stringer design without risers, and is slightly over four feet wide. Each tread is deep (about ten inches), and the pitch of the stairs is shallow (nine inches of rise for each tread). The loft is also one

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room. The knee walls and gable-end walls are sheathed just like the first-floor walls. The stair opening is enclosed by a three-foot-high wall made of hand-hewn studs and hand-planed boards, some of which are twenty-four inches wide.

Dwelling

About two hundred feet north of the warehouse stands a one-story, gable-roofed dwelling which is set on a high, raised brick basement laid in five-course American bond. The structure is of wood-frame construction and has a side-passage plan.

Measuring approximately thirty by nineteen feet, this three-bay building is sheathed in random-width weatherboard. Its roof is covered with a standing-seam metal roof. The main elevation of the dwelling faces the river (east), and an exterior end chimney is located on the south gable wall. The brick of both the foundation and the chimney retains some of its coat of whitewash. The siding is heavily weathered but retains traces of circular saw marks. The frame of this dwelling is composed of pit-sawn and hand-hewn timbers mortised and tenoned together. All visible nails are of the fully mature machine-made type.

The basement contains two rooms and a passage that leads to the interior stairs. The main room, about sixteen by eighteen feet with a seven-foot ceiling, is lit by five six-over-six glazed windows, two on both the eastern and western walls and one in the southern gable end. This window, and a doorway now covered by a recent shed-roofed stoop, flank the double-shouldered, gable-end chimney. There is no evidence of a hearth in the basement; however, there is a circular flue opening that once served a wood or coal burning stove. Well lit, fully finished with plastered walls and ceiling, and unheated, the basement could have been closed off from the rest of the building, a circumstance that suggests that the basement was perhaps used as an office for Port Micou farm and wharf. The farm manager probably lived on the upper floors. In the northeast corner of this main room is a door that leads into a small passage. A partition separates this hall from a six-by-nine foot room illuminated by a single window. Another gable-end window lights the narrow passage and stairs.

The main floor of the building contains the side passage and a single living chamber. The stair from the basement opens into the passage where double doors face the river and a second set of double doors, removed and replaced by six-over-six windows, once opened on the land side. Little evidence remains of the porches that stood on both the east and west sides of the building. Four nine-over-six double-hung glazed windows light the chamber, which is nineteen feet square

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with a hearth centered in the south wall. The room is trimmed with base molding, chair rail, and crown molding. This molding is plain and is Italianate in character as is the mantel. The lath, visible in some places, is circular sawn. This physical evidence suggests that the interior of the building was replaced sometime in the latter part of the nineteenth century.

There are two rooms in the loft of the building that are connected by a narrow passage. The southern room is the larger of the two and measures twelve by sixteen feet. It has a hearth that is flanked by two windows on the south wall. The second room measures about eight by ten feet and has neither fireplace or exterior windows. Light is provided by a window that opens into the hall and that is lit by the two north gable windows.

A modern ranch house located on the property is considered a noncontributing resource.

END NOTE

1. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, "Port Micou" survey form, file no. 28-274, completed November 1973 by Jeffrey M. O'Dell. Additional evidence of an older house appears in Paul Wilstach, Tidewater Virginia (New York, 1945), where the author recalls seeing two solitary chimneys at Port Micou that probably represented the remains of a former plantation house.

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amounts that have been recorded for Port Micou to the present.³ During the period that the Micou family owned the property, it became an important trading center for upper Essex County and the newly formed county of Caroline.⁴

Port Micou likely contained both a wharf complex and goods warehouse during the eighteenth century. Local tradition holds that a tobacco warehouse was constructed at Port Micou in 1746; however, this information cannot be verified.⁵ It is possible that the earthen jetty which remains was constructed on the site of the original eighteenth-century one.

By 1754 Port Micou was important enough to be recorded on the Fry-Jefferson map along with such plantations as Blandfield, Mount Airy and Sabine Hall. The mid-eighteenth century was perhaps the high point of Port Micou while owned by the Micou family. Later, in the late-eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, Port Micou suffered the fate of many Virginia farms as the soil became worn out by intensive agriculture.

