



PRELIMINARY INFORMATION FORM (PIF) for HISTORIC DISTRICTS

Note: PIFs are prepared by applicants and evaluated by DHR staff and the State Review Board based on information known at the time of preparation. Recommendations concerning PIFs are subject to change if new information becomes available.

DHR No. (to be completed by DHR staff) 020-0804

1. General Information

District name(s): The Burton Family Farm (Sons and Daughters of the Union Star Tract)

Main Streets and/or Routes: 9300 Block of Route 1, North Chesterfield, VA 23237 at Kingsdale Road

Name of the Independent City or County where the property is located:
Chesterfield County

2. Physical Aspects

Acreage: 78 acres

Setting (choose only one of the following):

Urban _____ Suburban X Town _____ Village _____ Hamlet _____ Rural _____

Briefly describe the district's overall setting, including any notable landscape features:

The Burton Family Farm is a remarkably intact small-scale agricultural complex partially surrounding a historic cemetery which traces its origins to a post-bellum¹ Black community organized under the auspices of the Sons and Daughters of the Union Star in Chesterfield County, Virginia. It is bordered by modern Route 1 to the east in the general vicinity of Willis Road to the north, Kingsdale Road to the south, and Omaha Street to the west. The entire original aggregation of land is generally known as the Sons and Daughters of the Union Star Tract or the Sons and Daughters Tract.

The property contains an extant 1929 farmhouse constructed slightly to the east of an earlier, now-demolished late 19th century farmhouse. The agricultural area, including a field, outbuildings and various structures, extends westward, covering approximately 1.5 acres in addition to the small, traditionally-landscaped area around the farmhouse. The remainder of the property is forested. A small gravel driveway is located immediately north of the house.

Earthworks associated with the 1864 Bermuda Hundred campaign and other Civil War actions, including the Battle of Proctor's Creek/Drewry's Bluff, are located on the southern part of the Sons and Daughters Tract.

The farm is generally surrounded by late-20th and 21st century suburban development along Route 1, including a large late-20th century church to the west, motels to the east, and residential development to

¹ Possibly antebellum free community, but evidence remains unclear.

the north and south. The church context is particularly important because of the historical associations of the congregation with the Sons and Daughters of the Union Star.

The farm complex is a rare and unique survival in the area and currently represents a substantial green space in an otherwise highly-developed area. The Burton Family Farm is currently partially under cultivation, with plans to continue expansion of the farm area to its historic extent as additional parcels are acquired in association with the intended ownership of the Burton Farm house by Kinfolk, a local history and agrarian community group associated with members of the Burton family with plans to convert the Burton Farm house into a public museum and research center, while also interpreting the Civil War history of the site via the earthworks.

3. Architectural/Physical Description

Architectural Style(s): N/A

If any individual properties within the district were designed by an architect, landscape architect, engineer, or other professional, please list here:

None Known

If any builders or developers are known, please list here:

None Known

Date(s) of construction (can be approximate): May 1864 (earthworks), 1880s (Old Settlement), 1929 (Burton Family Farmhouse)

Are there any known threats to this district? Yes, continued development pressure on parcels not currently protected and continued deterioration of archaeological features in the cemetery and Old Settlement site without stabilization and maintenance.

Narrative Description:

In the space below, briefly describe the general characteristics of the entire historic district, such as building patterns, types, features, and the general architectural quality of the proposed district. Include prominent materials and noteworthy building details within the district, as well as typical updates, additions, remodelings, or other alterations that characterize the district.

The principal architectural resource on the property is a simple one-story, gable-roofed frame farmhouse with a hip-roofed porch on the east gable end, constructed in 1929. The dwelling is roughly rectangular (approximately 24'4" wide and 30'4" long), built on a continuous red brick foundation laid in running bond.

