

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 PropertyHistoric name: Oak HillOther names/site number: 071-0026; Oak Hill Archaeological Site, 44PY0440

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

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

2. LocationStreet & number: 5981 Berry Hill Road/ U.S. 311City or town: Danville State: VA County: PittsylvaniaNot For Publication: ☐ N/AVicinity: ☒ X**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 C X D

Signature of certifying official/Title:

Date

Virginia Department of Historic Resources

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

Oak Hill
Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA
County and State

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:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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 ☐

Pittsylvania County, VA
County and State

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>	
<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>12</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>16</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 1

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling
DOMESTIC: Multiple Dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

Oak Hill
Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA
County and State

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

NO STYLE

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: N/A

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.)

Summary Paragraph

The Oak Hill property is located to the south of Berry Hill Road (State Highway 311) and north of the Dan River in southern Pittsylvania County, Virginia, just west of the City of Danville. Currently, the Oak Hill property contains approximately 290 acres of overgrown and unoccupied land that slopes down toward the Dan River. The Oak Hill dwelling was built between 1823 and 1825 by Samuel Hairston and was a two-story brick, Federal style mansion. In 1979, the mansion and 20 acres of the property were listed on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for architecture. In addition to the primary dwelling, the nomination for Oak Hill listed several outbuildings that included agricultural structures, slave quarters, and formal gardens. In 1988 the property was delisted after arsonists burned the Oak Hill dwelling, leaving it in ruins that remain to this day. Beginning in 2015, the Virginia Department of Historic Resources utilized funding through its Threatened Sites Program to initiate archaeological surveys of the Oak Hill property. A result of these surveys was the excavation and analysis of two subfloor pits in the partially standing slave quarter. Additional archaeological fieldwork resulted in the survey of the area around the slave quarter and the creation of an overall site map. The archaeological potential of Oak Hill provides a rare opportunity to study the lives of free and enslaved individuals present on the property from the construction of the Oak Hill house into the early-twentieth century. Following Emancipation, many of the now freed slaves remained in the vicinity of Oak Hill and continued to farm the land as sharecroppers. However, by the late-nineteenth century the former slaves and their descendants began purchasing land that once belonged to the Hairston family and formed the community of Cascade. Oak Hill through its

Oak Hill

Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA

County and State

historic uses demonstrates how the lives of Blacks transitioned from enslavement to freedom, and the creation of autonomous Black community in Pittsylvania County. Oak Hill was a central piece of the extensive portfolio of plantations owned or controlled by the wealthy and influential Hairston Family. As such, it also offers excellent potential to study the rise and decline in fortunes of the Hairston dynasty throughout the nineteenth century. Oak Hill possesses design, materials, workmanship, feeling, setting, location, and association.

Narrative Description

Setting

The Oak Hill property sits to the south of Berry Hill Road (State Highway 311) and north of the Dan River, just north of the state boundary between Virginia and North Carolina. The parcel contains approximately 290 acres of land that consists primarily of hillslope and floodplain bordering the northside of the Dan River. The parcels adjacent to Oak Hill consist primarily of farmland and uncultivated property. The property contains the ruins of the Oak Hill dwelling with hedge rows to the west, an ornamental, terraced garden to the south, and agricultural building foundations, a partially collapsed slave quarter and extant barns to the east. A series of paths provide access to the hedge row gardens and the ornamental gardens. There are several large oak and maple trees situated to the south of the Oak Hill ruins.

Oak Hill Ruins- Contributing Site

Oak Hill was constructed between 1823-1825, with a rear addition in 1899. The dwelling was a Federal style two-story, double-pile, center-passage brick house set on a raised basement. The dwelling laid in Flemish-bond brick with the exception of the 1899 addition, which was covered in five-course American bond. Incorporated into the Flemish-bond elevations are glazed headers. Oak Hill burned in 1988; however, all exterior walls and chimneys with the impressive brickwork remain intact.

Slave Quarters- Contributing Building

The slave quarters sit to the east of the ruins of the Oak Hill dwelling. The exact construction date of the slave quarters is unknown; however, the presence of machine-cut nails, sash-sawn timbers, and common bond construction suggests that the building is contemporary with the house. The slave quarters is a one-and-a-half-story, four-bay building measuring approximately 18 feet wide (north to south) and 72 feet long (east to west). The building foundation consists of a combination of brick and dry-stacked stone. Though a significant portion of the south wall has collapsed, the impressive size of the building is apparent. The slave quarters are arranged as two duplex units that share a center chimney. The roof was originally covered with wood shingles, which were later replaced with standing-seam metal. The brickwork of the slave quarters is unusual, with no regular or consistent bonding pattern, which would have been very difficult given the exclusive use of brick fragments and otherwise imperfect bricks, obvious rejects from the brick kiln. These factors likely contributed to the partial collapse of the building. Not that the well-bonded brick walls of the mansion remain standing even after a devastating fire. The interior of the building is interesting in that none of the interior rooms on the first floor are accessible to each other. Alterations to the building include replaced floors, altered the window

Oak Hill

Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA

County and State

frames and sashes, repairs to the stairs, and replacement of wood shingles on the roof with standing-seam metal (Sanford, et al).

Archaeological study of the Oak Hill Site began in 2015 when the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) awarded Hurt & Proffitt, Inc. (H&P) a grant from its Threatened Sites fund to investigate the partially collapsed brick slave quarter. A second Threatened Sites grant in 2016 funded the remainder of the lab processing and analysis. The second grant also included funds for the faunal analysis and production of a final comprehensive report. In 2021 the VDHR awarded H&P a third Threatened Sites grant to survey the slave quarter yard and produce a base map of the plantation core area. A final report on the survey and mapping was completed in June 2022.

The initial project took place inside a standing brick slave quarter located on the Oak Hill Plantation site to the east of the main house ruins (Figure 1). Most excavation took place on November 14 and 15, 2015. Additional excavation took place on April 2, 2016 to remove the last layer of one of the subfloor pits that could not be finished in the fall.

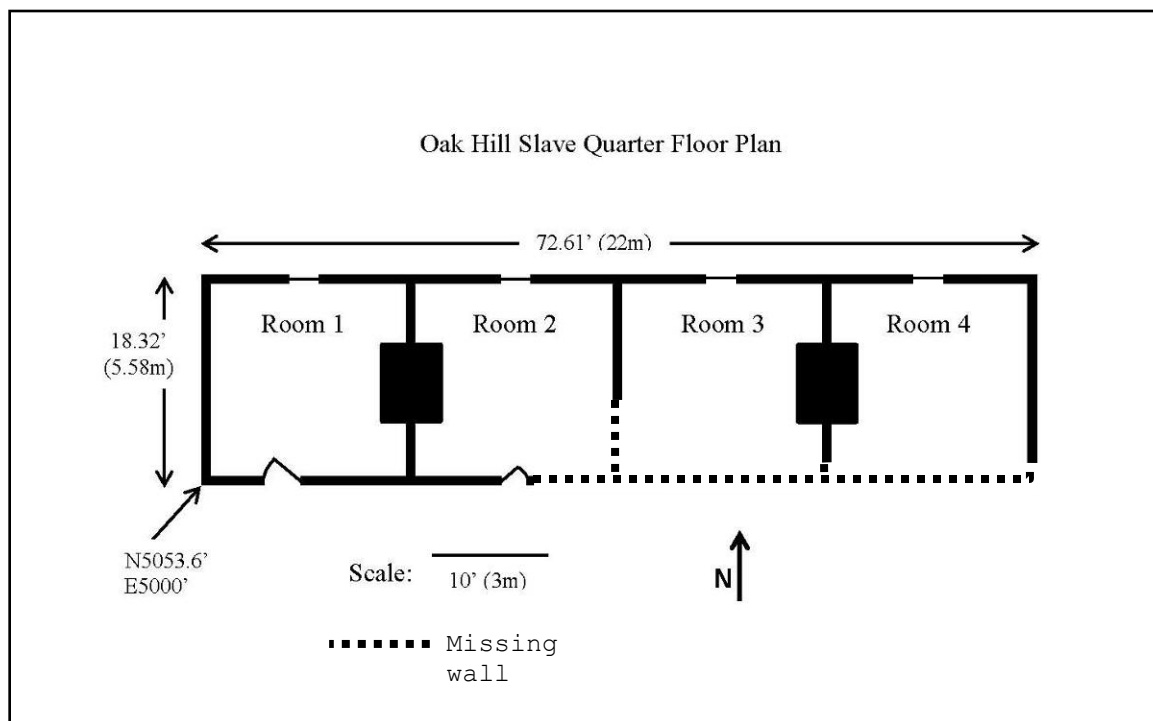


Figure 1. Oak Hill slave quarter floor plan.

H&P completed the bisection of two brick-lined subfloor pits within the slave quarter. The larger of the two pits was designated Feature 1. It was located in Room 2 (of 4) and had been partially disturbed by treasure hunters (Figure 2). However, that pit was found to contain over 2ft. (0.6 m) of undisturbed fill beneath the recent disturbance. The pit was also unusual in that it contained a lower storage chamber created by a second brick liner that began approximately

Oak Hill

Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA

County and State

1.3ft. (0.4 m) above the subsoil floor. It appears that boards would have been laid across the inner liner to create an elevated wooden floor with the contents of the lower chamber hidden from view. It is possible that the lower portion of the pit could have been used to hide contraband items. However, another plausible explanation for the lower chamber is that it was simply designed to maximize storage space.

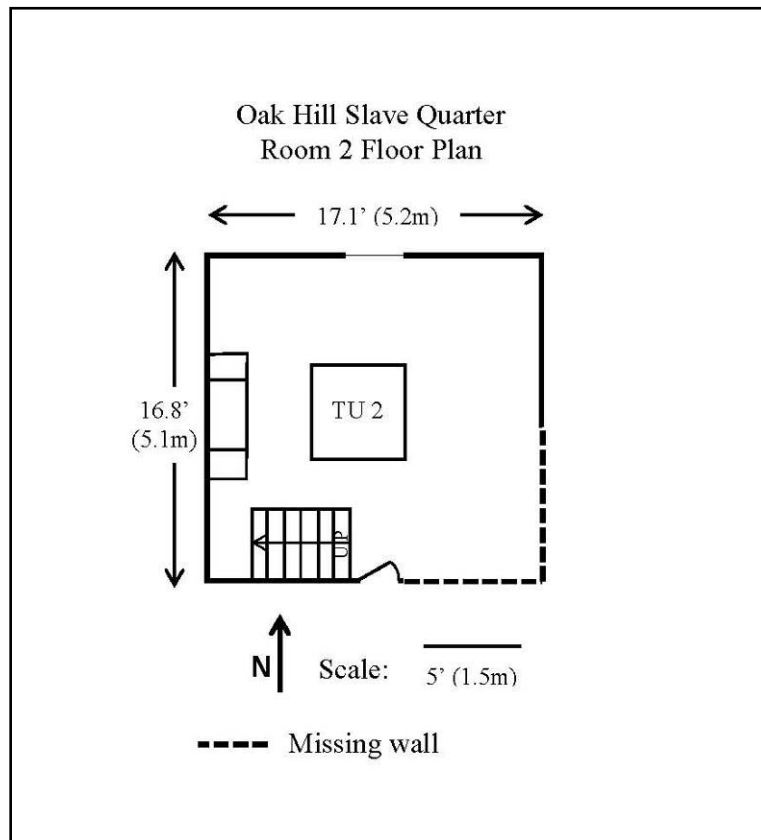


Figure 2. Oak Hill slave quarter Room 2 floor plan.