The Micou tenure ended in 1826 when the property was sold to the Dickinson family; however, they retained access to the family cemetery described as being a half acre and enclosed by a brick wall.⁶ Nine years later, Robert Payne Waring purchased the property and Port Micou entered a new period of prosperity.⁷

At the time Robert Payne Waring bought the property, Virginia was experiencing an economic depression brought on by the depletion of soil nutrients and the associated decline in tobacco production that had left many areas in "the lowest state of degradation."⁸

In the 1850s the pioneering ideas of Edmund Ruffin and the availability of imported guano ushered in a new era in Virginia's agriculture.⁹ Production increases of better than one hundred percent were reported and farms prospered.¹⁰ However, this dramatic reversal in agricultural prosperity cannot be credited to Ruffin alone. The methods advocated by Ruffin needed other men of insight to apply them to their lands. Two of these were Robert Payne Waring and his son-in-law Richard Baylor. It is not clear when these Essex landowners began experimenting with marl, but in 1841 Richard Baylor wrote to the Farmer's Register about his success using both marl and shell limestone.¹¹ Records for the production of Waring's holdings remain to be found, but there is no doubt that his agricultural enterprises were successful.

Robert Payne Waring was one of the wealthiest men in antebellum Virginia.¹² When his will was proven and the lands divided in 1847, his estate was valued at nearly \$600,000.¹³

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This considerable sum did not include his imposing brick mansion at Edenetta (built in 1828 on a promontory two miles inland from the Rapphannock) or its surrounding lands, but it did include Glen Cairne, a formerly one-room-plan house built by Waring's ancestors possibly as early as 1730.¹⁴ In the span of slightly over one hundred years, the Waring family had succeeded in elevating itself from an average farm family to a position of great wealth. In a period when many families were losing vast fortunes, Waring apparently excelled at the skills of crop husbandry.¹⁵ The total acreage of the Waring lands was more than five thousand acres at fourteen separate farms, and required the efforts of five hundred and forty-three slaves.¹⁶

Waring, however, did not limit himself strictly the growing crops. He also owned the largest flour mill in the county, "a very valuable and costly mill capable of grinding all the meal consumed by the customers of all the mills [in the county]."¹⁷ Following Waring's death, his property was divided into five different lots. One of these lots contained Port Micou.¹⁸

Port Micou was inherited by Richard Baylor, Waring's son-in-law, who was a strong supporter of Edmund Ruffin's progressive farming techniques. It was the fifth largest of Waring's separate farms and contained "five hundred and sixty eight acres Pocoson and Marsh, and the residue in arable land."¹⁹ In his will, Waring made allowances for the payment of his overseers who resided on his five largest farms, one of which was Port Micou.²⁰ At the time of his death, Port Micou was a major agricultural concern. The probate inventory for Port Micou lists, in part, forty-two slaves, ten work oxen, fourteen mules and horses, and a variety of animals providing dairy products and other saleable goods. It also lists fourteen plowing hoes, two heavy plows, wagons, scythes, shovels, axes, carpenter's tools, a wheat fan, and a threshing machine. Threshing machines were not in general use in the 1840s; they were usually employed by wealthy and progressive farmers.²¹

It was the acceptance of these progressive agricultural techniques that makes Port Micou and the other Waring properties significant. Waring's wealth was not based on the soil-exploitive practices that gave rise to the large plantations of the eighteenth century, but on sound thinking that embraced many of the same soil conservation techniques practiced today. Even though George Washington experimented with crop rotation as early as 1786, his descendants failed to carry these innovations to fruition.²² While the owners of Mount Vernon divided and sold their farm land, and even pondered the sale of the plantation house itself, Richard Baylor entertained his friends with fish fries, sponsored horse races, and dreamed of the next hunt.²³ Port Micou remained an important agricultural enterprise due to the endeavors of