The exterior walls are clad in vinyl siding installed over the historic wooden lap siding. The dwelling retains most, if not all, of its historic double-hung wooden sash windows, currently enclosed behind aluminum storm windows. The half-glazed front door is original, but the rear door and its frame are recent replacements.

The low-pitched gable roof is clad in asphalt shingles over wooden decking and exposed wooden rafter tails. Two single-flue brick chimneys with metal caps extend through the roof on the north side.

The primary east elevation features a large hip-roofed porch built on an extended brick foundation laid in running bond with a rowlock course bridging the concrete slab porch floor. Three low brick piers with corbelled brick caps support half-height squared wooden columns supporting the deep porch roof. The wooden porch trim appears to be a modern replacement. The hipped porch roof is clad in asphalt shingles over wooden decking with exposed rafter tails and a historic beaded-board ceiling.

The house interior is arranged in a 2x2, four-room plan, opening from the east (front) porch into a living room with a similarly-sized dining room and rear kitchen directly to the west. Two small bedrooms open to the north, separated by a small bathroom. The interior walls are generally clad in original plaster and the house retains original tongue-and-groove flooring except in the kitchen and bathroom. Interior five-panel wooden doors, door hardware and plain trim appear to be original.

The property is currently mostly-forested, with approximately two acres under cultivation and a small landscaped area around the house. The remains of earthworks associated with Civil War occupation and the Bermuda Hundred operations run parallel to the southern district boundary on the parcel due south of the current Burton Farm property.

The cemetery is located nearly at the center of the larger tract, generally known as the Sons and Daughters of the Union Star Tract, immediately west of the Burton Family Farm house and currently partially-enveloped by the parcels that make up the Burton Family Farm. Some stone markers are extant, but most burials are unmarked. Community caregivers and general historic study indicate most burials likely date to the late 19th century and early 20th century after acquisition of the property by the Sons and Daughters of the Union Star in the 1880s, with some later burials in the mid-late 20th century that may represent association of the cemetery with the active First Baptist Church Centralia located directly west of the Sons and Daughters Tract.

In a bullet list, include any outbuildings or secondary resources or major landscape features (such as barns, sheds, dam and mill pond, storage tanks, scales, railroad spurs, etc.), including their condition and their estimated construction dates.

- **Well:** a concrete-capped well is located immediately west of the farm dwelling, est. date 1929. Contributing.
- **Metal shed:** a modern metal shed is located just to the north of the farm dwelling, across the driveway. The shed is a small, approximately 8'x10' gable-roofed corrugated aluminum shed with a single door in the east gable end, est. date 2000. Non-contributing.
- **Concrete pad:** a concrete pad is located a short distance west of the main dwelling and used to be the foundation for a wooden shed, since demolished. Est. date 1929. Non-contributing.
- **Earthworks:** Civil War-era earthworks associated with the Union Army occupation of the area in 1864 during operations at Bermuda Hundred and Drewry's Bluff, which run parallel to the southern property boundary across the width of the Sons and Daughters of the Union Star Tract. Contributing.
- **Cemetery:** A large cemetery with numerous burials, most without markers, but some stone markers are extant. Most burials appear to date to the late 19th-early 20th century, with some mid-late 20th century interments. Contributing.
- **"Old Settlement" archaeological site,** marked on a 1903 plat and potentially indicated on an 1888 map, located in the southern portion of the Tract. This resource could potentially contain evidence of antebellum occupation of the area. Contributing.
- **2936 Kingsdale Road,** ca. 1930 one-story frame kit house, associated with Branch family, contemporary to Burton Family farmhouse. Contributing.

- **2800 Kingsdale Road**, ca. 1930 one-story frame kit house, associated with Goode family, contemporary to Burton Family farmhouse. Contributing.
- **2726 Kingsdale Road**, ca. 1900 two-story traditional frame house, associated with Burton family through Spence family (granddaughter of Collie Burton (b. 1825)). Contributing.
- **9224 Perrymont Road**, ca. 1900 1 1/2-story Colonial Revival frame house, associated with Burton Family via Willie Newton Burton. Contributing.