H&P identified the second brick-lined subfloor pit, Feature 2, in Room 1 (Figure 3). This pit was more conventional in depth and contained no lower chamber. Unlike Feature 1, the base of Feature 2 seemed to be intentionally lined with river-worn cobbles, perhaps as a way of dealing with the rather high water table at Oak Hill. Based on the presence of wire nails in Layer B, the upper portion of Feature 2 was filled in the late 19th or 20th century. Layer C contained no artifacts with TPQs later than whiteware. The laboratory analysis suggests that this layer, comprising the bulk of Feature 2, was created contemporary with the filling of Feature 1.

Oak Hill

Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA

County and State

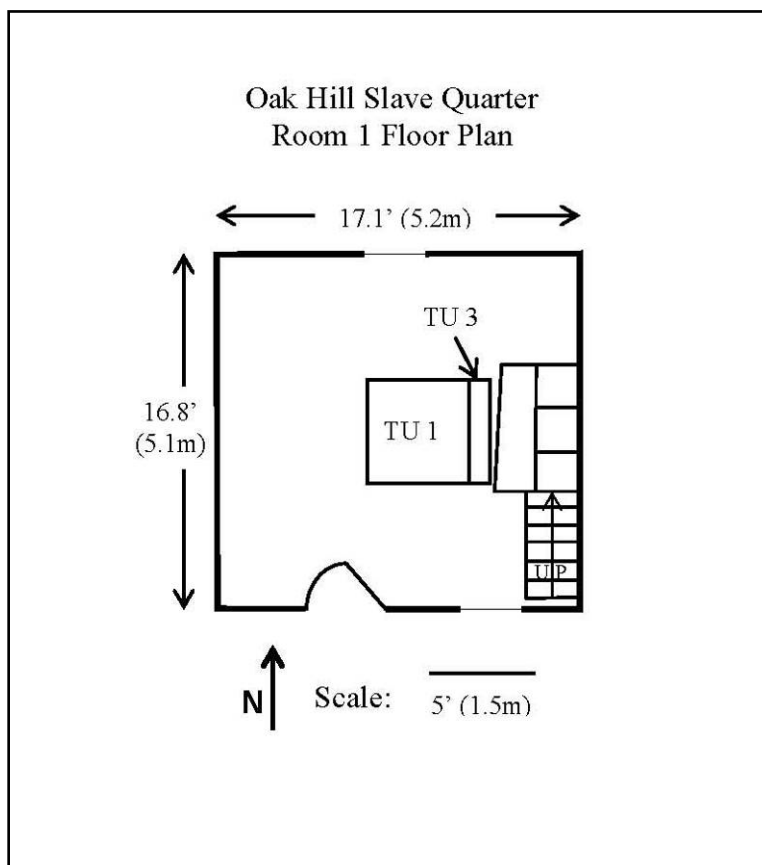


Figure 3. Oak Hill slave quarter Room 1 floor plan.

The result is that both Feature 1 and the C Layer of Feature 2 provide evidence of slave life during the plantation's first two decades in operation. The assemblage on the whole is what one might expect to find in a quarter from this period. Buttons and brass pins, kaolin smoking pipe sherds, glass beads, bone handled forks, a skillet handle and a variety of animal bones illustrate domestic life centered around the quarter's nearby hearth. Among the ceramics, a small quantity of high-end Chinese export porcelain sherds, likely from an earlier era, suggest provisioning from the nearby mansion. A single piece of lead shot recovered from Layer D of Feature 1 provides evidence of hunting for wild game to supplement provisioning from the plantation's stock. It was not unusual for slaves to have access to firearms for this purpose. The faunal analysis conducted by Dr. Elizabeth Moore of the Virginia Museum of Natural History (VMNH) illustrates how the enslaved occupants took advantage of the availability of a wide variety of wild species.

Altogether, the two subfloor pits yielded over 6,000 specimens. Over 70 percent of the identifiable specimens represented wild species. The domesticated species present included cattle, pig, sheep/goat and chicken. Most of those bones are cuts that would have yielded little meat. The relatively small quantity of burned bones suggests that much of what was consumed was cooked in soups or stews, away from the flame. A high concentration of wild species in the

Oak Hill

Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA

County and State

post-1880 layers of Feature 2 indicates that the postbellum occupants continued to rely on hunting and fishing to augment their diet.

H&P completed site mapping and a Phase I archaeological survey in early December 2021. This project built on the work completed under previous grants from the Threatened Sites Program in 2015 and 2016. After discussing research needs with participants in the previous salvage excavations, the focus of the more recent study was narrowed to two pressing needs: 1) creation of an overall site map, and 2) an archaeological survey of the area immediately surrounding the standing quarter.

The H&P Survey Department used the latest Topcon Total Stations as well as Trimble RTK GPS Systems to collect data on possible building locations as well as landscape terraces. The Survey Department crew was guided in the field by an H&P staff archaeologist during data collection. The raw data was processed to create a scaled drawing in Autocad to be used for future mapping and investigation.

The quarter yard archaeological survey was designed to examine the density, distribution and integrity of the related artifact scatter and to assess whether cultural features are present. This survey began to place the artifacts recovered from the subfloor pits into a broader context of enslaved life at Oak Hill. The survey consisted of excavating transects of Shovel Test Pits (STP's) along all sides of the 72-foot-long by 18-foot-wide quarter. STP's were excavated at 25-foot intervals along transects spaced 25 feet apart. Most of the survey was concentrated on the yard to the south of the quarter, as this area was directly accessed by the enslaved population and consists of a wide, gently sloping terrace (Figure 4).

The quarter yard archaeological survey succeeded in covering the entire south work yard/vegetable garden as well as the areas immediately surrounding the west, north and east sides of the quarter. The results of the survey show that most of the area south of the quarter has been subjected to plowing most likely associated with a large vegetable garden that was present from at least the early to mid-twentieth century. Although all the STPs excavated during this survey were positive for cultural material, producing a total of 1,219 artifacts, only a single feature was identified. And this small, unidentified feature was found north of the quarter in the path of the present access road. It is possible that there are intact features present below the plowzone in the south yard that weren't detected at the 25ft. testing interval. However, the plowzone deposits themselves, by their nature, will limit the utility of the artifact assemblage in interpreting the lives of quarter site residents. Artifact density maps suggest that any future work in the quarter site yard should focus on areas immediately south of the doors to its four rooms and on the center of the yard where artifact density was highest (Figures 6-8). These locations are also the most likely to contain intact features.

Oak Hill

Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA

County and State

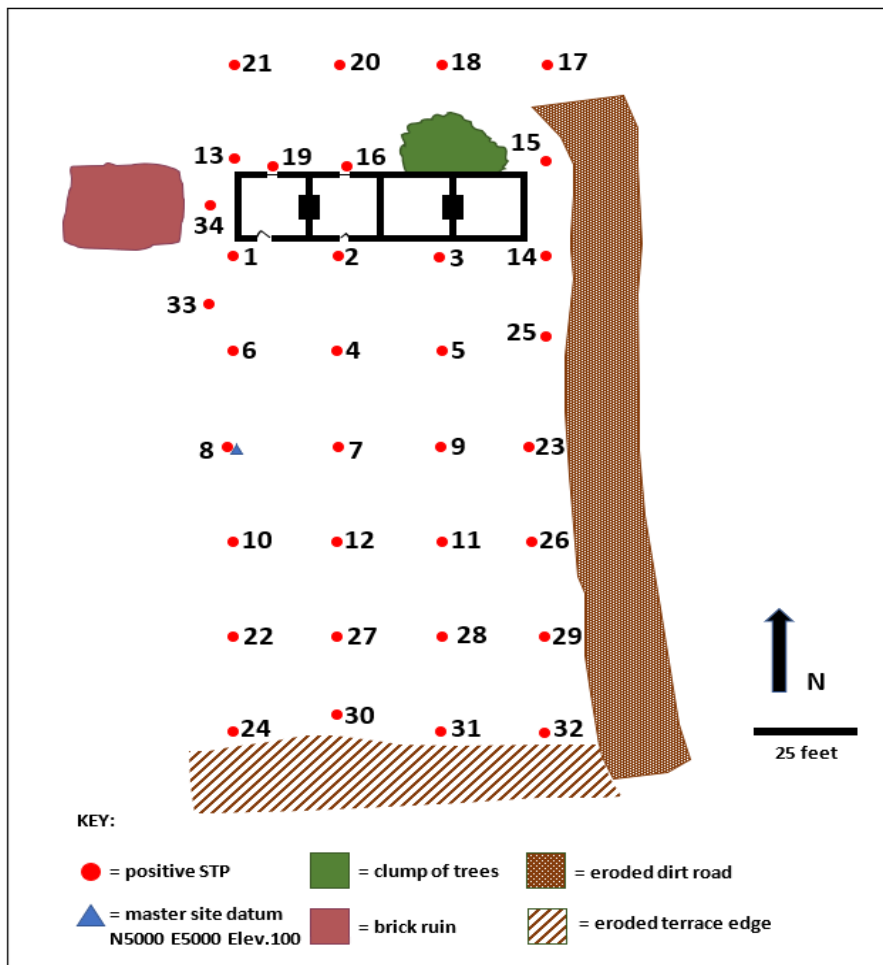


Figure 4. Archaeological survey plan view.

A topographic survey resulted in production of a base map containing the general layout of the ornamental gardens as well as the location of all surface remains of buildings and roads (Figure 5). Using historic aerial photography and LiDAR mapping, the design of the massive, terraced gardens was exposed to accurate measurement and analysis, perhaps for the first time since it was constructed. The nearly 7-acre curtilage may indeed be a masterpiece of landscape design as early accounts portrayed it.

The overall core or curtilage of the plantation appears to have measured 500 feet north-south by 600 feet east-west, comprising an area of 300,000 square feet or 6.9 acres. The design uses an east-west tripartite scheme with the plantation house at the north center. The house is ringed by a pathway with a formal garden to the west and a double row of dependencies to the east, built on the same axis as the main house.

Oak Hill
Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA
County and State

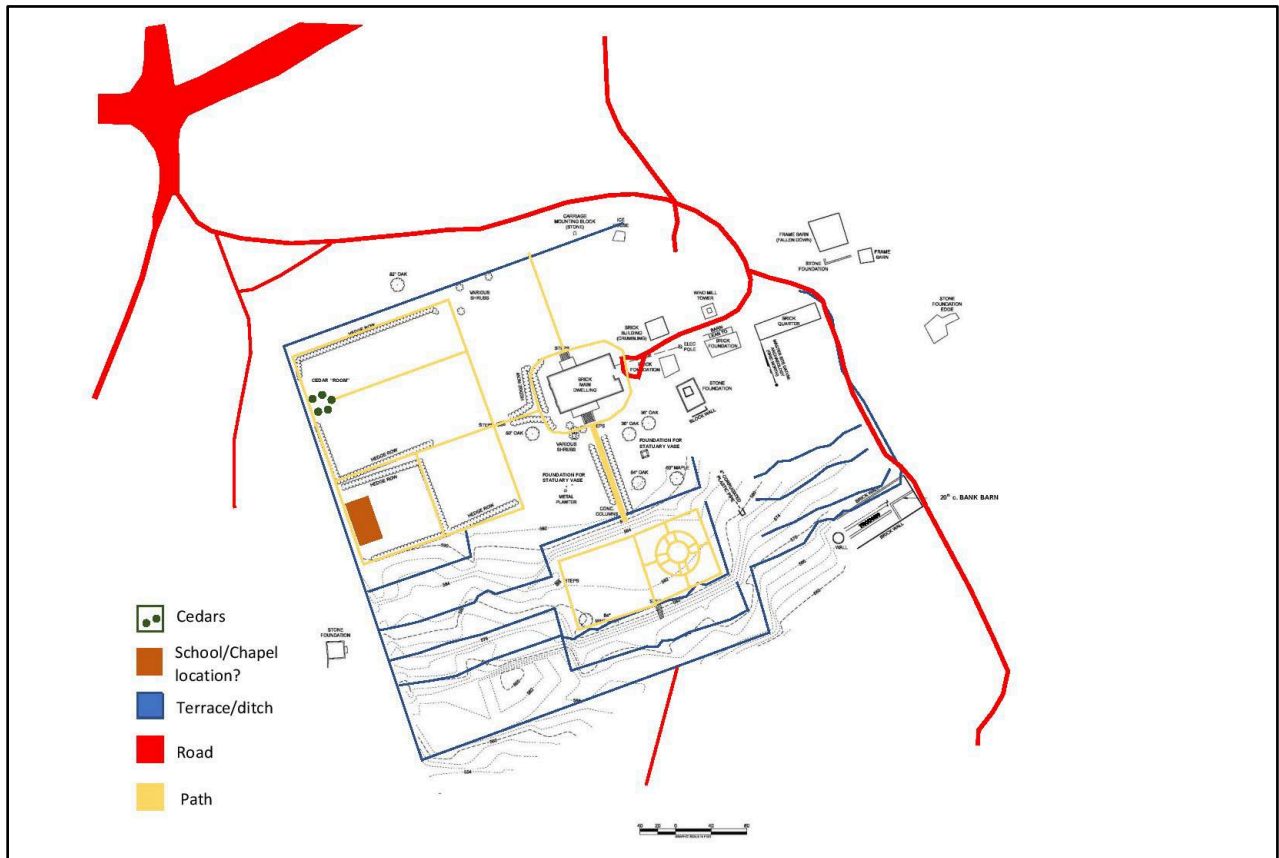


Figure 5. Final plantation curtilage site map.

