

VLR Listed: 11/19/1974  
NRHP Listed: 3/26/1974

Form 10-300  
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# DATA SHEET

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Virginia	
COUNTY: Virginia Beach (in City)	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	
MAP 26 1975	

### 1. NAME

COMMON:  
Upper Wolfsnare

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Brick House Farm

### 2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: .2 mile north of Route 635, .7 mile east of intersection of Routes 635 and 632, south of Wolfsnare Creek.

CITY OR TOWN:  
Virginia Beach

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

Second (G. William Whitehurst)

STATE

Virginia

CODE

51

CODE

810

COUNTY:

(in City)

### 3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	Public Acquisition:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted
<input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process	<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Agricultural  Government  Park  
 Commercial  Industrial  Private Residence  Transportation  
 Educational  Military  Religious  Other (Specify) Comments  
 Entertainment  Museum  Scientific

### 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:

Princess Anne County Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER:

609 Bay Colony Drive

CITY OR TOWN:

Virginia Beach

STATE:

Virginia

CODE

51

### 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

City Hall

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

Virginia Beach

STATE

Virginia

CODE

51

### 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

DATE OF SURVEY: 1958

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: Virginia Beach (in city)	ENTRY NUMBER MAP 26 1975	DATE
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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)					
	<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

Upper Wolfsnare lies in an open, flat, marshy area near Londonbridge in the city of Virginia Beach. With its open site, surrounded at a distance by trees, and with its two massive chestnut-oak trees flanking the house, Upper Wolfsnare has retained a deceptively rural appearance despite its location between a superhighway and a naval air station.

The house is a two-story, Flemish-bond brick structure on a basement, featuring a gable roof, modillion cornice, and interior end chimneys with corbelled caps. To either end of the three-bay building later wings were attached. One of these, along with a later front porch, has recently been removed. The front (south) door opening was enlarged sometime in the first half of the nineteenth century, judging by the door, and at another time all of the original sash were replaced by two-over-two sash. These, in turn, have recently been removed, and late-eighteenth-century-type reproduction sash installed. Cellar windows on the front were blocked when the full-length porch was added. Those on the rear retain their original grills with horizontal wooden mullions.

In plan, Upper Wolfsnare resembles other contemporary houses in Virginia Beach, Pleasant Hall particularly. A central passage divides the house. Off this to the right, at the rear, is a triple-run stair. Two large front rooms, a dining room to the west and a parlor to the east, are the most elaborate in the house. A narrow room behind the dining room, which may have been a study, can only be entered through the dining room. Another room, as deep as the study but only half as wide because of the intrusion of the stair hall, lies behind the parlor and can be entered only through a door under the stair.

Upper Wolfsnare is decorated throughout with raised paneling and wainscoting with minimal moldings, a treatment typical in the area. In the central passage are raised panel wainscoting, a molded cornice, and a plain stair with square newel and two square balusters to a riser as well as simple sawn brackets. The corner fireplace in the parlor is paneled to the ceiling. The segmental-arched opening with its sparse white plaster surround has a simple architrave frame. Over the opening is a large rectangular raised panel over a small one. The whole is flanked by a pair of tall, narrow panels over shorter ones. A paneled wainscot with a single small torus mold at the top, similar to that in the passage, is carried around the other walls. The same panel arrangement is used in the dining room. The fireplace here, however, is in the end wall, and to the right of the chimney breast is a closet with a single rectangular panel over it. A chair rail and cornice encircle the room. In the study, the segmental-arched fireplace has a horizontal rectangular panel over it and a vertical rectangular panel and a closet with a four-panel door to either side. A double-beaded chair board is carried around the room. All of the other rooms have segmental-arched fireplaces with small, horizontal, rectangular panels over them. Several have double-beaded chair boards.

S M M I N S T R U C T I O N S

## 8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1759			
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
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 type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry		
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE			
<p>Upper Wolfsnare, with its rich store of plain paneling and its unusual plan, stands as a fortunate survival of a localized house type once common in the Virginia Beach area. With its massive chestnut-oak trees flanking the house and its imaginatively landscaped environs, the property, thus shielded from the Norfolk-Virginia Beach Expressway to the north and the Oceana Naval Air Station to the south, retains much of its eighteenth-century appearance and stands in grim contrast to the strip development which envelops it.</p>			
<p>Presently named for Wolfsnare Creek, which ran by it until the construction of the expressway, Upper Wolfsnare has historically been known as Brick House Farm. It received its current name in 1939.</p>			
<p>Major Thomas Walke, an early owner of the then-extensive farm, wrote a will in 1759 that left to his son, Thomas, the plantation and houses he described as being under construction. Upper Wolfsnare was probably one of these houses.</p>			
<p>The building closely resembles several other contemporary buildings in the area. Its plan is similar to that of the more pretentious Pleasant Hall in nearby Kempsville. Its interior woodwork, consisting of panel compositions with no molding or other decoration except beading, parallels that in several other houses in old Princess Anne County, including Ashland and Poplar Hall.</p>			
<p>The younger Thomas Walke, later known as Colonel Thomas, was one of the few Whigs in predominantly Loyalist Princess Anne County during the American Revolution. His heirs held the estate until 1822, when the 300-acre farm passed out of Walke hands and was sold to John Cornick for \$4,500. It changed hands many times in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, having had fourteen owners with eleven different surnames before it was purchased and given to the Princess Anne County Historical Society in 1966. That group presently leases it to Mr. and Mrs. O. Townsend, who are restoring it.</p>			
DTU			

## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Kellam, Sadie Scott and V. Hope Kellam. Old Houses in Princess Anne Virginia. Portsmouth, Va.: Printcraft Press, Inc., 1931.