Non-contributing Resources:

- **8908 Lawndale Street**: ca. 1979 frame ranch house and contemporary garage, non-contributing
- **8912 Lawndale Street**: ca. 1978 frame ranch house, non-contributing
- **8916 Lawndale Street**: ca. 1977 frame ranch house, contemporary garage, modern workshop, non-contributing
- **8920 Lawndale Street**: ca. 1977 frame ranch house with modern shed, non-contributing
- **8924 Lawndale Street**: ca. 1978 frame ranch house with modern shed, non-contributing
- **8928 Lawndale Street**: ca. 1978 frame ranch house, non-contributing
- **8930 Lawndale Street**: ca. 1979 frame ranch house, non-contributing
- **8929 Lawndale Street**, ca. 1980 frame ranch house, non-contributing
- **8925 Lawndale Street**, ca. 1980 frame ranch house with modern shed, non-contributing
- **8921 Lawndale Street**, ca. 1979 frame ranch house with modern shed, non-contributing
- **8917 Lawndale Street**, ca. 1979 frame ranch house with modern shed, non-contributing
- **8913 Lawndale Street**, ca. 1978 frame ranch house with modern shed, non-contributing
- **8909 Lawndale Street**, ca. 1978 frame ranch house with modern shed, non-contributing
- **8905 Lawndale Street**, ca. 1978 frame ranch house, non-contributing
- **8901 Lawndale Street**, ca. 1978 frame ranch house with ca. 1990 addition, non-contributing
- **9001 Omaha Street**, ca. 2007 two-story Colonial Revival frame house, non-contributing
- **2727 Normandale Street**, ca. 1979 frame ranch house with contemporary garage and modern sheds, non-contributing
- **9021 Omaha Street**, ca. 1977 frame split-level house, non-contributing
- **9023 Omaha Street**, ca. 1977 frame split-level house with Tudor Revival styling, non-contributing
- **9111 Omaha Street**, ca. 1972 frame ranch house with contemporary garage, non-contributing
- **9117 Omaha Street**, ca. 1973 brick-clad frame ranch house, non-contributing
- **3002 Kingsdale Road**, ca. 1978 frame split-level house with contemporary garage, non-contributing
- **2830 Kingsdale Road**, ca. 2007 one-story frame Colonial Revival house, non-contributing
- **2836 Kingsdale Road**, ca. 2007 one-story frame Colonial Revival house, non-contributing
- **2810 Kingsdale Road**, ca. 1973 frame ranch house, non-contributing
- **2734 Kingsdale Road**, ca. 2008 two-story Colonial Revival frame house, non-contributing
- **2700 Kingsdale Road**, ca. 2018 two-story Colonial Revival frame house, non-contributing
- **2624 Kingsdale Road**, ca. 2005 brick-clad frame ranch house, non-contributing
- **9420 Route 1**, ca. 1957 concrete block service garage, non-contributing
- **9410 Route 1**, ca. 1963 brick restaurant, non-contributing
- **9330 Route 1**, ca. 1973 brick and frame auto sales showroom, non-contributing

4. District's History and Significance

In the space below, briefly describe the history of the district, such as when it was established, how it developed over time, and significant events, persons, and/or families associated with the property. Please list all sources of information used to research the history of the property. (It is not necessary to attach lengthy articles or family genealogies to this form.) Normally, only information contained on this form is forwarded to the State Review Board.

If the district is important for its architecture, engineering, landscape architecture, or other aspects of design, please include a brief explanation of this aspect.