Oak Hill

Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA

County and State

Distribution of Artifacts Across Project Area

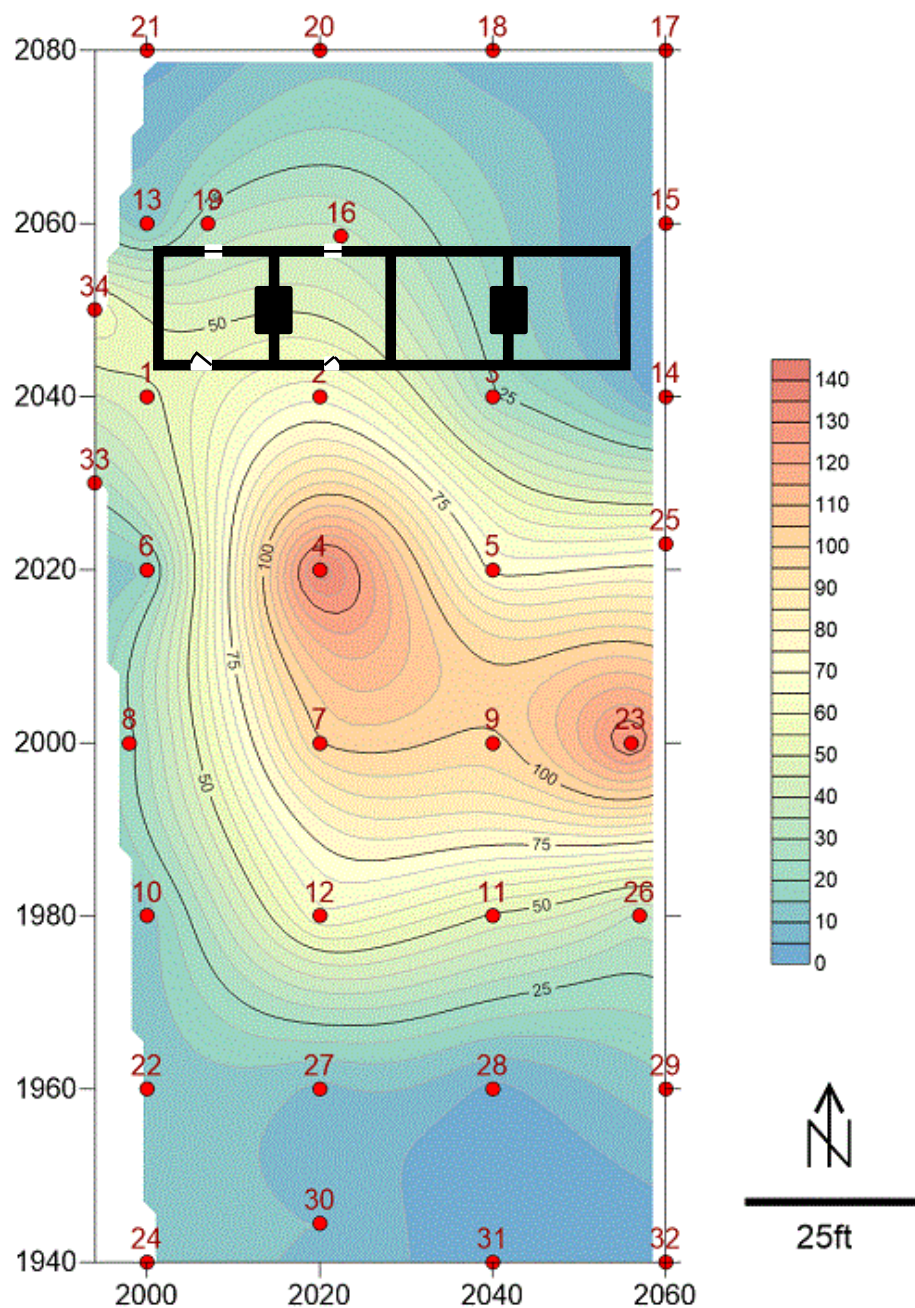


Figure 6. Distribution of all artifacts.

Oak Hill

Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA

County and State

Distribution of Ceramics Across Project Area

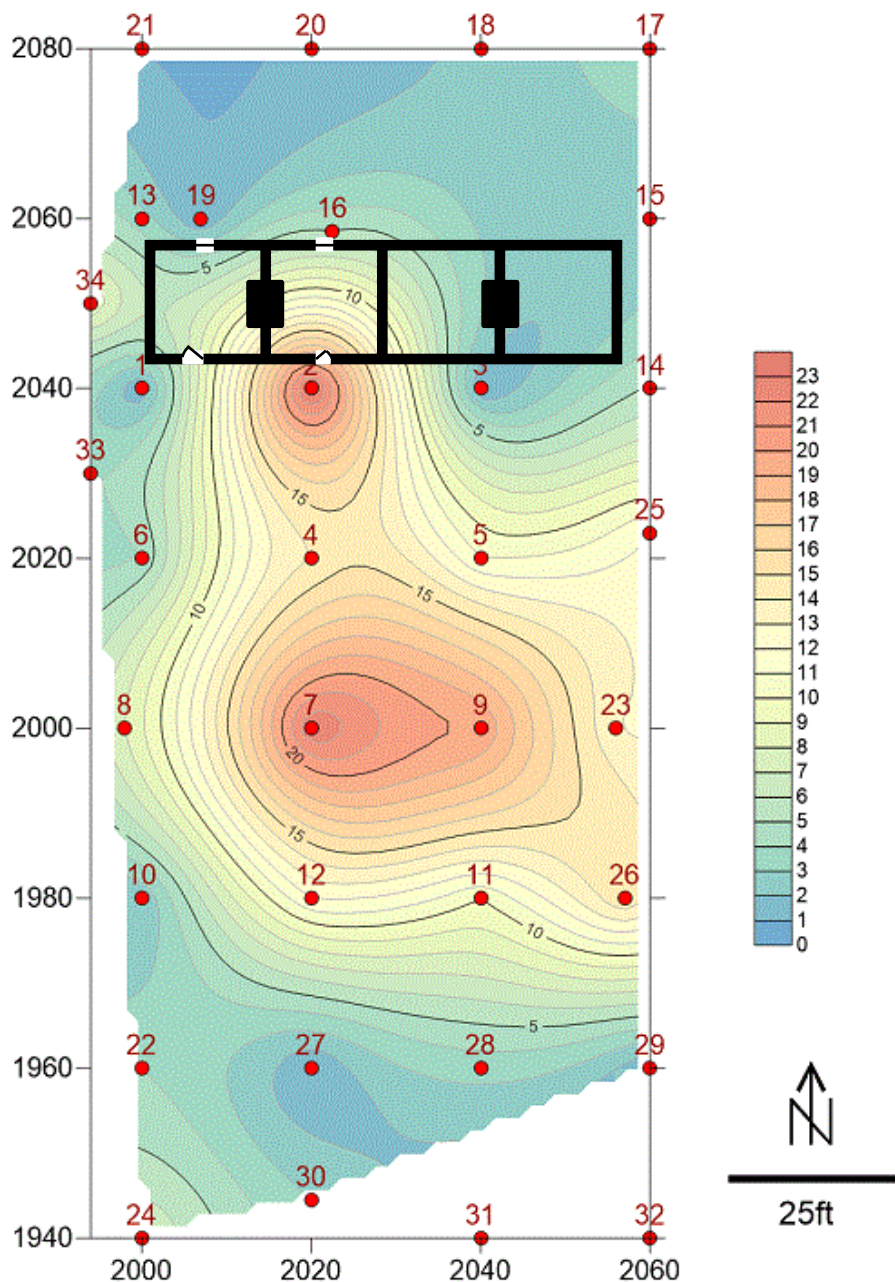


Figure 7. Distribution of ceramic artifacts.

Oak Hill

Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA

County and State

Distribution of Cut Nails Across Project Area

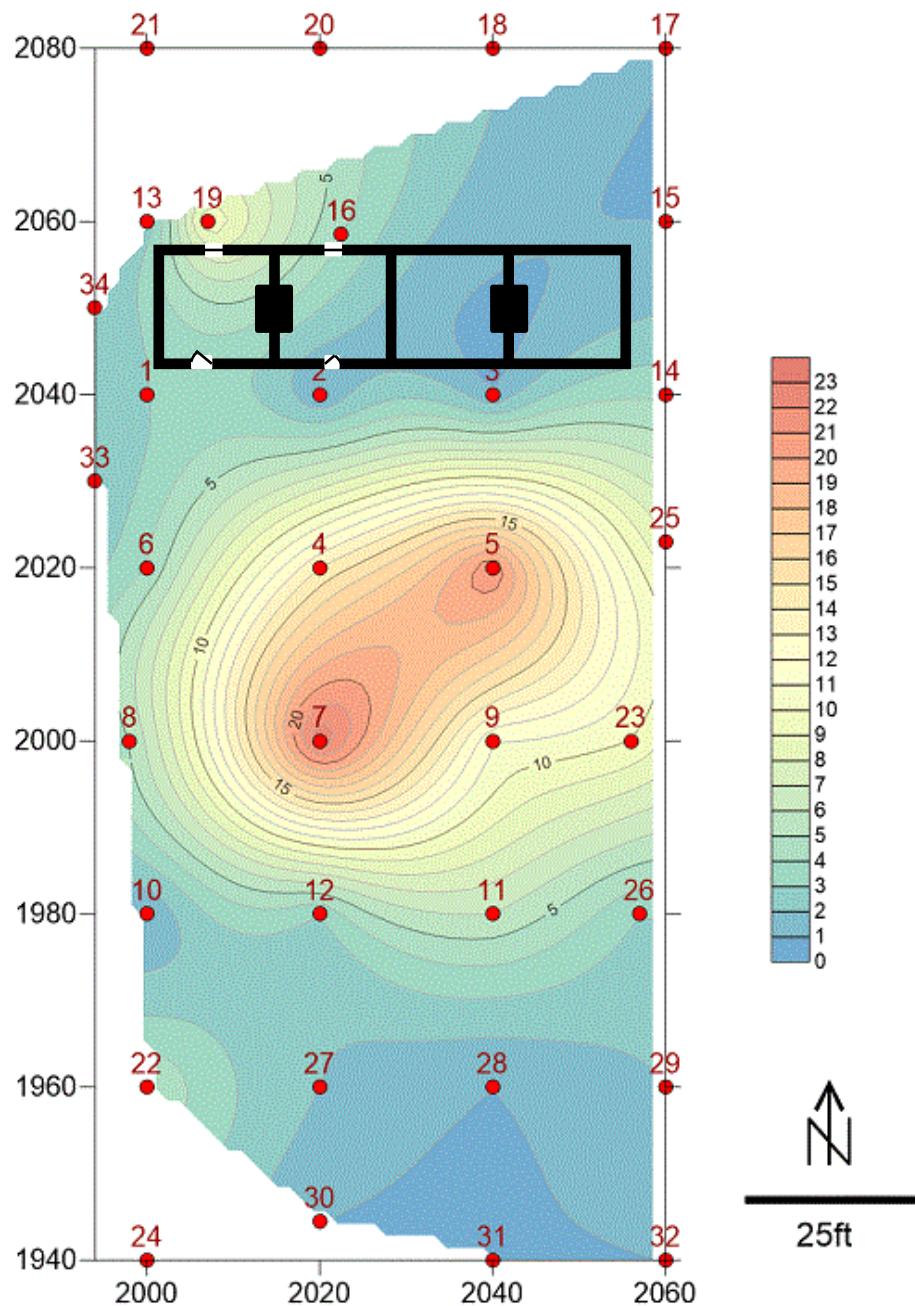


Figure 8. Distribution of cut nails.