Owens, Patrice, "Wolfsnare Gets Lease on Life," Virginian-Pilot, Norfolk, Va., September 22, 1972.

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Archives.

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	OR	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
NW	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds
NE	°     '     "	°     '     "		36 ° 50 ' 26 "	76 ° 02 ' 20 "
SE	°     '     "	°     '     "			
SW	°     '     "	°     '     "			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 3 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

## 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE

November 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:

221 Governor Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Richmond

STATE

Virginia

CODE

51

## 12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

## NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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 Junius R. Fishburne  
 Junius R. Fishburne, Jr., Exec. Director  
 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission  
 Title \_\_\_\_\_

NOV 19 1974

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

John W. Woodburne  
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 3/26/75

ATTEST:

W. Hunter  
 Keeper of The National Register  
 Date 3-20-75

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

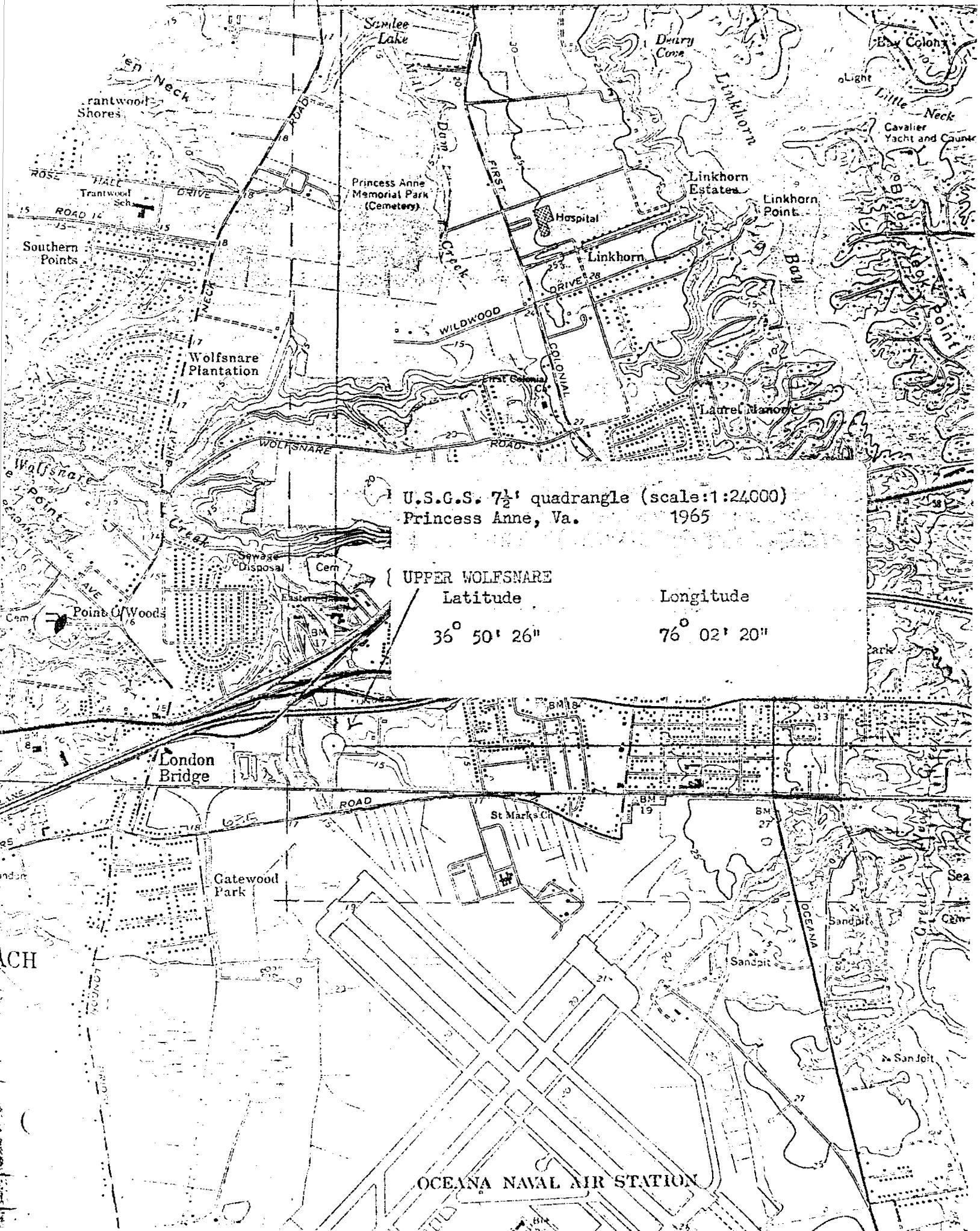
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407 2° 00" 12 MI. TO U.S. 60

408

409

410 2730000 FEET



U.S.G.S.  $7\frac{1}{2}'$  quadrangle (scale: 1:24000)  
Princess Anne, Va. 1965

UPPER WOLFSNARE  
Latitude

$36^{\circ} 50' 26''$

Longitude

$76^{\circ} 02' 20''$

OCEANA NAVAL AIR STATION