The Burton Family Farm was purchased by the Burton family in 1909 from the Order of the Sons and Daughters of the Union Star, which had acquired the larger parcel in a Special Commissioner's sale in 1887. Civil War maps show the area marked as "H.Q. Gen. Gillmore" (Quincy Adams Gillmore, Union engineer and artilleryman) clearly showing a line of earthworks running from east to west in advance of larger works to the south and rifle pits to the southwest.² The linear shape of the earthworks on the Sons and Daughters tract most closely matches the northern line, north of General Gillmore's headquarters and the more ragged line of works to the south.³

The Sons and Daughters of the Union Star were incorporated by order of the Virginia General Assembly in 1886:

"Whereas, there has existed for sometime past, in the County of Chesterfield, Bermuda magisterial district, an association of persons known as The Order of the Sons and Daughters of [the] Union Star, the purposes and objects of which are solely benevolent and charitably; and to enable such association to more effectually carry out the purposes of their organization, an act of incorporation is desired; therefore,

1. Be it enacted by the general assembly of Virginia, that Cary Quarles, Ephraim Williams, Thomas Jefferson, Randall Corstley, Henry Cheatham, James Cheatham, William Coleman, and Paul Berry, and Henry Glass, and such other persons as are now or may hereafter be associated with them, desire to be incorporated and made a body politic, under the name and title of The Order of Sons and Daughters of [the] Union Star, of the county of Chesterfield, Virginia, and as each shall have the power to sue and be sued, contract and be contracted with, and to hold, buy, sell, or lease real and personal property in the said county; provided it shall not hold or possess at any one time property to the amount exceeding two thousand dollars...

² See "Sketch no. 4 of roads between Hd. Qu. 10th Army Corps and Swift Creek on the south : with enemy's 2nd line of intrenchments around Drury's Bluff on the north", United States Army Corps, 10th. Engineer Office, May 24, 1864. Library of Congress, Digital ID <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.ndlpcoop/glva01.lva00184>. Accessed June 1, 2026. See also "Copy of Section of Photograph Map captured from the enemy Showing country adjacent to Richmond and Lines of Defensive Works surrounding the City", National Archives Catalog, NAID: 221160293, available <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/221160293>, accessed June, 15, 2026.

³³ For a more detailed account of what may have been the encampment proximate to the Sons and Daughters Tract, adjacent to Gen. Gillmore's headquarters, see The 1864 Diary of Oliver Kidder Abels of 1st Connecticut Light Artillery, beginning May 9, 1864. Transcription available <https://sparedshared23.com/2022/07/18/the-1864-diary-of-oliver-kidder-abels-of-1st-connecticut-light-artillery/>, original in private ownership.

3. The object of the said order is to establish in said county a mutual relief association and with the [purpose] of providing homes for the members of said order, and to take care of its sick, and bury its dead, and to maintain a fund for the relief of widows, orphans, or the beneficiaries of deceased members of the said order...

4. The said order being for benevolent purposes, as aforesaid, is to have and to hold not more than one hundred acres of land in the said county, and such other personal property as may be necessary for its purposes as aforesaid, the same not to exceed two thousand dollars aforesaid.”⁴

The Sons and Daughters of the Union Star were one example of the numerous benevolent societies formed during the late Reconstruction and early Jim Crow eras, described by early promoter and Grand Worthy Master of the Virginia Grand Fountain of the United Order of True Reformers William Washington Browne as a means to pool resources and purchase property⁵: “Let us stop playing, trifling and wasting our time and talents, and scattering our little mites to the four winds of the earth, and let us unite ourselves in a solid band.”⁶

In 1888, the community was clearly visible on a map of the area as a cluster of buildings around a church marked with a cross and labeled “Afr. Ch”.⁷ A similar cluster of buildings is shown on a 1909 deed marked as “Old Settlement”. The origins of this settlement are unclear, but the land appears to have passed through the Chalkley family, as there were numerous Chalkleys in the Dale parish area in 1888 (as shown on the 1888 map⁸ and in local records), many buried nearby at the nearby Salem Baptist Church⁹, and the original land purchase by the Sons and Daughters records the transaction as the resolution of a dispute between two individuals with the last name “Chalkley”¹⁰.