Oak Hill
Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA
County and State

Ornamental Gardens- Contributing-Site

The original garden terraces is situated to the south of the house and are designed in three east-west sections, each measuring 200 feet wide. The average terrace measures approximately 40 feet north-south. The center third of the terracing, which is most visible from the house, appears to have been designed as the grandest, with a triple-width terrace immediately below the south yard of the house. This wide terrace contained a circular boxwood maze in 1955. There is a slight flaring of the central terraces to the east and west on their southward edges. It's likely that this technique was employed to make the house appear larger from the Dan River approach. This illusion was well-known to garden designers, including Thomas Jefferson, who used it in the south lawn layout at Poplar Forest.

Smoke House/Storage Building (Ruins)- Contributing-Site

The remains of the smoke house/storage building is located to the east of the Oak Hill dwelling. The smoke house/storage building consists of the brick foundation.

Granary (Ruins)- Contributing-Site

The granary is located to the east of the Oak Hill dwelling. The remains of the granary consist of a brick foundation and the remnants of a possible shed roof supported by rough-hewn logs visible on the north elevation. The roof was covered with standing-seam metal.

Cement Wellhead/Steel Frame for Former Windmill- Contributing-Structure

The cement wellhead sits to the east of the dwelling ruins and is composed of concrete blocks. The remains of the windmill steel frame sits against the south elevation of the wellhead.

Carriage House- Contributing-Site

The carriage house is situated to the east of the Oak Hill dwelling ruins. A survey of the property in 2002 states that the carriage house is standing with some repaired brick visible on one of the elevations. Since that last survey, the carriage house has completely collapsed with only a portion of a brick wall still standing.

Kitchen- Contributing-Site

The kitchen is located to the southeast of the dwelling ruins. At the time of the 2002 survey, only the brick chimney base and foundation were extant. The foundation is still visible; however, the area is considerably overgrown.

Icehouse- Contributing-Site

The icehouse sits to the southeast of the dwelling ruins. The remnants of the icehouse consist of a concrete foundation.

Slave Quarters #2- Contributing-Site

The slave house is situated to the southwest of the Oak Hill dwelling ruins. The 2002 survey of the property identified the slave house as a former log building with a kitchen addition on the south elevation, a stone foundation and chimney, and a possible addition on the west side. The

Oak Hill

Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA

County and State

current survey identified a dry-stacked stone foundation and chimney, with the top of the chimney finished in brick.

Slave Quarters #3- Contributing-Site

The slave house is located to the southeast of the Oak Hill dwelling ruins. The ruins consist of a dry-stacked stone foundation and chimney.

Livestock Barn and Silo- Contributing-Site

The livestock barn and silo sit to the southeast of the Oak Hill dwelling ruins. The livestock barn and silo ruins sit to the west of a sunken road that runs north-south on the property. The livestock barn and silo consist of brick and concrete foundations.

Barn- Contributing-Building

The barn is situated to the east of the Oak Hill dwelling ruins and is orientated north-south. This is a two-story frame barn that rests on a random-rubble foundation. The barn is clad in board-and-batten siding, and the gable roof is covered with standing-seam metal. The current resident on the property stated that this is the oldest building on the property. This assertion is supported by the use of hand-hewn beams and mortise-and-tenon construction.

Doll House/Granary- Contributing-Site

The doll house/granary is located to the east of the Oak Hill dwelling ruins; the exact use of the building is not clear, and the building is in ruinous condition. It appears to have been a one-story, frame building, clad in weatherboard on a concrete foundation. The roof was covered with standing-seam metal.

20th-Century Shed- Contributing-Site

The shed sits to the east of the dwelling ruins. This is a one-story, one-bay frame shed clad in vertical boards and capped with a shed roof covered in standing-seam metal.

Tenant House- Contributing-Building

The tenant house is located to the north of the Oak Hill ruins. This is a one-and-a-half story, six-bay log dwelling with concrete chinking, narrow vertical logs are visible in the gable peaks of the dwelling. The one-story, three-bay porch has log posts, railing, and balustrade and is capped with a shed roof. The wood windows are one-over-one with a double-hung sash. The side-gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The dwelling has two, central-interior, brick chimney flues, and one central-interior, brick chimney. There is a one-story, log addition on the west elevation of the dwelling that is capped with a shed roof.

Much archaeological research remains to be done at Oak Hill. The limited scope of the present studies covers only a small portion of this once massive plantation and its hundreds, if not thousands, of historical inhabitants. Future archaeological investigation that would directly complement the present excavation would include obtaining a representative assemblage of domestic refuse from the mansion house, a study of the massive terraced garden, excavation at any of the numerous other structures at the core of the plantation (including the ruin of a reputed

Oak Hill
Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA
County and State

chapel/schoolhouse, investigations further afield to obtain information on enslaved people who primarily tended crops and raised livestock, and identification of the numerous prehistoric sites that likely dot the former plantation as a result of its advantageous location along the Dan River.

Oak Hill
Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA
County and State

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

Oak Hill
Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA
County and State

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

AGRICULTURE

ARCHAEOLOGY-Historic-Non-Aboriginal

ETHNIC HERITAGE: Black

Period of Significance

1823-1958

Significant Dates

1825, 1875, 1893

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Euro-American

African

African American

Black Freedmen

Architect/Builder

Dejarnett, James

Oak Hill

Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, 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 Oak Hill property is located along the Dan River in Pittsylvania County, Virginia, on the Virginia-North Carolina border. The property is locally significant under Criterion A and Criterion D. Oak Hill is significant under Criterion A for trends in history related to nineteenth and twentieth century agriculture on plantations in southside Virginia. In addition, the history of Oak Hill provides insight into the lives of the enslaved individuals that worked the land and provided income and wealth to the white property owners. Oak Hill was built for Samuel Hairston, a member of the very prosperous Hairston family that owned tens of thousands of acres of land and over 40 separate farms and plantations along the Dan River in both Virginia and North Carolina. The primary income-producing crop of these farms was tobacco. Included in these farms and plantations were enslaved workers who were a vital component of the Hairston family wealth. Oak Hill is locally significant under Criterion D in the area of Archaeology – Historic – Non-Aboriginal for the potential to yield information through future study related to archaeology. The archaeological work completed at Oak Hill focused on the partially standing slave quarter and the yard surrounding the building. The artifacts yielded from these investigations allow for a better understanding of the complexity of the life of enslaved workers on the Oak Hill property. Though the principal dwelling at Oak Hill is in ruinous condition the property still retains integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association. The construction of Oak Hill was completed in 1825 and remained the property of Samuel Hairston until his death in 1875. Oak Hill was conveyed to Samuel Hairston, the grandson of Samuel Hairston, via his will. In 1893, Major Hairston, a man once enslaved by the Hairston family purchased 42 ½ acres of land once owned by the white Hairston family. The period of significance of the property begins in 1823 with the start of the construction of the Oak Hill house and ends in 1958 with the last date of occupation of the Oak Hill dwelling.

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

Criterion A: Agriculture

Samuel Hairston, the owner of Oak Hill, was born in 1788 in Virginia, he was the son of Robert Hairston and Ruth Stoval. At this time, the Hairston family was well established in North Carolina and Virginia, owning considerable property on both sides of the Dan River. In 1818, Samuel Hairston married Ruth Wilson and a year later the couple received approximately 2566 acres of land from the estate of Ruth's father, Peter Wilson.¹

Samuel Hairston did not acquire the property for his new dwelling, Oak Hill, until 1824, when he received 108 acres of land from his uncle Peter Hairston. However, in 1823, Samuel Hairston

¹ Wilson-Hairston Family Papers 1751-1928, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Collection No. 04134, Durham, NC; Pittsylvania Land Tax Records, Library of Virginia, Richmond, VA.

Oak Hill

Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA

County and State

commissioned local builder James DeJarnett to build a house. The agreement states that the house is:

To be build on some convenient place neae where sd Hairston now lives as sd Hairston shall point out the house to be fully build of brick fifty-fore feet wide, to contain thre seller rooms, four rooms a passage and pass way first flours, above the seller, & appoprate rooms on second floore, and Garret all of which work the sd DeJarnett doth bind himself to complete in a plain and substantial manner, on or before the 25th October 1825, as to make more fully understood the work are to be done in a stile and manner not inferior to Colo. NathL Wilsons new building done by sd DeJarnett.²

Also included in the various bills of DeJarnett is a rough sketch of the floor plan of the Oak Hill dwelling. Additional documentation of the house includes orders for seventeen six-panel doors, eighteen windows, and eighteen pairs of blinds. DeJarnett was responsible for the exterior and interior of the dwelling, receiving payment of \$100 from Samuel Hairston for the completion of the plastering of the house (Figures 9 and 10).³ The house was completed, and the 1826 land tax records an increase in property value for the 108-acre parcel of land by \$6,000. An 1824 plat found in the Wilson-Hairston Family paper collection shows that Samuel Hairston owns approximately 2,664 acres of contiguous property (Figure 11).⁴

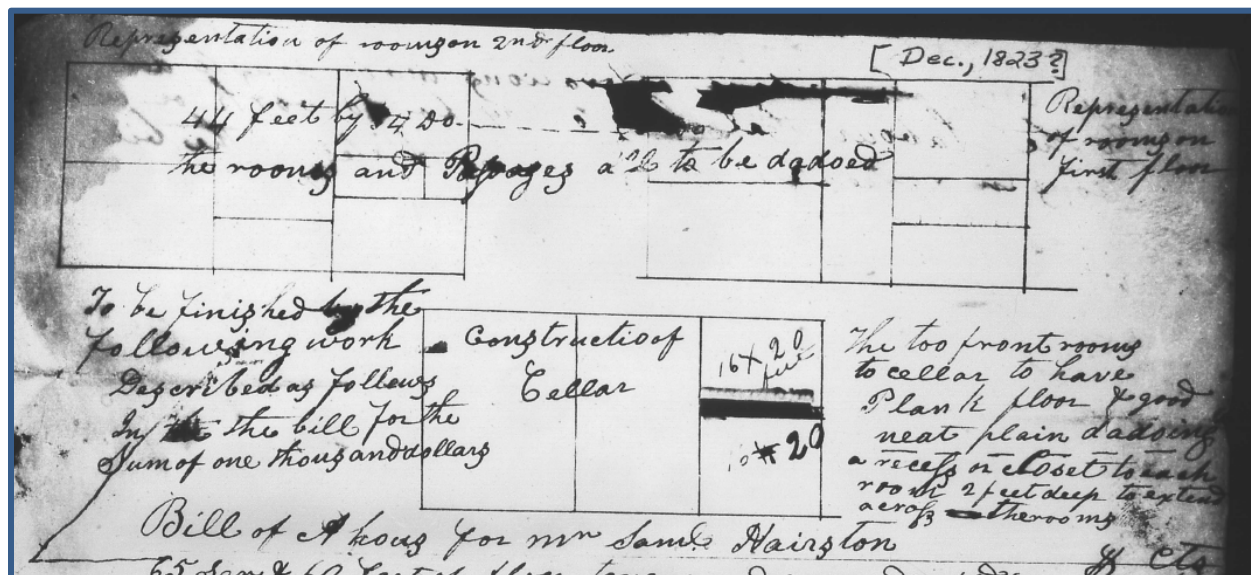


Figure 9. Floor plan for Oak Hill. Wilson-Hairston Family Papers.