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its owners and their acceptance of new agricultural practices. It is representative of the trend that brought Virginia's agricultural economy from the point of failure to the level of stability and prosperity that existed just prior to the Civil War.²⁴

In addition to the agricultural activities, Port Micou remained an active riverboat stop well into the nineteenth century.²⁵ Although it was eventually overshadowed by Saunders Wharf, which was established downstream at Wheatland plantation in the mid-nineteenth century, the wharf at Port Micou nevertheless remained an part element of the commerical and agricultural system developed by Waring and Baylor.²⁶

The dwelling and granary that survive at Port Micou were built either for Robert Payne Waring, or for Richard Baylor shortly after his father-in-law's death. It is unlikely that Richard Baylor used the existing dwelling at Port Micou for himself, since in the 1840s, before taking title to Port Micou, he had erected a large Greek Revival mansion at Kinloch, some three miles west.²⁷ The construction features of the two extant buildings at Port Micou suggest they were erected between about 1825 and 1850. The 1847 plat of Port Micou shows a larger and more elaborate dwelling house.²⁸ Whether this is a surveyor's symbolic representation of a plantation (similar buildings appear on the other plats drawn at the same time), or an actual depiction of the eighteenth-century Micou home is difficult to tell. The only other structure that appears on the plat is a cryptic reference to the "Old Barn at Lee's Quarter."²⁹ Lee's Quarter is not mentioned in any other eighteenth- or nineteenth-century document consulted; however, the name is still in use in a hand drawn sketch of the property completed in the twentieth century by Richard Baylor, the owner of the property at that time.³⁰ The absence of other buildings on the plat can not be taken to mean that none existed. Buildings that were specifically listed on other farms are not shown on the plats of those properties. The twentieth-century drawing of Port Micou shows other cabins and houses on the property, and indicates that an additional building stood at the site of the antebellum dwelling and granary.

Port Micou remained in the Baylor family until 1950 when it was sold to John and Sally Raines.³¹ The Raineses lived and worked at Port Micou until 1966 when it was sold to a European corporate body.³² The present owner is Heinz Welger-Merkle, a German industrialist.³³ Mr. Welger-Merkle leases the land to Mr. Ray Thomas of Thomas and Sons Grain Company of Loretto. Wheat and corn are the predominant crops, giving Port Micou much the same appearance it has had for almost three hundred years.

Little remains of the vast estate of Robert Payne Waring. Only one of the original farms,

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Little remains of the vast estate of Robert Payne Waring. Only one of the original farms, Port Tobacco, is still in the Baylor family and used for agriculture. A granary similar in construction to the one at Port Micou still stands on this property.³⁴ The outbuildings of Richard Baylor's farm at Marl Bank were brought down in the last twenty years.³⁵ Baylor's manor house at Kinloch was lost to fire in the 1940s.³⁶

The landscape of Port Micou has changed little since the first plat was drawn in 1847. Lands that appeared then as marsh are still marsh; the river still occupies the same channel; and the property lines are roughly those surveyed in 1980.³⁷ Although a mid-twentieth century house has been constructed on the property, the strip of land bordering the river remains unchanged. Many of the buildings that once comprised the agricultural complex have disappeared from view, but much of the history of Port Micou, and the people who lived there, is yet to be discovered.

END NOTES

1. The original holders of the patent are referenced in several later deeds. Essex County Deed and Will Book, Vol. 13, p. 76.

2. Micou purchased property in the following quantities and years: in 1697, 150 acres; in 1708, 406 acres; in 1712, 250 acres; in 1714, 75 acres and 50 acres. Essex County, Deed and Will Books, Vol. 9, p. 104, Vol. 13, p. 76, and Vol. 14, pp. 78, 227, 314.

3. The will of Robert Payne Waring lists the property at 1145 acres of arable land. A drawing done in the twentieth century by Richard Baylor lists the Port Micou farm as 1035 acres. The property description for the most recent purchase lists 1008.6 acres. Essex County Will Book, Vol. 26, pp. 131-176; the collection of Wythe Bowe; Essex County Deed Book, Vol. 153, p. 122.