The Chalkley family’s connection to Salem Baptist Church is significant because Salem Baptist was the parent church of Salem African Baptist Church, which later became First Baptist Church,

⁴ Acts and Joint Resolutions Passed by the General Assembly of the State of Virginia During the Session of 1885-1886, Richmond, A. B. Micou, Superintendent of Public Printing, 1886. Google Books, https://www.google.com/books/edition/Acts_of_the_General_Assembly_of_the_Comm/7rxOAQAAIAAJ?hl=en&gbpv=0&kptab=overview Accessed May 28, 2026.

⁵ It may be that benevolent societies were one way to work around Virginia’s strict statutory provisions in the late 19th century regarding property ownership by churches and requirement that the local circuit courts appoint church trustees. Such organizations could function *like* churches, collecting funds and holding property, but without being subject to certain limitations placed on religious bodies. It may also have been the case that benevolent societies pursued charter to create exceptions to such laws where they applied to non-religious organizations. *See, e.g.* Virginia Code (1870), Title XXI. Chap. LXIV. Of Church Property, Benevolent Associations and Objects: 9. Limitation upon real estate.—1403-“Such trustees [including trustees of any society of freemasons, odd fellows, sons of temperance, or any other benevolent or literary association] shall not take or hold at any one time more than two acres of land in a city or town, nor more than seventy-five acres out of a city or town.” Laws Relating to Religious Corporations [etc], William Henry Roberts, Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board of Publication and Sabbath-School Work, 1896.

⁶ *Twenty-five Years History of the Grand Fountain of the United Order of True Reformers*, W. P. Burrell and D. E. Johnson Sr., 1909 at 27. <https://archive.org/details/twentyfiveyearsh00burr>, accessed June 4, 2026.

⁷ “Map of Chesterfield County, Va”. LaPrade, J.E. 1888. G3883.C5G46 1888 .L2, Library of Congress. Available <https://lccn.loc.gov/2012592116>, accessed May 28, 2026.

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ *See, e.g.* William Burton Chalkley, Sr. (1838-1886), William Burton Chalkley, Jr. (1882-1934), bur. Salem Baptist Church Cemetery, located approximately 3 miles from the Sons and Daughters tract. *FindAGrave*, accessed June 14, 2026.

¹⁰ Deed Book 74, Page 308, Records of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Chesterfield County: “Whereas by a certain order entered by the Circuit Court of Chesterfield County at its November Sess’n 1880, in the certain Chancery suit herein depending distinguished by the short Style of M[] S. Chalkley et als. V. William [] Chalkley, et als, the party of the first part was appointed a Special Commissioner with authority to sell the certain tract of land hereinafter described and conveyed...”.

Centralia.¹¹ Land for the first building associated with Salem African Baptist Church was donated by the family of P.A. Chalkley.¹² The subsequent First Baptist Church Centralia moved to land adjacent to the Sons and Daughters Tract, formerly associated with the Chalkleys, in the 1960s and became *de facto* stewards of the Sons and Daughters cemetery.¹³

It is possible that the Old Settlement could be linked to a group of individuals associated with two earlier cases. In 1848, the heirs to the estate of the late William H. Chalkley asked the court's permission to sell four enslaved persons, including a woman named Ann, belonging to the estate, saying that Chalkley "departed this life during the year 1847 unmarried and intestate" and that these persons "may be decreed to be sold and the proceeds arising from said sale" divided among the complainants.¹⁴

In a similar case in 1856, a woman named Rebecca Howlett/e from the household of John Howlett of Chesterfield County located very near the Chalkleys (namesake of the famous Howlett Line of defensive works) was subject to the same kind of petition and the court declined, freeing Rebecca and her ten children. The court found that the will of Thomas Howlett, dated July 4, 1856, wherein he declared "I manumit and free from the service of all and every person whatsoever the following named slaves to wit: Rebecca and her children to wit: Wilson, George, Peter, Sarah, Abby, Margaret, Christopher, Bob (Robert), Dick (Richard) and Fanny; also Nelson, Frederick, Aaron and Charles."¹⁵