² Wilson-Hairston Family Papers.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid. Pittsylvania Land Tax Records.

Oak Hill

Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA

County and State

January the 13th 1826 This day Received of M^{rs}
Sam^l. Hairston the Sum of one Hundred dollars
In part for the plastering I have done I am to
Do for him
Witness
James Dejaruatt

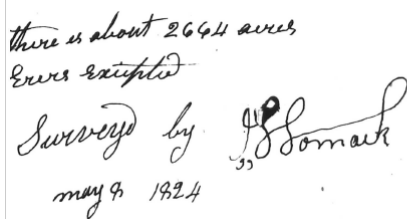
Figure 10. Receipt for plastering. Wilson-Hairston Family Papers.

Currently, the gardens at Oak Hill are overgrown and not easily discernable; however, the LiDAR mapping utilized during the archaeological surveys shows that one garden sat to the west of the dwelling edged by hedgerows, and a terraced garden sat to the rear of the house and led down to the Dan River. Contemporary accounts write of the amazing gardens at Oak Hill. Designed by Agnes Hairston, the gardens favored a more formal eighteenth-century style. One writer for the *Richmond Whig & Public Advertiser* stated that he had “never seen anything comparable to his [Hairston] yard and garden. Mrs. Hairston has been beautifying it for years. .”⁵ Mrs. Hairston utilized the labor of seventeen slaves and an overseer to plan and build her gardens at Oak Hill (Figure 12).⁶

⁵ *Richmond Whig & Public Advertiser*, 7 February 1851.

⁶ Maud Carter Clement, *The History of Pittsylvania County Virginia*, Clearfield Company, Inc., Baltimore, MD, 1999, 229).

Pittsylvania County, VA
County and State



Section 8 page 23

Oak Hill

Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA

County and State



Figure 12. The gardens at Oak Hill. *The History of Pittsylvania County, Virginia.*

In 1840, Pittsylvania County ranked fifth in Virginia for the largest number of slaves with 11,588, the total population was 26,398. The population of enslaved individuals constituted 43% of the total population of the county. In addition, Pittsylvania County ranked number one in tobacco cultivation, producing 6,439,000 pounds and ranked second in corn production with 674,000 bushels. Tobacco manufacturing occurred primarily on plantations. A notice for sale of a piece of property appeared in the *Danville Register* in 1859. The notice stated that the property was “situated in the midst of seventy tobacco factories in the county and immediate vicinity.”⁷

Between 1830 and 1860, Samuel Hairston’s wealth continued to increase through a combination of tobacco, land, and enslaved individuals. The 1830 Federal Census states that Samuel Hairston owned 113 slaves; by 1840 that number increased to 208. In 1848, Hairston owned 4,910 acres of land across eighteen separate parcels just in Pittsylvania County. Out of those eighteen parcels, only two had value added for improvements. The first is the 108-acre parcel described as “north of the Dan River,” which had an improvement value of \$6,000, this is the Oak Hill property. The second is an 875-acre parcel described as “south side Cascade,” with an improvement value of \$2,000, this is likely the Micheaux property, a recent acquisition of the Hairston family. The remaining parcels of land have no improvement value, indicating that the land was used for cultivation.⁸ By 1850, Samuel Hairston owned approximately \$80,000 worth of real estate, this included five separate properties, three in Pittsylvania County, one in Patrick

⁷ Ibid., 226.

⁸ Pittsylvania Land Tax Records.

Oak Hill

Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA

County and State

County, and one in Henry County.⁹ In addition, Hairston owned 296 enslaved individuals that worked the land and produced over 100,000 pounds of tobacco and 10,000 bushels of corn.¹⁰

Hairston's wealth continued to increase right up to the start of the Civil War. According to the 1860 Federal Census, Hairston had real estate valued at \$130,000 and personal estate valued at \$240,000. The value of Hairston's personal estate included the value of the 277 enslaved individuals that he owned at that time.¹¹ Pittsylvania County did not witness any major battles or skirmishes during the Civil War. It appears that things continued to operate as normal for the Hairston family. In 1865, Samuel and Agnes Hairston gifted their son George approximately 932 acres of property which included the Micheaux property.¹²

After the end of the Civil War and Emancipation things changed dramatically for the family of Samuel Hairston. Hairston was still a prolific property owner in Pittsylvania County, owning 4915 acres of property. However, the value of that land had decreased considerably, even the parcel containing Oak Hill declined in value by \$2,500.¹³ The greatest change can be seen in the decrease in crop yields from 1850 to 1870. In 1870, Hairston produced 1896 bushels of corn, and 18,100 pounds of tobacco.¹⁴ It is abundantly clear that the loss of free, enslaved labor had a profound economic impact on the Hairston family.

Samuel Hairston died in 1875, his obituary in the *Richmond Dispatch* described him as follows: "Previous to the late war. . . he was regarded, we believe, as the richest citizen of this state, owning a number of fine plantations in Pittsylvania and Henry Counties and in North Carolina, all of which were stocked with slaves."¹⁵ Another description of Samuel Hairston that he "owned or managed nearly 3000 slaves on estates in Pittsylvania, Henry, and Patrick counties."¹⁶ This number is not consistent with the numbers presented in both the Federal Census and the Slave Schedules consulted during research. However, the author did make a distinction between "slaves owned or managed," inferring that the enslaved peoples on Hairston's properties may not have been owned by him directly. It is a possibility that those enslaved workers not owned by Hairston were rented by him from their enslavers.

When Samuel Hairston died in 1875, the Oak Hill property was given to Samuel Hairston, his grandson, and the child of his deceased son George Hairston. The Oak Hill property remains in the Hairston family, the current owner of the property is Waller Hairston.¹⁷

⁹ Federal Census 1850.

¹⁰ Federal Slave Schedule 1850; Federal Agricultural Census 1850.

¹¹ Federal Census 1860; Federal Slave Schedule 1860.

¹² Pittsylvania County Deeds.

¹³ Pittsylvania Land Tax Records.

¹⁴ Federal Agricultural Census 1870.

¹⁵ *Richmond Dispatch*, 19 March, 1875.

¹⁶ Everard H. Smith, "The Civil War Diary of Peter W. Hairston, Volunteer Aide to Major General Jubal A. Early," *The North Carolina Historical Review*, Jan. 1990, Vol.67, No. 1, p. 59.

¹⁷ Pittsylvania County Will Books.

Oak Hill
Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA
County and State

Criterion A: Ethnic Heritage

A reality of researching the life of enslaved workers is that most of the information available about their lives, is through the eyes of the individuals responsible for their enslavement. The Wilson-Hairston Family Papers provides an exhaustive account of cloth purchased for clothing, and bills for the medical treatment of slaves (Figure 13).¹⁸ The archaeology conducted at the Oak Hill property may speak to the types of tools used or food consumed, but the humanity of the enslaved individual is missing.

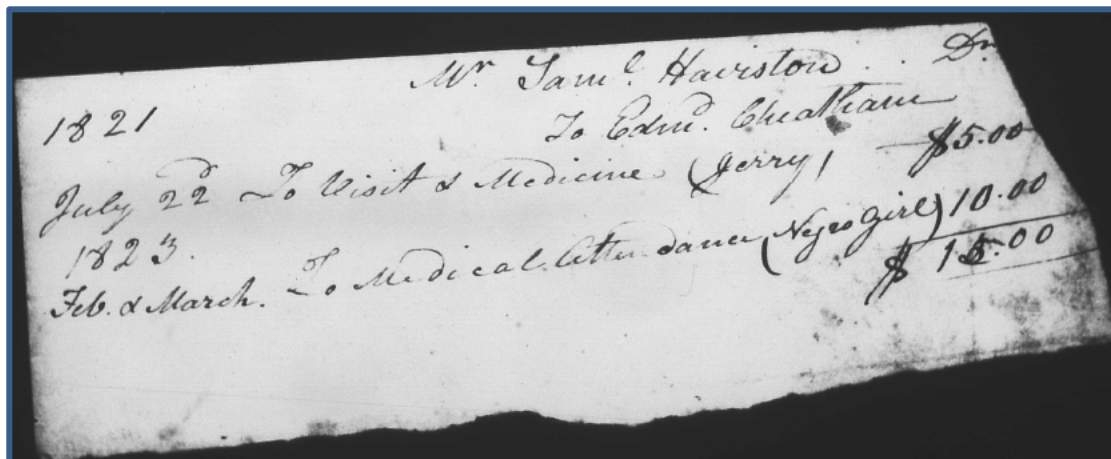


Figure 13. Receipt for medical treatment of slave. Wilson-Hairston Family Papers.

However, through oral interviews with the descendants of enslaved people, the voices of these individuals may be heard. Henry Wiencek, author of *The Hairstons: An American Family in Black and White*, interviewed the descendants of Oak Hill slaves. He spoke with Daniel Hairston, born in 1920, who had three grandparents born into slavery at Oak Hill. One of his grandfathers, Gus Hairston used to cut ice on the river for the icehouse at Oak Hill. Gus shared with Daniel how one day he was working in the garden and getting himself some butter that he wasn't supposed to have. According to Daniel, Gus was "whupped" for an unrelated offense which caused the butter to fall out from under his hat where he had hidden it. The discovery of the butter caused Gus to be beaten again. As Daniel relates this story, he said that his grandfather often told the story as a joke; however, it was a reminder that they had to take whatever was dished out just to survive.¹⁹

Daniel Hairston shared a story of how the enslaved people of Oak Hill would gather at night to kill a hog and then take it into the woods to cook it. Often, they would use fence rails for firewood and burn all of the inedible remains to hide them. The enslaved individuals at Oak Hill would worship together in the woods at night, placing a large cauldron upside down to supposedly muffle the sound.²⁰

¹⁸ Wilson-Hairston Family Papers.

¹⁹ Henry Wiencek, *The Hairstons: An American Family in Black and White*, St. Martin's Press, New York, 1999, 28-30.

²⁰ Ibid.