4. James B. Slaughter, Settlers, Southerners, Americans: The History of Essex County, Virginia 1608-1984, p. 105.

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5. "Port Micou", file no. 28-174, 1973 and 1975 reports by Jeff O'Dell. Architectural Archives, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Va.
6. Essex County Deed Book, Vol. 42, p. 205.
7. Essex County Deed Book, Vol. 26, p. 133.
8. Avery Odelle Craven, Soil Exhaustion as a Factor in the Agricultural History of Virginia and Maryland, 1607-1860 (Urbana, Illinois: The University of Illinois Press, 1926), p. 84.
9. Lewis Cecil Gray, History of Agriculture in the Southern United States to 1860 (1932; reprint by Peter Smith: Gloucester, Mass., 1958), pp. 805-06.
10. Craven, p. 153.
11. Richard Baylor, "Manuring with Purchased Marl and Lime," Farmer's Register, 2 Sept. 1841, p. 80.
12. Slaughter, p. 115.
13. Essex County Will Book, Vol. 26, p. 131.
14. Essex County Will Book, Vol. 25, p. 140; Slaughter, p. 49.
15. Craven, p. 84.
16. Essex County Will Book, Vol. 26, pp. 131-41.
17. Slaughter, p. 115.
18. Essex County Will Book, Vol. 26, p. 131.
19. Plat of Port Micou, Essex County Plat Book, Vol. 1A, p. 17.
20. Essex County Will Book, Vol. 15, p. 457.
21. Gray, p. 799.
22. Craven, p. 87.
23. Slaughter, pp. 94, 97-98.
24. Craven, pp. 147-61.
25. Slaughter, p. 231.

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26. Ibid, p. 105.
27. Ibid., p. 105.
28. Plat of Port Micou, Essex County Plat Book, Vol. 1A, p. 17.
29. Ibid.
30. Collection of Wythe Bowe, Essex County, Va.
31. Essex County Deed Book, Vol. 88, p. 433.
32. Essex County Deed Book, Vol. 100, p. 272.
33. Essex County Deed Book, Vol. 153, p. 122.
34. "Port Tobago", file no. 28-276, 1976 report by Jeff O'Dell.
Architectural Archives, Virginia Dept. of Historic Resources,
Richmond, Va.
35. Interview with Wythe D. Bowe III, Loretto, Va., 1990.
36. Slaughter, p. 105.
37. Plat of Port Micou, Essex County Plat Book, Vol. 15, p. 26.

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Virginia Department of Historic Resources, File Number 28-274.

James B. Slaughter, Settlers, Southerners, Americans: The History of Essex County, Virginia 1608-1984.

Avery Odelle Craven, Soil Exhaustion as a Factor in the Agricultural History of Virginia and Maryland, 1606-1860.

Lewis Cecil Gray, History of Agriculture in the Southern United States.

Paul Wilstach, Tidewater Virginia.

Interview with Wyth Bowe.

Papers in the personal collection of Wyth Bowe.

Farmers Register.

Essex County Records, Tappahannock, Virginia:

Deed Books-26, 39, 42, 88, 100, 153;

Order Books-4, 6;

Will Books-6, 15, 25, 26;

Deed and Will Books-4, 9, 13, 14;

Land Books 1880-1885;

Plat Books-15, 1A.

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PHOTOGRAPH LIST

1. Port Micou
Essex County, Virginia
Negative on file at the Virginia State Library & Archives, Richmond, VA
Photo taken by Dean Doerrfeld, Spring 1990
Negative # 11536
View of granary and dwelling
Photo 1 of 3
3. View of dwelling
Photo 2 of 3
4. View of granary
Photo 3 of 3

PORT MICOI,
ESSEX CO, VA.
UTM REFERENCES:
A 18/319830/4221470
B 18/319775/4220975
C 18/319030/4220985
D 18/319140/4221485