Rebecca went on to live as a free person in Swansboro, a district of the city of Manchester (now Richmond).¹⁶ One of Rebecca's sons freed in the same matter was named Richard, who may have been the same Richard Howlette who purchased a section of land from the Sons and Daughters Tract in 1903.¹⁷ The families appear to have been connected in some fashion, as a grandchild of Rebecca, Robert Branch, II, married Geraldine Burton.¹⁸

Again, connections between the churches appear to be very important to the history of the Sons and Daughters Tract. Though a founding member of Second Baptist Church in Swansboro, Rebecca Howlette was initially a member of Manchester-based First Baptist Church.¹⁹ This appears to be the same church as the African Church of Manchester which, through its sponsor the Baptist Church of Manchester, purchased land adjacent to or part of the Sons and Daughters Tract in 1824, possibly to found the church and cemetery shown on the 1888 map.²⁰ Richard "Dick" Howlett, possibly Rebecca Howlette's son, owned the property on the west and south corners of the Sons and Daughters Tract that

¹¹ See Church History, First Baptist Church Centralia. <https://firstbaptistcentralia.org/church-history/>, accessed June 15, 2026.

¹² *Ibid.*

¹³ *Ibid.*

¹⁴ See Petition #21684821, Chancery Court of Chesterfield County, Virginia. January 10, 1848. - November 13, 1849. <https://dlas.uncg.edu/petitions/petition/21684821/#anchor-people>, accessed June 15, 2026.

¹⁵ Howlett, Wendell A. Rebecca and Her Children : The Howlett Family Story. 1981. Library of Virginia, Archives and Manuscript Collection at 3.

¹⁶ See Howlett, Wendell A. Rebecca and Her Children : The Howlett Family Story. 1981. Library of Virginia, Archives and Manuscript Collection.

¹⁷ Deed Book 107, Page 368, Records of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Chesterfield County. Richard Howlette, son of Rebecca Howlette, was born in Chesterfield County in 1851 and died in the City of Richmond in 1937. He is buried at Mount Olivet Cemetery in Richmond.

¹⁸ Howlett, Wendell A. Rebecca and Her Children : The Howlett Family Story. 1981. Library of Virginia, Archives and Manuscript Collection at 11.

¹⁹ "A Condensed History of Second Baptist Church, South Richmond", https://www.2bcsouthside.org/Church_History/history.html, accessed June 15, 2026.

²⁰ Deed Book 26, Page 91, Records of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Chesterfield County. This deed also appears to clarify the cemetery's association with the name "Martin", in referencing the determination of a property boundary between William Tazewell and Randolph Martin integral to the transaction. See DHR ID: 020-0428.

was later sold to the First Baptist Church Centralia (previously Salem African Baptist Church, associated with the Chalkley family via Salem Baptist Church) in the 1960s.²¹

Family histories reference Richard “Dick” Howlett’s military service in the Union army for a period of two years, traveling “as a soldier to Houston, Texas” and returning to Richmond at the approximate age of eighteen where he found employment at the Tredegar Iron Works.²²

Colly (Collie) Burton purchased the approximately 4.5-acre parcel that became known as the Burton Family Farm in 1909 via that same deed, based on a plat of survey drawn in 1903. This Colly/Collie (b. 1868) is understood to have been the child of Collie Burton (b. 1825²³, d. betw. 1870-1879²⁴) and a woman named Ann/e, later Ann Carsey, in a second marriage after Collie Burton’s death²⁵. Collie Burton’s wife, Olivia I. Howlett, may have been a niece of Richard Howlett who owned an adjacent parcel. The Burton family has been associated with the property since that time, passing through several generations of Collie’s descendants to its current stewardship by a nonprofit associated with the Burton family.