Oak Hill

Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA

County and State

After Emancipation it appears that a large population of former slaves lived in the vicinity of Hairston family property. The 1870 Federal Census lists a community of blacks living in an area described as “subdivision north of the Dan River.” The heads of household are identified; however, the other residents within the house are described as “inferred spouse” and “inferred children.” The use of the term “inferred” meant that marital status or parents could not be confirmed by any source. This is a legacy of the institution of slavery. The former slaves are listed as farm laborers, and did not own property. These individuals likely worked as share croppers on the Hairston land.²¹

The 1880 Federal Census also lists a large black community in the Tunstall district, an area in Pittsylvania County that includes the land holdings of the Hairston family. By this time the use of the term “inferred” has been dropped and married couples and their children are identified as such. As with the 1870 Federal Census, none of these individuals owned property, and a majority worked as farm laborers.²²

By the turn of the twentieth century, a thriving descendant community was developing in the town of Cascade. Cascade is located on land that was originally owned by Samuel Hairston, likely the Micheaux property that was given to his son George. The first resident of Cascade to purchase his own property is Major Lewis Hairston. Born in 1835, Major Hairston was a large, muscular man who bore the scars of his enslavement evidenced by the large whip marks on his back. Initially, it was believed that Major Hairston purchased the first lot of land in Cascade in 1870.²³ However, Dean Hairston, a descendant of Major Hairston, clarified that Major Hairston purchased 42 ½ acres of property in 1893 for the sum of \$500.²⁴ Gradually, more slave descendants began acquiring land, adding a sawmill to the Cascade community. Today Cascade is a thriving community on the same land where their ancestors worked in bondage.²⁵

Criterion C: Architecture

Oak Hill is locally significant under Criterion C for the architecture of the slave quarter. The Virginia Slave Housing Project identified numerous examples of brick slave quarters across the state; however, a significant number of these were not constructed as slave quarters only. A brick outbuilding in the City of Richmond at 2302 East Grace Street, built in 1813 functioned as both kitchen with rooms on the second floor for housing the enslaved. A similar building may be found at the Glendale property in Clarke County, which was constructed between 1847-1850 and the Hundley Brick outbuilding in Fairfax County built during the 1840s and 1850s.

There are other examples of brick, duplex slave quarters such as the Presquile Plantation in Fauquier County, a one-story brick building built in the first quarter of the nineteenth century.

²¹ Federal Census 1870.

²² Federal Census 1880.

²³ Wiencek, 35-37.

²⁴ Interview with Dean Hairston, July 2022.

²⁵ Wiencek, 35-37.

Oak Hill

Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA

County and State

Another example is the two-story brick duplex, constructed in the 1820s at the Elk Hill Plantation in Goochland County.

The double, brick duplexes at Oak Hill are unique in size, being four bays wide. Other slave quarters of this size typically functioned as either kitchens or outbuildings, in addition to housing for the enslaved, like the examples presented above. The survey conducted for the Virginia Slave Housing Project states that despite the slave quarters at Oak Hill building being composed of multiple different brick bonds, the duplex was built in a single campaign. Potential research questions may address whether the different brick bonds represent multiple building campaigns. An additional question concerns whether the building was specifically built as slave quarters, or if like other large buildings the slave quarters at Oak Hill had multiple functions. The ruins of other slave quarters are present on the Oak Hill property; however, none were constructed of brick.

Criterion D: Archaeology – Historic – Non-Aboriginal – Information Potential

Oak Hill is locally significant under Criterion D in the area of Archaeology – Historic – Non-Aboriginal for the potential to yield information through future study related to archaeology. The archaeological work completed at Oak Hill to date has focused on the partially standing slave quarter and the yard surrounding the building. The artifacts yielded from these investigations allow for a better understanding of the complexity of the life of enslaved workers on the Oak Hill property.

Archaeological investigations began at Oak Hill in 2015 and include a recent survey of the yard area surrounding the partially standing brick slave quarter. Investigations inside the slave quarter in 2015 and 2016 identified two intact subfloor storage pits that each contained significant information related to the lives of enslaved individuals during the Antebellum Period and to postbellum tenants, likely formerly enslaved African-Americans or their descendants.

As excavations conducted to date demonstrate, archaeological data obtained from the Oak Hill quarter site is helping to answer a slew of research questions and the larger property has the potential to provide significant additional data. For example, prior to conducting the quarter site archaeology, researchers were interested in answering the following questions.

1. What was the full depth and dimensions of the subfloor pit in Room 2 (Feature 1) of the brick quarter that was disturbed by treasure hunters?
2. Did the treasure hunting leave intact stratified deposits in the subfloor pit (Feature 1)?
3. Are there subfloor pits in Rooms 1, 3 and 4 of the quarter and are they of the same size and composition?
4. What time periods are represented by artifacts recovered from the subfloor pit(s)?
5. Do these artifact assemblages provide sufficient data to tell us about daily life of the quarter's inhabitants during the time periods represented?

Oak Hill

Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA

County and State

6. What can be learned about purchasing/provisioning, personal adornment, health and diet, religious practices and gender roles of the Oak Hill enslaved community and postbellum tenants?

The excavation has revealed that the treasure hunters who disturbed the Room 2 subfloor pit only impacted the top one foot or so of this deep feature. The pit's outer dimensions were found to be 4.6ft. (1.4 m) east-west by 3.7ft. (1.1 m) north-south (Figure 14). It was constructed with its long axis perpendicular to the Room 2 hearth. The feature measured 1.9 ft. (0.58 m) in depth from the top of the larger brick liner to the top of the inner brick liner. The lower liner then extended an additional 1.3ft. (0.40 m) deep (Figure 15).

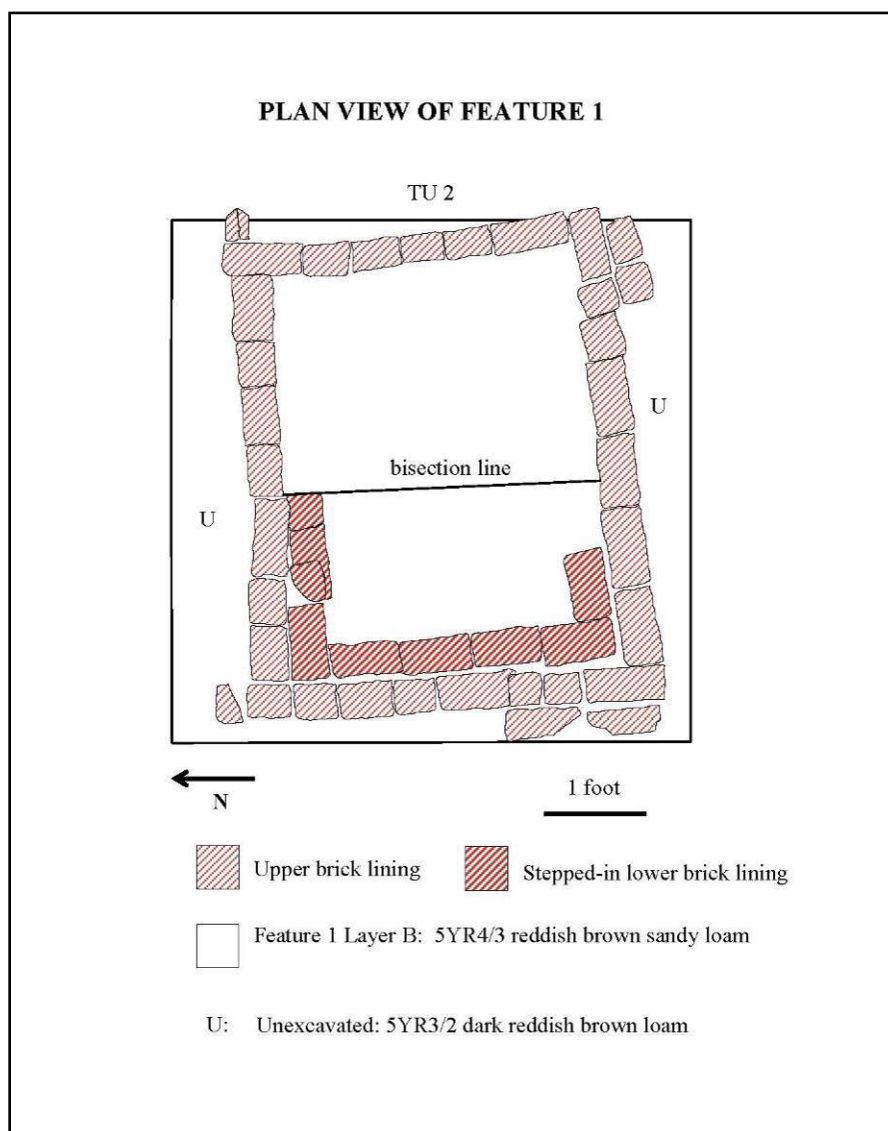


Figure 14. Feature 1 plan view.

Oak Hill

Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA

County and State

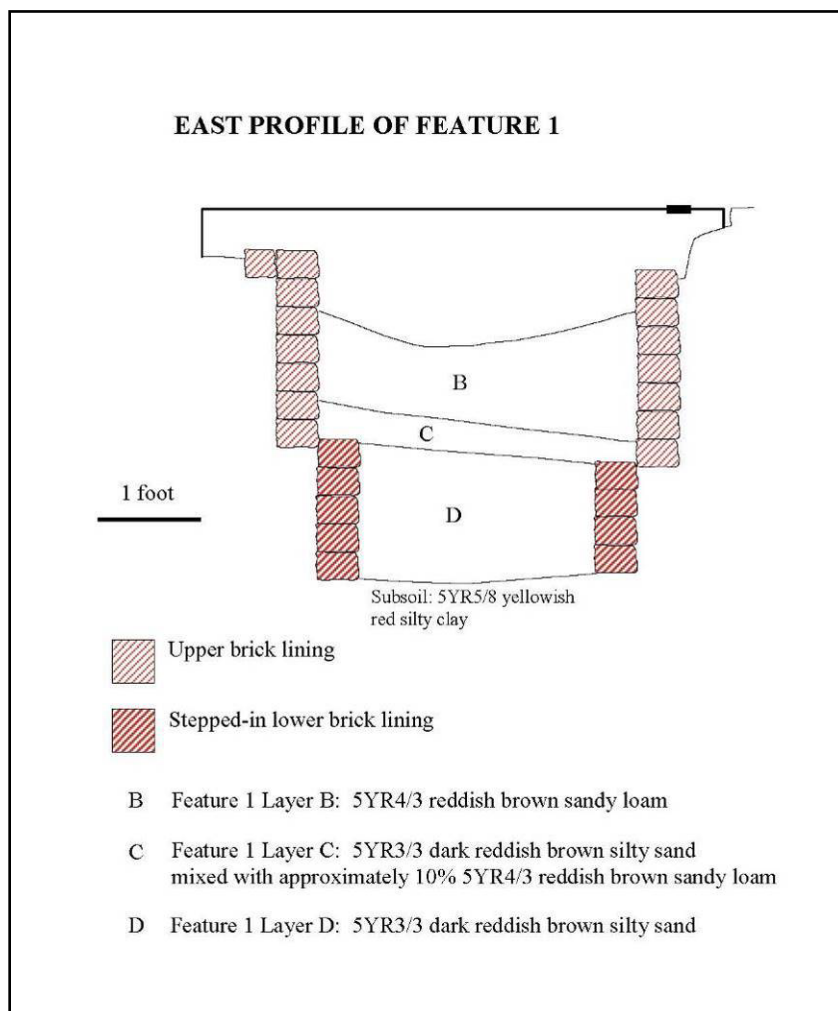


Figure 15. Feature 1 profile.

Feature 1 contained four distinct strata, designated Layers A through D. Layer A was composed largely of loose soil that had collapsed into the pit from the modern deposits above. It was mixed with a small quantity of pit fill that had been loosened by the treasure hunters. The laboratory analysis revealed that Layers B through D were likely deposited by the early 1840s but almost certainly by 1850.

Archaeologists discovered a second subfloor pit (Feature 2) near the hearth in Room 1 of the quarter. The outer dimensions of Feature 2 were found to be approximately 4.4 x 3.5ft. (1.3 x 1.1 m)(Figure 16). The long side of the feature paralleled the hearth, in contrast to Feature 1 which was constructed with its long axis perpendicular to the hearth in Room 2. Unfortunately, recovery at the base of the unit was limited as the high water table turned the soil to a soupy consistency approximately 2ft. (0.6 m) below the top of the pit. Several large water-worn cobbles were recovered at the base of the feature in what appeared to be a matrix of brown (10YR4/3) sandy loam (Figure 17). The cobble layer sat atop sterile yellowish red (5YR5/8)

Oak Hill

Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA

County and State

silty clay subsoil. It appears that the cobble layer may have been built into the pit as a drainage feature.

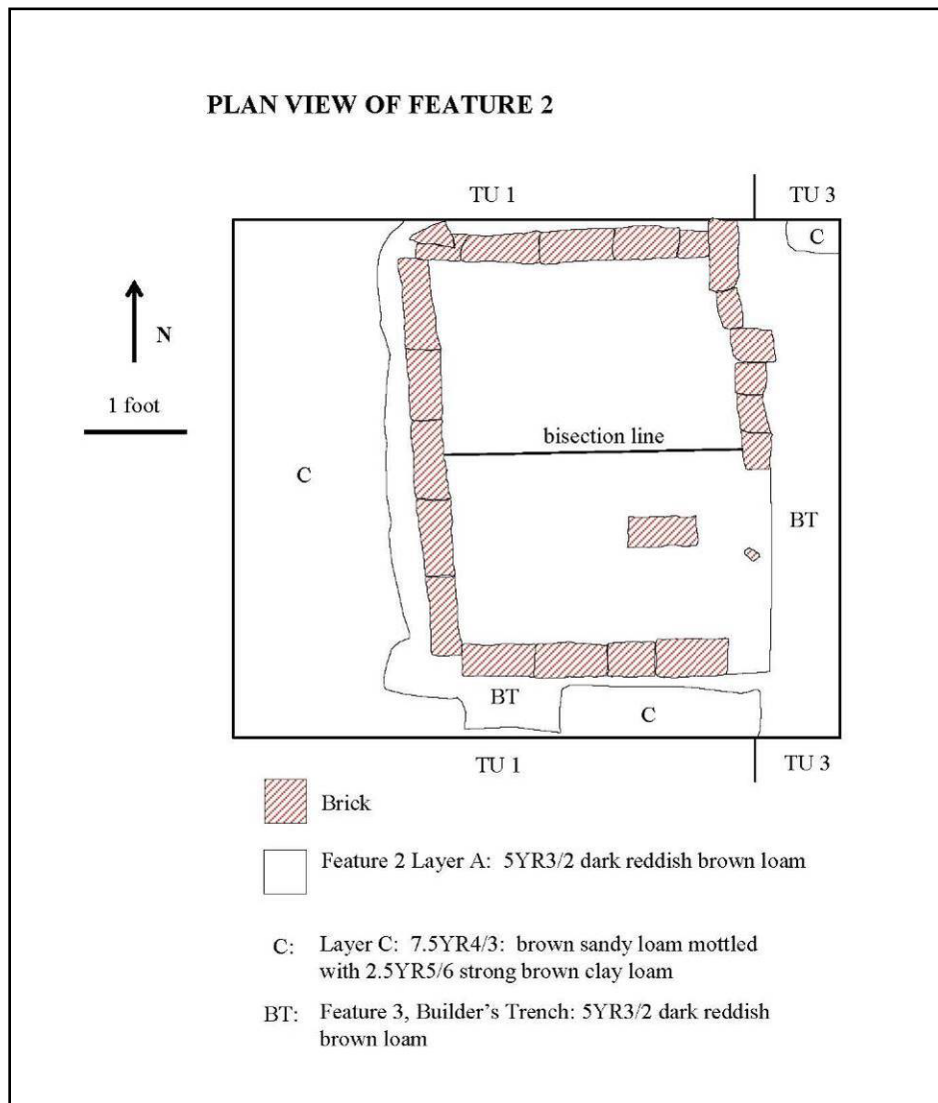


Figure 16. Feature 2 plan view.

Oak Hill

Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA

County and State

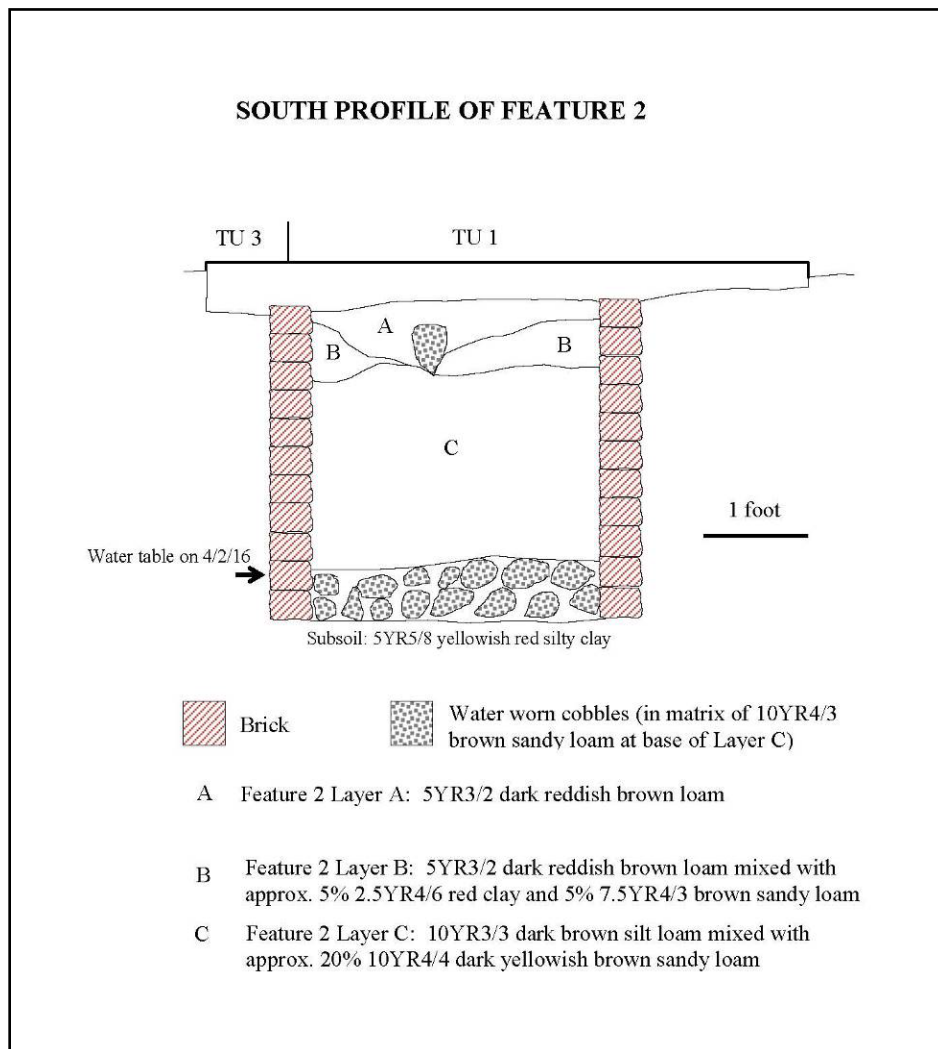


Figure 17. Feature 2 profile.

Excavation did not take place in Room 3 where debris covered much of the room and the structural integrity of the east half of the building made work there unsafe. Meanwhile, Room 4 contained a poured concrete floor as it had been used as a residence more recently than the other rooms. It is likely that each of these rooms also contains one or more intact subfloor storage pits containing significant data.

Subfloor pit Feature 1 contained relatively deep stratified deposits from the Antebellum Period with some mixing in a disturbed A layer of artifacts post-dating c. 1880. A similar later deposition was found in Layers A and B of subfloor pit Feature 2 but it also contained a thicker layer of antebellum deposits. The artifact density in these pits was sufficient to date the layers using a combination of Mean Ceramic Dating, Terminus Post Quem dates and presence/absence of key date markers.

Oak Hill

Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA

County and State

A large and diverse artifact assemblage was recovered from the two bisected subfloor pits and the quarter yard survey. The subfloor pits alone contained over 6,000 faunal specimens. The assemblage from just the lower chamber of Feature 1 (Layer D) yielded 4 glass beads, charcoal, 12 brass straight pins, lime mortar, a large quantity of brick (apparently from the collapsed parts of the liner), 2 bone buttons, 1 wooden button, pearlware, redware, whiteware, refined stoneware, Delft, mammal and bird bones, shell (bird and marine), mammal teeth, fish scales, flat glass, green and clear bottle glass, 43 unidentified nails, 6 cut nails, 6 wrought nails, sheet iron, 1 4.5mm lead shot, 2 kaolin pipe stem fragments, one quartz flake and one chert flake. The quantity and variety of artifacts is characteristic of the strata in both subfloor pits and presents ample data to begin to interpret the lives of Oak Hill's enslaved and emancipated populations.

A faunal analysis has already provided significant insights. The faunal analysis was aided by the fact that waterlogged soils from both pits were very difficult to screen in the field. Instead, most of the soil from Feature 1 and all of the soil from Feature 2 was wet-screened at the Virginia Museum of Natural History in Martinsville, leading to exceptional recovery of small bones, fish scales and egg shell. Although fish scales and the large quantity of egg shells were not identified as part of the present study, there are hopes to identify these in the future if appropriate reference materials become available.

Feature 1 contained more than 1,900 specimens. These included mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians, fishes, and invertebrates. A variety of pig, cow and chicken bones, representing domesticated animals, are supplemented by squirrel, opossum, rabbit, turkey, musk turtle, gar and probable freshwater mussels. A total of 48 fish bones and scales indicate fishing was an important part of the enslaved diet. Butchering marks are visible on many of the bones, confirming that they were consumed. The variety of skeletal elements present provides evidence that whole animals were processed by the slaves rather than having parts provisioned to them. Few bones exhibit burning, suggesting that they were more likely included in soups and stews than being fried or roasted directly over the fire. The recovery of a probable spider skillet part in Layer C would suggest at least some frying was happening, but this may have been more confined to items like fritters, cornbread or fish (Ross 2001). Evidence of rodent gnawing on eight of the bones indicates that they were left for a time on the floor or exposed in the pit where they could be scavenged.

A distinct lack of ash and charcoal lensing in Feature 1 is suggestive of a deposit that originated from floor sweepings and food waste discard rather than merely repeated hearth cleaning. The presence of several burned ceramic sherds, however, certainly attests to the fact that some of the waste originated directly from the hearth. In the future, a more carefully controlled and better lit excavation of the remaining half of Feature 1 may yield more data on the origins of the fill and timespan involved in its creation.

With 4,242 specimens, the Feature 2 faunal assemblage is more than double that recovered from Feature 1 (Appendix A). The post-1880 A and B Layers were analyzed separately from the pre-1850 C Layer. Generally speaking, all of the contexts contained a narrow range of domesticated species supplemented by a wide range of wild species.

Oak Hill

Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA

County and State

Feature 2 Layer C contained 2,368 specimens. Layer C domesticated fauna consisted of cow, pig and chicken. By contrast, the layer contained 88 percent wild species (by NISP (Number of Identified Specimens)). These consisted of raccoon, opossum, rabbit, chipmunk, Anatidae (ducks/geese/swan), wild turkey, frog and fish. Gathered wild bird eggs also comprise a significant part of the assemblage, accounting for nearly all of the 472 specimens from Layer C. This compares with 73 percent wild species identified in Feature 1. The constant between these two features is the apparent importance of hunting and fishing in the diet of Oak Hill's enslaved population. This is particularly interesting because it includes those people who lived closest to the main house and who might be presumed to have the greatest access to plantation stores.

The faunal analysis of Feature 2 Layers A and B provides an important data set because the presence of wire nails in these layers dates them to the Postbellum Period. The occupants of the former quarter at that time likely were paid domestic servants or perhaps sharecroppers. Rather than reflect a trend toward a higher percentage of domestic animals in the occupants' diet, as one might expect, the 1,874 specimens in these layers suggest a continued heavy reliance on wild game and fish.