Aerial maps from the mid-20th century show almost the entirety of the Sons and Daughters Tract under agricultural cultivation except for the cemetery area.²⁶ The property was used for agriculture until the late 20th century, with areas of the Burton Family Farm under continuous cultivation, until descendant divisions of the property made occupation untenable.

These property divisions are also important context to the Black (African-American) history of this area and in Virginia because they represent a longstanding lack of access to legal services, with both immediate detrimental effect in that Black families in the 19th and 20th centuries often did not have access to the means by which to create wills and operate within the dominant legal systems of the time. At the same time, examination of the records associated with the division and recombination of the Sons and Daughters Tract reveals family relationships and integral history.

In 1935, Randle Corsey’s (Randall Carsey) estate was settled in a complex partition action involving his own children with Ann Corsey (Carsey) and Anne’s prior children with Colly (Collie) Burton (Sr.²⁷), including a son also named Colly (Collie) Burton (Jr.). Corsey left a will, but the second Burton did not and nor did Ann Corsey, whom he predeceased, creating a problem regarding division of Corsey’s estate to Burton’s heirs.²⁸ The sixteen potential heirs worked out a solution, commissioned a plat, and recorded the result.²⁹ Similar partition actions played out in 1940³⁰, 1945³¹, and more recently as

²¹ See Deed Book 119, Page 36, Records of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Chesterfield County.

²² Howlett, Wendell A. Rebecca and Her Children : The Howlett Family Story. 1981. Library of Virginia, Archives and Manuscript Collection at 33.

²³ “Collie Burton”, Registers of Signatures of Depositors in Branches of the Freedman's Savings and Trust Company Roll 27, United States, Accounts 4005-7691, Richmond, Virginia, United States records," FamilySearch, image 439 of 512; United States. National Archives and Records Administration. Image Group Number: 004098534, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-67Q3-D6N>, accessed June 15, 2026.

²⁴ Based on Collie Burton entry in 1870 census and 1900 census record for Ann Causey, stating she had been married to Randall Causey for 21 years. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MMFP-13W>, accessed June 15, 2026.

²⁵ See Ann Causey, census record 1900. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MMFP-13W>, accessed June 15, 2026.

²⁶ Aerial maps cited date to 1937 and 1949, produced as part of ESA study obtained by CRLC. Available upon request.

²⁷ The person referred to as Collie Burton, Senior in 1935 was at least the second Collie Burton, born ca. 1868. The first Collie Burton recorded as living in Chesterfield County was born ca. 1825. See Note 20.

²⁸ See Deed Book 227, Page 317, Records of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Chesterfield County.

²⁹ *Id.*

³⁰ See Deed Book 255, Page 465, Records of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Chesterfield County.

³¹ See Deed Book 288, Page 5, Records of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Chesterfield County.

the Burton family members worked with Capital Region Land Conservancy to re-assemble as much of the original Sons and Daughters Tract as possible.

Heirs' property is a serious problem in Virginia and the United States in general, recognized by the United States Department of Agriculture as "the leading cause of Black involuntary land loss."³² The Sons and Daughters Tract has remained largely intact and is on the path to reunification despite these challenges, which only reiterates the nature of its rare survival as a Black century farm in south-central Virginia, in the heart of a battlefield whereby its future as a home for a Black community was made possible.

Property Ownership (Check as many categories as apply):

Private: _____ Public\Local X Public\State _____ Public\Federal _____

6. Applicant/Sponsor (Individual and/or organization sponsoring preparation of the PIF, with contact information. For more than one sponsor, please list each below or on an additional sheet.)

name/title: Parker Agelasto/Executive Director
organization: Capital Region Land Conservancy
street & number: P.O. Box 13706
city or town: Richmond state: VA zip code: 23219
e-mail: parker@capitalregionland.org telephone: _____

Applicant's Signature: _____

Date: _____

• • *Signature required for processing all applications.* • •

In the event of organization sponsorship, you must provide the name and title of the appropriate contact person.