Cattle, pig, sheep/goat and chicken are represented in Layers A and B but in relatively small numbers. The wild species once again dominate the assemblage, comprising 89 percent of the 298 identified specimens. Not only are wild species prevalent in these later layers, but the assemblage includes a substantial number of fish remains and a greater variety of wild birds than seen in the earlier contexts. Identified wild birds include goose, great blue heron and small fowl. These results indicate that the post-1880 inhabitants of the former quarter site had not markedly changed their pre-emancipation subsistence strategy. Further documentary research may reveal whether the same individuals or families continued to occupy the site after the war.

Research questions regarding the ornamental landscape are just beginning to be answered as a result of intensive mapping of the plantation core. While historic accounts suggest that Agnes Hairston was responsible for the garden design, little is known about what influenced her decisions or if she had assistance other than from the overseer and slaves who were charged with the construction. At a width of 600 feet, the massive terraces at Oak Hill may be the largest in Virginia. The nearly seven acres of carefully created grounds surrounding the former mansion house are still well preserved, though largely overgrown. They include a long row of dependencies stretching to the east of the mansion and encompassing the brick slave quarter. The quarter is the best preserved architecturally of these structures but most of the sites show evidence of being well preserved archaeologically beneath piles of brick or other structural remains. The former icehouse to the northeast of the mansion is the only exception to this, having been mechanically excavated by treasure seekers in 2014. It appeared from the video produced by the treasure hunters that the icehouse had been filled in the early to mid-twentieth century, a common practice following the advent of modern refrigeration.

The core of the plantation also includes the site of a chapel/schoolhouse attended by the white population of Oak Hill and neighboring plantations. Future Confederate General J. E. B. Stuart,

Oak Hill

Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA

County and State

a cousin of the Hairston children, is said to have been among its students. This site is known through oral history to be located in the ornamental garden to the west of the mansion. H&P recently identified the potential footprint of this structure and recorded it on the site plan. Excavation of this site has the potential to provide significant new information on religious and educational practices among the antebellum elite of Southside Virginia. It also will contribute to the interpretation of white versus black spaces in the plantation landscape, as it appears to have been the only structure located to the west of the mansion, tucked away in the purely ornamental part of the landscape.

The remains of a larger stone foundation are found to the southwest corner of the terraces. This structure is built at an angle to the garden plan and may be a somewhat later addition. As a potential slave quarter or other special-purpose building, it may provide significant information on the later development of the plantation core.

While the archaeological studies to date have focused on a small part of the plantation core, the broader plantation landscape possesses high potential to yield significant new information. Nearly 300 acres of the original plantation have passed continuously through the Hairston Family to the present day. This land would have been continuously farmed throughout the Antebellum Period and beyond. It would have required a large labor force of enslaved people to live in close proximity to the fields, suggesting that multiple quarter sites are located across the landscape. Agricultural buildings would also have been dotted across the landscape in close proximity to the fields. Research suggests that many of Oak Hill's enslaved laborers remained on the plantation after the war as sharecroppers. Occupation sites spanning the nineteenth century would offer an opportunity to study the changes in daily life that would have impacted the newly emancipated population. Future excavation of sites in the Cascade community and other areas of the former plantation could provide valuable comparative material for potential sharecropper sites on the present Oak Hill property.

In some areas rotational silviculture may have damaged sites outside of the plantation curtilage. However, it is likely that deeper features, such as subfloor storage pits, wells and privies may remain intact even in those locations impacted by timbering. Archaeological survey of the larger Oak Hill property should be one facet of future study there.

Archaeological investigations that have been completed to date demonstrate that the Oak Hill property contains artifacts and stratified features from its period of significance. While some evidence of modern disturbance has been found, historic maps and photographs indicate there are likely large areas both within and outside the plantation curtilage that retain excellent preservation. The Oak Hill property, therefore, is a remarkable survival of a large antebellum plantation with high archaeological integrity in the southern Piedmont region of Virginia. The fact that this property has remained in the Hairston Family and is complemented by a large archival collection further adds to its significance.

Oak Hill
Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Oak Hill
Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA
County and State

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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

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): DHR No. 071-0026

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 289.47

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: 36.55329 Longitude: 79.59685

Oak Hill

Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA

County and State

2. Latitude: Longitude:

3. Latitude: Longitude:

4. Latitude: Longitude:

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 boundaries for the Oak Hill property contain 289.47 acres and includes the primary dwelling ruin, as well as the ruins of agriculture outbuildings, a slave quarter, and remains of a decorative garden. This is the current tax parcel boundary found in the Pittsylvania County, Virginia GIS records.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries for Oak Hill represent a portion of the large, nineteenth-century real estate holdings of Samuel Hairston. The parcel includes the ruins of the main dwelling house Oak Hill, as well the foundations for agricultural buildings, and a slave quarter, as well as the decorative gardens. The current boundaries provide an opportunity to archaeologically investigate nineteenth-century life for enslaved people.

11. Form Prepared By

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organization: Hurt & Proffitt

street & number: 2524 Langhorne Road

city or town: Lynchburg state: VA zip code: 24501

e-mail: clarke1201@gmail.com and lichtenberger@handp.com

telephone: 434-546-6158

date: October 2023

Oak Hill
Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA
County and State

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: Oak Hill

City or Vicinity: Danville

County: Pittsylvania

State: VA

Photographer: Randy Lichtenberger

Date Photographed: November 2015

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

1 of 23. Quarters, north elevation, view to the southeast.

2 of 23. Quarters, south elevation, view to the northwest.

3 of 23. Quarters, room one, feature two.

4 of 23. Quarters, hearth.

5 of 23. Oak Hill ruins, south elevation, view to the north.

6 of 23. Oak Hill ruins, south elevation, view to the north.

7 of 23. Oak Hill ruins, north elevation, view to the south.

Oak Hill

Name of Property

Pittsylvania County, VA

County and State

- 8 of 23. Oak Hill gardens, view to the south.
- 9 of 23. Oak Hill interior.
- 10 of 23. Quarters and Oak Hill Ruins, view to the west.
- 11 of 23. Smokehouse Ruins, view to the northwest.
- 12 of 23. Granary, view to the southwest.
- 13 of 23. Cement wellhead and metal frame windmill, view to the east.
- 14 of 23. Carriage house, view to the northwest.
- 15 of 23. Kitchen, view to the northeast.
- 16 of 23. Icehouse, view to the southeast.
- 17 of 23. Slave house #2, view to the east.
- 18 of 23. Slave house #3, view to the southeast.
- 19 of 23. Livestock barn and silo, view to the southwest.
- 20 of 23. Barn, view to the northeast.
- 21 of 23. Doll house/granary, view to the southwest.
- 22 of 23. Shed, view to the south.
- 23 of 23. Tenant house, view to the north.

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:

Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
Tier 2 – 120 hours
Tier 3 – 230 hours
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.

Oak Hill
Pittsylvania County
DHR ID: 071-0026



Oak Hill
Pittsylvania County
DHR ID: 071-0026

PITTSYLVANIA

Oak
Ridge
071-0020

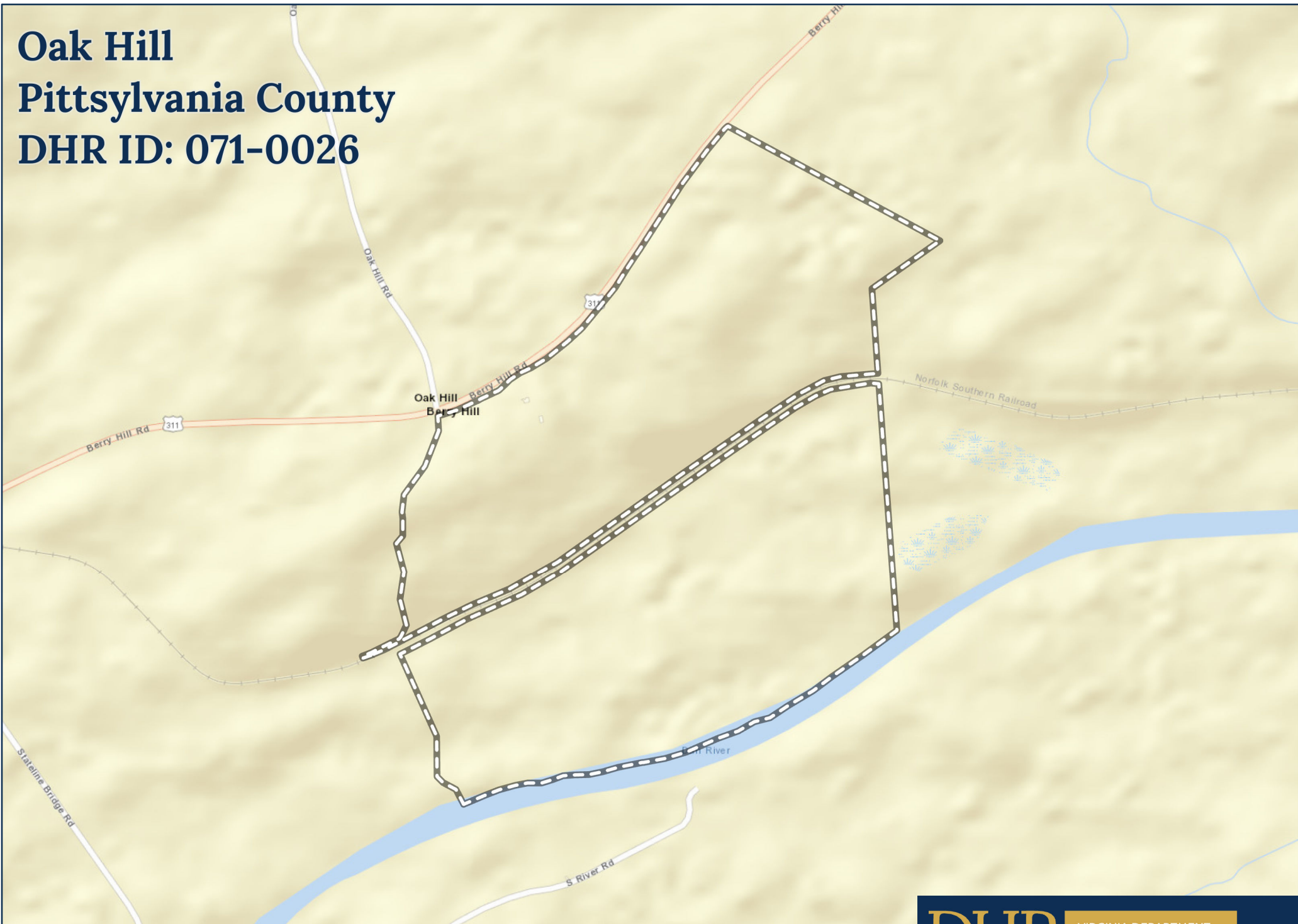
Samuel Pannill
Wilson House
071-0035

Berry Hill
071-0006

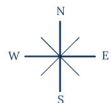
Oak Hill

Pittsylvania County

DHR ID: 071-0026



Sources: VDHR 2022, VGIN 2022, ESRI 2022
Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years and the representation depicted is based on the field observation date and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general illustration purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses.



0 750 1,500 2,250 3,000 Feet

Oak Hill,
Pittsylvania County
DHR ID: 071-0026

Oak Hill Rd

Berry Hill Rd

DHR

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT
OF HISTORIC RESOURCES

Legend

[illegible]

0 600120018002400
1:36,112 / 1"=3,009 Feet

Date: 1/21/2024

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.





OAK HILL
ROOM 1
FEATURE 2
BASE OF LAYER B
11 15 2015









