Contact person: Graham Montrose
Daytime Telephone: 804-539-3059

Applicant Information (Individual completing form if other than applicant/sponsor listed above)

name/title: Graham Montrose/Dep. Dir. Land Conservation
organization: Capital Region Land Conservancy
street & number: P.O. Box 17306
city or town: Richmond state: Virginia zip code: 23219

³² See, e.g. Lizzie Presser, "Their Family Bought Land One Generation After Slavery. The Reels Brothers Spent Eight Years In Jail for Refusing to Leave It." *Pro Publica*, July 15, 2019. <https://features.propublica.org/black-land-loss/heirs-property-rights-why-black-families-lose-land-south/> : "Many assume that not having a will keeps land in the family. In reality, it jeopardizes ownership. David Dietrich, a former co-chair of the American Bar Association's Property Preservation Task Force, has called heirs' property "the worst problem you never heard of." The U.S. Department of Agriculture has recognized it as "the leading cause of Black involuntary land loss." Heirs' property is estimated to make up more than a third of Southern black-owned land — 3.5 million acres, worth more than \$28 billion...Between 1910 and 1997, African Americans lost about 90% of their farmland."

7. Notification

In some circumstances, it may be necessary for DHR to confer with or notify local officials of proposed listings of properties within their jurisdiction. In the following space, please provide the contact information for the local County Administrator, City Manager, and/or Town Manager.

name/title: Dr. Joseph P. Casey
locality: Chesterfield County
street & number: 9901 Lori Road
city or town: Chesterfield, VA state: VA zip code: 23832
telephone: 804-748-1190

REVISED PIF BOUNDARY MAP

Burton Family Farm
Chesterfield County, VA
DHR ID# 020-0804

 Recommended Eligible

0 300
 Feet











































OUR FATHER

WILLIE BURTON

DIED FEB. 8, 1949





OLLIE LEE
MCKNIGHT
FEB. 14, 1896
MAR. 2, 1965

OLLIE LEE
MCKNIGHT
FEB. 14, 1896
MAR. 2, 1965



A photograph of a gravestone for Henry Lewis Wilde. The stone is light-colored and has a cross carved into its top. It is surrounded by green ivy and brown leaves. The background shows a forest with many trees.

HENRY
LEWIS
WILDE

VIRGINIA

PFC

1706 ENGR SVC DET
WORLD WAR II

MARCH 20 1913

DECEMBER 14 1957











AT REST,
WILLIAM H. JOHNSON
DIED FEB. 18, 1947
WIFE & CHILDREN



MOTHER

LAURA J. ROSE

1882-1977







THOMAS J. BRANCH

OCT. 17, 1922

JULY 6, 1961

RECEIVED







THOMAS HAYWOOD TRENT
MAY 15, 1911 — JULY 9, 1935





HARRY G. ALSTON

DIED MAR. 20, 1922

Sleeping Stone Temple
977-Dormery, Bluff Co., Va.





LUJETTIE O. HIGH
DIED
MAY 7, 1973





IN MEMORY OF
OUR GRANDFATHER
WILLIAM T. ROWLETT
DIED FEB. 6, 1952



OUR MOTHER

MARGARET ROWLETT

1896

1938



CLYDE
NATHANIEL
ROWLETT

VIRGINIA

SGT OMC

WORLD WAR II

JANUARY 29 1925

AUGUST 18 1957



JOHN HARRINGTON

DIED FEB. 12, 1926

Phoenix Chamber-4403

Centerville, Va.



HATTIE EVA JEFFERSON

FEB. 1, 1891 ——— AUG. 3, 1966

DAUGHTER OF Y. DEWITT CHAPT. 198. O.E.S.

AT REST
ALLEN JEFFERSON
NOV. 8, 1885
AUG. 14, 1972









JAMES
ROBINSON
28-70



